

De Smet Jesuit High School



Student-Athlete Handbook and Code of Conduct

Introduction

The purpose of this handbook is to make important information regarding athletics at De Smet Jesuit High School available to all students who wish to participate in our athletic program and their parents. The requirements contained in this handbook apply to all sports offered at De Smet including all recognized club sports. All potential student-athletes and their parents should read this handbook carefully and completely.

Athletic participation at De Smet Jesuit High School is a privilege, not a right. When you are part of an athletic team, you are an ambassador of De Smet. In a special way, a student wearing a De Smet uniform represents the entire school and must conduct himself accordingly. You are expected to demonstrate appropriate behavior on and off the playing venue. De Smet student-athletes are expected to win or lose with class and always display good sportsmanship.

Mission Statement of De Smet Jesuit High School

De Smet Jesuit High School is a Catholic, college preparatory community whose members work together to build a challenging, academic environment set in the context of the life and spirit of Jesus Christ. While members are constantly encouraged to develop strong personal values and convictions, they achieve success by realizing their leadership potentials through positively impacting the lives of those around them. They also learn and live the values of St. Ignatius by being intellectually competent, open to growth, religious, loving, committed to doing justice in generous service to the people of God and developing as a leader.

The Spartan Athletic Program Goals

1. To serve as an extracurricular complement to the academic, religious, and cultural programs of the school in developing a well-rounded Christian individual.
2. To offer a positive physical outlet to the student which may be of value to him for future leisure time.
3. To create an atmosphere of healthy competition in a team context in which accepting both success and failure can be put in a positive light.
4. To create a spirit of fellowship, to teach sportsmanship and respect for others, and to inculcate a sense of self-discipline.
5. To help teach the importance of doing one's best.
6. To provide a focus of and opportunity for pride by the entire student body, either as good athletes or good fans.

State and Conference Affiliations

De Smet Jesuit High School is a member of the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) and a charter member of the Metro Catholic Conference (MCC). The athletic program strictly follows the By-Laws adopted by both organizations and views violations as a serious offense.

Sports Offerings

Fall Season: Official Start Date Monday, August 8, 2011*

- Cross Country (V, JV, C)
- Football (V, JV, C)
- Soccer (V, JV, B, C2)
- Swimming and Diving (V, JV)

Winter Season: Official Start Date Monday, October 31, 2011*

- Basketball (V, B, C2)
- Bowling (V)
- Hockey (V, JV2)
- Racquetball (V, JV)
- Wrestling (V, JV, C)

Spring Season: Official Start Date Monday, February 27, 2012*

- Baseball (V, B, C)
- Golf (V, JV)
- In-line Hockey (V, JV, C)
- Lacrosse (V, JV, C)
- Rugby (V, JV)
- Tennis (V, JV, C)
- Track and Field (V, JV, C)
- Volleyball (V, JV, C)
- Water Polo (V, JV)
- Ultimate Frisbee (V, JV)

*Start dates vary by sport, consult the head coach for exact date

Athletic Department Contact Information

Mr. Kevin Fober, Athletic Director 314-785-1243 kfober@desmet.org

Mrs. Debbie Stewart, Athletic Assistant 314-785-1262 dstewart@desmet.org

Website <http://www.desmet.org> Athletic Hotline 314-567-3500, press 8, then 2

Head Coaches' Contact Information

Baseball	Mr. Greg Vitello	gvitello@desmet.org
Basketball	Mr. Kevin Poelker	kpoelker@desmet.org
Bowling	Mr. Perry Mehrhoff	pjism@swbell.net
Cross Country	Mr. Bryan Traughber	btraughber@desmet.org
Football	Mr. Patrick Mahoney	pmahoney@desmet.org
Golf	Mr. Frank Hawkey	fhawkey@desmet.org
Ice Hockey	Mr. John Mattingly, Jr.	jmattinglyjr@mattinglylumber.com
Inline Hockey	Mr. Dave Schulte	inline@desmet.org
Lacrosse	Mr. Ron Kelam, Jr.	ron.kelam@gmail.com
Racquetball	Mr. Ken Luecke	kluecke@desmet.org
Rugby	Mr. Patrick Fogarty	pfogarty@desmet.org
Soccer	Mr. Greg Vitello	gvitello@desmet.org
Swimming & Diving	Mr. Doug Maitz	dmaitz@desmet.org
Tennis	Mr. David Boland	dboland@desmet.org
Track & Field	Mr. Michael Russo	mrusso@desmet.org
Ultimate Frisbee	Mr. Peter Lenzi	plenzini@desmet.org
Volleyball	Mr. John Hawkey	jhawkey@desmet.org
Water Polo	Mr. Miguel Figueras	eiznof@aol.com
Wrestling	Mr. Paul Durham	pdurham@desmet.org

Academic Eligibility

The Missouri State High School Activities Association requires that a student must pass three credits to be eligible for participation during the subsequent semester. This means that a student must pass six classes to participate during the next semester. De Smet enforces this rule for all sports, including club sports that are not recognized by the MSHSAA.

