

**Oasis High School**  
**ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**  
**2021-2022**  
**STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK**



**LEAD AND SUCCEED**

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### *A Message to the Parents of Student Athletes*

*Your child has chosen a difficult and rewarding endeavor. It is an individual's choice to participate in athletics, but the choice affects the entire family in many ways. There will be late dinners after games, sore bones and muscles after practice and competitions. You will find that your child will learn to be a member of a team working toward a common goal, to accept victory and defeat as a learning process, to take pride in their accomplishments and to persevere when the activity becomes difficult.*

*It is our intent as a school to maintain a program that is sound in purpose and will further each student's educational maturity. A student who elects to participate in athletics is voluntarily making a*

choice of self-discipline and self-responsibility. These are the reasons we stress good training habits and preparation for athletic events. Attaining this goal should be a cooperative effort by all involved.

As educators, we find that students involved in extracurricular activities have fewer discipline problems in school and put free time after school to constructive use, and as a result, have fewer problems in the community. When your child elects to participate in one of our sports programs, we feel there is a commitment to certain responsibilities and obligations. This is our opportunity to acquaint you with specific policies necessary for a well-organized program of athletics. Please read this carefully and share this handbook with your child frequently.

**Any parent that chooses to interfere with game play in a derogatory manner through verbal or physical contact with a game official, coach, or student athlete will be asked to leave the area of competition immediately. Any and all concerns/complaints shall be done so through written contact to the school's athletic director and/or school principal. We expect all parents to exercise the same level of sportsmanship as our student-athletes. Remember, a parents behavior, home or away, reflects Oasis High School and sends a message we do not condone.**

**Parents who interfere with game-play risk game cancellation by the game officials. Proper authorities (i.e. police) will be called by on-site Oasis staff. A first-time offense will result in a one-game suspension followed by a school-year ban for the second offense. Violators will be subject to host school's procedures/policies for actions at away games/matches.**

#### Oasis HS Administration

|                                 |                       |                     |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Superintendent                  | Jaqueline Collins     | 424 – 6100          |
| High School Principal           | Dr. Christina Britton | 541 – 1167 Ext. 406 |
| High School Assistant Principal | Tim Loughren          | 541 – 1167 Ext. 473 |
| High School Assistant Principal | Elizabeth Cannon      | 541 – 1167 Ext. 408 |
| Athletic Director               | Michael O'Brien       | 541 – 1167 Ext. 451 |

#### VISION

Oasis High School strives to be the premier athletic program in the state of Florida.

#### MISSION

Oasis High School Athletic Department is committed to offering high-quality athletic programs to its student-athletes that promote personal development, encourages teamwork, and teaches important life skills for becoming an essential part of the community.

#### PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS FOR OASIS HIGH SCHOOL

Athletics at Oasis High School are seen as an integral part of the total educational process. Participation in extracurricular activities is encouraged and strictly voluntary, yet a privilege to be cherished by the student-athlete and parent. Every member of our athletic department will be treated with respect, and in return we expect the same level of respect towards those who choose to lead and educate our student-athletes. Oasis believes lessons learned from participation in athletics greatly contribute to the student's ability to be successful while in school and after graduation.

## OBJECTIVES

### *Physical*

- To provide opportunities for students to reach improved fitness levels.
- To provide opportunities for students to further enhance skill level development.

### *Social*

- To provide opportunities for positive interactions in a fun filled environment wherein leadership, sportsmanship, and fair play can be developed.
- To develop a better cooperative and harmonious relationship among students regardless of race or sex.

### *Emotional*

- To provide students a healthy emotional setting where self-image can be enhanced and stress can be released in a positive manner. Good sportsmanship will be stressed.

### *Mental*

- To increase student knowledge of rules, terminology, strategies, and basic tournament organization.

### *Educational*

- To promote teamwork, self-discipline, dedication, commitment, and self determination.

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

### **Student Insurance and Safety**

Students participating in all athletics **MUST** provide proof of insurance before participating. Students not covered by their family's accident insurance plan will not be eligible for participation. Students will **NOT** be allowed to participate in athletics until they have completed all facets of the FHSAA mandated waiver and physical form and completed all paperwork on Athletic Clearance. Any form other than the FHSAA document, such as a Florida Department of Health form, will **NOT** be accepted.

