

L A H A  
Lapeer Area Homeschool Athletes

**LAPEER LAKERS**  
**Athletic Handbook**  
**2021-2022**

**FORWARD**

The intent of this handbook is to provide the Board of Directors, coaches, athletes, and parents with the policies and procedures of LAHA.

LAHA is a volunteer organization. The Board of Directors and coaches are volunteering their time. **Parents are strongly encouraged to look for opportunities to serve.**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

We will strive to provide excellence in sports as a means to develop Godly character and excellence as individuals and teams as we seek to honor the Lord Jesus Christ.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chair.....TBD  
Vice-Chair.....Penny Ford  
Secretary.....Darlene Hamblin  
Treasurer.....Nancy Campbell  
Athletic Coordinator (non-voting position).....Don Roehl

Voting Board Members: Sue Roehl, Brad DeLange, Kellie DeLange, Jeremy Fultz, Mark Campbell, Rob Olejnik, & Amanda Olejnik

## **L.A.H.A. Foundational Principles**

The Bible is the word of God without error in the original manuscripts, as such it is authoritative for faith and practice. (2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21)

The God of the Bible is the one true God, eternally and equally existent in three persons; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. (John 10:30, 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Peter 1:2)

Man was created in the image of God. Through man's sin, he was separated from God becoming spiritually dead. He is made spiritually alive and reconciled to God by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. (Genesis 1:26-27; Gen 2:17; 2 Cor 15:22; John 3:16; Eph 2:1-9)

**Therefore we will strive to follow Christian ideals for our families and athletes as express in these few samples of scripture:**

Matt 22:36-40: "Teacher, which is the Great commandment in the Law?" and he said to him, "You shall love the Lord Your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment, And a second is like it: You shall love Your neighbor as yourself On these two commandments depend all the Law and The Prophets"

Colossians 3:12-15: Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And the let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful."

## **Objectives**

1. To glorify God through the use of His gifts to us
2. To strive toward excellence
3. To instill in the players sportsmanship and respect to players, coaches, fans, and officials
4. To develop each student's individual and team skills and strategies, as well as an understanding of different roles in team make-up

5. 5. To provide a Christian environment for players and be a Christian witness to teams, officials and spectators home and away.

### **Age and Play time Guidelines**

All players must be 18 years or under on or before Sept.1st.

There is not a set minimum age to participate on our teams.

The Coaches/Sports Directors/parents will determine if younger players are at a level which will make it safe and enjoyable for them to be on the team.

A Coach/Sports Director may find a younger player is not challenged at their age group and could be moved up to a higher aged team. A coach will always discuss this with the parents.

We will not move players to an older age group if it leaves the younger team without enough players.

Some players throughout the season may play for more than one aged team that they qualify. They will have a primary team and a backup team that they help when needed.

It is our desire to have parents requests honored especially when siblings or friends who ride together are involved, but again we can only do this if each team has enough players.

While coaches are encouraged and trained to find adequate play time for all players, there is no requirement on a coach to play every player each game. Some games may lend themselves to more play time for the less experienced players and some games will not.

### **Academic Eligibility**

Parents or legal guardians will be responsible for determining academic eligibility. They are asked to keep coaches informed of possible change in their students' eligibility. Birth certificates may be required for some sports/tournaments.

#### **Definition of a HomeSchool Student-Athlete** (defined by the NCHC)

"Homeschooling" is defined to mean that a student's education is parent-directed.

As such, the parents shall be involved in their child's education by assuming the role of principal or headmaster, thereby (1) setting the date and requirements for high school graduation; (2) selecting and approving course materials and study schedules; and (3) selecting tutors, correspondence courses, videos,

computer courses, and similar resources for their child's education. Homeschooling would also include the person of legal responsibility\* of the student filling the role of a parent.

If a player does not meet all the requirements they may fill out a Hardships Exemption Form to request a exemption.

