FIRST BAPTIST ACADEMY

LIONS

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Student Handbook

WORSHIP
MATTHEW 22
(LOVE GOD)

DISCIPLESHIP
MATTHEW 28
(FOLLOW JESUS)

FELLOWSHIP
ACTS 2
(SPIRITUAL PARTNERSHIP)

SERVICE
MATTHEW 22
(LOVE OTHERS)

EVANGELISM
MATTHEW 28
(SHARE THE GOSPEL)



A Letter From the Director

To our FBA athletic families,

This packet matters. Please take ten minutes with it before the season begins.

Athletics at FBA is not a separate program from the school's mission. It is part of how we form young men and women who love God, love people, and pursue excellence. When your son or daughter walks onto an FBA field, court, mat, or course, they enter a place that is designed to shape them as athletes and as people.

This year brings real change. The State of Florida has passed a new athletics law that takes effect July 1, 2026. The biggest change for us is that participation at FBA by any student not enrolled at FBA — including home education students, students from public schools, and students from other private schools — now requires a written agreement between the school and the student. We have built that agreement and the supporting forms with care. Our intent is to keep doors open while honoring the new law.

At the same time, we have taken this season as a chance to ask a bigger question: what does it look like to invest fully in the development of a student athlete? The answer led us to one clear philosophy. We do not just want fast, strong, or skilled. We want the whole athlete. Body. Mind. Spirit. That is what FBA Athletics is for.

This handbook explains everything you need to know for the 2026–2027 season, including the new agreement requirement for outside families, the updated athletic participation fee structure that funds our whole athlete model, the consequences that come with breaking the standards laid out here, and what to expect from us as we walk this season together.

If anything in here raises questions, reach out. Our doors are open.

Grateful to serve your family,

Mark Herzlich

Director of Athletic Ministries

First Baptist Academy of Naples

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The 5 Pillars of FBA Athletics

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1 Corinthians 10:31

"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

Worship — Matthew 22 (Love God)

Worship is a full-life response to who God is and what He has done. As athletes we worship by pursuing excellence, living with integrity, showing gratitude in all circumstances, staying faithful in the hidden work, setting apart time with God, and using our platform for the Kingdom.

Discipleship — Matthew 28 (Follow Jesus)

Discipleship is growing in obedience to Christ through intentional relationships, teaching, and modeling. We expect athletes to be coachable, grow spiritually on and off the field, walk with someone behind them, and be discipled by someone ahead of them.

Fellowship — Acts 2 (Spiritual Partnership)

Fellowship is spiritual partnership — building Christian community on the team, making time for Bible study and church, pursuing unity across cliques, and carrying each other's burdens. You cannot follow Jesus alone.

Service — Matthew 22 (Love Others)

Service is love in action. Lead by example in the little things, see your role as a chance to bless others, use your platform to serve the community, and serve sacrificially — including people who can give nothing back.

Evangelism — Matthew 28 (Share the Gospel)

Evangelism is sharing the good news of Jesus in word, in action, and in the way you live. Share your story, let your life be a witness, invite without imposing, and be available to God.

Mission, Purpose & Philosophy

Mission Statement

Partnering with parents to develop students with Christian character and a biblical worldview, equipping them for life, learning, and leadership.

Statement of Purpose

To build champions for Christ through competitive athletics.

Philosophy

At First Baptist Academy, athletics is more than competition — it is a calling. We believe that sports provide a unique platform to develop the whole person: body, mind, and spirit. Through disciplined training, Christ-centered coaching, and meaningful relationships, we aim to shape athletes into servant leaders who reflect the character of Jesus in every arena of life.

Our ultimate goal is not just to win games, but to build men and women of integrity — students who compete with humility, lead with love, and pursue excellence as an act of worship. Every practice, every game, and every locker-room conversation is a chance to disciple, encourage, and call our athletes to something higher than the scoreboard.

We believe that:

- Character matters more than talent.
- Leadership is built through consistency, sacrifice, and service.
- Victory is measured by how well we represent Christ, not just by the outcome.

Athletics at FBA exists to develop champions for Christ — athletes who will impact the world with bold faith, strong character, and a heart to glorify God in all they do.

Building the Whole Athlete

We believe an athlete is more than what shows up on game film. There are seasons where the body is ready, the mind wavers, and a championship slips away. There are seasons where the spirit carries the body through a long rehab and brings a player back stronger. There are seasons where the friendships formed in the locker room shape the rest of a young person's life.

Our coaching staff is committed to investing in all of it. Not just the part you can see on Friday night.

Our promise to your family

We will build up your athlete holistically.

Body. Mind. Spirit.

What that looks like in practice

BODY	MIND	SPIRIT
• Sport-specific strength and conditioning	• Mental performance coaching	• Team devotionals and chapel
• Speed, agility, and mobility work	• Sports psychology resources	• Character formation through competition
• Athletic training and injury care	• Game film and tactical instruction	• Service projects led by the team
• Sports nutrition and team meals	• Position-specific skill coaching	• Mentorship from coaches who care
• Recovery modalities across the season	• Academic accountability and eligibility support	• A locker room culture that builds people up

Athletic Participation Fee Schedule

To deliver on the whole athlete promise, FBA has set a single, clear fee structure for the 2026–2027 season. The fee is an investment in everything FBA puts into and onto your child as a member of the program. The schedule applies equally to FBA-enrolled students and outside participants signing an Outside Student Participation Agreement.

Grade Level	First Sport	Additional Sport (Same Season)
Grades 6 through 12	**$500**	**$100**

A student who plays sports across different seasons (such as fall football and spring baseball) owes the full $500 fee for each sport. A student who plays more than one sport in the same season pays $500 for the first sport and $100 for each additional sport, reflecting the overlap of program support across concurrent sports.

What the fee covers

In short, anything that is put into or onto your child during the season. Categories include but are not limited to the following.

Nutrition and Fuel Team snacks, pregame and postgame meals, hydration, and sports nutrition support across the season.	**Apparel and Equipment** Team-issued uniforms, practice apparel, position-specific equipment, and gear required for participation.
Training Room Athletic training services, injury prevention protocols, taping and bracing, and recovery care modalities during the season.	**Strength and Conditioning** Sport-specific strength programming, speed and agility work, mobility, and recovery training.
Mental Performance Sports psychology, mental conditioning, mindset coaching, and tools that help athletes perform under pressure.	**Specialized Coaching** Position coaches, skill instructors, and specialty trainers brought in to develop technical and tactical skills.

Character and Faith Formation Devotionals, chapel, character development sessions, and team-led service projects that build the whole person.	**Administration** Program coordination, registration and scheduling, family communication, eligibility tracking, records management, and the administrative backbone that keeps FBA athletics running.

In short, the fee covers anything that is put into or onto your child as part of FBA athletics. The intent is to build up the whole athlete holistically — body, mind, and spirit.

Payment terms

The fee will be automatically charged to the student's FACTS account at the start of each season.

Financial assistance

FBA is committed to keeping athletics accessible. Families experiencing financial hardship may request a confidential assistance review by contacting the Director of Athletic Ministries before the start of the season. Decisions are made on a case-by-case basis. No student will be turned away from tryouts solely because a financial assistance request is pending.

