



ST. JOHN VIANNEY SCHOOL SPORTS HANDBOOK

***“SPORTSMANSHIP IS THE MANTLE WHERE RESPECT IS
PLACED”***



4601 HYLAND AVENUE, SAN JOSE, CA 95127

PHONE: (408) 258-7677

FAX: (408) 258-5997

URL: [HTTP://WWW.SJVSJ.ORG](http://www.sjvsj.org)

EMAIL: ROBERT COWAN: RCOWAN@SJVSJ.ORG

YVONNE TREVINO: YTREVINO@SJVSJ.ORG



Table of Contents

Mission Statement	2
Game Decorum	2
Sports Offered	3
Goals of the Program	3
Expectations of an Athlete	4
Expectations of a Parent	4
Expectations of a Coach	5
Program Policies	6
Uniforms	8
Gym Rules and Procedures	8
Contact Information	9

Mission Statement

The after-school athletic program is an extension of the educational mission of St. John Vianney School. As such, it enriches the life of the school community by providing for interscholastic athletic competition within a context of Gospel values.

The success of an after-school athletic program is dependent upon the active support of the administration, teachers, coaches, parents, spectators, and the student-athletes. It places its focus on developing an atmosphere in which children learn about and enjoy sports, rather than on developing winning teams. The Diocese of San Jose's elementary school sports programs are primarily recreational and they dedicate themselves to providing a positive athletic experience for children of all ability levels.

This handbook, in conjunction with the Diocese of San Jose Catholic Athletic League Handbook, serves as the regulatory material governing the St. John Vianney School Sports Program.

Game Decorum

This season is a special opportunity for your child to represent her/himself, teammates, and St. John Vianney School. Cooperation and healthy competition through athletics builds character and develop your child's value system. Through your child's participation, he/she is taught that sportsmanship is "the mantle where respect is placed."

In support of these values, we ask that our parents adhere to the following guidelines:

- Do not yell instructions to your child during the games. Often the best support given is to be quiet. Extra noise can confuse athletes when coach is providing team instructions as well.
- Attend all games.
- Cheer and acknowledge good plays by both teams.
- Set a good example of sportsmanship. No matter what others do, show respect for all involved in the game. Make no negative comments about the game, coaches, referees or teammates in a child's presence.
- After a game, thank the officials for doing a difficult job. Thank the coaches for their effort, and thank your opponents for a good game.
- Congratulate your child and his/her teammates for their efforts.
- Avoid criticizing your child or correcting mistakes after a game.

- Ask your child: Did you have fun? Did you give it your best effort? What was the best play you made and how did it feel?
- Volunteer with setting up, cleaning up, and scoring of games.

Sports Offered

The following sports are offered:

Fall Sports (September – November):

Girls Volleyball
Boys Flag Football

Winter Sports (December – March):

Boys Basketball
Girls Basketball

Spring Sports (April – May):

Girls Softball
Boys Volleyball
Boys and Girls Track

Goals of the Program

Athletes and their parents are asked to read the handbook before signing the registration form, indicating a shared commitment to these goals.

The Athletic Department is an integral part of St. John Vianney School. As such, its primary goal must be to educate the athlete and foster good sportsmanship. Athletics, at its best, can offer a unique and joyful opportunity to learn responsibility, commitment, unselfishness, sacrifice, and discipline. With this in mind, the goals of the program are these:

- To instill in the athlete a sense of **RESPONSIBILITY**, by demanding consistently high standards of behavior and making the athlete aware and respectful of the needs of others.
- To engender **COMMITMENT** by the athletes, through his/her dedication to the goals of the team and his/her teammates.
- To nurture **UNSELFISHNESS** in the athlete, by requiring that his/her actions on and off the playing field be consistent with the goals of the team as a whole, and not be directed toward individual honors.
- To generate in the athlete, a willingness to **SACRIFICE** his/her energy and time towards the fulfillment of team goals.

- To further a sense of PERSONAL DISCIPLINE, by abstaining from activities that limit his/her athletic and personal potential.

Expectations of an Athlete

- 1. Demonstrate Christian values in his/her conduct on and off the playing field. Inappropriate language, disrespect or selfishness towards teammates, other athletes, staff members, coaches, and fans will not be tolerated.**
- 2. Make every effort to reach his/her full academic potential. Since academics come first at SJV, athletes must be able to maintain quality work in the classroom while participating in athletics. Any athlete on academic or disciplinary probation is not ordinarily eligible for participation.**
- 3. Be on time to all practice and games. An athlete who is absent from school may not participate in practice or games on that day. No athlete may participate in practice unless he/she stays the entire time. Excused absences can only be cleared with coaches by a note from a parent.**
- 4. Be properly dressed for games and practices. School uniforms are not proper practice attire. An athlete without appropriate clothing will not be permitted to participate that day.**
 - **Practice apparel: Athletic shoes and shorts/sweats**
 - **Game apparel: Uniforms will be provided. Athletes must provide rubber cleats for flag football and kneepads for both girls' and boys' volleyball (these are mandatory).**
 - **Uniforms provided must be washed and returned in the same condition received at the end of the season. (In the event uniforms are lost, a fee will be required to replace the jersey).**
- 5. Assist with set up and clean up before and after practices and games. (Athletes are to assist after games in putting away needed chairs and other needed items before having snacks or leaving premises.)**

