

Parents/Students Handbook for FEAST Sports

Please read carefully. You and your family are responsible for knowing and abiding by the following guidelines.

The primary purpose of FEAST Sports is to provide a positive Christian environment for spiritual growth through athletics to currently home schooling families.

FEAST Sports activities are made possible by the volunteer efforts of home school parents. Your participation as a family unit is a vital component of the sports ministry objectives.

An added bonus is the opportunity to encourage one another through Christian fellowship.

FEAST is a Christian organization. Our coaches are all Christians and coach from a Christian viewpoint.

FEAST Statement of Faith:

- We believe the Holy Bible, both Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, without error, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of man, and the Divine and final authority for all Christian faith and life.
- We believe in one infinite, triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- We believe Jesus Christ is the true God and the true man, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. Having lived sinless, He truly died and was resurrected in His own body for our atonement and resurrection.
- We believe that only through His death by the shedding of His blood and His resurrection are we provided justification and salvation.
- We believe in the bodily resurrection of all mankind; of the believer to an everlasting dwelling with God, of the unbeliever to an everlasting conscious hell without God.
- We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, to convict men of sin, regenerate the believing sinner, indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer for godly living and service.
- We believe in the imminent, bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is very important that we demonstrate a good example of home schooling and support the FEAST organization by following the guidelines for dress and behavior. Our objectives are as follows: At all times, show thoughtfulness and respect toward coaches, parents, other students, competitors, and FEAST Staff. When representing FEAST, our actions and attitudes should honor our Lord Jesus Christ.

“And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him.” Colossians 3:17

Registration Fee Policy:

Registration fees are due upon registration. Players may not participate in a sport for which they have not paid their registration fees. No fees are refundable without the approval of the Sports Committee. No sport-related expenses are reimbursable without prior written permission.

A uniform deposit may be required at registration. This deposit would be refunded when the uniform is returned at the end of the season. If the uniform is lost or damaged, the deposit will be kept and applied toward the total amount due for the uniform.

We gratefully accept donations to cover the many expenses not covered by registration fees. All donations are tax-deductible and greatly appreciated. If you are able to assist, please make checks payable to FEAST, designated to the sports ministry.

Participation:

Participation in FEAST Sports is open to students who have traditionally been and are currently being home educated with at least 50% of their course work done in the home.

Eligibility:

The points listed below serve as a general guide. For a more extensive explanation of eligibility rules, please contact the FEAST Sports Office.

- No player who is 19 years old or older and no player who has graduated from high school may participate in FEAST Sports
- All players are limited to 4 years of varsity participation.
- No pre-high school player may participate on a high school level team

Attendance:

Attendance at all games and practices is a priority for this family-focused activity. If for some reason parents are not able to be there for the entire practice or game, they should be prompt in picking up their athletes when the practice or game is over. Children may not be left unattended at FEAST facilities. Failure to accompany your young person after a scheduled activity may result in a disciplinary action.

Supervision:

Parents are responsible for their child/children and are responsible for their actions at all times, whether or not you are present.

Incident Report:

By virtue of participation in the sports ministry, athletes and their families voluntarily accept the behavioral standards as stated by FEAST Sports. All participants are expected and encouraged to exercise personal self-discipline, restraint, and genuine kindness toward others. In dealing with any offense that may arise, it is the desire of this ministry that the Biblical approach to discipline be applied as found in Matthew 18:15-17.

“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.”

When an individual violates policy or rules, a parent, coach, or anyone involved may submit an incident report to the Athletic Director. The incident report is used as documentation for disciplinary measures that may need to be carried out by the administration. Incident reports may be filled out online.

Disciplinary Measures:

Disciplinary measures may include fines, compensation for damages, work assignments, probation, suspension, or dismissal. Work assignments and probation may be levied by the coach, Suspensions must be approved by the commissioner. Fines and dismissals must be approved by the Commissioner in coordination with the Athletic Director.

Disciplinary Offenses:

The following list is not intended to be all inclusive, as FEAST reserves the right to make final determination of what conduct is considered unsatisfactory. As we consider these matters, may we be mindful of the following verses:

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship...so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.” Romans 12:1 &5

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in faith, and in purity.” I Timothy 4:12

- Theft, dishonesty
- Inappropriate conversations, profanity, vulgarity, obscenity
- The possession of literature, pictures, posters, or recordings presenting an indecent or immoral activity or ungodly belief or philosophy
- Immoral conduct, immodesty, and conduct implying immorality
- Disorderly or destructive actions
- Gambling
- The use of tobacco, alcohol, or narcotic drug, or the implied use of these
- Unauthorized use or possession of keys to the FEAST facilities.
- Defiance of authority
- Any practices forbidden in Scripture

Rules of Conduct:

For the sake of our young people, it is important that we all rise above the typical competitive sports atmosphere that tends to stir up and encourage negative responses toward opponents. Let us all put aside these negative responses and encourage one another in love; may our desire be to build up EVERY person. This applies to the players and coaching staff, as well as spectators.