Program Structure & Multi-Level Sports

For sports with multiple levels of participation (Varsity, Junior Varsity, A-Team 7–8, B-Team 6–7), FBA supports the following organizational structure. Each of the multi-level sports teams is considered a unified program. They share common goals and cooperation among coaches.

B-Team Level (Grades 6–7)

Our goal for the student athlete at the middle school level is to introduce and teach various sports. As an athletic program, we teach and practice different fundamentals and athletic skills necessary for success in a variety of sports. We will also strive to develop a foundation of commitment to team, sport, and individual effort.

A-Team Level (Grades 6–8)

Our goal for the student athlete at the A-Team level is to further develop the fundamental skills necessary for athletic achievement. At this level, we will also introduce and practice the specific skills needed for each sport. Further emphasis will be placed on commitment to team and sport and on developing a positive competitive spirit.

Junior Varsity (Grades 6–11)

Our goal for the student athlete at the JV level is to continue to build on individual and sport-specific fundamental skills, as well as commitment to team and sport. We will also take a more serious approach to competition. At this level, we will develop team concepts and more complex strategies and tactics for each sport.

Varsity (Grades 6–12)

Our goal at the Varsity level is for our student athletes to possess the ability, skill, commitment, and determination for intense interscholastic competition. All of the other program values — fundamental skills, team concepts, and strategies for each sport — remain essential aspects of the varsity experience.

Sports Offered by Season

FBA adheres to the athletic and academic policies and bylaws of the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA). At the middle school level, we compete in the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference (GCAC).

Boys Sports

Fall

- Cross Country (MS 6–8; Varsity 9–12)
- Football (MS 6–8; Varsity 9–12)
- Golf (Varsity 6–12)

Winter

- Basketball (MS 6–8; Varsity 9–12)
- Soccer (MS 6–8; Varsity 9–12)
- Wrestling (Varsity 6–12)

Spring

- Baseball (MS 6–8; Varsity 9–12)
- Track & Field (MS 6–8; Varsity 9–12)
- Tennis (Varsity 6–12, pending participation)
- Weightlifting (Varsity 9–12)

Girls Sports

Fall

- Cheer / Spirit Squad (MS 6–8; Varsity 9–12)
- Cross Country (MS 6–8; Varsity 9–12)
- Golf (Varsity 6–12)
- Volleyball (MS 6–8; Varsity 9–12)

Winter

- Basketball (MS 6–8; Varsity 9–12)
- Cheer / Spirit Squad (MS 6–8; Varsity 9–12)
- Soccer (MS 6–8; Varsity 6–12)
- Weightlifting (Varsity 9–12)

Spring

- Track & Field (MS 6–8; Varsity 9–12)
- Beach Volleyball (Varsity 6–12, pending participation)
- Tennis (Varsity 6–12, pending participation)
- Flag Football (Varsity 6–12, pending participation)

Required Forms & Paperwork

Before a student is permitted to try out, practice, compete, or be issued equipment or a uniform, the following documentation must be complete and on file with the Athletic Office.

All students (FBA-enrolled and outside participants)

- Active Athletic Clearance account for the current school year with all signatures completed and submitted.
- Athlete Code of Conduct
- EL3 Consent & Release Forms
- Impact Testing Consent
- Statement of Consent
- EL2 Form — Participation Physical Evaluation (no alternative form will be accepted)
- FBA Athletics Handbook Acknowledgement Form (last page of this handbook)
- FACTS account in good standing for automatic billing of the athletic participation fee

Outside participants (new under SB 538)

- Form 1 — Outside Student Participation Agreement, signed by parent or guardian and student
- Exhibit A — Fee Schedule acknowledgement
- Documentation of academic standing from the student's primary school or home-education program
- Documentation of conduct standing from the student's primary school where applicable

Athletic Participation Students

For students who cross schools for a single sport not offered at their primary school — whether an outside student coming to FBA (inbound) or an FBA student going to another school (outbound). The FHSAA treats both directions as a non-traditional student arrangement.

- **FHSAA EL-12** — Athletic Participation Form for a Non-Traditional Student. Required in both directions before any tryout, practice, or contest.
- All standard FBA clearance forms required of any FBA student athlete listed above (Athletic Clearance account, Athlete Code of Conduct, EL3, Impact Testing Consent, Statement of Consent, EL2, and the FBA Athletics Handbook Acknowledgement Form).
- For outbound FBA athletes, EL12V and any additional FHSAA forms required by the receiving school. See "Outside Sports Participation" later in this handbook for the full outbound process.

Home-education students

- EL7 — Athletic Participation Registration Form for Home Education Student (required for new HSE students in the first year)
- EL7V — Verification of Student Registration with Public School District Home Education Office (for re-enrolled HSE students who have previously completed the EL7)
- EL15 in lieu of EL7 and EL7V if the student is a PEP Homeschool student
- EL9 — Home Education Student Academic Progress Report, submitted after the first semester to qualify for the second semester academically

International students

- EL4 — Registration of Youth Exchange, Other International, or Immigrant Student

Transfer students

- GA4 — Athletic Recruiting form, required for students transferring from a non-terminal grade level (Grades 7–8 and 10–12)

FHSAA Eligibility Policies

Grading scale (Middle School / High School)

- A — 90 to 100% — GPA 4.0
- B — 80 to 89% — GPA 3.0
- C — 70 to 79% — GPA 2.0
- D — 60 to 69% — GPA 1.0
- F — 0 to 59% — GPA 0.0

This scale is provided for convenience. The current HS Academic Course Catalog is the governing source for grading scales and GPA calculation. If the two differ, the Course Catalog controls.

Eligibility requirements (Grades 6–12)

FHSAA Policy 9.4.1 — 2.0 GPA Required for Academic Eligibility. A middle / junior high student must have a 2.0 GPA, or the equivalent of a 2.0 GPA based on a 4.0 scale, at the conclusion of each semester. In accordance with FHSAA Bylaw 9.4.6, a student whose academic eligibility changes at the conclusion of the semester will become eligible or ineligible on the sixth day of the next semester.

A high school student must have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale, or its equivalent, after each semester to be academically eligible during the next semester (§ 1006.15(3)(a)1, F.S.). Final grades previously earned by the student from another school shall not be converted using the scale in Bylaw 9.4.2.

9.4.1.2 — Academic eligibility / ineligibility is for a semester

An academically eligible student at the beginning of a semester will continue to be academically eligible for that entire semester. Likewise, an academically ineligible student at the beginning of a semester will continue to be academically ineligible for that entire semester, except as provided by Bylaw 9.4.5.1.2.

9.4.1.9 — Transcript requirement

A student whose former school cannot or will not provide an official sealed transcript will not be eligible in the new school until he or she has been in attendance for one full semester and has established a cumulative GPA.

Behavioral eligibility

Proper behavior must be demonstrated whether in school or during competition. The consequences of improper conduct may include temporary or permanent suspension from a team, administered by the Director of Athletic Ministries or school administration. See the Consequences Matrix later in this handbook for the full FBA enforcement structure.

FBA Upper School discipline operates on a demerit system outlined in the Parent Student Handbook. Accumulated demerits lead to detentions, Saturday School, and, at 40 demerits, In-School or Out-of-School Suspension. Because any suspension makes an athlete ineligible for practice and contests for its duration, accumulating demerits directly affects athletic participation.

