

# Mile High Academy

## Athletic Department Handbook



### Philippians 4:8

“...my friends, fill your minds with those things that are good and that deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and honorable.”



Letter from the Athletic Director:

Athletics have played a huge role in my life. From my first coach, my dad, to my brothers playing hoops and “toughening” me up, to my high school coach who challenged me to be a better basketball player and man, my life has been shaped by people who have invested time in me. Their sacrifice made me the person I am today, and I teach and coach today as a way to pay back what has been given to me in the past.

I fell in love with sports right away as a kid. I started playing Little League baseball in an organized fashion at the age of 11, and I was hooked. I want your son or daughter to fall in love with sports, too. I want them to look forward to games and practices like I did.

However, I believe sports has the power to be more than fun. It can teach important life lessons to those who embrace it. Teamwork, dedication, responsibility, sportsmanship, how to win, and how to lose and use that loss to get better are all things that can be learned through athletics. Furthermore, ideas about values, fair play, and how to treat others are intertwined into our games. I have put together a coaching staff of men and women who share that vision and philosophy. I am excited to have them work with our young people

My good friend, Erik Pardo, spent 14 years building the athletic program here. He worked with dedicated athletes and parents to do it. The Associate AD, Jonathan Kemper, and myself want to build on that foundation. We want to build something that transcends sports, and is something our whole community can be proud of. I want you, and your son or daughter to be part of that.

Welcome to the Mile High Academy Athletics family. This year will require a lot of hard work, but together we will build something special. We will build something that we all can be proud of.

Sincerely,

Walter Weber

Vice Principal/Athletic Director

Mile High Academy

## Goals for the 2017-18 Season

- Develop competitive, tough, and smart ballplayers
- Teach a value system that transcends the athletic field and will help develop men and women of God
- Teach players to rely on each other, and build camaraderie and friendships that will last the rest of their lives
- Take steps toward joining a league, and participating in playoffs
- Have fun!

*The Following Statements are Taken from the Mile High Academy Handbook, and are at the core of our Athletic Department:*

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Mile High Academy Athletic Department is to develop a Christ-like character in students through sportsmanship, teamwork, honesty, respect and integrity.

### **Department Philosophy**

Athletics is an important part of the educational program that seeks to develop young men and women spiritually, physically, mentally, emotionally and socially. It is a privilege to participate in the program and carries with it a responsibility to God, school, team and the individual student. The program promotes Christian sportsmanship by teaching young people to respect teammates, coaches, officials, opponents and fans; demonstrate fair play; promote a sense of school pride; and lead by example on and off the court. All students are encouraged to develop skills in recreational and athletic activities that will enable them to maintain good health throughout their lives.

### **Participation Requirements**

MHA is a partner school with CHSAA and will be following the guidelines of CHSAA determining eligibility of student athletes. **Students must have a 2.5 GPA and no Fs to participate in team sports.** Eligibility will be checked every week. Students questioning their grades must be cleared by the Registrar before being taken off the ineligible list. Students placed on the ineligible list for the first time within a season are expected to attend practices but cannot dress for games or travel with the team on any away games. Students placed on the ineligible list twice or more during a season will have further participation dependent on administrative review. All students participating in extracurricular athletics programs will be required to have a sports physical current within the last 365 days before the start of practice.

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## Athletic Fees

There will be a fee (per sport) per athlete. The fee will be determined by the cost needed to run the sport. Student fees must be paid by the fees date on the athletic calendar, as failure to do so may result in player forfeiting a spot on team. **If paying the fees presents a problem, please come and see me.** We want your child to play.