### The Role of Outside Institutions

**Private and Public Schools** Full-time enrollment in a traditional public or private school is not homeschooling because the child's education in such schools is not parent-directed. A player that attends a private, public, charter, or university-model school full-time is not eligible in HomeSchool divisions. For part-time students at these types of schools, the student must maintain at least 51% of his/her education from classes that meet the homeschooling definition.

**Co-op and Umbrella Schools** The participation in a cooperative school, and/or an umbrella school can create some questions. In some states, "Homeschool students" are required by law to attend a private school and, in such cases, cooperative or umbrella schools are formed for this purpose. These schools, whether called cooperative, umbrella, or "private," are characterized by significant and direct parental involvement, often simply representing different forms of homeschooling within a group of like-minded families. In such cases where the student-athlete meets the definition of homeschooling and is involved in a coop and umbrellas school, he/she is deemed eligible by the NCHC.

**Vocational Classes** Homeschool students are permitted to take classes at vocational schools. A student may take classes at such schools as long as he/she maintains at least 51% of his education from classes that meet the homeschooling definition.

**51% Rule** For clarification purposes, a normal course load for a full-time student is six (6) core courses; therefore, if a student-athlete is taking more than three (3) courses at a public, private, or vocational, he/she is not considered 51% homeschooled. If there are special circumstances, a student may apply for a hardship exemption.

### Dual Credit/Enrollment Clause

Freshman, Sophomore, & Junior Homeschool Student-Athletes that are taking advantage of Dual Credit/Enrollment Programs are required to take a minimum of three (3) High School Courses per semester. Senior Homeschool Student-Athletes that are taking advantage of Dual Credit/Enrollment Programs are required to take a minimum of two (2) High School Courses per semester. High School Courses can be electives (like Physical Education, etc.) High School Courses can be

taken through Co-Ops or any other eligible parent directed definition.

**Minimum for all levels unless otherwise noted**

Girls/Boys Soccer – 14

Girls Volleyball – 7

Girls/Boys Basketball – 7

Baseball-11

The Sports Director will oversee registrations. If there are not enough athletes to field a team and it is not financially feasible, it will be up to the Sport Directors discretion whether to field that particular team. Cuts may be made at coaches discretion.

**FUNDRAISING**

In order to keep our costs low, players may be asked to participate in fundraising. We do not have a requirement to participate, but the costs of tournaments, warmups, travel, etc. are costs above and beyond what the registration fee is expected to cover, you will be required to pay any costs for these above the amount raised through fundraising. Most fundraising is done on a 70/30% split between the individual receiving (70%) for their families personal expenses for tournaments, travel, etc. and the organization (30%) to offset our organizational costs. We see fundraising as an opportunity to develop team relationships, develop life skills and expand the L.A.H.A. sports program.

**RESOLVING CONFLICT**

Recognizing the unique relationship of L.A.H.A. and their desire to uphold the family structure, we submit the following biblical model to be adhered to concerning any conflict:

1. If anyone has a complaint against another, he should go to that Person to work out the grievance (Matthew 18:15)
2. If the offended party (parent, student, coach) is not satisfied with the response, the grievance should then be taken to the Athletic Director.
3. If the problem is not able to be resolved, the matter should then be brought before the Board of Directors. All decision of the Board of Directors will be final.

**PLAYER/COACH/PARENT/SPECTATOR CODE OF BEHAVIOR**

**Player Code of Behavior**

As a player, I will aspire to:

- Be Christ-like in my attitude, showing respect to coaches, teammates and referees.
- Understand and utilize the proper conflict resolution when questioning referee decisions
- Have a positive, encouraging and coachable attitude

- Try my best to work hard at all times, applying what is being taught
- You are making a commitment to be at practices and games. You are part of a team.**

### **Coach Code of Behavior**

As a coach, I will aspire to:

- Be Christ-like in my attitude to players, coaches, parents and referees
- Not be demeaning or degrade the referee under any circumstance
- Do my best to develop Godly character in all players
- Do my best to make the players learning and playing experience fun while competitive

**Violation of one or more of the above player and coaches codes is grounds for discipline, resulting in either possible suspension or dismissal from the team. All decision of the Board of Directors are FINAL.**