9.5 — Limit of eligibility

- A student is limited to four consecutive school years of eligibility beginning with the school year he or she begins ninth grade for the first time.
- A student whose four-year limit expires during the season of a sport may complete the season if all other eligibility requirements are met. The student is not permitted to participate in any other sport that begins after his or her limit has expired.
- A 6th, 7th, or 8th-grade student has a one-year limit of eligibility in each grade. A student who repeats a grade is not eligible during the grade being repeated.

9.6 — Age eligibility

- High School Age Limit: A student may participate at the high school level until the day he or she reaches the age of 19 years, 9 months, if the four-year limit has not been exceeded.
- Middle School Age Limit: A student may participate at the middle school level until the day he or she reaches the age of 15 years, 9 months.

FHSAA Transfer & Age Policies

9.3.2 — Transfer policy

A transfer occurs when a student makes any change in schools after he or she establishes residency at a school each year.

Transfer eligibility

A student who transfers from one school to another during the school year may seek to immediately join an existing team if the roster for the specific interscholastic activity has not reached that activity's maximum size, provided the coach determines that the student has the requisite skills and ability to participate (§ 1006.15(9)(a), F.S.).

Transfer after starting a sport

A student may not participate in a sport if the student participated in that same sport at another school during the same school year unless the student meets one of the following criteria (§ 1006.15(9)(b), F.S.):

- Dependent children of active-duty military personnel whose move resulted from military orders.
- Children who have been relocated due to a foster-care placement in a different school zone.
- Children who move due to a court-ordered change in custody resulting from separation or divorce, or the serious illness or death of a custodial parent.
- Authorized for good cause in district, private, or charter school board policy.

Qualifying transfer student

A transfer student who qualifies under Bylaw 9.3.2 will be eligible for competition on the sixth school day of attendance at the new school if the school has received and evaluated the student's official transcript and has determined that the student meets all eligibility requirements.

Spring Football & Transfer Students

Spring Football practice is a continuation of the regular fall football season. Consequently, a student who transfers schools must meet the provisions in Bylaw 9.3.2.

- Spring practice is confined to a maximum of 20 sessions commencing with the Monday of Week 44 or the last 30 days of the school year, whichever comes first, inclusive of the spring jamboree or classic.
- Students who are seniors may not participate in spring football practice.
- Only those enrolled and in attendance in a school may participate in spring football practice at that school.

Name, Image, & Likeness (NIL)

While FHSAA Bylaw 9.9 permits the use of Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL), FBA student athletes are prohibited from using or allowing others to use school uniforms, school logos, mascots, insignia, or any other identifying marks of First Baptist Academy. This means NIL deals cannot feature athletes wearing their FBA game jersey in a commercial, posing in front of the school mascot for a brand campaign, or incorporating FBA's name or logo into social media promotions.

NIL opportunities must be with independent companies or organizations and cannot be connected in any way to a college, university, booster, or NIL collective. For example, an athlete may partner with a local restaurant, sports equipment company, or apparel brand not affiliated with a college program, but may not accept a paid endorsement from a university's athletic department, a booster club tied to a specific college team, or a group organized to fund athletes on behalf of a school.

All NIL agreements must be formalized in writing, include the FHSAA-required indemnification language, and be limited to the duration of the athlete's high school eligibility. The work performed must be legitimate — such as appearing in advertisements, creating promotional content, or attending events — and payment cannot be tied to athletic performance, game outcomes, or recruiting incentives. NIL deals cannot involve restricted industries such as gambling, alcohol, cannabis, controlled substances, firearms, or adult entertainment.

Consequences of NIL violations

Violations can result in written warning, immediate cancellation of the NIL agreement, required return of any compensation received, suspension from competition, and — for repeated or egregious offenses — permanent loss of FHSAA eligibility. For help with NIL matters, contact the Director of Athletic Ministries before signing anything.

Outside Sports Participation

Participation in Sports Not Offered at First Baptist Academy

In accordance with FHSAA Bylaw 9.2.2.3, a student enrolled at FBA may participate in a sport not offered by FBA by joining the team of another school, provided all FHSAA eligibility requirements are met. This option applies to participation at a public school within the student's zoned district or, with mutual agreement, at another private school.

To pursue this option, the student must register as a non-traditional student with the FHSAA. Required documentation includes, but is not limited to, the EL2, EL3, GA4, EL12, and EL12V forms, all of which must be completed and approved prior to any practice or competition.

The student must not have participated in the same sport at FBA during the current season (including tryouts, practices, or contests). Participation is also contingent upon roster availability and approval from the receiving school's administration and coach.

All transportation to and from the receiving school is the responsibility of the student and family. Participation under this provision is subject to all FHSAA rules, regulations, and deadlines, and any violation may result in loss of eligibility.

Families considering this option should contact the Athletic Office for guidance on required steps and timelines.

Athlete Code of Conduct

"Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." — 1 Corinthians 10:31

To wear the FBA uniform is to carry a name — not only your own, and not only the Lions, but the name of Christ. That is a privilege, and it is a responsibility that does not clock out.

This Code of Conduct applies to every FBA student athlete, all the time. In season or out of season. On campus or off campus. In the building or out of the building. On the field, in the classroom, at home, online, and everywhere in between. You do not get to set down the title of "student athlete" when practice ends or when the season is over. It goes where you go.

That is why this Code binds every FBA student athlete 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The standard does not change with the calendar or the location. How you speak, how you treat people, and how you carry yourself are part of who you are as an FBA athlete at every hour — because the watching world does not wait for game day to form an opinion of you, your team, your school, or your God.

You never take off the title

In season or out, in school or out, you represent FBA and you represent Christ — 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

The three sections that follow — Speech, Relationships, and Behavior — describe what this looks like in practice. Read them as one commitment, not three separate rules. Together they form the standard for every young man and woman who competes for the Lions. By signing the Acknowledgement Form at the back of this handbook, the student athlete agrees to live by this Code at all times.

Athlete Code of Conduct — Speech

"Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you should answer each person." — Colossians 4:6

As athletes at First Baptist Academy, our words reflect not only our team and our school, but more importantly, our faith. We aim to speak in a way that builds others up, honors our teammates, and represents Christ well in every setting — on and off the field.

1. Speak with grace and integrity

We expect our athletes to avoid language that tears others down, including profanity, trash talk, or slang that could be perceived as offensive or divisive. This applies not only to in-person conversations, but also to anything shared online or through social media. Your voice carries influence — let it be a voice of encouragement, unity, and respect.

2. Address coaches and officials with respect

Coaches and officials serve to guide, teach, and lead. We expect athletes to refer to coaches respectfully (e.g., "Coach," or "Mr., Mrs., Miss") and to speak to officials in a way that reflects honor and sportsmanship — even in disagreement.

3. Handling questions or concerns

Scripture gives us a clear pattern for working through conflict. In Matthew 18:15–17, Jesus teaches that when something is wrong between us and another person, we go first to that person directly, then bring others in if it is not resolved, and finally escalate to a higher authority if it still remains unresolved. We follow that same pattern at FBA. The order matters.

Step 1 — The student goes directly to the coach. If something is not sitting right with you as the athlete, request a one-on-one time with your coach to talk about the issue. Talk directly. Talk respectfully. This is where most concerns are resolved, and it builds the kind of mature, God-honoring communication we want our athletes to grow in.