Families in need of student accident insurance are encouraged to visit [www.healthykids.org](http://www.healthykids.org) to fulfill the requirement.

### **Student Eligibility**

All students are held to eligibility standards created by the FHSAA that may not be listed below. Oasis High School has the right to enhance but not diminish the current FHSAA eligibility requirements.

- For extramural competition, a high school student may be in any grade level 9 through 12.

- Students must try-out during the preseason try-out schedule before participating in athletic competition.
  - Students occupied by a previous season's sport schedule must make their intentions to try-out for a following season's sport schedule known through written notification to the head coach and Athletic Director prior to the conclusion of the try-out schedule or three school days, whichever is the latter of the two.
    - No students may be added to a competitive roster once the final roster has been posted or after the first scheduled competition.
- Students who have been internally or externally suspended or expelled from school are prohibited from extramural participation during the period of the suspension.
- Dependent upon infraction, the student may/may not be admitted back to their team upon completion of the suspension. This decision will be made by the coach and administration, the decision made will be final.
- Students must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 to be eligible for athletic participation during the current/following school semester/sport season.
  - A student, who begins the sport season ineligible, will remain ineligible throughout that entire sport's season.
    - A student may lose their eligibility mid-season should they fall below the required 2.0 GPA mark.
  - Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will receive a one-semester GPA grace period during their first semester as a student at Oasis High School.
  - Students must maintain a quarterly 2.0 GPA while in-season or face academic suspension.
    - It is the responsibility of the Coach and Athletic Director to certify that all participants have met the 2.0 grade point average requirement prior to the sport season and weekly throughout said season.
    - Mandatory grade checks will be conducted each week throughout the sport season.
    - The first check will be conducted on the Monday, one week prior, to the first scheduled competition
    - Grade checks will continue each week on the first day of the school week throughout the season.
    - Students who fall below a 2.0 GPA per the weekly grade check will be ineligible for all athletic events that transpire during the current school week – Monday through Friday.
    - Students will have an opportunity to regain their academic eligibility when a grade check is conducted the week following the academic suspension.
- A student may participate at the high school level until the age of 19 years 9 months.
  - A high school student will have four (4) years of consecutive eligibility. If the four (4) years of eligibility expires while a student is still in-season, he/she will be allowed to complete their sport's season but will not be eligible for the next sport season.
- Transfer students may be allowed to participate in athletic competition under certain circumstances set forth by the FHSAA. Notification needs to be made to the Athletic Director and Principal before arrangements are made or before the student is allowed to participate in any form of try-out/practice/competition.
- All students are subject to eligibility requirements set forth by the FHSAA not mentioned above.

## **Student Uniform, Attire and Equipment**

Athletes and their parents are responsible for Oasis equipment that is not turned back into the coach at the end of the season. Coaches will take inventory at the beginning and end of their season. Athletes will turn in all equipment and uniforms or be subject to school "fees and fines" unless the missing items are paid for by the individual.

- The replacement fee for any damaged or lost items will be two times (double) the initial purchase amount.
- All participants will wear appropriate clothing for their sport. The individual uniform will be specified in the description of each sport. Appropriate footwear must be worn in every sport dependent upon playing surface.

Student-athletes are allowed to wear a coordinated team t-shirt/spirit wear on **HOME GAME DAYS ONLY ONE GAME PER WEEK!**

- Team uniforms are never to be worn during school hours.
- Team t-shirt will be decided upon by the head coach (with input from the team should the coach decide). Regular school uniform shall be worn from the waist down.

## **Attendance: Practice, Competition and School**

Attendance at all scheduled practice sessions and competitions are mandatory, unless excused by the coach.

- A student must be in school a minimum of three (3) **full** blocks/periods or three-quarters of the school day in order to participate in an athletic event or practice scheduled for the same calendar day. An athlete must have an acceptable reason and/or pre-arranged absence such as illness of deficiencies in schoolwork or other obligations not reasonably anticipated by the athlete.
  - The Athletic Director and/or Principal have the authority to overrule the above attendance policy given the circumstances special to each situation.
  - Unexcused absences, many or few, from practice or competition may lead to a disciplinary measure or could lead to suspension/removal from the team which is determined by the Athletic Director and/or Head Coach.
- A late return to school from an away contest does not grant the student-athlete an excused absence from the following school day by the athletic department. Regardless of a late return, all student-athletes are expected to attend the following school day.
- Student-Athletes **MUST** achieve active participation throughout their daily academic schedule. This includes "dressing out" for PE and remaining attentive during classroom instruction.

