**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER**

 **CRUSADER SOCCER**

**“NEVER STOP FIGHTING”**

**I HAVE FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT. I HAVE FINISHED THE RACE. I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH**

**2 TIM. 4:7**

The ultimate goal of the Crusader soccer team is to help young students, who participate on the team, in their personal growth to responsible adulthood, through an organized sports activity, soccer.

A student’s development depends on the ability to successfully fulfill certain needs. A student participates in athletics to fulfill these needs. One of the goals of the team is to help players to fulfill certain needs, i.e. peer recognition, personal fulfillment, athletic competition, parental approval, physical release, making new friends, have fun and many other reasons.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE CRUSADER SOCCER PROGRAM**

1. Through a well organized practice schedule the players learn both individual skills and team skills that will enable them to successfully compete and be successful in the game of soccer
2. To promote and encourage participation in soccer at the “next level”, i.e. club, high school.
3. To promote the values of sportsmanship, competition, teamwork and hard work in a sports setting.

**RULES OF THE PROGRAM**

Soccer is a team sport. Every member must pay the price in order to be a member of the team. Team unity is very important to the success of the team. To insure team unity, good order, and safety, rules must be enforced.

1. Any student, regardless of experience is encouraged to try out
2. All rules and regulations that are in place in the St. Francis handbook & Archdiocese handbook will be followed. **(Students must be in school at least a half day to be eligible to play in games**.)
3. Practice times and dates will be listed on the team calendar. Practice will start on Oct.19. and will be held at Selden Park. Practice is mandatory. (4:00-5:30)
4. Swearing, foul play, poor sportsmanship, and disrespect to adults and fellow team mates or opponents will not be tolerated.
5. Students always need to communicate to one of the coaches. Let us know if sick, have to miss practice, family emergencies, etc.
6. Be safe and responsible at all school, team and social functions. Do not do anything to cause embarrassment on you, your teammate, school, coaches or parents.

FIELD POLICIES

1. Care of practice field and game field is our responsibility. All equipment, personal belongings and trash will be cleaned up after practice and games
2. If you find something that is not yours turn it into the coach.
3. If you have anything missing tell the coach.
4. If you have a conflict of any type, bring it to the attention of a coach.
5. Be on time.
6. Practice hard and always hustle.
7. Swearing will not be tolerated. Good sportsmanship is a must!
8. Always address a coach as “coach” or “sir/ma’am”
9. Players must be properly equipped and suited up for soccer. (SHIN GUARDS MANDATORY, soccer jersey or t-shirt, soccer shorts, socks & (sports bra for females.)
10. If you are injured or sick tell a coach immediately.
11. Never leave the field unless sent by a coach or you ask a coach
12. NO HORSEPLAY
13. ENCOURAGE YOUR TEAMMATES
14. BE POSITIVE! PRACTICE HARD! CHAMPIONS THINK AND ACT LIKE CHAMPIONS

YOU WILL ONLY PLAY AS WELL AS YOU PRACTICE

**ELIGIBILITY POLICIES**

 All eligibility rules that are outlined by St. Francis Xavier School and the Archdioceses of Savannah will be enforced. Students suspended from school are not eligible to play.

 Soccer players are to be disciplined, well mannered, and positive role models. Student Athletes that fail to follow the expectations and guidelines of St. Francis Xavier school will be disciplined.

 Students may miss no more than one day of practice during the week, unless they are participating in another school sponsored activity or are sick from school. You must be at practice to start and play in the games. The decision on playing time for missed practices will be at the discretion of the coach. Athletes participating in Travel soccer are encouraged to show up and practice if they can until it is time to leave for travel practice (if possible).

 Excused absence is determined by sickness, death in the family, religious holiday, school activity, or permission from the coach. A note by the parent/guardian must accompany the student on his return to practice. If a student misses practice for whatever reason he will have extra work to make up on his return to practice.

 **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

The success of any program can be directly correlated to a strong parental support group and Booster program. But parents are reminded that their role is to support their child with an enthusiastic presence and good sportsmanship at games and other activities.

Parents are encouraged to attend practice and games and lend their encouragement. But please do not put your child in an embarrassing situation by invading the game site or practice field and attempting to coach your daughter, criticize the coaches or the game officials.

Parents are reminded that there is a time and a place for everything. If you have any concerns regarding your daughter/SON or the program I would be happy to discuss them with you. However, if a parent is upset about a decision, playing time or call by an official I would ask you to wait 24 hours after the incident or game to contact me or school officials**. (24-hour** **rule).** Feel free to contact Coach Kavanaugh regarding any issues at (912) 399-5455 or email at kckavanaugh@hotmail.com or via the group me page.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER

PARENTS SPORTS PLEDGE

I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, pledge to demonstrate Christian Values while attending all athletic contests. I will respect and give positive support to all participants and game official and be an example of good sportsmanship. I will display values of respect, responsibility, caring and honesty. I acknowledge that I have read and will abide by the rules and policies set forth in this handout.

ORIGINATION OF 3 PRIDES

1. Excellence is an attitude. Players must change their mindsets. Players must strive for excellence for excellence sake. Be the best you can all the time. It’s not about wins but doing your best, and then the wins will come.
2. Players must train to exceed their expectations. They must be prepared to move from good to great and be ready to lead and take their teammates with them.
3. Excellence breeds excellence. Players should be motivated by each other. All should strive for perfection. They won’t always get there but if they play their best and give their best they can always hold their heads high, stay positive, because they did their best.

**I WANT YOUR BEST**

 1.Give God your best, he gave you your talents = PRIDE

 2. Self-respect & respect of your teammates = PRIDE

 3. Respect of your opponent = PRIDE