

Taber Christian High School



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**Athletics Handbook
2024/2025**

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Governing Bodies:

In participating in athletics at Taber Christian High School, students are participating in inter-school athletics, and in doing so are representing the following organizations:



**Southern Alberta
Schools' Athletic Association
(SASAA)**

Taber Christian High School Mission Statement:

Our mission is to provide a Christian educational environment in the community of Taber, which uses biblical teaching to prepare all students to reach their full potential, so they can serve God and others with a Christ-like attitude.

Statement of Philosophy:

The athletic program at Taber Christian High School provides athletes, coaches, parents, and volunteers the opportunity to develop their unique God-given talents and abilities. In participating in inter-school athletics under the Alberta School's Athletic Association, our athletes, coaches, and volunteers are committing to positively represent our school and community.

In doing so, we are committed to developing people of character, integrity, and responsibility who use their gifts and abilities to serve God, others, and themselves. It is our desire that through our athletics program, students, parents, community members will see God's magnificent handiwork, and that we will demonstrate the profound love that we have for God and others. We are not ashamed of who we are in Christ (Romans 1:16), and it is our desire that we will boldly live out our faith within and outside of athletic competition.

Interschool athletics are created for the purpose of enjoyment and are designed to be fun for all involved. It is our deep hope that through our athletics program, that we will experience and demonstrate the inexpressible and glorious joy that we have in Christ (1 Peter 1: 8-9), positively reflecting our magnificent, mighty, and glorious Redeemer.

The Logo



Students at Taber Christian High School designed and created the Lions logo during its first school year, 2020-2021. In doing so, they wrote the following:

"The logo portrays that we are a strong and courageous community of Christ. The colour gold represents glory, foundation, Christ's divinity and courage. The colour black represents revelation. The lion represents that we have the Lord living within us. The shield draws our connection to Taber Christian School, the Guardians".

~ Jennifer Giesbrecht and Sara Froesse

Core Values:

Through participation in athletics at Taber Christian High School, we will foster and develop our identity in Christ using the following core values as outlined below in the **BOLD** principle.

B Brave in the face of adversity

“The wicked flee though no one pursues, but the righteous are as bold as a lion.”

~ Proverbs 28:1

O Obedient to God’s call

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

~ 1 Peter 4:10-11

L Love others unconditionally

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

~ 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

D Devoted to one another

“Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”

~ Romans 12:10-12

Athletic Program Offerings

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. X-Country: Available for students in grades 9-12 | <i>September-October</i> |
| 2. Golf: Available for students in grades 10-12 | <i>September</i> |
| 3. Volleyball: | <i>September- November</i> |
| a. Tier 1- Available for students in grade 9 | |
| b. Junior Varsity- Available for students in grades 9,10, and 11 | |
| c. Senior Varsity- Available for students in grades 10-12 | |
| 4. Basketball: | <i>November-March</i> |
| a. Tier 1- Available for students in grade 9 | |
| b. Junior Varsity- Available for students in grades 9,10 and 11 | |
| c. Senior Varsity- Available for students in grades 9-12 | |
| 5. Curling: Available for students in grades 10-12 | <i>December-February</i> |
| 6. Badminton: Available for students in grades 9-12 | <i>March-May</i> |
| 7. Track and Field: Available for students in grades 9-12 | <i>April-June</i> |

*Athletic Program Offerings are subject to change based on student numbers and coaching availability

Awards & Recognition

1. Athletes who attend and compete at Taber Christian High School will be considered eligible for student awards. Awards were designed and are given to reward hard work, recognize character, and continue growing our school's mission and vision.

Team Fees

Team fees will follow the following structure:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. X- Country | <i>School Covers Cost</i> |
| 2. Golf | <i>School Covers Cost</i> |
| 3. Volleyball | <i>JV- \$200, SV- \$200</i> |
| 4. Basketball | <i>JV- \$200, SV- \$200</i> |
| 5. Curling | <i>\$50</i> |
| 6. Badminton | <i>\$50</i> |
| 7. Track and Field | <i>School Covers Cost</i> |

Volunteer Requirements

In order for the Taber Christian High School athletic program to flourish, athletes and parents are required to help volunteer at games, tournaments, athletic fundraisers, and other athletic events.

