



MARYVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

MCS Athletic Program Guidelines

2020-2021

For elementary school (grades 2nd-4th) we will be offering boys' and girls' basketball. The league that we are in allows for homeschoolers umbrellaed under Maryville Christian and homeschoolers not umbrellaed under Maryville Christian to be on our team as long as the roster we turn in at the beginning of the year matches up with the roster before the postseason tournament.

For middle school (grades 5th-8th) we are in Knoxville Independent School League (KISL). According to the league's bylaws homeschoolers can participate in athletics if they are part of the school's umbrella program. Those who are not under the Maryville Christian umbrella program cannot participate. We have been in this league for many years and have all intentions to stay in this league for years to come. Therefore, this policy would not be changed unless the league decided to change it. I personally do not see that happening. The sports that are offered in the fall are girls' volleyball and coed flag football. The sports offered in the winter are boys' and girls' basketball. The sport offered in the spring is coed soccer.

For high school (grades 9th-12th) all our athletic teams are independent for the 2020-2021 season. This means that we are not in a league or conference that governs over us like TSSAA or a Christian school league. While we aspire to join TSSAA, where the homeschool policy would change, that is currently not the move that is in the best interest of the athletic department and is a transition that we do not anticipate making over the next several years. Homeschoolers under the school's umbrella program and homeschoolers that are not under the school's umbrella program can participate. The sports that are offered in the fall are girls' volleyball, girls' soccer, and boys' soccer. The sports offered in the winter are cheerleading, boys' and girls' basketball. The sports offered in the spring are baseball, boys' soccer, and boys' and girls' tennis.

For every sport listed above, there is a formal tryout that everyone must attend if they are interested in playing the respective sport. This does not guarantee a spot on the team but all are welcome to tryout and make the team if spots are available. We do not want this to discourage athletes from participating but want to be clear in communication.

All homeschoolers in our umbrella program are required to read and sign our Statement of Faith and Biblical Lifestyle Statement. We are also requiring this for any homeschoolers not under our umbrella system who desire to participate in athletics at Maryville Christian School. We are first and foremost a Christian school, so we strive for our athletes and families to be Christ-like in their words and actions even during athletic competition.

If you are interested in your child participating please feel free to reach out to our Athletic Department at athletics@mcstn.org and specify which level and sport your child is interested in to get more information about that specific team.