Expectations of Parents

- 1. Demonstrate Christian values in his/her conduct as a spectator. Inappropriate language, disrespectful behavior, disrespect or selfishness towards athletes, other parents, SJV staff members, referees, opposing players, coaches, or fans will not be tolerated.**
- 2. Attend the Mandatory Informational Meeting at the start of the school year.**

3. Support the Athletic Department in its endeavors to support the athlete. Feel free to direct any concerns or questions directly to the A.D.
4. Provide transportation to and from games. Pick up the athlete from practices and games at the designated times. (Coaches are not allowed to transport athletes)
5. Be sure that the athlete is not over-committed.
6. Volunteer to help the coaches and athletic program.
7. **Each family is required to volunteer 5 hours of service to the athletic program.** These hours go towards your family yearly commitment, and must be recorded in the communication envelope. There are many ways to volunteer: each team needs a team parent to set up a snack list, possible carpools, keeping score, help with gym and/or field preparation, and an end of season party (if desired).
8. Pay the Registration Fee established by the Athletic Department.
9. Younger siblings are not allowed to be at sports' practices.
10. Participate and Attend the end of the year Athlete Award Banquet.

Expectations of a Coach

1. Complete Fingerprinting and Shield The Vulnerable requirements at least one month prior to the start of the season. (Verification of this requirement can prohibit volunteering).
2. Support the philosophy of St. John Vianney School.
3. Complete employee documentation with school/personnel offices prior to first practice and game.
4. Maintain behavior, which is respectful of athletic directors, coaches, athletes, opponents, officials, parents, and fans.
5. Dress neatly and appropriately.
6. Be on time to practices. Take roll prior to the start of each practice.
7. Consistently require the athletes to wear proper clothes to practice. No school uniforms are to be worn, including uniform shorts.

8. **Distribute a monthly practice and game schedule to every athlete and athlete's parents, with the dates, beginning and ending time for each practice and game. (Provide A.D.'s with these schedules as well).**
 - **Parents will be notified of any changes in schedule, as soon as possible, if any problems occur with an assigned day.**
 - **The coach must contact the A.D. prior to canceling practice.**
9. **Stay with all athletes until they have been picked up from a practice or game. A coach should not have to wait longer than 15 minutes after the posted schedule for pick up, and has the right to send the athlete to Extended Care, (fee is applicable). The A.D. should be notified as soon as possible of if an athlete is consistently not being picked up on time so that this problem can be resolved.**
10. **End practice on time. If changes occur the A.D., athletes, and parents must be notified beforehand.**
11. **Take roll at all practices and games. Keep and maintain records of this roll.**
12. **Have at least 3 meetings (games/practice) per week. Practice on holidays may not be mandatory.**
13. **Attend mandatory scheduled coaches' meetings with the A.D. and League Division.**
14. **Notify the A.D. immediately if any serious problems occur with an athlete or parent.**
15. **Be responsible for issued equipment and uniforms.**
16. **Have available at all practices and games: emergency cards for all team members, fully stocked first aid kits, and a current roster of players (report any changes in the to the A.D.).**
17. **Inspect playing areas prior to practice and games.**
18. **Clear all home communications through the A.D.**
19. **Allow all athletes who have adhered to the program policies regular playing time during the season.**
20. **Enter teams in tournaments only with the approval of the A.D. All players on the team roster will be able to participate in any tournament.**
21. **Assist with set up and clean up before and after practices and games. (Athletes are to assist after games in putting away needed chairs and other needed items before having snacks or leaving premises.)**

22. Verify game schedules via www.ref4u.com to ensure changes have not been made on dates and times.

Program Policies

Coach Assignment

Coaches are assigned to team by:

- Prior successful experience coaching at SJV
- Prior experience coaching
- If at all possible, a parent or relative who is coaching will be put with his/her child, if requested
- All of the above priorities are subject to the discretion of the Principal and the A.D.

Team Selection

Team selection begins with an evaluation of athletes by coaches and the A.D. in 5th grade and continues each year. Creating balanced teams from all teams on that level. The teams are divided evenly by ability and number of athletes by the A.D. if a large amount of students register.