> *"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother." — Matthew 18:15*

Step 2 — Parent emails the Director of Athletic Ministries to request a meeting with the coach. If a parent's involvement is needed after Step 1, or if the concern is one a student cannot reasonably handle alone, the parent emails the Director of Athletic Ministries at mherzlich@fbalions.org to request a meeting with the coach. The Director helps schedule the meeting and, where helpful, sits in. This email may not be sent within 24 hours of a contest under the 24-Hour Rule.

> *"But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses." — Matthew 18:16*

Step 3 — Parent schedules a meeting with the Director of Athletic Ministries. If after the meeting with the coach the issue is still not resolved, the parent may schedule a one-on-one meeting with the Director of Athletic Ministries to bring the concern directly to him. The decision of the Director is final under the appeals process outlined in the Consequences Matrix.

> *"And if he refuses to listen even to them, tell it to the church." — Matthew 18:17*

While we value parental partnership at every step, we strongly believe in training young men and women to advocate for themselves in a God-honoring way. Step 1 is not a formality — it is the foundation. Skipping it short-circuits the very growth FBA athletics is designed to produce.

4. Represent Christ in every conversation

Your speech — whether in practice, games, the classroom, or online — should reflect who you are in Christ. "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

Athlete Code of Conduct — Relationships

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." — John 15:12

At FBA, we believe that relationships are one of the greatest gifts God gives us — and one of the most powerful ways we reflect His love. As part of the FBA athletic program, fellowship is a key pillar.

1. Relationships with teammates and coaches

God has placed you on your team with purpose. Every practice, every game, every moment is an opportunity to grow closer as a group and support one another. Pursue friendships with your teammates that go beyond the field or court. Build a respectful, coachable relationship with your coaches — receive correction well, ask questions, and be someone who lifts the culture of the team.

2. Relationships with classmates and the school community

Being an athlete at FBA is a privilege — but it doesn't make you more important than anyone else. Treat your classmates and teachers with the same humility and kindness you show your teammates.

3. Relationships with opponents and students from other schools

We compete with intensity, but never at the expense of our witness. Respect the athletes on the other side of the field — they are image-bearers of God just like you. After the game is over, let your sportsmanship, your words, and even your prayers reflect Christ.

Athlete Code of Conduct — Behavior

"Whoever claims to live in Him must live as Jesus did." — 1 John 2:6

Athletic excellence begins with spiritual integrity. As student athletes, we are not just playing for points or recognition — we are representing Christ in everything we do.

1. Walk in a manner worthy

Live in a way that brings honor to Christ, your team, and the mission of FBA. Your reputation matters — not because it brings status, but because it reflects your values.

2. Be known for character

Coaches, teachers, classmates, and your church community should be able to speak well of your conduct. Let your character be consistent in every setting.

3. Follow through on your commitments

Athletes are expected to meet all academic and athletic eligibility requirements. Be someone your teammates can count on. Attend practices, meetings, and games consistently.

4. Respect coaches, staff, and teammates

Respect begins with attitude. That includes how you respond to instruction, how you handle differences in philosophy, and how you speak about your coaches, trainers, and team staff.

5. Carry yourself with excellence everywhere

Whether you're in uniform, in the classroom, in church, or out in the community, your conduct matters. Our standard is not perfection but consistency in pursuing Christlikeness.

6. Compete with Christlike character

Show respect toward referees, opponents, fans, and even those who may not return it. When the competition gets intense, let your response show who you really are.

Families are also reminded of the Parent Student Handbook requirement to notify school administration within 24 hours of any off campus incident involving law enforcement. Incidents reviewed under that policy may also carry athletic consequences under this handbook, including suspension pending review.

Parent Code of Conduct & the 24-Hour Rule

Athletics at FBA works because parents partner with us. The relationship between coach and parent — when healthy — multiplies what we can do for your child. Here is what we need from you.

Conduct in the stands and on social media

Your student is bound by the FBA Student and Athletic Code of Conduct during participation. We ask families to back up the coaches in how we model sportsmanship, treat officials, support teammates, and respond when things do not go our way. The culture of an FBA team is built in the stands as much as on the field. That includes how we post on social media, what we say in the parking lot, and how we talk to other parents.

The 24-Hour Rule

Coaching is intense. Watching your child compete is intense. Emotion runs high on both sides of the sideline. The 24-Hour Rule is how we protect the coach, the parent, and the relationship between them.

The rule is straightforward.

- During a contest, no parent will approach a coach to start a conversation.
- After a contest, no parent will contact a coach for 24 hours from the moment the contest ends. This applies to in-person conversations, calls, texts, emails, and social media.

The conversations that happen at hour 25 are almost always better than the conversations that happen at hour 1. The waiting period is not a brush-off. It is a built-in cool-down that gives everyone room to think, pray, and respond instead of react.

The rule and how it is enforced

• During a contest: no parent approaches a coach to start a conversation.

• Within 24 hours after a contest: no parent contacts a coach by any means.

• Violations of this rule are addressed at the discretion of the Director of Athletic Ministries. Consequences may range from a written warning to attendance suspension for a contest, for a season, or — in repeat or aggravated cases — from any FBA athletic competition.

• Egregious public conduct (verbal abuse of officials, coaches, or athletes; physical aggression; profanity directed at minors) results in immediate removal from the venue and further consequences set by the Director, up to a permanent ban.

All decisions on suspension are at the sole discretion of the Director of Athletic Ministries, and that decision is final.

Filing a concern the right way

FBA follows the conflict resolution pattern of Matthew 18:15–17 (see Athlete Code of Conduct — Speech). The 24-Hour Rule sets the timing; the three-step pattern sets the order. The first step belongs to the athlete, not the parent.

Step 1 — The student goes directly to the coach. After the 24-hour cool-down, the athlete requests a one-on-one time with the coach. Most concerns are resolved here. Parents support this step from the side, not by replacing it.

Step 2 — Parent emails the Director of Athletic Ministries to request a meeting with the coach. If parent involvement is needed after Step 1, email mherzlich@fbalions.org to request a meeting with the coach. The Director helps schedule and, where helpful, sits in. This email may not be sent within 24 hours of a contest.

Step 3 — Parent schedules a meeting with the Director of Athletic Ministries. If the matter is still unresolved after Step 2, the parent may schedule a one-on-one meeting with the Director of Athletic Ministries. The decision of the Director is final under the appeals process outlined in the Consequences Matrix.

Show up

Be there. Watch the practices when you can. Cheer at the games. Eat the postgame meal with your athlete. The seasons are short. The memories are long.

Transportation

Under SB 538 (Craig Dickinson Act revisions), parents are responsible for transporting their child to and from FBA practices, contests, and team events. When the team travels together to an away contest using a vehicle arranged by FBA, FBA covers that transportation. Day-to-day transportation to and from FBA falls to you.

Travel to away contests

When FBA arranges transportation for an away event, all student athletes are expected to ride to the away contest in the FBA bus, van, or other approved transportation under the direct supervision of their coach, assistant coach, or approved chaperone.

