



MGC Student Parent Handbook

2011-2012

Introduction

It is our hope that you will enjoy and find enrichment in Mother of Good Counsel's sports program. To that end, this brochure, along with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's pamphlet, "Policies and Regulations for Athletics", and the MGC Athletic Board By-Laws will clarify your expectations concerning philosophy, conduct, sports and eligibility.

Sports and Their Seasons

Sport	Grade(s)	Season Start	Season End	Notes
Soccer	K5 – 8 th	Aug. 16	Oct. 31	Co-ed (K5-4 th is non-competitive)
Volleyball	5 th – 8 th	Aug. 16	Oct. 31	Girls Only
Basketball	5 th – 8 th	Nov. 3	Mar 31	Boys and Girls teams
Softball	5 th – 8 th	Apr 1	Jun 11	Girls Only
Soccer	K5 – 8 th	Apr 1	Jun 11	Co-ed

Athletic fees

Grade	1 Sport	2 or more sports
K5 – 4 th	\$35	N/A
5 th – 8 th	\$40	\$75

- Athletic fees must be paid with the permission slips.
- Make checks payable to **MGC Athletics**.
- Permission slips and athletic fees can be sent to the Athletic Director via the school office.
- Athletic fees do not include the cost of uniform(s).
- Sign-ups for all sports are in the preceding spring and are due by the last day of school (except new students who can sign up for open slots up to the Friday before Labor Day).

Fees

- Athletic fees must be paid with permission slip(s) and sportsmanship pledges and must be paid by June 10, 2011.
- Grades K5 - 4th: \$35.00 for 1 Sport (per student)
\$55.00 for 2 or more Sports (per student)
- Grades 5th – 8th: \$40.00 for 1 Sport (per student)
\$75.00 for 2 or more Sports (per student)

Financial Assistance

Financial assistance is available. Financial arrangements **must be made prior to June 10th**. Contact the school principal Regina Shaw (414-442-7600 Ext. 119 or shaw@mgcparish.org). **You must have completed the sign-up forms prior to contacting Mrs. Shaw.**

Forms

- Permission slips are required for **all athletes**.
- Permission slips available on the MGC athletics website (<http://www.mgcparrish.org/School/Athletics/forms.htm>)
- **Athletes are required to have a physical form filled out and signed by a physician prior to starting a sport**. Typically the physical form is good for two years unless specified by physician. The health form is available on the MGC athletics web site (see above).

MGC Athletics Website

- <http://www.mgcparrish.org/School/Athletics/athleticshome.htm>
- We will post athletic information, events and schedules. **Check it often.**

Archdiocese Website

- <http://www.archmil.org/>
- Archdiocese Athletics Policy Manual:
<http://www.archmil.org/Resources/AthleticsPolicyManualForms.htm>

Statement of Philosophy

The MGC Athletic Association believes that interscholastic athletics is valuable as a supportive element to the total Christian formation process. Athletics, being part of a well-rounded educational experience, is available to encourage all students to participate in school life beyond the classroom and offers students a chance to express themselves physically, socially and spiritually. Sports activities help all students broaden their interests, abilities and talents. Each MGC team will encourage teamwork, character development and sportsmanship. The objectives of the MGC Athletic Association are in full communion with the MGC mission statement and the "Policies and Regulations for Athletics for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee" (<http://www.archmil.org/ResourcesAthleticePolicyManualForms.htm>).

Athletic Association Board

The Pastor appoints the Athletic Director to a three-year term. Other board positions are elected to a three-year term by members of the Athletic Board (subject to the approval of the Pastor). The meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the school. Anyone may attend the meetings to better understand the board's workings. Non-board members may comment on any related matters during the first ten minutes of the meeting. If possible, please call the Athletic Director 24 hours in advance to be placed on the board's agenda.