Team Practice and Gain of Experience

Cohesive and scaffold model is expected and will be enforced. Teams will be divided into two divisions, with 7th and 8th grades in one division and 5th and 6th in another division. Each division must hold at least one combined practice each week together for the duration of the season. The upper grade is to act as a model and to help foster the skills and responsibilities of the given sport. It is the coaches' responsibility for those divisions to arrange at least one collaborative practice where both grades (5th and 6th; and 7th and 8th respectively,) combine the teams to scrimmage and/or practice needed skills.

Unscheduled Practices and Games

Any practices that are scheduled during vacation periods or unscheduled league games will not be mandatory for the athletes. The coach should inform the parents of any games not on the regular league schedule.

Tournaments

Tournaments are voluntary events. The participating athletes' families pay the cost of entering the tournament. Please note that there are often fees for spectators on day of tournaments.

Tournament teams will be selected from interested players. (It is up to the discretion of the parents that their athletes partake in these tournaments). Players of a tournament team may be required to practice one more day a week, preferably on the weekend. The A.D. will select the coach for tournament teams, and oversee the selection of players. By accepting and registering for the tournament, the athletes and teams are

contracted to play. Thus, it is vital that schedules are checked before commitments are made.

League games will always have preference over tournament games if scheduling conflicts occur.

Play Time

The following playing times will govern each sport: 5th, 6th, and 7th grades relatively equal, 8th – 20% of the season. Playing time can be adjusted for disciplinary reasons. League and tournament should not be differentiated.

Cutting Athletes/Teams

St. John Vianney School does not cut athletes from any team. Teams may be dissolved if no approved coaching staff can be found or not enough athletes register for a specific sport. **Note that academic and behavior probation can prevent an athlete from participating on the team, both in practices and games.**

Attendance

Athletes must attend games and practices unless notified by the coach or school representative. Athletes must be committed to attend all scheduled practices and games.

- If an athlete has one unexcused absence he/she will not start the game.
- If he/she has a second unexcused absence he/she will not play in the next game and is required to attend the game, in uniform, and sit on the team bench.

Game Scheduling and Cancellations

During the fall and spring seasons, after school games will be played during the week. Winter season games may be scheduled after school and/or weekends.

In case of rain, the home team may cancel the game by calling the visiting school no later than 2:00pm on the game day (Games on Wednesdays have to be canceled by 12:00pm). After 2:00pm, the game can only be canceled by the umpire at the playing field.

Uniforms

Uniforms are the sole property of St. John Vianney School and are only to be worn for SJV sports events.

Uniforms are issued to an athlete for one season. It is the responsibility of the athlete to maintain the uniform for the season and to return it in good condition. Damage or loss will result in a replacement fee of \$60.00.

Frequent washing of the uniform is neither necessary nor beneficial. When necessary, the uniform should be hand washed in cold water, or machine-washed on a gentle cycle in cold water. Do not use bleach, pre-wash, or stain remover of any kind. Do not put the uniform in the dryer, hand dry only. Do not alter or mark the uniform in any way. **At the end of the season, uniforms must be washed and returned with a name identified on a zip lock bag or attached sheet of paper.**

Only uniforms issued by the school will be worn when representing SJV. No items of clothing or uniforms worn by coached or athletes will have St. John Vianney logos, lettering, or pictures without the permission of the A.D. Coaches or athletes found in violation will be removed from the team for the remainder of the season. **Athletes may opt to wear a green shirt under basketball and volleyball uniforms, and shorts must be an appropriate and modest length.**

Use of Community Center

The community Center is a Parish building and sports use of the Gym is a privilege. The gym is to only be used for scheduled sporting events. A schedule will be made available by the A.D. through coordination with the facilities manager.

All children should be supervised at all times while inside the gym. Siblings of athletes are not allowed to be inside the gym unsupervised during practices or games. Athletes need to use the buddy system when taking a bathroom break. No athletic activities are permitted in the lobby, conference rooms, or on the stage. Teams may be permitted to meet in the lobby or conference rooms before or after a practice/game, if they are not in use.

The facility should be well maintained at all times. No food or drinks (except water) is allowed in the gym. All trash and personal belongings need to be removed at the end of each practice/game. All equipment is to be returned to the sports closet at the close of each day. The gym floor should be swept once before practice and once after practice.

Please report any incidents such as, damage, breakage, malfunctioning equipment, lose or theft of community center property to the A.D.

If you have any questions about the athletic program offered at St. John Vianney School, please feel free to contact us through the front office, or by e-mail.

Athletic Directors

Robert Cowan
e-mail: rcowan@sjvsj.org

Yvonne Trevino
e-mail: ychavez@sjvsj.org

Principal

Anthony Barajas

E-mail: abarajas@sjvsj.org