



It is the mission of Lakewood Catholic Academy to provide the highest quality academic and religious education through an innovative and challenging curriculum. We recognize that students may benefit greatly from activities that take place outside of the classroom, and we encourage our students to participate in our many athletic programs. At the same time, we must help our student-athletes to understand that God, family and education come before sports. It is imperative that we emphasize the importance of being well rounded as we help our students become the leaders of tomorrow. As part of that effort, we have established a set of guidelines for athletic eligibility.

Bylaws of CYO – Diocese of Cleveland

4-1-9

The parish, school or Social Service Agency has the right to establish additional criteria for eligibility and to deny team membership to any otherwise qualified individual with cause.

Academic Eligibility

Our students' academic eligibility will be assessed on an ongoing basis. Periodic looks at the academic well being of our LCA and non-LCA students will ensure that we have in mind the best interests of all of our student-athletes. The academic expectations of those student-athletes representing Lakewood Catholic Academy are as follows.

LCA Students

A student deemed ineligible during the registration process may be assigned a team, but is prohibited from participation until his/her eligibility has been reinstated. If the sport in which a student wishes to participate determines it is necessary to evaluate players before assigning teams, the player is prohibited from participating in the evaluation if he/she is ineligible at the time the evaluation takes place. In the event that a student is deemed ineligible during a time when his/her athletic team is inactive because LCA is on vacation or holiday, that student's ineligibility will be held over until his/her team has resumed practice or play.

Receiving a grade of F on a quarterly report card or progress report

A student receiving an overall course grade of F on a quarterly report card or progress report will be prohibited from representing LCA at any athletic event as well as from practicing with his/her team for a period of 3 weeks. The student's period of ineligibility will begin with the Monday immediately following the date on which the quarterly report card or progress report is issued and will conclude on the third Monday following the issuance of the quarterly report card or progress report.

Non-LCA Students

Regardless of the school they attend, all students participating in athletics at Lakewood Catholic Academy serve as representatives of LCA. Expectations are set not only for students currently enrolled in classes at LCA, but for non-LCA students as well. The young men and women representing Lakewood Catholic Academy have a commitment to God, family and education that comes before their commitment to athletics. It is with this idea in mind that the following expectations are set:

Quarterly Grades

It is expected that all non-LCA students will provide copies of quarterly report cards to their coaches or the Dean of Students. These reports should be delivered within one week of being issued to the student's family. A student who fails to provide a quarterly report card to his/her coach will be prohibited from all involvement in LCA athletics until an acceptable report has been provided to his/her coach and approved by the Dean of Students.

Receiving a grade of F on a quarterly report card

A non-LCA student receiving an overall course grade of F on a quarterly report card will be prohibited from representing LCA at any athletic event as well as from practicing with his/her team for a period of 3 weeks. The student's period of ineligibility will begin with the Monday immediately following the date on which the quarterly report card is received by the coach and will conclude on the third Monday following receipt of the quarterly report card by LCA.

Special Accommodations

A student who has an IEP, ISP, or SEGO plan is given special accommodations within the classroom. Being permitted extra time during test taking or receiving differentiated instruction for a day's lesson are examples of accommodations made during the school day. These practices already being in place, no policy on additional accommodations to qualify a student for athletics will be made. Students with special needs receive additional help in the classroom and are expected to meet the same academic standards set forth for all students.

Standards of Conduct

As stated in the Mission Statement of Lakewood Catholic Academy, our primary purpose is the development of the Christian person. In addition to the academic expectations set forth on the preceding pages, students participating in LCA athletics will also be held to standards of conduct. Student misbehavior during athletic participation will have repercussions within the school building just as student misconduct during the school day will have consequences on the athletic field.

Conduct within the school

A student receiving a detention will be prohibited from practicing with his/her team on the day the detention is to be served. If the student does not have practice on the day the detention is served, the student is prohibited from participation in the team's next

practice. In the event the student's team has a game on the day the detention is served, the student is permitted to play in the game, but is prohibited from participation in the team's next practice. Detentions issued as a result of tardiness or dress code violations will not be considered when determining a student's eligibility.

A student receiving a suspension from school will be prohibited from representing LCA at any athletic event as well as from practicing with his/her team for a time period of 7 days. In-school suspensions and out-of-school suspensions will carry the same penalty. The student's period of ineligibility will begin the day the suspension is received, usually the school day immediately before the first day the suspension is to be served. A student expelled from Lakewood Catholic Academy is prohibited from any and all involvement with any LCA athletic team.

It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians of non-LCA students to hold their children to the aforementioned standards of conduct. It is also the responsibility of the parents/guardians of non-LCA students to contact all necessary coaches in the event a student is being withheld from practice(s) or game(s) as a result of misconduct at his/her own school. Coaches should be contacted as early as possible so as to allow ample time to prepare for practices and/or games the student will miss.

Conduct at athletic events

Just as a student's misconduct at school will have consequences on the athletic field, so too will a student's misconduct on the athletic field have consequences at school. Each and every one of our student-athletes serves as a representative of Lakewood Catholic Academy. As such, they are expected to act in a manner that is in accordance with the Catholic values and teachings of Lakewood Catholic Academy. The focus is not on actions during the game, as those should be dealt with by game officials as well as the coaches. There is not a list of specific actions that will result in a student being disciplined, though destruction or vandalism, to any degree, of a school's locker room or bathroom and yelling at or harassing other players are examples of behaviors that will have consequences at school. Each act of student misconduct will be dealt with on an individual basis.

The above written standards of conduct and academic achievement have been constructed with the best interests of our student-athletes in mind. Success in the classroom should be of a greater priority than success on the court or in the field. It is the hope and intent of Lakewood Catholic Academy that, through the combined efforts of our staff and the parents at home, each student will realize that God, family, and education should always come before athletics.