MGC Athletic Board

Title	Name	Phone	email
Athletic Director	Mike Turner	(414) 243-2126	mrturnermilw@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Barb Berhold	(414) 607-9790	berthold@mgcparish.org
Secretary	Tracey Carey	(414) 899-1655	topcatcarey@gmail.com
Gym Coordinator	Nick Puls	(414) 708-4247	ndpuls@yahoo.com
Soccer Coordinators	Elizabeth Turner Maureen Gleesing	(414) 350-6990 (414) 873-3476	elizabeth.rog@yahoo.com pastorma2002@yahoo.com
Volleyball Coordinator			
Basketball Coordinator	Tim Dwyer	(414) 651-8849	tim@gfgwisconsin.com
Softball Coordinator	Tracey Carey	(414) 899-1655	topcatcarey@gmail.com
CYM Coordinator	Teresa Mortell	(414) 258-7030	mortell@mgcparish.org
Uniforms	Josey Myles	(414) 236-5019	jmmyles@att.net

Coaches/Assistant Coaches

All MGC Parish members and parents of MGC students are eligible and are encouraged to become a coach or an assistant coach. You apply to be a coach or assistant coach by contacting the MGC Athletic board, school or Parish. Please note that:

- Must complete and submit a "MGC Intent to Coach Form". (Available on the MGC Athletics website)
- Must complete and submit the Archdiocese Coach Sportsmanship Pledge form.
- Must complete the Archdiocese Safeguarding All of God's Family (formally called Virtus), watch the Blood Pathogen and Core Coach's videos and attend a training clinic for their sport before the starting to coach.
- Are subject to criminal record checks.
- Coaches are selected by the Sport Coordinator and subject to review by the Athletic Director and, if necessary, by the Athletic Board.
- Assistant Coaches can be selected by the coach but subject to the approval of the Sport Coordinator and Athletic Director.
- Coaches shall assist the Sport Coordinators and Athletic Director in all administration requirements, including assuring that all player eligibility requirements are met, completed paperwork is handed in on time, etcetera.
- Must follow all of the rules and regulations for athletics for the Archdiocese, the league of their specific sport, MGC School and MGC Athletics.
- **Coach's conduct is in conformance with the same rules of conduct required of the players.**

Player Eligibility

The following are required for a player to be eligible to participate in MGC athletics:

- Must be a student at MGC School or a parish member.
- Meet additional Archdiocese requirements for players that are parish members. See Archdiocese Athletics Policy manual.
- Non-school/non-parish players may only participate in the MGC athletics if they meet the requirements outlined in the Archdiocese Athletics Policy Manual and obtain the necessary waiver from the Archdiocese.
- Must complete a separate permission slip completed for each sport the player wishes to participate in.
- Must have athletic fees paid in full. Late fees apply after due dates.
- Must complete and sign the Archdiocese Student-Athlete Sportsmanship Pledge form.
- Must have a completed and signed the Mother of Good Counsel Parent Commitment form.
- Must have a completed and signed Archdiocese Parent Sportsmanship Pledge form.
- **Athletes are required to have a current athletics physical on file with the Athletic Director before participating in any practice or game. Physical forms must be completed and signed by a physician and cannot be dated prior to April 1st of that year.**
- Player not on academic or disciplinary suspension.
- Late sign-ups due to special circumstances will be at the discretion of the Sport's Coordinator and the Athletic Director.

Incomplete forms or unpaid athletic fees will result in the student being suspended from athletics until all forms are completed and all fees paid to the Athletic Director.

Conduct and Discipline

By choosing to become a member of a team, all players make a commitment to themselves, their coach, their team and the school. The players commit to consistently provide their best effort, which they will achieve if they treat their coach with respect, listen attentively and follow directions. In turn, players can expect their coach to treat them respectfully and listen to them.

