

SCHOOL ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

Participation in inter-scholastic athletic programs is a significant element of the school program in the diocese and is an important contribution to the Church's religious mission and ministry, and play a vital role in the formation of the Christian personality.

Athletics, as with all school programs, are formational in nature. Gospel-based values are taught and learned in athletic programs by developing respect for self and for others through competitions in which dignity, integrity, fairness and moral strength are emphasized. Coaches, student athletes and school fans are expected to display appropriate Christian behavior at all times.

Schools should be conscious of offering suitable athletic opportunities to all students. Secondary schools are encouraged to make athletic opportunities available, as their enrollment and school resources permit. Elementary schools may sponsor athletic programs in cooperation with their regional secondary school, in accord with the local school decision. Schools participating in the Pennsylvania Inter-scholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) are to follow the rules and regulations of the organization, without compromising their own mission and diocesan policies.

Policy

Approved: July 1, 2014

RWG/Bishop of Harrisburg