## **Unsportsmanlike Behavior**

The conduct of any Oasis High School athlete shall be such as to bring no discredit to the athlete, parent(s), teammates, or school. Student-athletes are held to the highest of standards while representing Oasis both at home and as a guest of another school. This includes behavior and actions both on and off the playing field/court that are considered as acts of malicious or hateful in nature towards an official,

opponent, teammate, coach, spectator, or facility and will be subject to disciplinary measures or removal from a team.

- Student-athletes may not be allowed to practice with the team during any coach/Athletic Director determined suspension and will not be granted access to the team bus, bench, or uniform throughout said suspension.
  - Student-athletes removed by the coach, Athletic Director, or Administration may not be granted access to any or all remaining team functions (i.e. practice, contest, ceremonies, assemblies)
- A student's classroom behavior will be dealt with on a *per incident* basis by School Administration, and discipline received may or may not have an impact on student-athlete activities.
  - Students may or may not receive additional discipline from a coach if action from School Administration is assigned.
    - Discipline may include additional team maintenance duties and/or the suspension from practice and/or scheduled contests.
    - In the unfortunate event that an Oasis HS student-athlete receives and unsportsmanlike conduct behavior penalty/foul during a sanctioned contest to which Oasis HS is subsequently levied a fine from the FHSA, it is the responsibility of the student-athlete and/or his/her family to satisfy the payment of the imposed fine.

### **Fulfilling a Commitment**

In the event that two sport seasons should overlap (fall winter or winter spring) each student-athlete will be given an opportunity to participate in the preceding sport tryout process. Once the preceding sport season has concluded, there will be a separate tryout for the preceding sport held specifically for the student-athletes that were unable to attend original tryouts due to participation in previous season sport.

### **Quitting a Sport**

If an athlete decides to quit a sport after the first scheduled contest, he/she **must** meet with and give a written explanation to the coach *and* athletic director.

- Should a student decide to quit a sport after the first two (2) weeks of practice, as designated by the coach's schedule, he/she would be ineligible for any other sport already in progress as well as the following sports season (i.e. fall, winter, spring).
- Students must decide between two sports that share the same sports season.

### **Playing Time**

During regular and postseason competition all athletes will not receive the same amount of playing time, if playing time at all. All coaches want their student-athletes to receive playing time; however, there is no guarantee of playing time in any particular competition with High School Athletics as is the case in youth programs.

Any conversation about playing time should be held between the student-athlete and the coach. Any conversation initiated by the parent is inappropriate and should be reserved for the student-athlete to present to the head coach.

## **Varsity Awards**

Each head coach will create the criteria specific to their team which is necessary for a student-athlete to acquire a varsity letter each season. These criteria may vary from team to team and season to season. Upon completion of a student-athlete's first varsity season, they shall receive a varsity "O" letter, given all criteria created by the coach is met. Students participating on sub-varsity teams are not eligible for a varsity "O".

- JV Participant: Certificate of Recognition
- First Varsity Sport: Certificate of Recognition, chenille letter, and sport-specific pin
- Second Varsity Sport: Certificate of Recognition and sport-specific pin

Varsity Letterman jackets can be purchased through the Athletic Department via the Athletics website.

- Students, who do not finish a season, do not follow team rules/policies, or lose academic eligibility are not eligible for a varsity letter at the awards ceremony.

## **PARENT/COACH RELATIONSHIP**

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to children. As a parent, when your child becomes involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on him/her. Clear communication from the coach is imperative.

### **Communication Expected from Coach to Parents**

- Coaches' philosophy
- Expectations for your child as well as the entire team
- Locations and times of all practices and contests
- Team requirements (such as special equipment, off-season workouts, etc.)
- Procedures to follow in case of an injury
- Discipline that will result in denial of participation

### **Communication Expected from Parent to Coach**

- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance (i.e. college visit).
- Specific concerns regarding expectations
- Specific concerns regarding your child's health

As your child becomes involved in the programs at Oasis High School, he/she will experience some of the most rewarding moments in his/her life. It is important to understand that there may be times when events, situations, or rulings will not go the way you or your child wish. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

### **Appropriate issues to discuss with the coach**

Treatment of your child either mentally and/or physically

- Ways to help your child improve
- Concerns about your child's behavior

It is very difficult to accept if your child does not play as much as you would like. Coaches are professionals. They make decisions based on what they believe to be best for the team/program. The above list itemizes topics that can and should be discussed with the coaches. Other items, such as those listed below, must be left to the coaches' discretion.

