



2007-2008 Athletics Code of Conduct

Mission Statement – Lifegate Athletics

We participate in athletic competition to honor and glorify God as we live and grow in the service of God and man.

We strive for victory in all that we do, first as servants of Jesus Christ, second in the classroom, and third on the playing field. We shall accept defeat as gracefully as we accept victory and treat our opponents as fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

We work as a team, not only in competition, but also in cooperation to build Christian character, academic excellence, our school, our community and athletic success.

Athletics Code of Conduct

You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

***Galatians 5:13-14
(New International Version)***

Maintaining God's Standards

At Lifegate Christian School, we honor and respect the commitment and sacrifice you as a student-athlete, your teammates, your coaches and your parents have made for you to serve as representatives of our school through our athletic teams.

We also have the expectation that you will conduct yourself befitting a brother or sister in Christ and as a representative of Lifegate Christian School to our school family, in the community where we live, and to our opponents.

This **Athletics Code of Conduct** is not meant to replace the Lifegate Christian School Handbook but should be considered as an effort above and beyond what is required of you as a valuable member of the Lifegate Christian School family.

A student-athlete is defined as a student involved in interscholastic athletic events. This definition includes student-athletes, student assistants, and cheerleaders. Home-school program students involved in athletics are also covered by this Athletics Code of Conduct.

1. TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES

School Comes First. Your grades and class work come before sports and other extra-curricular activities. Do your homework when you should. Do not wait until the last day to do your homework or studies!

All practices and games are required. We know that circumstances will arise when you must miss a practice (vacation, illness, etc.). When this occurs the student-athlete is to inform his/her coach in advance. Coaches have the authority to assess punishment for late and missed practices. Our goal is to set schedules far enough in advance so that the student-athlete and his/her family are aware of our events and plan their schedules accordingly.

All student-athletes are to treat teammates and coaches with respect and courtesy. Behavior that puts other student-athletes, coaches and officials down or demonstrating lack of self-control will not be tolerated. Any such instance will result in the student-athlete being asked to leave the practice or the game. Such a request will be considered as an unexcused absence. Officials, opponents and fans are to be treated as if they were members of your own team.

We know that being part of this experience will require sacrifices, adjustments and extraordinary commitment on the part of the student-athletes, their families, and the coaches. However, we are working to achieve extraordinary team and individual success, which demands extraordinary effort on all our parts. In return, we have an opportunity to create a positive experience that could affect our lives forever.

Student-athletes are constantly evaluated on their demonstration of coachability, hustle, mental

and physical toughness, loyalty to team, unselfishness, and the desire to improve their skill. Our goal is to field a team of athletes that consistently demand more of themselves, than is demanded by the coaches.

In every game situation, our teams play to win. Game substitutions will be made with that in mind. However, there will be situations where a student-athlete may be pulled from a game, despite his or her ability to contribute. Examples of these situations include:

- † A student-athlete who exhibits unsportsmanlike conduct, or loses control, may be pulled. Further penalties will be left up to the coach.
- † Any other situation where the coach feels that removing a student-athlete will strengthen the team discipline and morale will result in the removal of the student-athlete.

The members of our teams are expected to work hard and with discipline, hustle, enthusiasm, teamwork, and dedication. This is not a goal, this is an expectation!

2. ACADEMICS

All student-athletes are expected to be passing all courses. All student-athletes are expected to be current in their assignments.

Lifegate Christian School reserves the right to conduct weekly grade checks for all student-athletes. Student-athletes are advised to use study hall periods and tutoring to improve their grades and complete their assignments.

Student-athletes must meet the minimum academic eligibility requirements of TAPPS or Lifegate Christian School (whichever is greater). Lifegate Christian School requires that student-athletes must be passing all courses at the nine-week grading period to maintain eligibility. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to work with his or her teachers to achieve and maintain a passing grade.

If a student-athlete has not met the minimum academic eligibility rules at the four-week progress report period, he or she shall have one week to meet the academic eligibility rules (passing grade in all courses). If after one week, the student-athlete is not passing, he or she shall be ineligible for one week and must be passing all courses at the end of that week to regain eligibility.

If a student-athlete has not met the minimum academic eligibility rules at the nine week grading period (passing grade in all courses), he or she is ineligible for a minimum of two weeks starting on the first day of the new quarter. During those two weeks, the student-athlete must bring his or her grades to passing in all courses. If after two weeks, the student-athlete is not passing, he or she shall remain ineligible

for the following week and will not be allowed to return to competition until grades are all passing.