These are the projected fees for the upcoming season, and will not exceed the following totals:

- Varsity Basketball → \$500
- JV Basketball → \$200
- Varsity Soccer → \$250
- Varsity Volleyball → \$250
- JV Volleyball → \$200
- Varsity Baseball → \$200
- Middle School Sports → \$125

## Due Dates

Fall Sports:

Sept. 1 - Full or partial payment

Sept. 29- Full Payment

**Winter Sports:**

Nov. 10 – Full or partial payment

Jan. 10 - Full Payment

**Spring Sports:**

March 16 – Full or partial payment

April 20 - Full Payment

## **Risks of Athletic Participation**

In spite of protective equipment, and the supervision and sound instruction by our coaches, there are some risks associated when someone participates in athletics. Injuries in some of our activities can and do occur. In extremely rare cases, serious, life altering injuries and death could also result. All athletes and parents need to be aware and understand this possibility. At Mile High Academy, we will do all that we can to ensure a safe and healthy environment for our athletes. It is equally important that all participants (parents and athletes) understand that there is no way that we can avoid all injuries that can occur throughout a sports season.

## Expectations of Players

- ✓ Show up on time and ready to play for each practice and game.
- ✓ Always be “in” the game
- ✓ Know your role on your team
- ✓ Use appropriate language, gestures and actions.
- ✓ Represent yourself, the school, and your family with pride and integrity
- ✓ Respect referees and their decisions
- ✓ Hustle
- ✓ Know and follow team rules
- ✓ **Maintain eligibility**

## Expectations of Parents

- ✓ Cheer for our athletes
- ✓ Respect our coaches and their decisions
- ✓ 24 hour rule
- ✓ Treat opponents and officials as guests in our collective home.
- ✓ Feel free to stop by our practices
- ✓ Make varsity fee payments when due.

## **Ejections**

Any ejection from a game or match by an official will result in a warning from the Athletic Director, and a possible one game suspension. This applies to coaches, students, and parents. Parents or students/players may not approach an official to discuss any issues before, during, or after a game or match or for any reason. If a second ejection is given, the student will no longer be part of the team. Any decision by an official will be adhered to by coaches, parents, athletes, and the school administration without discussion.

## **Discipline**

All policies for student behavior adopted by Mile High Academy apply to athletic extra-curricular events. If a student falls short of the expectations of either the MHA Student Handbook or Athletic Handbook, he or she will be put under review by the Athletic Review Board. That board is led by our two athletic directors, and has the power to suspend or dismiss a player. A player is not allowed to participate in team activities while under review.

Parents will be notified when a student is put under review.

Any participation fees charged would not be refunded in the event a player is suspended or dismissed from a team.

## **Team Travel**

Teams will be transported to away contests by either MHA buses, small vehicles or approved, private, bonded carriers. Athletes are expected to travel to and from these contests with their team on these forms of transportation.

If there is a special reason to travel with parents, an athlete and parent must fill out a waiver. For safety and legal reasons, athletes may only leave with their parents and not with other relatives or friends. If, in the rare case, a student-athlete needs to ride home with another family, a prearranged form must be filled out one day prior to departure on the trip that is verified with the Athletics Director and Principal

## **Varsity Tournaments**

Students on varsity sports are required to go on the tournament of the sport in which they are participating. If student is ineligible, student will not be allowed to go and be part of the tournament. Also, the fees will be forfeited and not returned to the family. Those students that are on a tournament are required to attend the mandatory study hall(s) that are given while on tournament. Students must also take advantage of any extra time while on tournament to work on any homework to make sure it is complete. It is up to the student to complete any homework assigned by teachers.

## **Physical Education Credit**

Students will attain PE credit for sports that are played at the high school level.

The following is considered when grading sports at MHA:

- Athlete must attend 95% of practices and games
- Attitude grade will be given by coach of team

→ If students is ineligible due to grades and misses the 95% requirement, student may petition to athletic department.

Other Notes:

- Schedules will be handed out at the beginning of each season, as well as posted on the MHA website
- Schedule changes will be announced through email, the school website, and the MHA Athletic department Facebook page.
- Our Varsity basketball teams will be taking part at the annual Pepsi Center games this year. The date of that game is TBD. Players on those teams are expected to sell tickets to that game, so we can keep that tradition going.

**Contact Info for Walter Weber**

**wweber@milehighacademy.org**  
**(909) 327-1723**

**Contact Info for Jonathan Kemper**

**jkemper@milehighacademy.org**  
**(254) 247-7818**

Go Mustangs!