Rivergate's Interschool Sports Policy and Contract

Rivergate Adventist Elementary is a Seventh-Day Adventist school participating in the Metro Christian League. Students can choose to participate in the seasonal sports of Volleyball, Soccer, Basketball, and Track and Field. Rivergate is committed to a strong interscholastic activities program for all students.

Motto: Learning, Loving, Sharing, Serving

Vision: Rivergate Adventist Elementary values the life of Christ as a true compass, guiding the academic, spiritual and physical growth of students; with the goal of building a personal relationship with God, sharing Him and serving others.

Mission: Together with the caring partnership of parents, faculty, and local churches, it is the mission of Rivergate Adventist Elementary to educate students in the truth of God's word in every area of instruction and activity, so they can share God with others and live eternally for Him.

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

Purpose of Interschool Sports is:

1. To provide a successful Interschool Sports Program with Christ-centered leadership that guides our school, players, and spectators in activities that uphold Christian values.
2. Intentionally teach sportsmanship, ethical conduct, teamwork, and fair play in a Christ centered environment.
3. To advance spiritual, physical, mental, moral and social development as it relates to sports activities and the growth of an individual player and of an entire team.
4. To emphasize the relationship between sports and academic curriculum in the well-balanced growth of a student.
5. To teach the values of playing/performing fairly while upholding our Vision and Mission.
6. To respect the integrity and judgment of officials.
7. To show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and fans.

Communication Chain:

If you have concerns, please communicate in this order:

1st Athletic Director (AD)
2nd Principal
3rd School Board Chair

All team members are constantly in the public eye. They are viewed both by Rivergate community and the other school's communities. It is important that all staff and athletes represent Rivergate's high standards at all times including pre-game, game time, and post-game.

Coaches and Supporting Staff:

1. Coaches and staff will uphold Christ-like behavior at all times, supporting the Mission and Values of the school through mentorship and have a passion for helping students grow in character through sports. All team events should start and end with prayer or worship.
2. Coaches and staff will abide by the Coaches Guidelines reviewed with the Athletic Director.
3. Coaches will complete "Coaching Distinctively Adventist Sports" from the following link: https://www.adventistlearningcommunity.com/courses/coaching-distinctively-adventist-sports . Copies of completion certificates need to be on file at the school.
4. Coaches will complete the online Safe Schools First Aid & CPR classes. https://oregonconference-or.safeschools.com (Contact Fawn Fahrer for assistance and login info. 503-850-3551 fawn.fahrer@oc.npuc.org)
5. Coaches will do their best to respect time commitments outlined in the sports schedule. Any variations to the posted sports schedule will be communicated 48 hours in advance to parents and staff via established communication tools by approved Coach, AD, or school staff (if applicable).
6. Coaches will respect and maintain school equipment, property, policies and procedures.

All practices and games are mandatory attendance. Exceptions can be made if advance communication is had with Athletic Director and Head Coach of participating sport. Optional events (Open Gyms, etc…) are not mandatory, just highly recommended, unless specified by your coach. As an athlete, you are expected to put forth 100% effort and 100% participation toward the team's objective. As a parent/guardian, you are expected to help your athlete to achieve the participation and attendance objective.

Student Athlete's Eligibility:

1. A student must maintain a passing grade in all of their classes during the sports season that they are participating in.
2. A student who is not passing, will need to collaborate with the teacher and Athletic Director to achieve academic success.
3. A student that is absent from school or unable to participate in P.E. class due to health reasons may not participate in a sporting event held on that same day.
4. A student athlete's paperwork and dues must be current to be eligible to participate in each sport.
5. Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated and will affect a student's eligibility for future participation.
6. Student Athlete must be enrolled at Rivergate. Exceptions are as follows:
    a. Student Athlete is a participant of a qualified home-school program
    b. Student Athlete does not have access to an organized sports program at their school and has an association with Rivergate.
    c. Student Athlete's school does not have a sports program that excludes Sabbath activities
7. A student enrolled in Kindergarten may participate in 1st and 2nd grade sports. An eligible student enrolled in 4th grade may participate in a 5th and 6th grade sport. An eligible 5th or 6th grader may participate in a Junior High Sports (5th graders must receive approval from the Athletic Director prior to participation), as long as it doesn't conflict with a sport in their current grade level. All others are not eligible to participate in a higher grade level.

Expectations for Spectators:

1. Spectators must reflect Christ-centered behavior in their conduct at all times. (i.e. No Booing, no taunting, no negative gestures or negative comments directed to athletes, officials, or spectators)
2. Spectators are encouraged to follow the Sportsmanship Code posted in the gym. *(Will put this up when we receive it.)*
3. Student spectators must be properly supervised by an appropriate adult.
4. Spectators must not abuse any players or court/field officials.
5. Spectators should applaud good play by either side.
6. Areas used by spectators should be left free of litter.

