



It is the mission of Lakewood Catholic Academy to provide the highest quality academic and religious education through an innovative and challenging curriculum. We recognize that students may benefit greatly from activities that take place outside of the classroom, and we encourage our students to participate in our many athletic programs. At the same time, we must help our student-athletes to understand that God, family and education come before sports. It is imperative that we emphasize the importance of being well rounded as we help our students become the leaders of tomorrow. As part of that effort, we have established a set of guidelines for athletic eligibility for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade student-athletes.

### **Bylaws of CYO – Diocese of Cleveland**

#### **4-1-8**

*The member parish, school or social service agency has the right to establish additional criteria for eligibility and to deny team membership to any otherwise qualified individual with cause.*

### **Academic Eligibility**

Our students' academic eligibility will be assessed on an ongoing basis. Periodic looks at the academic well being of our students will ensure that we have in mind the best interests of all of our student-athletes.

#### **Receiving a grade of F on a quarterly report card or progress report**

A student receiving an overall course grade of F on a quarterly report card or progress report, along with three or more missing assignments in that same academic subject, will be prohibited from representing LCA at any athletic event as well as from practicing with his/her team for a period of 2 weeks.

A student deemed ineligible during the registration process may be assigned a team, but is prohibited from participation until his/her eligibility has been reinstated. If the sport in which a student wishes to participate determines it is necessary to evaluate students before assigning teams, the student may participate in the evaluation even if he/she is ineligible at the time the evaluation takes place.

### **Standards of Conduct**

As stated in the Mission Statement of Lakewood Catholic Academy, our primary purpose is the development of the Christian person. In addition to the academic expectations already set forth in this document, students participating in LCA athletics

will also be held to standards of conduct. Student misbehavior during athletic participation will have repercussions within the school building just as student misconduct during the school day will have consequences on the athletic field or court.

#### Conduct within the school

A student receiving a suspension from school will be prohibited from representing LCA at any athletic event as well as from practicing with his/her team for a period of 2 weeks. In-school suspensions and out-of-school suspensions will carry the same penalty. The student's period of ineligibility will begin the day the suspension is received, usually the school day immediately before the first day the suspension is to be served. A student expelled from Lakewood Catholic Academy is prohibited from any and all involvement with any LCA athletic team.

It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians of non-LCA students to hold their children to the aforementioned standards of conduct. It is also the responsibility of the parents/guardians of non-LCA students to contact all necessary coaches in the event a student is being withheld from practice(s) or game(s) as a result of misconduct at his/her own school. Coaches should be contacted as early as possible so as to allow ample time to prepare for practices and/or games the student will miss.

#### Conduct at athletic events

Just as a student's misconduct at school will have consequences on the athletic field, so too will a student's misconduct on the athletic field have consequences at school. Each and every one of our student-athletes serves as a representative of Lakewood Catholic Academy. As such, they are expected to act in a manner that is in accordance with the Catholic values and teachings of Lakewood Catholic Academy. There is not a list of specific actions that will result in a student being disciplined, though destruction or vandalism, to any degree, of a school's locker room or bathroom and yelling at or harassing other players are examples of behaviors that will have consequences at school. Each act of student misconduct will be dealt with on an individual basis.

The above written standards of conduct and academic achievement have been constructed with the best interests of our student-athletes in mind. Success in the classroom should always be of a greater priority than success on the court or in the field. It is the hope and intent of Lakewood Catholic Academy that through the combined efforts of our staff and the parents at home each student will realize that God, family, and education should always come before athletics.