Players

- Players are ambassadors of MGC as they travel to other locations and will consistently practice good sportsmanship (See Archdiocese Student-Athlete Sportsmanship Pledge)
- As MGC athletics members, you represent all of the students from the school and, therefore, your actions will show the pride and spirit found in the entire student body and parish.
- At all times, players, coaches, parents and spectators shall be civil to officials and opposing coaches/players.
- **Players may NOT approach or argue with game officials or scorekeepers before, during or after a game.**
- Players may not argue with calls, coaching decisions, nor engage in other activities on or off the playing field/floor that are offensive to officials, coaches/players, other coaches/players or spectators.
- **School is always primary. Players who do not meet academic standards or violate school rules are subject to suspension from athletics by the Principal.**
- Only the Principal may lift an academic suspension.
- No coach, parent or anyone on the Athletic Board can change or modify the Principal's decision with regard to academic suspensions.
- Any student who continues to practice or plays in a game after receiving a suspension notice is subject to additional periods of suspension by the Athletic Director after the school suspension is lifted.
- Players who violate athletic rules, school rules or otherwise engaged in conduct offensive to the program, the school or the Parish are subject to suspension by officials, the coach, Sport Coordinator, Athletic Director or Principal.
- **Athletic fees will not be refunded due to suspensions.**

Parents

- At games and practices, parent conduct is expected be in conformance with the same rules of conduct required of the players.
- Parents, friends and relatives are ambassadors of MGC as they travel to other locations and will consistently practice good sportsmanship.
- As MGC athletics members, you represent all of the students from the school and, therefore, your actions will show the pride and spirit found in the entire student body and parish.
- At all times parents and other spectators shall be civil to officials and opposing coaches/players.
- **Parents may NOT approach coaches, game officials or scorekeepers to argue calls or coaching decisions nor engage in other offensive activities before, during or after a game.**
- **Any parent or spectator that approaches game officials or coaches during a game shall be asked to leave and may be suspended from attending future games.**
- **Violators are subject to discipline by the officials, the coach, Sport Coordinator or Athletic Director, up to and including removal from the team, field or gym.**

Coaches and Assistant Coaches

- At games and practices, coaches and assistant coaches conduct is expected be in conformance with the same rules of conduct required of the players.
- Coaches or assistant coaches who play any player after being advised that that player has been suspended from sports by the Principal, Sport Coordinator or Athletic Director are subject to suspension of one week or longer as determined by the Sports Coordinator and/or the Athletic Director.
- **Any coach or assistant coach who receives a technical foul and/or is ejected from any game shall report the technical foul/ejection in writing to the Sport Coordinator/Athletic Director within twenty-four (24) hours on the forms available from the MGC Athletics Website.**
- Discourage any sleepovers before games as it may affect players' performance.

Parental Participation

Parental participation is vital to the continuing success of the athletic program. Parents, such as you, volunteer as Board members, coaches, assistants, field helpers and concession stand attendants.

- The Board expects parents to play an active role in their child's sports program.
- Parents, please pick up your children promptly after all games and practices. Do not impose or inconvenience their coaches by being late.
- Parents should make themselves available to help when called upon. Also ask your child's coach if you may assist in some way.
- **Parent/guardian of each MGC athlete is required to provide service time to work at fund raising activities such as the GYM concession stand or admission table. Coaches, assistant coaches and Athletic Board members are considered to have fulfilled their service time commitments.**
- The Gym Coordinator will be assigned the responsibility to assign parents/guardians adult workers to work in the gym. Since gym income is for the benefit of all MGC Athletic Programs, not just basketball and volleyball, this responsibility includes parents/guardians for all sports even if they do not use the gym.
- **Failure of a Parent/Guardian to fulfill their athletics service time will result in suspension of their player(s) from all MGC athletics (including the following year) until the service time has been fulfilled.**