Scheduling:

Our guidelines for total time students invest for the team per week is according to the grade level of the students. Travel departure and return times along with Games times are listed on schedules. Any variations to the posted sports schedule will be communicated 48 hours in advance to parents and staff via established communication tools by approved Coach, AD, or school staff (if applicable)

ABL – 2 Days a week (up to 75 minute practices)

Grades 3-6 – 2 to 3 Days a week (up to 90 minute practices)

Jr. High – 3 to 4 Days a week (up to 105 minute practices)

Transportation:

Transportation for after-school sports is provided on a volunteer basis by parents or friends of the school. All drivers must be 21 years of age with a current driver's license suitable for the vehicle they will be driving. Proof of insurance is required. They should have no at fault accidents during the past three (3) years, and they should not have had more than two (2) traffic citations during the past three (3) years. In accordance with Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventist, all volunteers must complete an **Oregon Conference Volunteer Ministry Information Form** and a **Private Transportation Driver Insurance** Form and receive approval in order to participate in driving for school events.

The lawful seatbelt policy is strictly enforced. Effective July 2007, Oregon law (ORS 811.210 to 811.225) requires child safety seats until children reach eight years of age or 4'9". School policy is that students age 12 and under are not permitted to sit in a front seat, regardless of whether there is an air bag present or not. Our policy does not allow staff or students to be transported in the back of pickups/trucks. Drivers are not allowed to carry unauthorized passengers.

We do appreciate the generosity of those willing to drive and transport students to and from events. Please keep in mind that drivers are required to adhere to approved routes and stopping for personal business is prohibited.

Uniforms:

Uniforms will be checked out to each player at the beginning of the season. Players are responsible for their uniforms from the time they are checked out until the uniforms are checked in at the end of the season. Uniforms will not be handed out to a player until dues are taken care of and forms are completed and turned in. Players are not allowed to participate in a game if they do not have all the

needed gear to play. **Uniforms also have to be returned by the deadline. The Uniform return deadline is 7 days past the last team event or listed Deadline on Athletic Calendar.** Please read the care instructions before washing. All uniforms must be washed in cold water. Do not use bleach. Please contact Athletic Director regarding questions on uniforms.

Uniforms will be provided by the school. Pieces that players/parents must provide are listed below per sport (note coaches may recommend additional items):

- Volleyball – Knee pads, shorts that cover upper 3/4th of leg above the knee, shoes, socks, water bottle
- Soccer – shorts that cover upper 3/4th of leg above the knee, cleats, shin guards, water bottle
- Basketball – shoes, socks, water bottle
- ABL Basketball – shoes, socks, shorts that cover upper 3/4th of leg above the knee, water bottle
- Track and Field – shoes, socks, shorts that cover upper 3/4th of leg above the knee, water bottle

Athletic Dues:

Rivergate's athletic program operates on donations, fundraisers and dues to help pay for expenses. Consequently, all students selected for a school team are required to pay dues to cover Athletic expenses.

- Jr High Volleyball - $110.00
- 5th/6th Volleyball - $80.00
- Jr High Soccer - $110.00
- 5th/6th Soccer - $85.00
- 3rd/4th Soccer - $75.00
- Jr High Basketball - $110
- 5th/6th Basketball - $85
- K-5th Adventist Basketball League – TBD (paid to PAA and includes uniform shirt)
- Jr High Track and Field - $75 (Includes track shirt)

Note: $50 Matriculation Fee for non-Rivergate Enrolled Students

Team-Specific Principles:

All K-6 sports are developmental and recreational.

Jr. High sports is competitive with a pre-determined max size of team that may be determined with a placement assessment and a pre-determined final roster posting date (per sport):

Volleyball – 12 team-members with roster cutoff date 14 days prior to first match

Soccer – 16 team-members with roster cutoff date 14 days prior to first game.

Jr High Basketball – 13 team-members with roster cutoff date 30 days prior to first game.

All other Basketball – 13 team-members with roster cutoff date 14 days prior to first game.

Track & Field – Unlimited team-members with roster cutoff date 14 days prior to first meet.

Note: In the event of an over-abundance of sign-ups, then a skills assessment will determine the final roster. Alternates from a lower grade may be considered if necessary, to fill the roster. Exceptions can be made for newly enrolled students.

