



## EQUAL PLAY SPORTS POLICY Athletics at Trinity Lutheran School

Trinity Lutheran School approaches sports and athletics with an “Equal Play Policy”. What that means is that every student who practices according to the team standards will play equal amounts of time in competitive games, including tournaments. Under girding this policy are three core values, and one consequence:

### 3 CORE VALUES

- 1) We hold **Skill Development** as a core value
  - a) We want our students to learn and practice skills associated with the sport, and to understand the rules of the game. We will work with each student where they are at with their skills, understanding that some will be more proficient than others.
- 2) We hold **Christian Sportsmanship** as a core value
  - a) It is absolutely essential that we teach our students how to be Christian Athletes, and that attitude is summarized in the 4 Principles of Christian Sportsmanship:
    - 1) Christian Sportsmanship recognizes that God has created each person differently.
    - 2) Christian Sportsmanship means developing and using your own God-given skills to the best of your ability and to the Glory of God.
    - 3) Christian Sportsmanship is working together with all team members: supporting encouraging, and helping each other.
    - 4) Christian Sportsmanship is being a witness for Jesus to your team, your coaches, other teams, to the fans, and to the referees by how you play and what you say.
- 3) We hold **Competitive Game Experience** as a core value
  - a) Each student athlete needs to have the “thrill” of playing in a controlled, competitive game experience. This is the “reward” for practicing, and the test of their skills. The “better” athletes do not get favored status – all on the team are to play equal amounts.

### 1 CONSEQUENCE

- 1) As a result of our 3 Core Values, the resulting consequence is that “winning” is not everything to us. ***Winning is certainly a fun and exciting thing, but we will never sacrifice our “Equal Play Policy” nor our 3 Core Values in order to win.*** In other words, even though this may mean that we lose the game in some situations, this policy remains our priority.

I have read the “Equal Play Sports Policy”. I understand it and will support this policy.

Please Print Clearly – First & Last Name

Signature

Date

Student \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_