Sports Guidelines

- Each coach will provide every player, who fully participates with a Christian attitude in all team activities, an amount of playing time that is fair in scrimmages for all sports, matches for volleyball and games for other sports.
- MGC players may not practice with other teams. They may practice only with their own team.
- When a child is absent from school, it is the parent's discretion regarding their child's attendance at practices and games on that day. The same will apply to weekend games when absent on that Friday.
- The coach will call his/her players to activate a practice when school has been canceled due to inclement weather. Player attendance will not be mandatory. Deciding to miss that practice will not be held against that player in any manner.
- Team sizes shall be set by the Sport's Coordinator and the Athletic Director within the following maximums/minimums to insure adequate playing time for each player:

Soccer and softball -- minimum 11, maximum 18

Volleyball and basketball -- minimum 8, maximum 10

- The Athletic Board will fund a maximum of two tournaments per team. The players' parents will pay for any other tournaments.
- The basketball and volleyball guidelines for team division are listed below:

5th Grade - Evenly split based on talent and number of players.

6th Grade - Divided as in 5th Grade with the understanding that the teams may be different than the previous year.

7th and 8th Grades - Divided into "A" and "B" teams, provided that there is a "B" league. If no "B" league exists, teams will be equally divided. If there is an odd number of players trying out the "A" team will be the larger one. Otherwise, the teams will be numerically, evenly split.

- Subject to the review of the Sport's Coordinator, the coaches will decide on the divisions and will base their decisions on skills demonstrated in drills, attitude and behavior in tryouts, and athletic ability. Coaches and coordinators will make the final decisions.
- MGC uniforms are required for all athletic teams and are purchased through the Uniform Coordinator. All sports will be played with the same uniform as approved by the Athletic Board. The Board requires uniform shorts and shirts for all sports, although, in soccer and softball, if the players wear only long pants, the uniform shorts need not be obtained. Uniforms for 7th and 8th graders will be different from those of the lower grades. Again, they shall be as approved by the Athletic Board. The player must wear both the designated top and shorts at all times during a game. Player who violates this provision is subject to removal from the game until there is compliance.

Grievance Procedures

- Any grievance on behalf of a parent or student should be taken to the player's coach first. The Sport's Coordinator may be present at the request of the parent or coach.
- If unable to resolve the grievance, the matter should be presented to the Sport's Coordinator. Any grievance by a coach must first be taken up with the Sport's Coordinator.
- If still unable to resolve the grievance, it should be discussed at a meeting with the parents, coach, Sport's Coordinator and the Athletic Director.
- If the problem persists after completing these steps, the parents can request to address the full Athletic Board at its next scheduled meeting. This can be done in closed session if requested. The Athletic Board's decision is final.

Other Issues

Please refer to the Archdiocese's Athletics Policies for other important information.

Use of the gymnasium by non-MGC groups is subject to:

1. Time availability as determined by the Athletic Director/Gym Supervisor.
Priority of GYM time is as follows:
 - Parish/School Athletics games
 - Parish/School sponsored events
 - Parish/School Athletics practices
 - non-Parish events
2. The fees and insurance requirement as set by the Parish Office.
Non-Parish events must carry their own liability insurance that will cover participants as well as spectators as the Parish insurance will not cover non-Parish group events.

A group is considered non-Parish if the group has any participant or spectator that are not members of MGC Parish, MGC Parish staff, MGC School staff, or currently enrolled students of MGC School.

Mother of Good Counsel

Parent Commitment Policy

All families with one or more children that are participating in any MGC athletics during the course of a school year are required to work a total of four (4) hours per participant in the gym during the volleyball and/or basketball season. (This includes athletes in K5-8) You may send any adult family member (18 years or older) to serve the time commitment.

The work shifts will be two (2) two-hour shifts. Time commitments made by coaches and athletic board members fulfill their obligation.

This is an opportunity to demonstrate your commitment to your children and your school. Please consider your participation as part of your child's learning experience.

Example:

1 child = 4 hours of service per family
2 children = 8 hours of service per family
3 or more children = 12 hours of service per family

A schedule will become available once the gym schedules have been made.

I understand that failure to comply with this policy will result in suspension of my child(ren) from athletics until the commitment policy is fulfilled.

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date:

Children's Names:
