

Dear SG Parish Athletic Families:

The Athletic program at St. Gabriel Parish is a parish-sponsored program offered to students of St. Gabriel School and school-age children within St. Gabriel Parish. The program is oriented towards participation team sports. It seeks to supplement academic programs by encouraging physical activity, school and parish spirit, teamwork and sportsmanship.

This handbook highlights our current programs and policies. Please contact the Athletic Director at the email or phone number listed below, if you have any questions or comments.

Along with the CYO parent/spectator rules St. Gabriel has its own general guidelines. Please review this information and keep it on hand as a reference.

Saint Gabriel Parish Athletics
2559 40th Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94116
(415) 731-6161 ext. 35
stgabead@gmail.com

St. Gabriel Parish Athletics Philosophy

The athletic program seeks to encourage the physical and emotional growth of Saint Gabriel Parish students by offering a sports program that teaches school and parish spirit, teamwork and sportsmanship emphasizing how to be gracious when both winning and losing.

1. Program:

Children attending Saint Gabriel School and/or members of Saint Gabriel Parish may participate in athletic programs as extracurricular activity. The league in charge controls league play in these sports.

Boy's grades 3 – 8	(CYO Soccer, CYO Basketball)
Girl's grades 3 – 8	(CYO Volleyball, CYO Soccer and CYO Basketball)
Girls & boys grades 3 – 8	(SFPSBL Baseball, CYO Track Meet, CYO Cross Country Meet)

2. Program Emphasis:

Team participation in the lower grades concentrates on learning the basic skills of a sport and on individual physical and mental conditioning. The concept of competition becomes more important as grade levels increase. *Ability-level teams begin in the 4th grade.*

3. Game and Sport Participation:

In all grades, every child who is on a team is to play in every game. However, any child who misses practice without a valid excuse (such as absence from school) forfeits his/her right to play in the next game.

Regarding conflicts with other extracurricular sporting activities, the following rules apply:

- (a) St. Gabriel sponsored sports take precedence over other league practices and other league games.
- (b) A child who quits a sport after tryouts or, if there were no tryouts and the rosters have been submitted, will be denied sign-up rights to participate in St. Gabriel sports for a year including that sport the following year.

Exceptions to above policy require a letter of appeal written by a parent and sent to and approved by the Athletic Board.

4. Conduct:

We all represent St. Gabriel Parish. Students participating in our athletic programs must maintain acceptable standards of conduct. Failure to do so will result in suspension from the athletic program. Similarly, a coach or the Athletic Director may restrict a child from participating for poor conduct while at practice or at any athletic activity or if a student is on school probation. Players are expected to show courtesy and respect for their coaches, teammates and officials.

5. Uniforms:

Game uniforms will be *loaned* to each child who participates in a sport. Parents should see to it that uniforms are freshly cleaned for each game (cleaning instructions are handed out with uniforms). *Game uniforms are for game use only.* At the end of each season, a uniform is to be returned clean and in good repair.

If the uniform is lost or has undue wear and tear, a replacement fee will be charged.

6. Fees:

A fee is charged for each sport played. The Athletic Board advises the Parish as to the amount based upon the expense of providing each particular sport and general program expenses. Fees are nonrefundable after tryouts are completed or, if there were no tryouts and the rosters have been submitted.

Exceptions to above policy require a letter of appeal written by a parent and sent to and approved by the Athletic Board.

Full or partial scholarships are available and may be requested at time of registration. Request for scholarships should be submitted to the Parish Priest and are kept confidential.

7. Award System for Participation:

Starting in 3rd grade, a child earns a credit for participating in a sport. A child who earns 5 credits is awarded a Saint Gabriel Block. Blocks are awarded at the *completion* of 5th grade. With each 3 additional sports (credits), the student earns a star. The block and star(s) may be worn on school sweaters.

