



**Cornerstone Classical Academy Athletics**  
**Athlete Code of Conduct**  
**2024-2025**

Participating in athletics plays a significant role in the holistic education of a student-athlete. It is a powerful tool that is used to help develop leadership skills and character development. Therefore, every effort should be made to demonstrate the highest standard of excellence and character.

As a student-athlete, with the help of your coach and teammates, you will:

- Treat coaches, administrators, and officials with respect as the authority figures placed over you as you represent Cornerstone Classical Academy.
- Treat fellow student-athletes with respect and celebrate diversity regardless of ethnicity or cultural background.
- Instill ethical characteristics in your teammates by demonstrating high standards of personal honesty and integrity.
- Accept responsibility for behavior and performance in the classroom as well in competition.

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

As a member of CCA athletics, you are known as a STUDENT-ATHLETE. You are a STUDENT first and an ATHLETE second. Your coach expects you to take your academic responsibility seriously. This requires commitment, organization, effective study skills, and time management responsibilities. To be eligible, you are required to maintain a 2.0 GPA. Your grades will be monitored on a biweekly basis to ensure that you are meeting the eligibility requirements.

### **BEHAVIOR:**

You are a representative of Cornerstone Classical Academy and will be expected to act in a manner that is both appropriate and respectful. This behavior is expected on and off the court/field, both in and out of the classroom. Disrespect to any adults, classmates, and/or teammates will not be tolerated. If an issue arises, the student-athlete(s) will be held accountable with an appropriate consequence after practice (i.e. extra conditioning) and (depending on the severity of the incident) may be subject to missing playing time.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA:**

Playing and competing for Cornerstone Classical Academy is a privilege. Student-athletes at CCA are held in the highest regard and are seen as role models in the community. As leaders you have the responsibility to portray your team, your school and yourselves in a positive manner at all times. Social media sites have increased in popularity globally and are used by the majority of student-athletes here at CCA in one form or another. Student-athletes should be aware that third parties could easily access your profiles and view all personal information. This includes all pictures, videos and comments. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects the perception of the student-athlete, the athletic department, and the school.

Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors concerning participation in online communities may include depictions or presentations of the following:

- Photos, videos, comments or posts showing the personal use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco.
- Photos, videos, and comments that are of a sexual nature.
- Pictures, videos, comments or posts that condone drug-related activity. This includes but is not limited to images that portray the personal use of vapes, e-cigarettes, marijuana, drug paraphernalia.
- Content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any other individual or entity. No posts should depict or encourage unacceptable, violent or illegal activities.

If you are ever in doubt of the appropriateness of your online public material, consider whether it upholds and positively reflects your own values and ethics as well as the CCA Athletic Department's and the school. Remember, always present a positive image and don't engage in anything that may embarrass yourself, the team, your family or the school.

### **PRACTICES:**

Attendance to all practices is mandatory. All absences must be cleared through your coach prior to missing practice. If you are sick and miss school, or go home early, it is your responsibility as a student-athlete to leave a message for your coach regarding your absence. This is the responsibility of the student-athlete, not the parent. Any unexcused absences will be dealt with by the head coach.

### **PRACTICE EXPECTATIONS:**

1. All players need to be at practice at least 10 minutes before the scheduled start time to avoid being late. Tardiness will result in extra conditioning. Frequent tardiness may result in loss of playing time or dismissal from the team. When you step on the court, it is practice time, leave all the socializing at the door.
2. All balls/equipment not in use must be put away.
3. All players need to be attentive during practice. You will not talk while the coach or another teammate is talking. Any type of horseplay or talking back will not be tolerated. This does not mean that we cannot smile, laugh, or have fun.
4. When being instructed/coached, listen to learn – not to respond. This simply means, do not give your coach any excuses. Own up to your mistake and fix it!
5. No cursing or profanity will be tolerated.
6. You are expected to work hard during practice. Laziness will not be tolerated. HUSTLE.
7. All players need to wear appropriate attire during practices. Appropriate attire for females means: hair tied back (do not wear your hair down), athletic shorts (do not wear short-shorts), appropriate shoes, sports bra, athletic t-shirt or cutoff, and practice jersey. Failure to wear appropriate attire will result in consequences subject to the coach's discretion.

### **GAME DAY EXPECTATIONS:**

- On game days, players are expected to manage their time wisely both academically and athletically.

- Make sure you are getting an adequate amount of sleep the night prior to a game, in addition to hydrating and eating nutritious meals throughout the day.
- It is your responsibility as a student-athlete to have assignments completed and studied for – you will never be allowed to use the excuse, “I had a game last night.”
- The National Anthem will be played prior to every game/contest, and all players must be on the sideline for the National Anthem. During the National Anthem, players and coaches on the field and bench area should stand at attention, face the flag, and refrain from talking.
- You will respect all authorities/referees involved in the game by accepting any calls on or against you or our team.
- Players will allow the coach to do the coaching.

### **PLAYING TIME:**

There is no guarantee that everyone will get into every game or receive equal amounts of playing time. Players who give the team the best opportunity to compete will play. This will vary game by game based on various situations. The coach will take into consideration not only the talent level of a player, but also will take into account their attitude, work ethic, desire, dedication, and knowledge of our offensive and defensive systems. Individual talent is only beneficial when put to use in the TEAM concept.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF ROLES:**

Roles will be defined for each player prior to the start of the season, but can be adjusted throughout the season. A player’s willingness to accept the role will be crucial to the success that we have as a team. In order to be successful, everyone must be willing to put their personal interests aside for the betterment of the team. If jealousy, egotism, or complaining exist then success is almost impossible. Regardless of your role, it is important to our team’s success that each player gives 100% effort at all times. While most roles will reflect seniority, that may not be the case at all times. If a player has an issue with their role, it is their responsibility to discuss this issue with the coach. If a player cannot accept their role in a positive manner, they may be dismissed from the team.

### **RESPECT AND TRUST:**

Respect and trust are two important factors in our success. Respect and trust must be displayed between team members, between players, and between coaches. There will be times of adversity. How we handle this adversity as individuals and as a team will help determine the type of season we will have. Any display of disrespect toward team members, coaches, opponents, fans, or other community members, will not be tolerated and will result in a warning with appropriate consequences. Your coach has an open-door policy at all times. If a player has an issue regarding our team, the player needs to see the coach first and not an outside source. The student athlete should first speak directly with his/her coach, if further clarification is required, a parent should then contact the coach (it is advised that no contact between parent and coach be made until, at least, the day after the incident/event in question – the so-called “24 hour rule”). If the issue remains unresolved, the parent should then communicate his/her concerns to the athletic director. Not

following the proper chain of communication, can create bigger problems. These problems can lead to issues with team chemistry which is crucial to having a successful season. We all have the same goal – to succeed.

**TEAM GOALS:**

We must all work together to accomplish our team goals. No one player is more important than another. If a player cares more about his/her individual interests instead of the team's interests, then the success of our program will be undermined. Whether you are friends with a teammate off the court is irrelevant. When we are together - be it during practice, games, or team activities - you are teammates, we are a family. Players are expected to put their differences aside for the betterment of the team. Rumors and half-truths will not be tolerated. If a player feels the need to talk negatively about an individual on our team, that player may run the risk of being removed from the team.

*Updated July 2024*

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I have read the CCA Athlete Code of Conduct and will abide by all the information. I agree to act in good faith and good judgment while participating in any athletic event. My actions and behaviors directly reflect Cornerstone Classical Academy, and I will present myself and the school in a professional, ethical manner at all times. If I fail to adhere to the Athlete Code of Conduct, I understand that I will no longer be a part of CCA Athletics.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_