Academic Eligibility for Freshmen

In addition to the MSHSAA requirements, the following procedures are in place to support the academic achievement of freshmen at De Smet:

- At the time of the first and third mid-quarter progress reports, a freshman who is failing a class will be notified by the Athletic Director of the precarious position that the student is putting himself in regards to his eligibility for sports and extracurricular activities.
- At the quarter grading period, a freshman who is failing a class will be put on a two week suspension until he shows progress in passing all of his classes. During the suspension, he will be able to practice, but not participate in games.
- Any student may try out for a sport; however, freshmen students who are failing at the time of the second or fourth quarter progress reports will not be allowed to participate in games. These students can be reinstated on November 30 or March 30 if they are passing all of their classes at that time.
- At the end of the semester, a student who has not passed 3.0 credits is not eligible to participate during the following semester.

Athletic Code of Conduct

The following rules have been drawn up to highlight the major responsibilities of the De Smet student-athlete. They must be followed during the entire school year, not just during the playing season.

- A team coach will be aware of the individual student's academic and disciplinary record in school. Consistent or repeated problems in these areas may require suspension or dismissal from a sport subject to review by the Athletic Director.
- Each student must obtain a medical release from his family doctor prior to the beginning of his sport season. This release is sufficient for succeeding seasons in the same school year.
- Each student must be covered by insurance provided by the student's parents/guardians. The school does not provide accident or medical insurance.
- Each student must read and sign off on the MSHSAA Concussion Materials and How to Maintain and Protect your High School Eligibility.
- Each student must read and understand the De Smet Drug and Alcohol Policy and how it may adversely affect participation in athletics and extracurricular activities.
- After becoming a member of a team for De Smet, a student may not drop from the team without permission of the coach. Also, upon withdrawal the student will not be allowed to try out for another team during that sport season or begin practice with a team for the next sport season.
- A De Smet student is expected to set a good example for other students and his teammates on and off the playing field. Disrespect to teachers, competing coaches or players, or fellow students will not be tolerated.
- School absence: a student who has not attended school for at least one-half day may not participate in any athletic activity on that day, e.g., team meeting, practice, or game. The Athletic Director shall determine the "half-day" rule on any given day since some days have shortened schedules, etc.
- Curfew will be set by each coach in each sport. All athletes are expected to honor the curfew rule. Each coach may check on observance and will handle violations of this rule.
- Each athlete is responsible for the equipment issued him. He must pay for any equipment lost, stolen, or damaged through his negligence.
- Respect for one another's equipment or property is essential. Anyone caught stealing or tampering with another's property will be dismissed from the sport.
- The locker room and athletic facilities are not recreation areas. They are to be kept clean at all times.
- If a student cannot attend a practice, he should notify the coach as early as possible, calling his home if necessary. Each student is expected to be on time for practice.
- In the event of an unexcused absence from practice or game, a coach may demand extra supervised work, suspension from next game, or dismissal from team.
- Athletes must remove field shoes before entering the school building. Athletic equipment may not be worn in the Emerson Lobby.
- Participants and their parents may be asked to sign a "contract" which will explain the rules that will be enforced by the coach of that sport. The purpose of this practice is to make the player as well as the parents aware of all rules before the season begins.

Sportsmanship and Fan Behavior

All spectators at De Smet Jesuit athletic events should keep in mind that the attendance at these events is a privilege. High School athletics is an extension of the classroom and should be a learning experience. As such, mistakes are made. Spectators should remember to praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people. The behavior of fans at athletic events should always reflect the values of De Smet Jesuit. Inappropriate or embarrassing behavior will not be tolerated and will result in the revocation of the privilege to attend further athletic or social functions. Spectators are asked:

- To know and demonstrate the fundamentals of sportsmanship
- To respect, cooperate and respond enthusiastically to cheerleaders
- To censure fellow spectators who display negative behavior
- To respect the property of the school and the authority of school officials
- To show respect for an injured athlete when he is removed from the contest
- To not applaud errors by opponents or penalties inflicted upon them
- To not heckle, jeer or distract members of the opposing team
- To never criticize the athletes or coaches for the loss of the contest
- To respect the judgment and strategy of the coach. Refrain from second guessing
- To avoid profane language and obnoxious behavior which are contrary to sportsmanship
- To avoid jumping on the bleachers and/or pushing fellow spectators
- To not participate in cheers which are derogatory or belittling to opponents, the fans, or referees
- To not rush the court or playing field following the contest
- Lastly, spectators are asked to stay off the playing surfaces during breaks in the contest unless specifically authorized

Transportation & Travel Policy

It is often necessary to travel away from school for practice and games. Although De Smet often provides transportation by bus or van for this purpose, it will also often be impractical for the school to provide transportation in all cases. In some instances, your son may be asked to drive himself, transport other student athletes, or ride with another student driver.

In some sports, out of town competition may be a required aspect of the schedule. With the exception of MSHSAA play-off competition, your son may be asked to contribute financially for transportation, lodging and meals.