The ineligibility period shall begin the first day of the new quarter. In the case of ineligibility during the Christmas holidays, the two week period shall not start until after the resumption of classes and the student-athlete is ineligible to participate in any games during the holidays.

When a student-athlete is ineligible, he or she may practice with the team, but cannot participate in any game, match, tournament, or interscholastic competition. Coaches have the discretion to require the student-athlete to attend study hall or receive tutoring (either of which may be at the student's expense) during practice time.

We feel that our academic standards for participation will challenge your children to meet your expectations of them as students. If you, as a parent, feel that your child is not meeting your expectations of them in the classroom, even if they are eligible under school rules, we ask that you consult with the athletic staff, advisors and teachers before you choose to withdraw your children from athletic participation. Since Lifegate is a small school, the loss of even one student-athlete can be critical for our team and "lets down" other student-athletes on the team.

3. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Student-athletes are expected to attend school all day when games are scheduled. Student-athletes are expected to arrive to all classes on time. Each student-athlete must attend all day unless excused by the Principal to be eligible to play that day (Student-athletes who are not present at school on the previous school day for a Saturday game will be ineligible to play on that Saturday game).

Student-athletes will be excused from class to attend athletic events where they participate. As a general rule, student-athletes should remain in school when they are not participants in an athletic event. We ask that parents support our efforts that students are in class as many school days as possible.

If attending an athletic event requires that a student-athlete miss any classes, it is the responsibility of the student-athlete to contact those teachers in advance for assignments and make-up work.

4. CHRISTIAN CHARACTER/ATTITUDE/ BEHAVIOR/ LEADERSHIP

Every student-athlete at Lifegate Christian School should exhibit behaviors as a good Christian role model to fellow students, faculty and others. All student-athletes are expected to follow the rules as outlined in the Lifegate Christian School Handbook.

Codes, suspensions, or other penalties assessed by the Principal or school faculty and staff may result in penalties that may affect participation in athletics.

Student-athletes at Lifegate Christian School are called to be leaders by word, deed and example. Each Head Coach has full discretion in the selection of team member(s) to serve as Team Captains. Team Captains are chosen for their ability to lead his/her teammates and our student body.

Each practice, pre-game and post-game team gathering will begin with a prayer. Student-athletes and coaches are encouraged to participate in the Lifegate Team Huddle of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA).

When attending an athletic event, **you represent Lifegate Christian School**. This includes events where we are attending as spectators. All student-athletes are to behave as they would if they were at school. Actions that would not be tolerated during the school day will not be tolerated at an athletic event. Student-athletes that do not comply with school rules may be subject to disciplinary action, including codes, suspension or Saturday school.

5. DRESS CODE

All student-athletes must be in compliance with the Lifegate Christian School dress code when they are at any school athletic function, home or away. Violations will be dealt with as are dress code violations during the school day (including codes). Student-athletes must comply with the Lifegate Christian School dress code and may be subject to other disciplinary action.

Coaches, assistant coaches and staff are expected to dress in a manner that will present a positive impression of Lifegate Christian School.

Each Head Coach may set a stricter dress code for their teams for travel, games and tournaments. **When Lifegate competes in state tournament play (regional/state), the team will arrive in dress similar to that expected for Chapel services.**

6. TEAM PARTICIPATION

Lifegate Christian School is a small school and to be successful in our athletic events, we need to have as many students participate on teams as possible. While there is no "I" in team, there is "me."

Boys should plan to participate in football in the fall and basketball in the winter.

Girls should plan to participate in volleyball in the fall and basketball in the winter.

While we know that you may favor one sport over the other, you are helping your fellow student-athletes who prefer another sport to succeed in their sport and you are helped when they help you succeed in your chosen sport. There are, of course, exceptions due to

health concerns and other considerations. If you do not want to compete in both a fall and winter sport, please meet with the coaches and the Athletic Director prior to the start of the fall practice season.

The time to join the team is at the start of the practice season. Student-athletes will only be allowed to join the team during mid-season due to transfer, injury, or academic reasons which did not allow the student-athlete to join the team at the start of the season, or at the coaches' discretion. The coach, athletic director and principal must approve any mid-season additions. Their decision shall be final.

Student-athletes should participate in team sports with the expectation that they will participate for the entire season. Once a student-athlete leaves the team, they will not be allowed to return. The coach, athletic director and principal must approve any exception to this rule. Their decision shall be final.