Returning from a contest

After the contest, an athlete may be permitted to leave with his or her parent or guardian. However, this is at the discretion of the coach. A parent or guardian must speak directly with the coach to inform them of the departure. If an athlete is to leave with someone other than a parent or guardian, an Alternate Travel Release Form must be given to the coach in advance.

Alternate travel

In limited circumstances a student may need to ride with someone other than the coach or drive themselves. In these incidents, the Alternate Travel Release Form (available on the school website) must be printed, signed by the parent or guardian, and given to the coach before departure.

Consequences for unauthorized travel

A student athlete who leaves an away event with a non-approved adult, or without a signed Alternate Travel Release Form on file, will face consequences set by the Director of Athletic Ministries. Depending on the circumstances, these may include a parent conference, contest suspension, or removal from the team.

Attendance Policy

Excused absences

- Students must be in attendance for at least four full class periods on a Monday, or two full class periods on a Tuesday through Friday, to participate in a practice or contest scheduled for that day, consistent with the attendance policy in the Parent Student Handbook.
- If a student is absent for part or all of the day and is granted a non-illness-related excused absence (doctor check-up, funeral, college visit), the student may participate in practice or a game with the permission of the Director of Athletic Ministries.
- On early release days, athletes must check in no later than 30 minutes after the start of the school day to participate in games the same day.

Unexcused absences

- Any unexcused absence from school, regardless of whether it is a partial day, will cause the student to be unable to participate in practice or a game that day.
- Any student who serves an In-School Suspension (ISS) or Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) will be ineligible to participate during the suspension.
- An athlete who is disciplined by the principal for isolated or repeated misbehavior is subject to immediate ineligibility, the duration of which is determined by the principal.
- Athletes may not miss an after school detention or Saturday School for a practice, contest, or other athletic activity. Detention and Saturday School take priority, consistent with the Parent Student Handbook.

Consequences for attendance violations

Repeated unexcused absences are addressed at the discretion of the Director of Athletic Ministries and may result in contest suspension, loss of a starting position, or removal from the team. The Director will weigh the pattern of absences, the athlete's history, and the impact on the team.

Heat & Concussion Policy

Any student athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, vomiting, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest or practice and shall not return to play until cleared by appropriate healthcare professionals as defined by FHSAA.

Florida law requires written clearance from a qualified provider before return to play. Coaches and athletic trainers will not override this requirement under any circumstance. Athletes, parents, and coaches who attempt to circumvent return-to-play protocols are subject to immediate suspension and possible FHSAA sanctions.

Heat illness prevention

Practices during high-heat months will follow modified scheduling and mandatory hydration breaks. The Athletic Trainer has full authority to pause or stop a practice for heat conditions. Coaches who override an Athletic Trainer’s heat determination are subject to disciplinary action by the Director of Athletic Ministries.

ThorGuard Lightning Policy

The object of this policy is to institute safeguards against the hazards of potential lightning risks. FBA uses the ThorGuard System — an integrated warning system that continuously monitors the atmosphere's electrostatic energy as far away as 15 miles and evaluates the potential for lightning within an area of approximately 2 miles in radius.

This system alerts coaches and administrators via text message of an impending lightning strike in the campus vicinity. The ThorGuard System will sound a warning horn to direct athletes and fans to seek cover as quickly as possible.

During practices and games, student athletes will not be permitted by their coach to leave the safety of a shelter during a red alert from ThorGuard until the red alert has been lifted. Failure to comply with shelter orders during a red alert is a safety violation that will result in immediate removal from practice or contest, with further consequences set by the Director of Athletic Ministries.

Lightning dismissal from school to the Athletic Center

When ThorGuard signals lightning in the area at the time of regular school dismissal, FBA will not release a student athlete from the school building to walk outside to the Athletic Center for after-school athletic activities without written parent consent on file. Lightning conditions outside the building are a known hazard, and the school's default position is to hold students inside until the red alert is lifted.

Families who want their student athlete to be able to move from the school building to the Athletic Center during a lightning hold must complete the Lightning Dismissal Release Form (last page of this handbook). The signed form authorizes FBA to release the student to walk to the Athletic Center during an active ThorGuard alert, with the family accepting the inherent weather risk of that decision. Without the signed form on file, the student will be held in the building until ThorGuard clears the alert, and any missed practice time is excused.

The release applies only to the move between FBA campus buildings (school to Athletic Center) at the time of school dismissal under a ThorGuard alert. It does not modify the broader ThorGuard shelter rule once the student has reached the Athletic Center: practice will not be conducted outdoors during an active red alert, and athletes will be held in the indoor shelter at the Athletic Center until the alert is lifted.

Good Cause Policy

In accordance with the FHSAA, students may transfer and play sports at FBA under the Good Cause Policy.

A student may participate under the Good Cause policy if:

- The student meets all FHSAA eligibility requirements; and
- The student is transferring for religious reasons; or
- The student is transferring because of bullying; or
- The student is transferring because of social environment; or
- The student is transferring because of emotional environment.

A student may also transfer and play sports if the FBA Good Cause Panel hears and approves the case.

Good Cause Panel members: Mark Herzlich, Jason Cauley, Melissa Rose (as of 05.26.2026).

Uniforms & Equipment

Each athlete is responsible for the proper care of the uniform and equipment issued by the school. Uniforms should be kept clean and maintained in a neat appearance for each game. In some cases, the coach may collect uniforms for laundering.

Game-day uniforms are distributed to student athletes by their respective coach. All uniforms are the property of FBA. In certain instances, student athletes may be required to purchase specific uniform items (e.g., personal items) that they will keep. Any uniform not returned in its original condition, accounting for normal wear and tear, will incur replacement costs.

At the end of the season, athletes are required to return their uniforms clean to the coach — not to the school or athletic office.

Consequences for uniform and equipment issues

- Failure to return a uniform within 14 days of season-end results in a $250 hold placed on the student's school account and an academic transcript hold until resolved.
- Uniforms returned damaged beyond normal wear and tear are billed at full replacement cost.
- A student with an unresolved uniform or equipment hold is not eligible to try out for or be issued gear for any future FBA sport until the account is cleared.

Awards, Scholarships & Insurance

Winged Foot Scholarship Foundation Award

The Winged Foot Scholar-Athlete Award recognizes the top senior scholar athletes in Collier County's high schools, public and private. The program pays tribute to Winged Foot Nominees — one senior scholar athlete, selected by school officials, to represent each high school. Applicants must meet a set of criteria to apply. The winning representative from each high school receives a $5,000 scholarship award. The Winged Foot Scholarship Award winner receives a $10,000 scholarship award, an elegant Winged Foot Trophy, and an engraving on the original Winged Foot Trophy. Applications are made available to students in April.

End of Year All-Sports Awards Night

Held annually in May for all student athletes who participated in a high school Varsity during the school year. All student athletes and their parents are encouraged to attend.

Student-athlete insurance

All student athletes are required by the FHSAA to have a primary insurance policy.

All FBA students — including outside participants playing under an Outside Student Participation Agreement and FBA Homeschool Extension Students — are covered under a secondary accident / injury insurance policy during school hours and school-sponsored events, including interscholastic sports practices and games.

- Claims must be filed with your personal carrier first, then with the school's carrier.
- The benefits are limited and are not designed to pay all medical expenses incurred; the school policy serves as a secondary policy.
- When your athlete is injured, an accident report will be completed by the athletic trainer or coach, then forwarded to the Business Office for processing.
- Any additional insurance premium that becomes applicable will be communicated to you in advance.