- While at any FEAST Event, students must remain in designated areas for that event. No student is allowed in the bookstore, on any basketball court, or in classrooms without a parent or coach supervision. Horseplay, loitering, or “hanging out” is prohibited at FEAST facilities.
- Cheerleading is not allowed—“cheerleading” is defined as a person or persons appearing before the spectators and leading them in an organized cheer or yell.
- Ridicule, manipulative intimidation (e.g. making noise during an opponent’s free throws), boastful chanting, jeering, booing, and belittling, angry or hurtful gestures are not God-honoring and are therefore prohibited.
- Each person is responsible for picking up his/her trash.
- Food and drinks are only allowed in designated areas.
- Show respect and obedience to all on campus.
- Electronic equipment is not allowed (headphones, music players of all kinds ,ipads, laptops, electronic games).
- Cell phones are permitted on campus. They should not be used during events and must be on silent or turned off. They should not be used for games, music, movies, etc.
- Knives, guns, water guns, rollerblades, skateboards, scooters, laser pointers or other dangerous and/or distracting items are not allowed at co-op or on FEAST property.
- FEAST is not responsible for your personal belongings. Lost and found items left over 30 days will be donated to a needy charity.
- Advertising, surveys, or printed materials may not be distributed without written permission from the FEAST Facility Use Committee.
- Music must be pre-approved by the FEAST Facility Use Committee
- Banners, posters, signs, etc . containing positive, encouraging, and supportive messages are allowed. Posting such messages, however, requires permission from the FEAST Publications Committee. Negative or insulting messages in any form are never allowed.

Dress Code:

As in any large group of people, we have a great diversity of convictions and lifestyles. In an effort to minimize offense to one another, it seems wisest to let the Lord’s love restrain us in our selection of clothing and conduct. At all times our dress should reflect godly character by being neat and modest.

Students in violation of the dress code will not be allowed to participate until the violation has been corrected. The following dress code applies absolutely to players on all FEAST athletic teams. Players must abide by the dress code when they are at FEAST facilities, during any FEAST or team activity, and on any other occasion when they are representing FEAST. We encourage members of the players’ families to abide by the dress code at these times as well.

- Shirts and dresses must have sleeves: muscle shirts, tank tops, and spaghetti straps may be worn with an opaque shirt or jacket over the top at all times. Sheer or tight clothing, tube tops; mesh tops; tops that reveal midriff and/or back when students' arms are lifted or students bend over should not be worn.
- Shorts should be at least as modest as the uniforms. Skirts, and dresses should be knee length or longer. Slits in the dresses or skirts should come no higher than the top of the knee.
- All undergarments should be covered including sports or workout types
- Clothing should not be torn or have holes where skin is exposed.
- Clothing with pictures and slogans should be positive in nature.
- For safety reasons no body-piercing jewelry of any kind should be worn. Females may wear one pair of earrings (one per ear) during non-game, non-practices times.
- Tattoos or other permanent or temporary body markings should not be visible. This applies to students, athletes, and all leadership.
- To encourage and appearance of team unity and to discourage individual attention-getting, no extreme hairstyles are allowed.
- No facial hair for males

This dress code is not exhaustive and due to so much variety in clothing styles, the FEAST Board reserves the right to make final determination of what dress is considered unsatisfactory.

Uniforms:

Each team member is responsible for the proper care of his or her game uniform. Most uniforms are the property of FEAST, not the players. The uniforms are to be worn at games and game-related activities only, not at practice, at home, etc. If a player damages or loses a uniform, that player must pay for a replacement.

- Whenever the uniform is worn, it must be worn in its entirety.
- No undergarments of any kind may be visible at any time.
- Clothing worn during practice times must be as modest as the game uniform.

Interaction:

We believe that it is possible to have healthy social interaction and mature Christian relationships. For the protection of our families, our Christian fellowship, and our testimony within the community, it is vital that we exercise ourselves with godliness at all times and adhere to moral purity. We are not a forum for dating and carousing activities. Therefore, we ask that in all FEAST Sports activities, the behavior between singles of the opposite sex be above reproach by avoiding the appearance of wrong doing. Flirtations or suggestive communications are unacceptable behavior. The FEAST Board reserves the right to make determination of what interaction is not considered satisfactory.

“Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.” Ephesians 4:29-32

Sponsorship:

Athletic competition is local, state, and national. Therefore, it may involve some travel away from home. In the event that an athlete's parents or guardians are unable to accompany him or her on a scheduled trip out of town, it is required that the parents provide an adult sponsor to take their place. The parents are responsible for briefing the sponsor on FEAST Sports policy, insuring that the sponsor will continue the commitment already indicated by the parents and athlete. It is the responsibility of the parents and the designated sponsor to settle issues such as transportation, expenses, medical releases, etc.

Media:

Events and programs are often considered newsworthy and of interest to our families. We often solicit media coverage to publicize successful programs and special events concerning students, families and staff. Your child may, on occasion, be

photographed for positive co-op coverage. Additionally, your child's image and/or name may be included in our publications and FEAST web pages and through social media.

Closing Thoughts:

May we all encourage one another to not only receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior but also to walk in the Spirit, growing up into Christ who is the Head, living out Christ in all aspects of leadership, self-discipline, individual responsibility, personal integrity and good citizenship.

May we with our whole heart actively seek to be filled with the Lord, developing and maintain an appetite for God's word, diligent to keep the oneness of the Spirit.

May we be one with the Lord to such an extent that we bring into obedience to Christ our dress, appearance, thought, life, conversation, attitudes, habits and relationships, glorying in the Lord and not ourselves.

May we walk in humility before God and with one another, submitting to authority and being subject to one another.