Philosophy and Structure of different sport by sport and grade:

- **Volleyball**
  - $5^{th}/6^{th}$ Volleyball – Develop the necessary skills to play the basic game of volleyball, serving, passing, movement, teamwork and rules in a Christ-centered Sportsmanship environment. A balance of playing time for all is the goal. This level does not track league win/loss and does not have playoffs or championship.
  - Jr/High Volleyball – Continue with the skills of $5^{th}/6^{th}$, but adding goals of three hits, control, higher competitiveness. Generate a love for the game for the entire team, building relationship with God, teammates and school. Maintaining an environment that is Christ-centered and sportsmanship minded. The goal is to optimize each athletes' potential through practice and play to prepare each athlete for the next level of play (high-school). Playing time is a goal for all athletes to optimize the success and efforts of each individual athlete and team. A balance of playing time for all is the goal. Taking opportunity to have as many positive/teachable moments as possible not only as an athlete but as a Christian. This level does keep track of win/loss and does have post-season playoffs and a championship.
- **Soccer**
  - $3^{rd}/4^{th}$ Coed – Learn the basic skills and fundamentals of the game with focus of all participating and having fun in a Christ-centered sportsmanship environment with no focus on win/loss or scores. All while building a love for the game. A balance of playing time for all is the goal.
  - $5^{th}/6^{th}$ Coed – Continue to build and develop the skills and fundamentals of the game through practice and play in a Christ-centered sportsmanship environment. Starting to fine tune the skills and athleticism of the game. There is no tracking of win/loss and no post season, so field-time for all athletes is a goal. A balance of playing time for all is the goal.
  - $7^{th}/8^{th}$ Coed – Take the skills and fundamentals learned in prior years and dialing them in. Maintaining an environment that is Christ-centered and sportsmanship minded. The goal is to optimize each athlete's potential through practice and play to prepare each athlete for the next level of play (high-school). Playing time is a goal for all athletes to optimize the success and efforts of each individual athlete and team. Taking opportunity to have as many positive/teachable moments as possible not only as an athlete but as a Christian. This level does keep track of win/loss and does have post-season playoffs and a championship.
- **Basketball**
  - ABL 1-2 Coed – In a Christ-centered environment the goal is to learn the basics of the game, teamwork, passing, shooting, dribbling while having fun. No scores are kept; no fouls are kept. Subs are made every 4 minutes to allow for all to get playing time. All while building a love for the game.
  - ABL 3-5 Girls and Boys – In a Christ-centered environment, continue developing the fundamentals of the game, building teamwork and building skill. Scores are kept, but reset at halftime. No win/loss or post season. Subs are made every 4 minutes to allow for all to get playing time. Court-time is a goal.

- $5^{th}/6^{th}$ Girls and Boys – Continue developing the necessary skills to play the game of basketball by building fundamentals and teamwork in a Christ-centered environment. There is no win/loss tracked in the league, so court-time is a goal for all. A balance of playing time for all is the goal. There is no post-season, playoffs, or championships.
- $7^{th}/8^{th}$ Girls and Boys – Take the skills and fundamentals learned with $5^{th}/6^{th}$ basketball and continue to develop those skills and fundamentals in a Christ-centered environment with a higher level of competitiveness while maintaining sportsmanship. The goal is to optimize each athlete's potential through practice and game-play preparing them for the next level (high-school). Playing time is a goal for all athletes to optimize the success and efforts of each individual athlete and team. A balance of playing time for all is the goal. Taking opportunity to have as many positive/teachable moments as possible not only as an athlete but as a Christian. This level does keep track of win/loss and does have post-season playoffs and a championship.

- **Track & Field**
  - Jr High – Build and develop the necessary skills to participate in track and field events with a Christ-centered sportsmanship mentality. Fine tune focus, skills, and strength to grow mentally and physically. There are post-season opportunities, both individually and as a team. So optimizing each athletics potential is important to participate in the post-season.

- **Hosting a Visiting Team:**
  1. We want to treat visiting teams as our special guests. We have invited them to participate in a game on our campus and want to show them courtesy and respect.
  2. Well in advance of the event, we will send parking info, gym location, and game information. Signage clearly marks the restrooms.
  3. First aid kits are available in the gym closet and on the soccer field. An AED is available outside the gym.
  4. One or more of our staff will welcome visiting teams and their coaches. An AOD (Administrator On Duty) will be present at Home games.
  5. Teams are responsible for their own refreshments but water is available at our drinking fountains.
  6. Prayer is said with visiting teams unless prior determination has been made that this would be offensive to the visiting team's faith tradition.

- **Communication:**
  1. The Interschool Sports calendar on the Rivergate Adventist Elementary website is kept current and updated as soon as a change is communicated between coaches and refs.
  2. The AD emails out weekly instructions and directions as well as calendar corrections to all the other AD's and coaches. These instructions provide parking information, gym location and game information.
  3. The weekly newsletter clearly highlights the sports dates and times for the following week and encourages parents to always check the website calendar for any changes.

Acknowledgement of Rivergate Sports Contract

I hereby grant permission for my child, _____, to participate in the Rivergate after school program. I acknowledge there are inherent risks involved in the sport due to the physical nature of the sport and assume responsibility for those risks. I acknowledge and uphold the standards listed in the above documentation. I hereby grant permission for my child, _____, to ride in a privately owned vehicle for sporting activities.

_____

Participating Sport (Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, etc….)

_____

Student Athlete (Printed Name, Signature and Date)

_____

Parent or Guardian (Printed Name, Signature and Date)

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