The following awards are awarded to 8th grade students:

- (a) *Student Athlete Award:* Awarded to 8th grade boys and girls who have earned at least 5 credits in 7th and 8th grades and maintained a high grade point average.
- (b) *Ferrigno Trophy:* Awarded to an 8th grade boy and girl who are voted most inspirational player and have earned at least 5 credits in 7th and 8th grades.
- (c) *Cantwell Trophy:* Awarded to an 8th grade girl who is voted the outstanding athlete and who has earned at least 5 credits in 7th and 8th grades.
- (d) *Coaches' Choice Trophy:* Awarded to an 8th grade boy who is voted the outstanding athlete and who has earned at least 5 credits in 7th and 8th grades.

8. Coaches' Responsibilities:

All Coaches Should:

- Be present at games and practices. If not, he or she must get an acceptable replacement. Coaches are responsible for all selected replacements. The sport coordinator will approve any replacements.
- Conduct practices at least once a week for any sport. No more than two practice sessions per week are allowed unless approved by the Athletic Board.
- Be responsible for all equipment at all times.
- Be responsible for fan's behavior. (CYO General Rules and Code of Ethics consider coaches in charge of spectators.)
- Be responsible to inform the referee or umpire when protesting a game, if appropriate. The Athletic Coordinator or Athletic Board must be notified as well. All protests must be in writing, within 72 hours of the incident and accompanied with \$20. Coaches are advised to announce a protest when they have doubts because they do not have to follow through.
- Be knowledgeable of league rules and procedures.

9. *Grievance Procedures:*

If a child or parent has a problem, disagreement, or concern:

- (a) The parent or child must first discuss the matter with the coach.
 - If an issue arises during a game, please refrain from approaching the coach during the game, at halftime or even after the game. The Athletic Board strongly suggests that you approach the coach the next day or later.
- (b) If for some reason the issue is not resolved or it involves the coach, it must be presented to the Athletic Director.
- (c) In the event that a satisfactory solution is still not achieved the Athletic Director will forward the issue to the head of the Athletic Board who will then review the issue. The Athletic Board will then and make their recommendation to the Pastor who will have final say in the matter.

10. *Sports Calendar:*

September through November

Grades 3 – 8 CYO Boys' Soccer
 CYO Girls' Volleyball
 CYO Cross Country Meet

November through March

Grades 3 – 8 CYO Boys' Basketball
 CYO Girls' Soccer

March through June

Grades 3 – 8 Coed Baseball
 CYO Girls' Basketball
 CYO Track Meet

11. *Parent Participation:*

A successful athletic program requires the participation of parents. It is the responsibility a parents to see that their children get to and from all games and practices on time. The coaches are not responsible for driving the children or taking care of them before or after practice or games. Parents are encouraged to attend all games and to support their child's efforts.

People interested in working in the athletic program are always needed. The program needs coaches, assistant coaches, snack bar personnel, score board operators, and people to inventory and care for uniforms. If interested, please give your name to one of the Board members or call the St. Gabriel Athletic Program.

12. *Athletic Board Meetings:*

The Athletic Board of Saint Gabriel Parish holds regular meetings through out the year. All members are volunteers. Meetings are open. Visitors are required to request attendance by phone or email, 48 hours in advance.

13. *Injury Procedures:*

All injuries acquired during athletic activities should be reported to the coach immediately. The Athletic Coordinator should be notified also. If an insurance claim is desired, the parent should contact:

Gallagher Heffernan
Attn: Claims Department
1 Market Street
Spear Tower, Suite 200
San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone Number: 546-9300

14. *Gym:*

Please abide by the rules posted in Bedford Hall, instructions given by our gym director, and the rules of any gym in which St. Gabriel teams play.

If warranted during a game, the gym director or coach may give a warning to a spectator. A second warning will require the violator to leave the gym for rest of the day. Flagrant violations or disregard to directives may result in being banned from the gym for the season or, if an athlete, being dropped from a Saint Gabriel Team program for the rest of the school year and/or both.

15. *Leagues & non-St. Gabriel Personnel*

Do not contact sponsoring leagues or agencies. Rather, direct any inquiries, comments, questions, or complaints to the St. Gabriel Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will then contact the appropriate person at the league. This also holds true for other teams and/or schools. Please refrain from direct contact with personnel on other teams or connected with other schools. Again, direct your concerns to the St. Gabriel Athletic Director who will pursue the matter.