



## **Franklin Academy Middle School Athletics** **At a Glance: 2021-2022**



Students attending Franklin Academy have the opportunity to participate in a quality athletic program. Registration due dates are set to ensure viability of the program and to secure coaching staff. Please see the list below for all our middle school offerings. Eligibility packets, sport fee, and current sports physicals must be turned in before a student may begin the season. Please see the Q & A section for more information.

**Middle School Sport Fees:**  
**Each Sport Participated In - \$150**

### **Commonly Asked Questions about Middle School Sports:**

#### **Q. What are the days and times for practice, games, and meets?**

A. Practices run Mon-Fri from 3:15-4:45 PM on full school days. There are no before or after school sports or clubs on weekends, early release days, teacher workdays or holidays. Games run into the evening. A schedule will be distributed as soon as we receive them from the Whatcom County Middle School League and it will be posted on our school athletic board by the school office. Weekly updates, Athletic News, will be sent via email, which includes any changes to the schedule and highlights from the contests.

#### **Q. What is due by the turn in date in order to be CLEARED to participate?**

A. The following items are required in order to participate:

1. Eligibility packet: This packet includes: athletics eligibility & expectations, sport safety guidelines, liability release, parent permission, and emergency information. This packet is good for the 2021-2022 school year.
2. Sports Physical: A current physical must be on file. The form is available in the front office or online. A sports physical is good for 24 months. It must be valid for the entire sports season.
3. Sport Fee: \$150. **This fee is paid at the beginning of each season.**

#### **6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Sports**

Season 1:

Cross Country: Aug 30-Oct 22

Season 2:

Girls Basketball: Oct 26-Dec 10

Boys Basketball: Nov 29-Jan 28

Season 3:

Volleyball: Jan 31-Mar 18

Season 4:

Track and Field: Mar 21-May 13

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**Q. Where do I go and what do I need in order to sign up for school sports?**



A. Go to our main office and the forms are next to the administrative assistant's window. Complete steps 1-4 above. Insurance is not available. Please turn in all forms and fees to the front office.

**Q. What else is required for participation?** A. In addition to the above requirements, students participating in middle school athletics are expected to be in good academic (all classes 70% or higher) and behavioral standing as well as attend all practices, games, and meets. Remember, you represent the face of your school as a student athlete. Be safe, respectful, and responsible both on and off the field and always give your best.

**Q. Why all the fuss about deadlines?**

A. Our goal is to offer a quality, safe program for students. Participation numbers determine how many coaches can be hired and equipment or uniforms needed for the sport. Also, student athletes are required to participate in at least eight practices in order to work well as a team, receive the proper training, and safely play in games or participate in meets.

**Q. What if I don't have much or any experience in the sport? Can I still play?**

A. Middle school is a great time to try a new sport. Just arrive with a desire to work as a team, a commitment to attending, and a good attitude! If you are experienced, there is always something to learn and someone to encourage. Work hard, participate, and have fun!

**Q. Is transportation provided to or from practices or to and from games?**

A. Transportation for practices and games is not provided. Parents need to arrange transportation for their child. If students are dismissed early for an event, parents must sign them out or the person picking up the students will need to sign them out as well as have a note of permission from their parent/guardian. When leaving a game with another family the note needs to be given to the coach with the parent(s) permission.

**Q. Can students get a ride to the game with a coach?**

A. No, coaches are not allowed to drive any students to or from games or practices.



**Q. If I am absent, am I required to bring a note?**

A. Yes. Absences from practice, games, or meets require communication from a parent/guardian in order to be excused. Excused absences are the same as for school and are limited to doctor appointments or illness. Remember, your teammates and coaches depend on you to commit to participating in practices consistently and regularly in order to improve and work as a team.

**Q. If I am absent from school on a game or meet day, can I still participate?**

A. Students must be present for the majority of the school day (4 out of 5 periods) and be excused if they are going to practice. For games students must be present for a full day.

**Q. If I am injured, can I keep playing as long as I feel okay?**

A. Injuries require a doctor's note for clearance. This is particularly important in the case of head impact. Please let your coach know right away if you have an injury and he or she will complete an accident report. Always warm up to stretch muscles, attend practices to develop skills and take care of yourself by drinking plenty of water, getting a good sleep, and eating healthy foods.