Volunteering in Athletics

The Human Resources office must clear all volunteers and coaches assisting with any FBA team.

1. Complete and return a volunteer or coaching application to the FBA Athletic Office.
2. Schedule a brief meeting with the Athletic Director.
3. Submit to fingerprinting through the HR office.
4. Once cleared, the Athletic Department will notify you that you are ready to begin to volunteer.

Consequences Matrix

FBA Athletics is a privilege, not a right. The standards in this handbook exist to form character, protect the program, and honor Christ. The consequences below are the FBA enforcement structure for violations of those standards. They apply to all student athletes — FBA-enrolled and outside participants — and, where stated, to parents and guardians.

All consequences in this matrix are administered by the Director of Athletic Ministries. School administration retains independent authority to remove a student from a team or to impose school discipline that affects athletic eligibility. The first-offense and repeat / escalation columns below are guidelines that the Director may follow, modify, soften, or strengthen based on the facts of the situation, the athlete's or parent's history, the nature of the offense, and the witness it bears on the program. The Director may consult with the head coach, the head of school, and FHSAA where the violation triggers an FHSAA review, but the call belongs to the Director. Egregious conduct may bypass progressive discipline and result in immediate suspension or removal. Violations of the Parent Student Handbook weapons policy result in immediate expulsion under school policy, which ends athletic participation and is not subject to the athletic appeals process.

Athlete conduct violations

Violation	First Offense (guideline)	Repeat / Escalation (guideline)
Bullying or harassment of a teammate, classmate, opponent, or any other student (verbal, physical, or online)	Upon a determination of bullying by school administration under the Parent Student Handbook, school discipline applies first. In addition, the athlete is suspended from competition, with length set by the Director based on severity, and must meet with the Director before returning.	Further offenses may result in extended suspension or removal from the team, at the Director's discretion.
Profanity, cursing, trash talk, or disrespectful speech toward teammates, coaches, officials, or opponents	Written warning placed in the athlete's file. Coach conversation.	Second offense: suspension from the next contest. Further offenses handled at the Director's discretion, up to removal from the team.
Social media posts that violate the Speech Policy (profanity, demeaning content, posts tearing down teammates, coaches, officials, opponents, or the school)	Consequences under the Parent Student Handbook social media policy apply first, including In-School Suspension, demerits, and required removal of the post. Any school suspension renders the	Second offense: school consequences apply first. In addition, suspension from the next contest, with further offenses handled at the Director's discretion, up to removal from the team.

Violation	First Offense (guideline)	Repeat / Escalation (guideline)
	athlete ineligible for practice and contests for its duration. In addition, a written warning is placed in the athlete's file.	
Disrespect of coach or staff (refusing instruction, public defiance)	Removed from practice for the day. Meeting with the Director before return. Further consequences at the Director's discretion.	Repeat offenses may result in contest suspension or removal from the team, at the Director's discretion.
Fighting or physical aggression toward a teammate, opponent, or official	Immediate ejection from contest and removal from practice. Suspension and any further consequences set by the Director. FHSAA reporting where required.	Repeat or aggravated offenses may result in removal from the team for the season, at the Director's discretion.
Unsportsmanlike conduct ejection from a contest	FHSAA-mandated next-contest suspension. Mandatory meeting with the Director and coach.	Multiple ejections in a season are handled at the Director's discretion, up to removal from the team.
Failure to maintain 2.0 GPA at semester's end	Academic Performance Contract with weekly check-ins. Athlete continues to participate where FHSAA Bylaw 9.4 permits.	Continued failure to meet plan terms: FHSAA-mandated ineligibility for the next semester per Bylaw 9.4.1.2.
Unexcused absence from school	Ineligible for that day's practice or contest.	Repeat offenses handled at the Director's discretion, up to removal from the team for the season.
In-School Suspension (ISS) or Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)	Ineligible to participate (practice and contests) for the duration of the suspension.	Repeat ISS / OSS: extended athletic suspension at the Director's discretion.
Use, possession, sale, or distribution of alcohol, tobacco, nicotine or vaping products, illegal drugs, or controlled substances (in or out of school)	School policy under the Parent Student Handbook applies first, including suspension pending an administrative decision. In addition, suspension from a minimum of one contest, with total length set by the Director. Mandatory meeting with the Director and a parent before return.	Removal from the team for the season, at the Director's discretion, with possible ineligibility for future FBA sports.

Violation	First Offense (guideline)	Repeat / Escalation (guideline)
Unexcused absence from practice or contest	Coach conversation. Loss of starting position for the next contest at coach discretion.	Repeat unexcused absences may result in contest suspension or removal from the team, at the Director's discretion.
Quitting a team after the first contest of the season	No refund of participation fee. Loss of letter or award eligibility for the season.	Repeated quitting may result in ineligibility to try out for FBA sports in a future season, at the Director's discretion.

Consequences Matrix — continued

Safety, travel, and equipment

Violation	First Offense (guideline)	Repeat / Escalation (guideline)
Returning to play without medical clearance after a concussion or heat illness	Immediate removal from practice or contest. Further consequences for the athlete, parent, or coach set by the Director. FHSAA reporting where required.	Repeat circumvention handled at the Director's discretion, up to season-long suspension or permanent removal.
Failure to comply with ThorGuard red-alert shelter order	Immediate removal from the activity. Further consequences at the Director's discretion.	Repeat offenses handled at the Director's discretion, up to suspension and parent meeting.
Leaving an away contest without a signed Alternate Travel Release Form or with a non-approved adult	Director conversation with parent and athlete. Consequences set by the Director.	Repeat offenses handled at the Director's discretion, up to contest suspension or removal from the team.
Failure to return uniform within 14 days of season end	$250 hold on student account; transcript hold until resolved.	Account uncleared: athlete is not eligible to try out for or be issued gear for any future FBA sport until cleared.
Returning uniform damaged beyond normal wear and tear	Billed at full replacement cost.	Repeat damage in a subsequent season may result in the athlete being denied re-issue of game uniform, at the Director's discretion.

Eligibility, transfer, and NIL

Violation	First Offense (guideline)	Repeat / Escalation (guideline)
Participating in the same sport at two schools in the same school year (no qualifying exception)	Loss of eligibility under § 1006.15(9)(b), F.S. FHSAA reporting.	Continued violation: extended FHSAA eligibility loss.
Failure to submit required FHSAA paperwork (EL2, EL3, EL7 / EL7V, EL9, GA4, EL4) before participation	Athlete is not cleared to try out, practice, or compete until forms are on file.	Continued non-compliance handled at the Director's discretion, up to forfeiting the season.