### **Parent Code of Behavior**

As a parent, I will aspire to:

- Be positive in attitude toward my child's sport and emphasize the cooperative nature of the sport
- Encourage hard work and honest effort that will lead to improved performance and participation
- Encourage and respect referees/officials and coaches decisions
- Encourage athletes to participate for their own satisfaction and enjoyment
- Applaud fair play and good play during games and/or matches
- Be supportive of all attempts to remove verbal and/or physical abuse from L.A.H.A. sports, including language
- Supervise younger siblings that may be in attendance. Remember, we are only visitors  
In the building we are using

### **Spectator Code of Behavior**

As a spectator, I will aspire to:

- Respect the rights of others and treat the visiting team and their spectators courteously
- Cheer positively for my team, rather than against them or their opponents, using Christ-honoring language
- Respect the integrity and judgment of the officials and coaches without taunting  
Or approaching them between games or at the end of the match
- Applaud good performances by all teams
- Discourage all forms of violent behavior
- Use litter receptacles to properly dispose of trash

## **REQUIRED FORMS and PAYMENT**

**ALL PRIOR UNPAID FEES MUST BE PAID IN FULL PRIOR TO PARTICIPATING IN NEXT SPORT SEASON UNLESS A PAYMENT PLAN HAS BEEN APPROVED WITH THE SPORTS DIRECTOR.  
UNIFORM FEES MUST BE PAID BEFORE ORDERING.**

Contact the Sports Director to discuss payment options if needed.

**All forms must be filled out, signed and turned in to the respective coach before any athlete will be allowed to practice or play. Bring all forms printed and signed to PARENT MEETING prior to practices starting or email to LAHA.**

1. **REGISTRAION FORM**
  2. **RELEASE OF LIABILITY FORM**
  3. **LAHA CONDUCT CONTRACT**
  4. **CONCUSSION FORM**
- LAHA ATHLETE/PARENT/COACH CONDUCT CONTRACT**

We have received, read and understand the Athletic Handbook of LAHA (Lapeer Area Homeschool Athletes). We agree to abide by the policies and procedures as listed in the handbook. We further acknowledge the Board of Directors authority to implement the observance of these policies.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent(s) Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Athlete's Signature (may include all athletes in same family)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**PARTICIPANT/ATHLETE UNDERSTANDING OF RISK**

I understand the seriousness of the risks involved in participating in this program, my personal responsibilities for adhering to rules and regulation, and accept them as a participant.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's/Athelete's name (may include all children in same household)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGN NAME)

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

RELEASE OF LIABILITY FOR MINOR PARTICIPANTS  
READ BEFORE SIGNING

IN CONSIDERATION OF \_\_\_\_\_, my child/ward,  
being allowed to \_\_\_\_\_ ( Name Of Minor Child/Ward)  
participate in any way in LAHA Lapeer Area Homeschool Athletes related events and  
activities, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

1. The risk of injury to my child/ward from the activities involved in these programs is significant, including the potential for permanent disability and death, and while particular rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and,
2. I FOR MYSELF, SPOUSE, AND CHILD/WARD, KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my child/ward's participation; and,
3. I willingly agree to comply with the program's stated and customary terms and conditions for participation. If I observe any unusual significant concern in my child/ward's readiness for participation and/or in the program itself, I will remove my child/ward from the participation and bring such attention of the nearest official immediately; and,
4. I for myself, my spouse, my child/ward, and on behalf of my/our heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS LAHA Lapeer Area Homeschool Athletes; its directors, officers, officials, agents, employees, volunteers, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event ("Releasees"), WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property incident to my child/ward's involvement or participation in these programs, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.
5. I, for myself, my spouse, my child's/ward, and on behalf of my/our heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS all the above Releasees from any and all liabilities incident to my child's/ward involvement or participation in these programs, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THEIR NEGLIGENCE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.



\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME) (PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE) (PARENT/GUARDIAN PRINT

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_