7. TEAMS AND PRACTICES

Each Head Coach reports to the Athletic Director and Principal of Lifegate Christian School. Each Head Coach and his/her assistants are selected by the Principal with the approval of the Lifegate Christian School Education Committee.

We would like to select as many of our head coaches from our full-time faculty as possible. Faculty and staff will have first opportunity to become head coaches.

Boys will not be allowed to participate on Girls teams and Girls will not be allowed to participate on Boys teams at any level.

Each Head Coach is responsible for his/her team. The Head Coach is permitted to select his/her team members, starters and style of play. Each Head Coach has full discretion in the selection of team member(s) to serve as Team Captains. The Head Coach has the responsibility of dealing with any issues of misconduct/poor sportsmanship that occurs during a practice, a game or while under the supervision of the Head Coach or his/her assistants.

Each Head Coach is responsible for setting practice times, when teams are expected to arrive for games or meet to travel to games. Each Head Coach may select the consequences for violation of any team rules (for example, arriving late for practice, games or travel, being unprepared for practice, getting a technical foul for arguing with officials).

At the start of each season, the Head Coach will give each student-athlete a written schedule of practice times and games. Schedules may change for a number of reasons, but this schedule will help student-athletes, parents, coaches and school staff plan for practice and game times.

Athletic practices and games, held outside of normal school hours will be limited to no more than five days within a 7 day week. This will

allow athletes and their families to have at least two days a week (Sunday and another day) without a practice or a game [Education Committee policy, 2007].

Whenever possible, varsity practice times will be held immediately after the conclusion of the school day. However, there may be reasons why teams may have to practice at other times. These may include availability of gyms, game schedules, and the schedules of our coaches, especially those who are part-time, stipend or volunteer coaches who have full-time jobs or college class schedules. Please be patient and understanding if we cannot accommodate all teams for practice immediately after the school day.

Schedules are set far in advance, usually before the start of the school year for most fall and winter sports. However, changes do occur during the season. Please review the schedule when setting family vacations so that you can minimize missed games and practices. **If you are unable to practice due to injury, you should be at every game and practice, unless excused by your Head Coach.** Your teammates and coaches deserve to have a full team for every game and practice!

Student-athletes who are injured should work with their doctors and coaches to undertake therapy that will help them to recover from their injury. For example, our football players are encouraged to use the Saturday sports medicine clinics in San Marcos and other communities.

Middle School student-athletes will also be asked to assist varsity teams as statisticians, ball boys and student assistants.

Coaches are expected to remain in the gym until all students have left campus. Parents are expected to pick-up their children at the conclusion of practice or when your children return from road games.

Participation on teams may be limited by many reasons, one of which is the availability of uniforms. As a general rule, uniforms are purchased in the off-season and are expected to last from 4-10 years. Many of these uniforms are "custom-made," so it is not easy or inexpensive to purchase additional uniforms, especially at short notice. If there are not adequate uniforms available, especially when mid-season additions are made, the Head Coach may decide to choose those student-athletes he/she wishes to suit up for each game.

In keeping with the teachings of Matthew 18, any issues with a team should first be discussed with the Head Coach, then the Athletic Director, and then the Principal.

8. TOURNAMENTS AND OVERNIGHT TRAVEL

During the course of a season, our teams may participate in various games and tournaments that

require overnight travel. The Head Coach, Athletic Director and Principal will make decisions on overnight travel with the support of the Lifegate Booster Club and funds raised by the teams.

Parents and fans are encouraged to attend these events. In some cases, hotel rooms may be blocked by the school or other organizations, and they require credit card guarantees for payment. If fans make reservations through the school, they will be expected to pay for the room whether it is used or not.

Parents and fans that do not want to guarantee rooms for these events must make their own arrangements.

When we travel to TAPPS State Tournaments that involve play over multiple days, **we go to State expecting to win.** Therefore, we will plan to stay for the entire tournament. If we do not reach the finals, we will stay for the Championship Games so that our student-athletes have the opportunity to see the best teams in the state compete in quality facilities and receive awards such as "All-Tournament" honors in person. Attending the final rounds motivates returning athletes to work hard in the off-season so that Lifegate will return to the State Championships in future years.

9. TRAVELING TO/FROM GAMES

The Head Coach has the authority to make decision concerning travel to and from games. The Head Coach sets the time the team will leave, route taken, and any stops made before and after the sporting event.

Players may be required to contribute a modest amount to the drivers for away games to help pay for gasoline costs for the drivers.

Each driver must keep a written roster of the student-athletes that are in their vehicle. The driver is responsible for bringing back the same student-athletes, although student-athletes may ride home with their parents or another parent who lives in the same community, but the student-athlete must notify and get written permission of the driver who brought them to the game.

Teams will travel in a caravan on the route decided. All vehicles need to stay together as much as possible. There should be no riders in vehicles other than the student-athletes and the children and families of the drivers.

Student-athletes are not allowed to drive to away games. Teams should stay together in as few vehicles as possible. Football games at Navarro High School are considered home games and student-athletes may drive to those games.

All vehicles must adhere to all traffic laws, including speed limits and seat belt laws.

As much as possible, we would like to avoid the expense of renting vans (usually about \$150 per day). Therefore, we need to know in advance (at least 5-7 days) who will be driving to games and how many additional athletes they can take with them.

Be sure your child has a healthy snack (fruit, energy bars, juice) to eat after school and before their game as well as adequate money for concessions and/or a meal following the game. On school nights, only a brief stop at a convenience store or fast food restaurant will be allowed. On Friday nights, or other games where there will not be school the next day, restaurant stops will be pre-arranged. We do not provide meals following games or when we travel to tournaments, including TAPPS State Tournaments.

9. OTHER EXPECTATIONS – STUDENT- ATHLETES & PARENTS

As a student-athlete at Lifegate Christian School, you will be expected to assist in school projects (not limited to, but including the Chili Supper), assisting in keeping our athletic facilities clean and neat, and fundraising which may help us to participate in tournaments, other events, and purchase new uniforms and equipment.

Team Captains will be expected to take a leadership role in these events.

The Lifegate Booster Club is an important support organization for Lifegate Christian School and our athletic program. Parents and friends of the athletic program are strongly encouraged to attend and participate in meetings and support the efforts of the Lifegate Booster Club.

The Lifegate Booster Club meets every month during the school year. Parents should plan to attend and be active participants.

Staging an athletic event, be it a varsity football game or a middle school track meet takes more than just a coach and players. It takes another team to be sure the event goes on successfully – drivers, ticket takers, chain crew, scorer and timekeeper, concession crew, and a clean-up crew, for example. Parents and student-athletes are expected to assist in these tasks to make every Lifegate Christian School event successful.

Jesus said in Matthew 5:16 *“Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”* It is our goal to present our school’s athletic events in a way that Lifegate Christian School shines before men and glorifies God our Father.

If there are not enough volunteers when the schedule for workers is posted, the athletic department reserves the right to assign parents of student-athletes duties for home and away games. If we cannot get enough volunteers or assigned persons

to cover our events, games and events may be cancelled or we will play more games away at other schools.

The Athletic Department hosts an annual golf tournament fundraiser. This event helps fund athletic activities, purchase new equipment and replace old equipment. Your help and support in making this tournament successful is appreciated.

10. SCHOOL PROPERTY: FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

Lifegate Christian School is blessed to have athletic facilities and equipment that are not available at many other schools our size. We honor and respect those who the Lord calls to provide these gifts to Lifegate. We will care for our facilities and equipment so that they will be available to those student-athletes who follow in our footsteps.

Facilities

Use of the gym or other school athletic facilities is limited to those practices and events that are supervised by coaches or school staff. If there is not a coach or designated school staff member physically in the gym, the gym is not open for student use. Any weekend, evening or summer “open gym” time must be scheduled through the Athletic Director and a responsible coach or adult must be designated to supervise the participants and remain in the gym until all participants have left the school grounds.

The sound system is limited to game use only. The Athletic Director must approve any music played on the sound system in advance. Any other use of the sound system is subject to disciplinary codes.

Our gyms are not storerooms. Personal items should be put against the walls and not on the bleachers. They should be picked up immediately following use of the facilities. All equipment should be picked up and placed in its storage area. Any personal items found in the gym will be turned over to the office.

All trash should be picked up and put in trashcans. Trashcans should be emptied and the gym or field should be cleaned up after games and other events.

The gym floor must be dry-mopped after every practice and prior to every game.

For football, we are fortunate to have the facilities of the Navarro Independent School District available for rent at an extremely reasonable cost. We will treat Navarro’s facilities as well or better than we treat our own.

Uniforms

Practice uniforms may be issued and are the responsibility of the student-athlete to maintain.

Student-athletes are expected to use school-supplied practice jerseys and uniforms. Other T-shirts and uniforms are not to be worn for practices. You will be expected to replace any lost practice uniforms. Discipline codes and other penalties may also be assessed.