1. Volleyball
 - a. Athletes are required to volunteer a minimum of 4 hours
 - b. Parents are required to volunteer a minimum of 4 hours

2. Basketball
 - a. Athletes are required to volunteer a minimum of 6 hours
 - b. Parents are required volunteer a minimum of 6 hours
3. Badminton
 - a. Athletes are required to volunteer a minimum of 2 hours
 - b. Parents are required to volunteer a minimum of 2 hours

Team Selection

1. Teams shall be selected based on the discretion of the head coach with the advice of the athletic director.
2. Taber Christian High School reserves the right to form co-joint teams under ASAA policy with other schools due to limited student interest
3. Students that join TCHS teams (where TCHS is the primary school) are under the same Positive Behavior plan policy and Student Code of Conduct as TCHS students.
4. Students from TCHS that join other school teams (where TCHS is the secondary school) are still under the TCHS Positive Behavior plan policy.

**Students that would like to appeal a decision based on the policy above, must first do so to the TCHS Athletic Director. The TCHS principal may become involved depending on the situation.*

5. Volleyball:
 - a. Teams are limited to 15 players on their official roster
 - b. Teams must have a minimum of 8 players
 - c. Coaches have the right and the ability to only select fewer players than 15
 - d. Coaches have the right to select red shirt players for their practices which may include players who are competing on a lower tier
6. Basketball:
 - a. Teams are limited to 15 players on their official roster
 - b. Teams must have a minimum of 9 players
 - c. Coaches have the right and the ability to only select fewer players than 15
 - d. Coaches have the right to select red shirt players for their practices which may include players who are competing on a lower tier
7. Curling:
 - a. Teams are limited to 4 players
 - b. Teams must have a minimum of 3 players

Academic Policy

1. In order for students to participate in athletic competition at Taber Christian High School, they must:
 - a. Fulfill the minimum 800 minutes of instruction requirements (ie. two full-time courses).

- b. Maintain a strong effort and positively contribute to their classes
2. Students who have incomplete or missing school work will be deemed ineligible from practices and athletic competition, as per the discretion of the Athletic Director and/or Principal.
 - a. Students who miss practice due to incomplete or outstanding schoolwork are ineligible to compete in the next athletic competition.

Attendance Policy

1. Students must maintain consistent school attendance in order to be eligible for athletic competition.
2. Students who miss a day of school due to injury or sickness may not participate in practice or athletic competition.

Behaviour Policy

1. Students must maintain a behaviour and attitude that aligns with principles and values of Taber Christian High School. Failure to adhere to the 'Student Positive Behavior Plan/Policy' of Taber Christian High School (found in the TCHS student/parent handbook) may result in:
 - a. Loss of privilege to participate in practice
 - b. Loss of privilege to participate in athletic competition
 - c. Dismissal from the team

Conflict Resolution Policy

Athletes, Parents, Coaches, and Staff are expected to follow the procedure listed below when dealing with an area of concern:

1. A meeting should be set to have a conversation with all the parties directly involved. The purpose of the meeting should be focused on seeking understanding and resolution. The Athletic Director, Vice-Principal, or Principal should be present during meetings of special concern.
 - a. Wait Period: Following the meeting, there should be time granted to see if the issue or area of concern is resolved.
 - b. An additional or meeting should take place if the area of concern has not been addressed.
2. One day rule: Athletes, Coaches, Parents, and Staff are expected to wait at least one day before approaching one another when dealing with matters of special concern.

