



## **Eligibility for Student-Athletes in Grades K-6**

Extracurriculars enrich a student's life at the school. CLASSICAL's goal is to encourage students to prioritize academics, but also to provide meaningful opportunities to compete and flourish. Participation in extracurricular activities, however, is a privilege that is contingent on school attendance, academic performance, and good behavior.

Cincinnati Classical Academy believes that participation in athletics is a valuable component of a well-rounded education, even at the elementary level. In keeping with the school's mission to cultivate moral character and physical excellence, this policy outlines the eligibility standards for students in grades K–6 who wish to participate in school-sponsored athletic programs and clubs.

### **Attendance**

#### School Attendance:

Students participating in any school-sponsored event or extracurricular activity falling on a regular weekday must have been in attendance for the entire school day on the day of the event; otherwise, the student will not be permitted to participate in the event. Students who are considered truant based on this handbook may be disallowed from participating in any extracurricular activities sponsored by the school. Exceptions for legitimate reasons can be made at the headmaster's discretion.

#### Athletic Attendance:

Being a part of a team is a time consuming and important commitment. It should be taken seriously even while having fun. Attendance to practice and games is not optional. It is expected that student-athletes will be at as close to 100% of scheduled practice and games as possible. Teammates and coaches rely on everyone being present to conduct appropriate drills and practice. Repeat offenders of missed practices without a valid excuse are subject to dismissal from the team.

### **Academic Performance**

While the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) guidelines do not apply to elementary grades, CLASSICAL maintains academic standards to encourage strong student performance:

**Grades K–2:** Eligibility is determined by effort, participation, and behavior in the classroom rather than letter grades. Student-athletes should be in good standing with effort, participation, and behavior. Eligibility for students who struggle with effort, participation, and behavior in the classroom will be determined by the Director of Athletics, the Deans of the Lower School, and the Headmaster.

**Grades 3–6:** Students must be in good academic standing, as determined by regular classroom performance and quarterly report cards. **A student-athlete may be considered**



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ineligible to participate if he or she has a failing grade in any of the core subjects of math, English, science, or history for the previous grading period. Student-athletes also must maintain a minimum average of 70% to be passing for the course. Eligibility for students who struggle with effort, participation, and behavior in the classroom will be determined by the Director of Athletics, the Deans of the Lower School, and the Headmaster.

**Ineligibility Period:** Students who do not meet these academic requirements are ineligible to participate in contests until their grades are within acceptable parameters. However, they may continue to practice with their teams at the discretion of the Director of Athletics.

**Full-time Enrollment:** Student-athletes must be enrolled in Cincinnati Classical Academy in order to participate in interscholastic athletics.

### **Good Behavior**

Any student who receives three Blue Slips (or the equivalent) in a school year may be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities for a period of time determined by the head of school. Ultimate discretion on eligibility is the responsibility of the Headmaster or his designee.

Participation in extra-curricular athletics is a privilege and one that comes with great responsibility. Student-athletes will be held to a high standard. It is also understood that the athletic field is a different dynamic than that of the classroom, and some behaviors conducive to one are not necessarily acceptable in the other.

Student-athletes are expected to behave appropriately on and off the field/court. Disruptive behavior, rudeness to an adult, or disrespect to peers will not be tolerated at a game, practice, or in the classroom.

### **Physical Examinations and other Forms**

Prior to participation, all student-athletes must complete the following:

**Annual Requirement:** Undergo a new physical examination annually, with the Cincinnati Classical Academy Physical form valid for 13 months from the date of examination. To be considered for participation, a student must have completed a physical exam clearing the student for physical activity prior to the first practice. There will be no exceptions. Student-athletes will not participate until they have their physicals completed and submitted.

**Sudden Cardiac Arrest:** Students and their parents must review all materials provided by the school relating to sudden cardiac arrest and concussions and shall certify to the school that student and his or her parent understands the cardiac risks associated with participation in athletic activities.