

# Athletics Philosophy

We adhere to and base the philosophy of our athletic program upon our foundation scripture:

"If anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules." 2nd Timothy 2:5 (NKJV)

### School and Athletic Missions Complement Each Other

Bayshore Christian School's mission is to instill in its students this Biblical pattern for childhood growth and development - "Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." (Luke 2:52) Our goal is for students to be able to influence today's culture in their area of responsibility for now and the future in a Christ-like way. At Bayshore, students learn a Christian world and life view which prepares them academically, socially, emotionally and physically to live out their faith as servant leaders in every area of society. The value of athletic competition compliments this mission.

Participation in athletics provides an opportunity to grow in the manifestation of Godly character as the student-athlete faces situations within the team and within competition that are representative of situations to be faced in life. Each individual team member, from the starter to the team manager, will be challenged in numerous areas over the course of a season. Challenges of selflessness, diligence, self-control, patience, courage, perseverance, humility and submission that are experienced in athletics, translate directly to real life during and after high school. As any good coach will tell you, one of the keys to success on the athletic field is a solid game plan. God's game plan, His Word, is as good as you can get.

### Participation in Athletics is a Privilege

Involvement in athletics at Bayshore Christian School is a privilege - a privilege offered by the governing board to our school and a privilege to participate in by our students. As a member of an athletic team, each student-athlete will have achieved a position of accomplishment and responsibility. Each student-athlete serves as a "role model" for others (natural family, school family and community) whether they choose that position or not. Our student-athletes are highly visible in the school community, local community and cities around the state as they travel and compete. Faculty, staff and students are all challenged to a high level of conduct and responsibility as member of the Bayshore family, but student-

athletes are challenged to an even higher standard with greater expectations for conduct, performance and commitment as ambassadors of Christ on the court or field of play.

#### Student-Athletes

Notice also that members of our athletic teams are not known as just "athletes", but as "student-athletes." Academics have a priority over athletics with each student-athlete required to maintain specific academic standards to remain an active member of any team.

### **Middle School and Elementary Sports**

Athletics will provide as many students as possible the opportunity to experience healthy sports competition at a level beyond what is provided through physical education and intramural activity. At the elementary grades, skill development is emphasized more than competition. Competition is still a component in the development of the young student-athlete with more emphasis added in the middle school grades to better prepare them for their early high school experience.

## **Athletic Competition - High School**

Sports at the high school level are very competitive and winning is an objective of each team. Because of the highly competitive nature and limited roster space on teams, pre-season tryouts may be held in order to evaluate students who desire to be a part of a team with some hopeful students being denied that opportunity for that season. It is our desire to field a varsity as well as a junior varsity team in each of our high school team sports.

### **Discipleship Coaching**

Bayshore Christian School is very proud of the men and women who serve as coaches for our student-athletes. These talented and experienced adults realize the importance of the mentor-student relationship, which needs to exist between a coach and the student-athlete. The student-athlete is more important than contest outcomes. Our coaches are teachers dedicated to making the athletic experience as successful for the student athlete as possible. Your prayer for and support of this group is appreciated.