Violation	First Offense (guideline)	Repeat / Escalation (guideline)
Outside participant without a signed Form 1 attempting to try out or practice	Athlete is not permitted to participate until Form 1 is signed and on file with the Athletic Coordinator.	Falsified or backdated documentation: athlete may be barred from FBA athletics, with length set by the Director.
Unresolved athletic participation fee balance on the student's FACTS account	Athlete is ineligible for practice and contests until the balance is resolved with the FBA business office or a financial assistance review is in process.	Repeated unresolved balances in subsequent seasons are handled with the FBA business office and may affect clearance for future seasons, at the Director's discretion.
NIL deal using FBA uniforms, logos, mascots, or insignia, or tied to a college, university, booster, or NIL collective	Written warning. Required cancellation of the NIL agreement. Required return of any compensation received. Further consequences at the Director's discretion.	Repeat or egregious offense handled at the Director's discretion, up to suspension from competition and possible permanent loss of FHSAA eligibility.
NIL deal in a restricted industry (gambling, alcohol, cannabis, controlled substances, firearms, adult entertainment)	Required cancellation. Required return of compensation. Suspension length set by the Director.	Repeat offense handled at the Director's discretion, up to permanent loss of FHSAA eligibility.
Recruiting violation (athlete or family soliciting or accepting impermissible benefits to transfer)	FHSAA Bylaw 9.2 review. Loss of eligibility per FHSAA determination.	Repeat or aggravated: extended FHSAA sanctions including possible multi-year ineligibility.

Consequences Matrix — continued

Parent and guardian conduct

Violation	First Offense (guideline)	Repeat / Escalation (guideline)
Approaching a coach during a contest to start a conversation	Verbal redirection by Director or coach at the moment. Further consequences at the Director's discretion.	Repeat offenses handled at the Director's discretion, up to season suspension or a ban from FBA athletic competition.
Contacting a coach within 24 hours of a contest (call, text, email, in person, social media)	Written warning from the Director. Further consequences at the Director's discretion.	Repeat offenses handled at the Director's discretion, up to season suspension or a ban from FBA athletic competition.
Cursing or profanity directed at coaches, officials, athletes, or other parents at an FBA event or in FBA-related communications	Written warning from the Director.	Second offense: attendance suspension from the next contest. Further offenses handled at the Director's discretion, up to a ban from FBA athletic venues.
Social media posts attacking coaches, officials, athletes, or the program by name	Required removal of the post. Written warning from the Director.	Second offense: attendance suspension from the next contest. Further offenses handled at the Director's discretion, up to a ban from FBA athletic venues.
Verbal abuse of officials, coaches, athletes, or other parents (beyond cursing — sustained tirade, threats, demeaning language)	Immediate removal from the venue. Mandatory meeting with the Director before return. Further consequences set by the Director.	Repeat or aggravated offenses handled at the Director's discretion, up to a permanent ban from FBA athletic venues.
Physical aggression or threats at an FBA athletic event	Immediate removal from venue. Notification of law enforcement where warranted. Indefinite attendance suspension pending investigation by the Director.	Any repeat or aggravated incident handled at the Director's discretion, up to a permanent ban from all FBA athletic venues and possible criminal referral.
Interfering with coach personnel decisions (e.g., lobbying for playing time through indirect channels, attempting to organize parents against a coach)	Director conversation. Written warning placed in family file.	Continued interference handled at the Director's discretion, up to a full-season attendance suspension or removal of the athlete from the team.

How appeals work

Any athlete or parent may appeal a consequence under this matrix in writing to the Director of Athletic Ministries within 7 calendar days of notification. The administration will hear the appeal and respond in writing within 10 calendar days. The resulting decision is final. FHSAA matters are appealed through the FHSAA process and are not subject to this appeal process.

Contacts

Email is the best way to reach the FBA Athletic Ministries staff. Phone numbers and additional contact information are available through the FBA front office and the school's athletics web page.

Name	Title	Email
Mark Herzlich	*Director of Athletic Ministries*	mherzlich@fbalions.org
Jessica Wilder	*Athletic Coordinator*	jwilder@fbalions.org
Ranae Bartell	*Director of Sports Medicine / Head Athletic Trainer*	rbartell@fbalions.org
Evan Gentry	*Strength and Conditioning Coordinator*	egentry@fbalions.org
JD Scheib	*Facilities Coordinator*	jscheib@fbalions.org
Jason Cauley	*Athletics Administration*	jcauley@fbalions.org

FBA Athletics Handbook Acknowledgement Form

As a student athlete at First Baptist Academy, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the policies outlined in the FBA Athletics Handbook for the 2026–2027 season. This includes:

- The 5 Pillars of FBA Athletics and the Whole Athlete philosophy
- The Athlete Code of Conduct (Speech, Relationships, Behavior)
- The Parent Code of Conduct and the 24-Hour Rule
- The Athletic Participation Fee Schedule and payment terms
- The Outside Student Participation framework under SB 538, the Craig Dickinson Act revisions
- FHSAA eligibility, transfer, age, NIL, and spring football policies
- Transportation, attendance, heat, concussion, lightning, uniform, and equipment policies
- The Consequences Matrix and the appeal process

By signing below, I agree to abide by these expectations and standards both on and off the field. I understand that representing FBA Athletics is a privilege, and I commit to living out these values as a leader, teammate, and follower of Christ. I further understand that violations of these standards carry the consequences set forth in this handbook.

Student Name (printed): _____

Date: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent / Guardian Name (printed): _____

Date: _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

For outside participants only (signing under SB 538):

Primary School of Enrollment (Athletic Participation Students)

_____

Date: _____

Form 1 (Outside Student Participation Agreement) On File — Date Signed:

_____

Date: _____

Please return this signed form to the Athletic Office prior to the first official practice or game.

Lightning Dismissal Release Form

Purpose

FBA uses the ThorGuard lightning detection system to monitor weather conditions across campus. When ThorGuard is in an active red alert at the time of regular school dismissal, FBA will not release a student athlete from the High School building to walk outside to the Athletic Center for after-school athletic activities without written parent consent on file.

This form authorizes FBA to release my student athlete from the High School building to walk to the Athletic Center during an active ThorGuard alert at school dismissal so that the student can report for after-school athletic activities.

Acknowledgement and consent

By signing this form, I, the parent or legal guardian of the student named below, acknowledge and agree to the following:

- I understand that lightning is a known weather hazard and that ThorGuard alerts indicate elevated risk of lightning in the campus vicinity.
- I authorize FBA to release my student athlete from the High School building to walk to the Athletic Center during an active ThorGuard alert at the time of school dismissal, and I accept the inherent weather risk associated with that movement between buildings.
- I release FBA and its employees from liability arising from lightning exposure during that crossing, to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- This release applies only to the crossing between the school building and the Athletic Center. Once at the Athletic Center, the standard ThorGuard shelter rule applies and athletes will be held indoors until the alert is lifted.
- This authorization is valid for the entire 2026–2027 athletic year. I may revoke it at any time by written notice to the Director of Athletic Ministries.

Student information

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Sport(s): _____

Emergency Contact (name and phone): _____

Parent or guardian signature

Printed Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return this signed form to the Athletic Office prior to the first official practice or game.

Form 1 — Outside Student Participation Agreement

Required under Florida SB 538 (Craig Dickinson Act revisions, effective July 1, 2026). This Agreement is entered into between First Baptist Academy of Naples ("FBA") and the student and family named below.

Section 1 — Student and family

Student Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Grade (2026–2027): _____

Primary School of Enrollment: _____

Sport(s) Requested: _____

Student category (check one): [ ] Home education [ ] PEP homeschool [ ] Private school [ ] Public school [ ] Athletic Participation Student

Parent / Guardian Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Section 2 — Term

This Agreement is effective from the date of signing through June 30, 2027, covering the 2026–2027 athletic year. It may be renewed by mutual agreement of the parties.