Equipment and Jersey Policy

1. School athletic apparel, jerseys, and equipment are the sole property of Taber Christian High School.

2. Failure to return jerseys back to the school in acceptable form at the end of a sporting season will result in a penalty of:
 - a. \$40 for X-Country, Badminton, and Track and Field
 - b. \$50 for Golf and Curling
 - c. \$75 for Volleyball
 - d. \$75 for Basketball
3. Students must bring all necessary uniforms and equipment to and from athletic competition
 - a. Coaching staff will not provide additional uniforms for athletes to play if they have not come prepared for athletic competition
4. New jerseys and uniforms will be purchased on a minimum schedule of every 5 years
5. Old jerseys may be used by the discretion of the school as items for sale during school fundraisers and athletic events to promote community and school culture.

Safety Policy

1. Student safety is the utmost priority of athletic competition. No student should be placed in a situation where their health and safety is compromised.
 - a. Coaches must complete the 'Making Headway: Concussion Protocol Course' and follow proper concussion protocol in the case of any suspected concussion injury
 - b. Coaches must follow proper protocol in the case of any suspected injury
 - c. Coaches must inform parents of any suspected injuries or unusual behavior from the athlete
2. Athletes and parents/guardians of athletes must keep the athletic director and coaching staff informed regarding the overall health of the athlete.
3. If a student is seriously injured, they must be approved and fit for play by a doctor and provide proof to the Athletic Director and/or the Principal before they are deemed fit to return to athletic competition.

Social Media Policy

1. Students, parents, staff and coaches shall not post or communicate any information or photos about any athlete, coach, or official without written or verbal permission provided by those individuals whom the information or photos pertain to.
2. Taber Christian High School will update social media accounts by posting pictures and information of students at athletic events.
 - a. No photo shall be posted of any student to any social media account where expressed approval has not been given as found in the Freedom of Information and Privacy Forms completed within the School Registration Package.

3. Coaches may use the Heja or Whatsapp apps, or Parent Emailing list to keep athletes and parents informed of practices, games, and other scheduled athletic events.

Transportation Policy

Transportation to and from athletic competition will be organized and the responsibility of:

1. Taber Christian High School student-athletes' parents/guardians
2. Bussing provided by Taber Christian High School will be used as a secondary method to transport athletes to and from athletic events when deemed as the most suitable method of transportation for travel as per the discretion of the Athletic Director and/or Principal.

Emergency Action Plan

For events hosted by Taber Christian High School:

The emergency action plan is designed for the safety of all participants and spectators of athletic competition.

1. The 'Take Charge' Person: This individual will take charge of the situation regarding any immediate medical emergency. The 'take charge' person must remain on-site and be aware of the Emergency Action Plan procedure. The "take charge" person will follow this order unless otherwise established:
 - a) Athletic Director
 - b) Principal
 - c) Vice-Principal
 - d) Teaching Staff Member
2. Procedure: If a student or athlete is critically injured immediate medical attention is required:
 - a) Remain calm and establish who is in charge of the situation.
 - b) Call **911** (ref or another adult present)
 - c) Begin First Aid, and if not certified, send a person to find someone who is
 - d) Get someone to wait outside the front doors of the school to flag down the ambulance personnel
 - e) Call the athlete's parents.
 - f) Establish a person/people who is in charge of crowd control
 - (a) In the building
 - (b) And in the parking lot

For events located off-site:

1. Procedure:
 - a) the staff member or driver event is to take charge
 - b) Contact emergency personnel in the case of a medical emergency

- c) enlist the help of any bystanders, other staff or students
- d) have in charge person verify that their people are accounted for
- e) Contact Administration and arrange for transportation
- f) Initiate emergency communication plan for contacting parents

Contact Information

Athletic Director: Kelsi Gilbert

Email: kelsi.gilbert@horizon.ab.ca

School Phone: (403) 359-3835 ext. 47119

Cell Phone: 403-370-2427

Principal: Jason Visser

Email: jason.visser@horizon.ab.ca

School Phone: (403) 359-3835

Cell Phone: (403) 795-5988

Signature Page

In signing below, I am acknowledging that I have read through the *Taber Christian High School's Athletic Handbook* and am knowledgeable about the content that it contains. I also agree to the terms and standards outlined in the *Taber Christian High School Athletic Handbook*.

Student Name:

Student Signature:

Parent Name:

Parent Signature:

Athletic Director:
