

Eligibility

To participate in athletic activities at ILS, a student must

- be enrolled at ILS,
- be in grade 5, 6, 7, or 8,
- be academically eligible,
- not be 15 years old before Sept. 1 of the current school year.

Academic Eligibility

Both quarter and mid-term grade reports determine academic eligibility as follows.

- A student who receives any D's or F's on a quarter or mid-term report card will be on **probation for the next two weeks** after the report card is received.
- During the probation period following the **quarter report**, the student is allowed to practice but is not allowed to participate in any scheduled contests.
- During the probation period following the **mid-term report**, the student is allowed to practice and may be allowed to participate in scheduled contests at the discretion of the parents/guardians, athletic director, and coach.
- At the end of the probation period, if the student still has any D's or F's, he or she will be completely ineligible for the remainder of the season.

Fourth quarter grades from the previous school year will be used to determine eligibility for students participating in fall sports.

Communication

Coaches will hand out season schedules as soon as they are available. Schedules for tournaments or championship events will be handed out by coaches or communicated to athletes by phone or e-mail.

An athlete, parent, or coach with a concern or complaint should first try to resolve the matter directly with the individual(s) involved. If that is unsuccessful, the athletic director and/or principal should be contacted.

Athletic Awards

The Athletic Awards evening is held in early May; all athletes and their families are invited. ILS provides ice cream and toppings for an accompanying ice cream social. Details are publicized prior to the event.

Philosophy

The purpose for the sports program at Immanuel Lutheran School (ILS) is to provide opportunities for our students to participate in, enjoy, and grow from, athletic competition. Participants should strive to win, but the objectives listed below are more important than winning.

Objectives

- Teach the fundamentals and skills necessary to compete in each sport.
- Develop Christian attitudes of good sportsmanship and fair play.
- Encourage athletes to do their best regardless of the outcome of the competition.
- Teach the importance of teamwork where members cooperate, support each other, and work together.
- Teach the importance of respecting teammates, coaches, opponents, and officials.
- Build self-confidence and a positive self-concept.
- Encourage and promote school spirit.

Sportsmanship

Athletes are expected to be gracious and conscious of the feelings of others both in victory and defeat.

Athletes, coaches, parents and fans are expected to show respect for all Immanuel players, the opposing team and fans. Any type of derogatory remark or action is inappropriate and unacceptable. Athletes, coaches, parents and fans are also expected to show respect for all officials. Officials do the best they can; sometimes they make mistakes. It is not appropriate to repeatedly question calls of referees or to berate them in any way. Anyone who exhibits inappropriate behavior may be asked to leave.

Interscholastic Sports Offered

ILS is a member of the Albuquerque Parochial Interscholastic Athletic League (A.P.I.A.L.); there are a total of 17 schools in the league. The league supports varsity, JV, and C teams in volleyball and basketball; for cross country, track, and golf, there are varsity and JV divisions. There are no divisions in flag football and tennis.

ILS fields varsity, JV, and C teams in volleyball and basketball if there are enough students participating. By league rules, each volleyball team requires a minimum of eight players; each basketball team requires a minimum of

seven. If there are only enough players to field two teams, by league rules those two teams will be varsity and JV teams. Eighth graders must play at the varsity level.

Participation in the following sports is open to students in grades five through eight unless otherwise noted. All eligible students who want to participate are welcome; there are no tryouts or “cuts.”

Fall Season

Tennis (grades 5-8) - boys and girls, August - October
Golf - boys and girls, August - October (and March - May)
Cross Country - boys and girls, August - October
Volleyball - girls, August - October
Flag Football - boys, August - October

Winter Season

Basketball - girls, October - December
Basketball - boys, January - March

Spring Season

Volleyball-boys, March-April
Track - boys and girls, March - May
Golf - boys and girls, March - May (and August - October)

Requirements for Participation

1. \$25 fee per sports season - sports seasons are listed above
 - cash or checks (payable to ILS) given to school secretary
 - used for league fees, sports fees, uniforms and equipment
2. Current annual physical exam on file - **required before athletes can practice or play**
3. Signed insurance/permission form on file

Coaches

Coaches are volunteers and are often parents of athletes. They generally are coaching because they love kids and their sport. We are always in need of coaches, please contact the athletic director if interested. **Coaches must complete a volunteer application form and background check.**

Practice Guidelines and Playing Time

Practices for most sports (except golf and tennis) are after school during the week, usually in the 3:15 to 5:30 time frame. Actual practice schedules for each sport vary from year to year, depending on coaches' personal schedules and number of teams.

Parents of athletes who are involved in multiple sports in the same sports season (e.g., cross country and flag football), or who are involved in outside activities (e.g., soccer, piano lessons, etc.) that conflict with practice, should talk to the coach(es) to determine an acceptable practice schedule. Otherwise, athletes are expected to attend all scheduled practices unless they are absent from school or they notify the coach in advance. Repeated unexcused-absence from practice or persistent unacceptable behavior are grounds for dismissal from a team.

It is our goal to try to give equal **playing time** to all C-level athletes, however as students move to the JV and Varsity level playing time will be based more on attitude, effort, and ability. The amount of playing time is at the discretion of the coach if an athlete has missed practice without permission or excuse, been disruptive or uncooperative at practice, or put forth little effort in practice. In tournament games, playing time is at the discretion of the coach.

Uniforms

Immanuel provides uniforms to the athletes. Each athlete is responsible for the care and washing of his/her uniform during the season (please do not put uniforms in the dryer). Uniforms will not be handed out until all requirements for participation (listed above) are met. Uniforms must be returned to the school office within one week of the end of each season. After that, **athletes will serve detention until the uniform is returned.** Athletes will be required to pay for lost uniforms.

Missing School

In order to practice or play in a game, a student must have attended school at least for ½ of the day of the practice or game.

Parent Help at Home Games and Track Meets

The athletic director will contact parents prior to home basketball and volleyball games to ask for help with concessions, ticket taking, and scorekeeping. We hope that at least one parent of each athlete will be able to help once or twice during the season. Volunteers are also needed to help at all track meets.

Transportation to Games

Parents are responsible for making sure their child has transportation to away games. If transportation is a problem, a permission form allowing the child to ride with another family must be on file with the child's teacher. Parents providing transportation must provide proof of insurance and a copy of their driver's license before transporting other students.