

# 2019-20 St. Veronica Athletic Handbook



St. Veronica Catholic School and Parish Athletic program (SV Athletics) is based on the philosophy that each child is unique with unique needs and concerns. At St. Veronica the emphasis in sports is placed on the development of each child's social, emotional, and physical skills. This necessitates teaching the children sportsmanship, healthy competitive spirit, teamwork, commitment, and plain fun. The Athletic Director, Commissioners, and Coaches adhere to this Catholic philosophy of sports. All children, regardless of abilities, have an equal opportunity to participate in our sports program.

## **Available Athletic Programs**

### **Boys** programs are:

4th grade	Baseball and Basketball (Instructional play only)
5th to 8th grades	Baseball, Basketball, and Track
8th grade	Cheerleading

### **Girls** programs are:

4th Grade	Volleyball and Basketball (Instructional play only)
5th to 8th grades	Volleyball, Basketball, and Track
8th grade	Cheerleading

## **Eligibility**

Children attending St. Veronica Catholic School or Faith Formation Program may participate in our athletic programs as an extracurricular activity; these programs are entered into league play that is sanctioned by the Peninsula Parish/School League (PPSL). Saint Veronica abides by all PPSL rules.

Students who participate in SV Athletics must make the commitment to their team a priority. This priority means that team practices, games, and meeting must come first before all other extra-curricular activities i.e. club teams, city teams, Boy's and Girl's Club, etc. This should be taken into consideration prior to joining an SV Athletics program. Please note the PPSL has a rule that any league participant who drops from a team after the registration deadline will not be allowed to participate in the next sport this school year or that same sport the following school year.

Each family must read, complete, sign, and return the program registration form with the registration fee by the due date. Families are required to attend the Athletics Program Parent Meeting as coordinated by the Athletic Director.

There is a mandatory annual family membership fee of \$75 for the Men's Club. The Men's Club oversees fundraising for the athletics program. In addition, a fee of \$110 will be charged for each program in which a child participates.

### **Team Placement Process**

For volleyball and basketball, if enough players are registered to create more than one team it shall be the Athletic Director's decision to split the players into teams. This split will provide a better coach to player ratio and provide players with more opportunities to enhance their abilities, improve their skills, and play.

The Athletic Director oversees the process of team placement. Parents are not allowed in the Parish Center (Gym) during the evaluations/team placement process. Any conflicts that may arise during this process shall be mediated and/or resolved by the Athletic Director.

### **SV Athletics Social Media Responsibilities**

As we navigate the ever-changing landscape of social media and the internet, we want to act carefully in the way we use photography and/or video. Parents and kids love to see images of our athletes in action, and we want to share these photos and videos as symbols and reminders of why and how they play!

Posting photos or videos of St. Veronica players in uniform must always be pre-approved by the Athletic Director or Commissioners prior to posting on personal social media sites. This will help ensure that we are presenting our athletics program in the best way and that we are honoring the wishes of parents and students who do not want to have their picture posted.

### **Who Does What?**

#### **Principal**

- Accepts responsibility for and maintains supervision over all teams in the SV Athletics Program.

#### **Athletic Director**

- Attend all PPSL and SV coaches' meetings
- Book gym dates and locations for games and practices
- Create a master practice schedule to provide to commissioners
- Arrange, direct, and assist in player evaluations
- Final review of rosters, obtain necessary signatures, and provide to the PPSL
- Final approval of coaching staff
- Maintain and distribute all equipment and uniforms
- Maintain the standards of conduct and behavior expectations of the parish, the school, and the PPSL
- Mediate between parents and coaches regarding concerns about the athletics program
- Communicate to parents any concerns coaches may have regarding player development and/or behavior
- Attend home games to assist in any coach and/or parent behavior issues, assist score table with coach and/or referee questions
- Reports to principal

### **Commissioners**

- Attend PPSL meetings
- Coordinate the distribution and collection of registration forms
- Prepare coaches' and score table binders needed for league play
- Report all games as directed by league rules
- Attend home games to assist in any coach and/or parent behavior issues, assist score table with coach and/or referee questions
- Distribute tournament information to coaches
- Schedule team pictures
- Organize, schedule, and administer a coaches' meeting prior to the beginning of the season
- Prepare home game venue for all home league games
- Inventory, distribute, and collect practice and game supplies

### **Coaches**

- Register teams for tournaments
- Coach team in a positive environment emphasizing individual player and team development
- Follow both PPSL and SV rules
- Follow Parish protocol for opening and closing of Parish Center (Gym)

### **Snack Shack Supervisor**

- Oversee operations of the Snack Shack for home games
- Maintain the supplies and store items after every game
- Coordinate the upkeep of the kitchen and appliances

### **Communication**

From time to time parents may have questions or concerns regarding their child's participation in the athletics program. These should always be directed to the Athletic Director, Mrs. Geninne Ruegg via email: [gruegg@saintveronicassf.org](mailto:gruegg@saintveronicassf.org)

Parents should not contact the coach or commissioner directly. The coaches and commissioners have been instructed to direct all parental concerns to the Athletic Director. Parents will receive a response to their question or concern within 24 hours either by phone or by email.

Our coaches and commissioners are volunteers. This system allows coaches to coach and commissioners to administer the league without the added responsibility of responding directly to parent questions and concerns.

Prior to contacting the Athletic Director please refer to this SV Parent Handbook as most answers to your questions can be found here.

### **Parish and School Athletic Rules**

The use of the SV Parish Center (Gym) is overseen by the Parish Office. All parish events shall take precedence over athletics. In the event that both parish and athletic events occur simultaneously, please be respectful of parish events and cooperate as directed by the Athletic Director.

All parish and school rules shall take precedence over the PPSL rules. PPSL rules are available on the PPSL website. <http://www.ppsl.info/>

Prior to participation in any evaluation day, practice, or game the registration fee and a permission slip for the corresponding sport must be handed in to the Athletic Director and the Men's Club fee(s) must have been paid.

For a player that is in good standing the following playing rules apply:

- Each basketball player must play one full quarter during a game in both tournament and league play.
- Each baseball player must play two full consecutive innings.

Inappropriate parent or guardian behavior is not allowed. Ordinarily, the Athletic Program employs a "2 STRIKE Policy" to address inappropriate behavior.

- Strike 1 – When a parent or guardian behaves inappropriately, this information should be shared immediately with the Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will meet with the person prior to the next athletic event.
- Strike 2 - If the parent or guardian should behave inappropriately a second time, the Athletic Director will meet with and communicate to the parent that the parent will not be allowed to attend any further home or away athletic events (including practices) for the remainder of the season without prior approval from the Athletic Director.

However, the Athletic Director has the authority to eject any player, parent, guardian, coach, or commissioner from a practice or game should their behavior warrant it. In the event of serious misbehavior, the Athletic Director also has the authority to enforce the 2 STRIKE Policy.

If a student is absent from school, he or she may not participate in any sport on that day. If a student is absent on a Friday, he or she may not participate in any sport for the entire weekend. Basically, the rule is simple; a student must attend a full day of school prior to participation in any sporting event.

A "4" on a report card or progress report for conduct or effort will result in suspension from participation in sports as a player or spectator for a minimum of 3 weeks. Students who earn a "D" or an "F" on their report card or progress report may be deemed ineligible to participate at the discretion of the St. Veronica Catholic School administration. Suspension from school is a suspension from the SV Athletics Program.

### **Uniforms**

Uniforms must be worn for all official games. Uniforms may not be worn for casual wear, practices, or scrimmages. NOTE: Uniforms being issued are reversible.

**Uniform Care Instructions:** All uniforms must be properly handled while washing and drying so uniforms will last for several years. Failure to do so may result in paying for a replacement. Please use these instructions for washing and drying the uniform:

- Machine wash in cold water.
- Wash with like colors.
- Do not use fabric softener; it will cause printed cloth patterns to separate from material.

- Do not use chlorine bleach, as the chance of color separation and the weakening of some material is increased.
- Hang Dry Only! Do NOT put the uniforms in the DRYER. This causes the numbers to peel off!
- Do not dry clean.
- Do not iron.

**Uniform Return:** All uniforms must be returned in satisfactory condition at the final contest or the date the player has left the program, whichever is earlier. The player should bring a change of clothes to the final contest.

If loss or damage to the uniform occurs as a result of negligence or improper care, the player will be held financially responsible for the repair or replacement of the item(s). The player will not be allowed to participate in any other St. Veronica athletic activity until the uniform has been returned or the financial obligation has been met.

### **Awards**

An award system has been established to encourage children to participate in athletic activities. Children may earn points by participating in a sport all season. Each child is expected to attend and participate in all practices and in all games. 15 points are earned for participation in a sport. A child who earns 90 points will be awarded a St. Veronica Falcon Pin.

### **Supporting St. Veronica Athletics**

The success of the SV Athletics program is rooted in its volunteers - coaches, commissioners, Snack Shack volunteers, scorekeepers - all committed to you child's enjoyment and learning.

The Men's Club organizes many fundraisers during the year. Attending a Men's Club meeting and/or one of the below fundraisers is the best way to financially support your child's athletic program and the volunteers who operate it:

- Santini Golf Tournament – October 2019
- Crab Dinner – February 2020
- Snack Shack – open every home game during volleyball and basketball season

The St. Veronica Catholic School administration reserves the right to amend this handbook.