Section 3 — Family commitments

By signing this Agreement, the student and parent or legal guardian acknowledge and agree:

1. The student will abide by the FBA Athletic Handbook in full, including the Athlete Code of Conduct (Speech, Relationships, Behavior), the Parent Code of Conduct, the 24-Hour Rule, the Consequences Matrix, and all team rules established by the coach.
2. The student will meet all FHSAA academic eligibility requirements under Bylaw 9.4 (cumulative 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale at the end of each semester).
3. The family authorizes FBA to charge the athletic participation fee per Exhibit A to the student's FACTS account at the start of each season. An unresolved fee balance may affect the student's clearance to participate.
4. The family will complete and maintain on file all required FHSAA paperwork (EL2, EL3, plus EL7/EL7V or EL15 for home-education students, EL9 for home-education students, EL12/EL12V for Athletic Participation Students, GA4 for transfers, and EL4 for international students).

5. The student will not participate in the same sport at FBA and at another school during the same school year (FHSAA Bylaw 9.3.2 and § 1006.15(9)(b), F.S.), except under the narrow exceptions listed in the FBA Handbook.
6. The family is responsible for transporting the student to and from FBA practices, contests, and team events, except where FBA arranges team transportation to an away contest.
7. Signing this Agreement secures a place in the FBA athletic program. It does not guarantee placement on any specific team or any specific roster spot. Playing-time decisions are made by the coach based on skill, effort, character, and team need.
8. The family will follow the conflict resolution pattern set forth in the FBA Handbook, including the 24-Hour Rule and the three-step Matthew 18 process.
9. The family acknowledges and accepts the Consequences Matrix and the appeals process. The decision of the Director of Athletic Ministries on any appeal is final within the FBA athletic program.
10. The family is responsible for maintaining the primary insurance required by the FHSAA. The student athlete is covered by FBA's secondary insurance during interscholastic activities, as set forth in the Handbook.

Section 4 — FBA commitments

By signing this Agreement, FBA agrees:

1. FBA will provide the student athlete with the same Whole Athlete program support offered to all FBA-enrolled student athletes, including nutrition, apparel and equipment, medical care, strength and conditioning, mental performance, specialized coaching, character and faith formation, and administration.
2. FBA will provide secondary accident and injury insurance coverage during FBA interscholastic activities, as set forth in the Handbook.
3. FBA will respect the family's choice of primary school of enrollment and will not require enrollment at FBA as a condition of athletic participation, beyond what is required by FHSAA rules and Florida law.
4. The athletic participation fee is non-discriminatory and applies equally to FBA-enrolled students and outside participants.
5. FBA will provide the family with reasonable notice of changes to athletic policies, fee structures, and scheduling that materially affect the student.

Section 5 — Termination

This Agreement may be terminated by either party with written notice. Grounds for termination by FBA include, without limitation, violation of the Athlete Code of Conduct or Parent Code of Conduct, falsification of FHSAA paperwork, non-payment of fees, or any conduct deemed by the Director of Athletic Ministries to be inconsistent with the FBA athletic mission. Termination is subject to the appeals process set forth in the Handbook.

Section 6 — Governing law

This Agreement is governed by the laws of the State of Florida and the rules and bylaws of the FHSAA. Where any conflict exists between this Agreement and the FBA Athletic Handbook, the Handbook controls.

Section 7 — Signatures

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

FBA Director of Athletic Ministries: _____ Date: _____

FBA Head of School: _____ Date: _____

Exhibit A — Fee Schedule Acknowledgement

Incorporated by reference into the Outside Student Participation Agreement (Form 1) for the 2026–2027 athletic year.

Fee structure

Grade Level	First Sport	Additional Sport (Same Season)
Grades 6 through 12	**$500**	**$100**

Acknowledgement

By signing below, the parent or legal guardian acknowledges and agrees:

- I have reviewed the FBA Athletic Participation Fee Schedule for the 2026–2027 athletic year.
- The fee will be automatically charged to the student's FACTS account at the start of each season.
- The fee covers the full Whole Athlete program described in the Handbook (nutrition, apparel, equipment, medical care, strength and conditioning, mental performance, specialized coaching, character and faith formation, and administration).
- Because the fee is charged at the start of the season, students who are not rostered are not charged.
- Financial assistance is available to families experiencing hardship. I may submit a Financial Assistance Request Form before the start of the season.

Student Name: _____ Sport(s): _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Alternate Travel Release Form

Purpose

This form authorizes a student athlete to travel home from an FBA away contest with someone other than the team-provided transportation, or to self-drive. Without a completed form on file or in the coach's hand at the contest, athletes return on the team-provided transportation.

Student information

Student Name: _____ Sport: _____ Coach: _____

Release type (check one)

[ ] **Per-contest release:** For the contest against _____ on _____ (date).

[ ] **Season-long release:** For all away contests during the _____ season of the 2026–2027 athletic year.

Travel arrangement (check one)

[ ] Travel with parent or legal guardian (named below).

[ ] Travel with another approved adult (named below).

[ ] Student will self-drive (Varsity 11th and 12th grade only, with valid driver's license).

Adult Name (if applicable): _____ Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

Parent acknowledgement

By signing below, I, the parent or legal guardian of the student athlete named above: (1) authorize the travel arrangement described above; (2) accept all responsibility for the student's safe transport from the contest venue; (3) release FBA and its employees from liability arising from the alternate travel, to the fullest extent permitted by law; and (4) confirm I have spoken directly with the coach about this arrangement.

Parent / Guardian Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Financial Assistance Request Form

Purpose

FBA is committed to keeping athletics accessible. Families experiencing financial hardship may request a confidential review of the athletic participation fee. Decisions are made on a case-by-case basis by the Director of Athletic Ministries. No student will be turned away from tryouts solely because a financial assistance request is pending.

Student information

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Sport(s): _____

Season: [ ] Fall [ ] Winter [ ] Spring [ ] Multi-season

Parent / Guardian Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Type of assistance requested (check all that apply)

[ ] Fee reduction [ ] Payment plan (multi-month) [ ] Fee waiver

Brief description of circumstances

Provide a brief summary of the hardship supporting your request. The Director may follow up to schedule a confidential conversation.

_____

_____

_____

Acknowledgement

I understand this request will be reviewed confidentially by the Director of Athletic Ministries, that approval is at the Director's discretion, and that the Director may follow up to discuss the request privately.

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Athletic Trainer Consent to Treat

My student athlete may be participating in athletics while enrolled at First Baptist Academy (FBA). By signing this permission form, I grant the current Certified Athletic Trainer, or other on-site qualified health care professional, permission to evaluate and treat my child for any sports-related injuries arising out of participation through FBA. This includes, but is not limited to, the prevention, evaluation, treatment, and rehabilitation of athletic injuries and illnesses, along with emergency care and clinical diagnosis.

My permission allows the foregoing whether or not I, or another parent or guardian, am present. In the event I wish to have this authorization revoked, I understand that a written letter must be given to the Athletic Department, and that any treatment done prior to delivery of the letter will not apply to the revocation.

Student information

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Sport(s): _____

Known allergies / conditions: _____

Parent or guardian signature

Printed Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Emergency Contact (name and phone): _____