### **Issues NOT Appropriate to Discuss with the Coach**

- Playing time
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student-athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. Conferences are encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position.

### **Guidelines**

Email the head coach. Parents should always give the head coach an opportunity to address the concern before administration is contacted. Contacting the assistant coach will make your displeasure known but the ultimate chance at resolution lies with the head coach as all major team-related decisions are his/hers to make. If the coach does not return communication within twenty-four (24) hours, contact the Athletic Department. **DO NOT** attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or a practice! These can be emotional times for both the parent and coach. Meetings of this nature generally do not promote resolution.

### **Unsatisfactory Resolution**

Please call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation. At this meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined. If the situation is still unresolved, a meeting can be arranged with the Principal, Athletic Director, and coach.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Oasis buses will be used to transport student-athletes to the majority of home and away contests. It is Oasis High School policy that all students travel to their interscholastic competitions as a team. Students are to maintain proper behavior while traveling to and from competition.

- All students are required to utilize school-provided bus transportation to all athletic contests per Lee County Policy.

- If a parent chooses to transport their own child home after the contest has concluded, it is **MANDATORY**, for the child's safety, that the parent sign out the student-athlete through the coach prior to departure.
- Students who wish to transport themselves to and from athletic practices or from an away contest **MUST** have an Oasis Athletics Transportation Waiver signed by a parent/guardian before personal transportation is allowed.
- Notification is necessary when parents are transporting more than their own child home from an athletic competition.
- It is vital that parents be on time when picking up their child from Oasis High School following an away competition. Students are informed to contact parents in route to Oasis HS in order to ensure a quick departure for both coaches and athletes.
  - Failure to pick up your child in a timely manner after two consecutive away competitions may result in a one-game suspension for the student during the next scheduled away contest.

### TICKET AND ADMISSION INFORMATION

There is a \$5.00 admission to all OHS home games for anyone attending games.

Shark Tank Gate Admission: Adults: \$5.00; Students: \$5.00

Home football games at Caloosa Middle: Adults: \$5.00; Students: \$5.00

- No charge for children 4 and under, but they **must** sit with a parent!
- No charge for senior citizens age 65 and above.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer hours will not be granted at the gate. Parents are encouraged to visit the Oasis Athletic Department website volunteer opportunities for their chance to get involved.

<http://www.oasishighschool.net/athletic-department-volunteers>

### SOCIAL MEDIA

Coaches are not permitted to text message one on one with a student-athlete, and in return, a student should not be sending text messages to a coach. However, coaches may send text messages to a group of students to inform the "group" of last-minute changes and updates to practice schedules, bus departures, and pertinent game information.

The Athletic Department maintains Facebook and Twitter feeds to keep parents and students connected to their athletic department. Periodically scheduled updates and announcements will be posted to these social media outlets.

- Facebook: **Oasis HS Athletics**
- Twitter: **OasisHS\_AD**

## Athletic Clearance

- Oasis High School Athletic department will be using athletic clearance starting June 1, 2021.
- As of June 1, 2021, we will not be accepting hard copy forms, we will only be accepting digital forms through athletic clearance. This is found on our website under the athletics portal.
- If you have updated paperwork before June 1, 2021 for the next school year, please submit it through the digital format of athletic clearance.

### ATHLETIC PROGRAMS OFFERED AT OASIS HIGH SCHOOL

#### BOYS

Football  
Cross Country  
Golf  
Wrestling  
Swimming & Diving  
Basketball  
Soccer  
Tennis  
Track & Field  
Baseball  
Bowling

#### GIRLS

Volleyball  
Cross Country  
Golf  
Swimming & Diving  
Basketball  
Soccer  
Tennis  
Track & Field  
Softball  
Bowling  
Cheerleading  
Wrestling

By signing below, you understand and agree to the guidelines for athletic participation at Oasis High School.

Athlete Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_