

FATHER LOPEZ CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



Student-Athlete Handbook 2009-2010

**3918 LPGA Boulevard
Daytona Beach, FL 32124
386-253-5213
386-252-6101 (Fax)**

Dear Student-Athlete and Parents,

Our athletic program is designed to provide the student-athlete with unique learning experiences. We pride ourselves on having a successful and competitive athletic program. The Athletic Department's goal is to teach the student-athlete commitment, sacrifice, and selflessness. It is imperative that the coaches, players, and fans display good sportsmanship which will be remembered and valued long after the contests are over. This principle allows our athletic program to be kept in proper perspective in relation to the mission statement and philosophy of the school. We believe a successful sports program enhances a solid education.

Please read through the handbook carefully and contact the athletic office if there are any questions.

Sincerely,
Gary Belger
Athletic Director

**Father Lopez Catholic High School
Athletic Department
Mission Statement**

The Mission of Father Lopez Catholic High School Athletic Department is to provide equal opportunities for girls and boys to participate in competitive high school sports programs under the guidelines of the Florida High School Athletic Association.

These programs seek to enhance the academic goals of the school by:

Emphasizing the philosophy of “Student-Person-Player”,

By developing the student-athlete intellectually, socially, spiritually, and physically in preparation for a productive life after high school.

By fostering school spirit and togetherness with the emphasis on Team,

By promoting community awareness and involvement in the program.

We strive to compete with and graduate student-athletes who are “*Champions of Character*” and model the values of *Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Sportsmanship and Compassion*.

The Athletic Program is divided into 3 seasons

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Football	Boys’ Soccer	Baseball
Girls’ Volleyball	Girls’ Soccer	Softball
B & G Cross Country	Boys’ Basketball	B & G Tennis
B & G Swimming	Girls’ Basketball	B & G Track
Cheerleading	Cheerleading	Boys’ Lacrosse
Dance	Dance	
B & G Golf		

GREENWAVE SPORTSMANSHIP CREED

Greenwave Student-Athletes:

Respect parents, coaches, teammates and opponents.

Personify commitment and positive attitude.

Represent Father Lopez Catholic with honor and pride.

Greenwave Coaches:

Inspire student-athletes by personal example both on and off the field.

Teach student-athletes to play hard, but to win or lose with grace.

Treat all people with dignity and respect.

Greenwave Parents:

Provide positive reinforcement to young people.

Encourage 100% individual effort and team loyalty.

Support the team and coach in public; address concerns in private.

When your son/daughter makes a team, you have the right to know what the coach's expectations are for your child. All coaches have different expectations and these should be communicated to the parents. Each coach will communicate these expectations in his/her own way. It may be through a preseason meeting, an e-mail or through a letter home. As a parent you should know the coach's philosophy. You should be made aware of any practices that may occur over vacation periods well in advance of that break. You should also be made aware of any disciplinary action that results in your child being denied participation.

Being a parent of an athlete can be a very rewarding experience. Parents' participation with their son/daughter can and should be an enjoyable experience. As a parent, be positive and remind your child that it is the effort put forth, not winning, which is most important. Do not let playing time dictate your child's happiness. Make every effort to be supportive when things are not going well for your son/daughter, or for the team. Be supportive of the coaching staff in front of your son/daughter.

**ATHLETICS GOVERNING BODY
FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
(FHSAA)**

The FHSAA has a website which can be accessed at www.fhsaa.org. The website provides information regarding rules and regulations, directions, member school directory, specific sports policies and procedures, calendar items, etc.

ATHLETIC TEAM COMMITMENT

If for some reason a student decides to stop participating on a team, or the student is dismissed from a team, then he/she will not be permitted to join or participate in any other sport for the duration of that season. The Athletic Director can waive this rule under certain circumstances.

TEAM PRACTICES DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Most, if not all, of the Varsity teams, and some JV teams practice during school holidays. The level of commitment on a varsity team requires that the athlete participate in the practices during vacations. Families of varsity athletes need to understand that in order for our teams to be competitive, formal, mandatory practices must take place during vacations. If you are a parent of a varsity athlete, plan on your son/daughter having to participate in these practices.

If your son/daughter cannot attend these mandatory practices, then it will be understood that there may be consequences for failure to attend. These consequences are determined by the coaches. Consequences vary and are handled by each individual coach.

ABSENCE POLICY

Attendance at practice and games is an obligation every athlete must adhere to. This insures proper preparation for each contest and allows coaches to evaluate the progress of the players and team. There are some programs that either have practice or games on Saturdays. Missing practices or games for other club/AAU teams is not considered an excused absence. If an individual coach wishes to grant exemptions to these rules, then that is up to the individual coach. The AD must be informed by the coach if a student has been granted leeway with respect to AAU, Saturdays, and missing practice in general.

EARLY DISMISSAL FOR GAMES

Early dismissal for games happens throughout the course of the year. Travel to some visiting schools makes early dismissal unavoidable. It is the student's responsibility to make sure they inform their teachers of an early dismissal and they are responsible for all assignments missed.

TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM GAMES

The school provides transportation for most athletic events. Whenever school transportation is provided, students must travel to and from their event with their group unless parents have made prior arrangements with the coach.

TEAM BANQUETS

Father Lopez Catholic will hold a Fall, Winter and Spring Athletic Banquet. All banquets will be held on the campus of Father Lopez Catholic High School. All teams are required to participate in the banquet. Teams are not allowed to have a separate banquet off campus.

TEAM PHOTOGRAPHS

An independent company selected by the AD will take team and individual photos which may be purchased by all team members. Coaches will wear coach's shirts and players will be dressed in the team uniform. Players out of uniform may not be included in the team picture. Every effort will be made to insure all players are present for the picture.

INJURIES

Father Lopez has a certified athletic trainer for after school sports activities. Samantha Julias from CORA Rehabilitation Clinics serves as our trainer.

THE ROLE OF FANS

Athletic events are learning experiences for student-athletes. A ticket to a contest is a privilege to observe athletic tests of skills, not to verbally assault others or be obnoxious. Fans may forget that high school athletes have not reached mature physical performance, so errors can be expected. Moreover, fans that learn the rules of the sport are less likely to criticize officials, players or coaches.

- Remember that you are at a contest to support and yell for your team and to enjoy the skill and competition, not to intimidate or ridicule the other team and Remember that interscholastic athletics are learning experience for students and that mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people as you would praise a student working in the classroom.
- Remember that a ticket to an interscholastic athletic event is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others and be generally obnoxious.
- Learn the rules of the game so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, fans and support groups. Treat them as you treat a guest in your own home.
- Refrain from taunting or making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents during the game.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before and during the games and afterwards on or near the site of the event.
- Use only those cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- Recognize and compliment the efforts of school and league administrators for their efforts in emphasizing the benefits of educational athletics and the role of good sportsmanship.
- Be a positive behavior role model through your own actions and by censuring those around you at events where behavior is unbecoming.