Game uniforms will be issued for each game. Following each game, uniforms will be collected and turned over to a designated person. This will insure that the uniforms are cleaned in the same manner and extend their useful life. It is our commitment to purchase high-quality uniforms for our student-athletes, but in order to justify this expense; we must treat our uniforms with special care so they may last many years.

Any loss or damage to uniforms or other school property will be charged to the student-athlete responsible for that property or the loss or damage. The cost to replace a single uniform (as much as \$150 per uniform when bought in a set) is significantly higher than the acquisition cost of that uniform when bought in a set, so damage/loss to a uniform can be very expensive!

Other School Property

All school property, including athletic equipment (balls, football pads/helmets/equipment, track equipment, weight equipment, etc.) and facilities should be treated with care. Any equipment needed for a sport (practice or game) should be taken from its proper storage area, used, and promptly returned to the storage area in the place where it is to be stored.

Storage areas should be locked at all times and opened only by Coaches to get items needed for practice and games. Locked storage areas are not to be kept open during classes, practices, games, etc.

Items for specific teams (such as varsity basketballs) should only be used for that team and returned to its proper storage area following use.

Home or away, gymnasiums, locker rooms and other facilities should be kept clean and free of trash. Personal items should be taken with you when you leave the facilities.

There are specific rules as to the use, supervision and storage of the weight equipment. All students may use the equipment only under the direct supervision of a Coach and must return all equipment to its proper position and lock the weight equipment. Failure to follow these rules will result in the closing of the weight room/area for two days to all students for each occurrence.

Any loss or damage to uniforms or other school property will be charged to the student-athlete responsible for the loss or damage.

12. MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS AND INSURANCE

Lifegate Christian School requires that all student-athletes have an annual physical examination and must have the TAPPS Physical Examination on form on file before any participating in any practice or game.

Middle School student-athletes (Grades 6-7-8) will be required to provide a physical examination form every other year and a Lifegate acknowledgement of rules form every year.

High School student-athletes (Grades 9-10-11-12) will be required to provide a physical examination form, Lifegate acknowledgement of rules form, and TAPPS acknowledgement of rules form every year.

Lifegate Christian School provides a student accident insurance policy for all sports (except football) as a part of the school's activities fee. This coverage is secondary to any medical coverage carried by your family. The amount of coverage provided by this policy may not totally cover any charges for medical care.

Student-athletes participating in football may be asked to contribute to the cost of the football coverage before participating in any practice or game. In order for the school to get this coverage, all players must participate in the insurance program. This coverage is secondary to any medical coverage carried by your family.

13. CONTEST RULES AND ELIGIBILITY

Lifegate Christian School is a member in good standing of the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) and assigned to districts for various sports. As such, we are bound by a number of rules of the Association and its districts so as to provide a fair and level playing field for all member schools.

Middle School (Junior High School) teams (except football) are subject to the rules of the Christian Athletic League of San Antonio (CALSA), an independent organization. Middle School football players are subject to the rules of our junior high league, the Central Texas Junior High Six-Man Football Conference (CTFC).

Generally, our league rules limit high school participation to four consecutive years, starting with Grade 9 and student-athletes must not have reached their 19th birthday by September 1 of the school year. Junior high leagues use 15 as the September 1 age limit and no 9th grade students may compete on junior high teams. Lifegate usually limits junior high participation to grades 6, 7 and 8.

Lifegate Christian School will not knowingly schedule any school or organization that does not accept these generally accepted rules of eligibility.

TAPPS rules apply to student-athletes in Grades 9-12. Under no circumstance shall a student-athlete in any lower grade be allowed to participate in direct competition with student-athletes in Grade 9-12. For example, if an 8th grade student competes with or against a High School Varsity Golf team, that 8th grade athlete's high school eligibility starts with the start of his/her 8th grade year. Since high school athletes are only allowed four consecutive years of eligibility, that student-athlete would lose eligibility his/her entire senior year in high school, even for a single instance of varsity competition in his/her 8th grade year. Also, the 8th grade student would not be permitted to compete in varsity sports after the violation had been discovered.

TAPPS rules permit 8th graders to participate on junior varsity teams. Lifegate Christian School will consider such participation on a case-by-case basis. In no instance will an 8th grader on a junior varsity team be allowed to compete in a contest against a varsity team.

Violation of rules could result in a number of sanctions, including forfeiture of games, loss of eligibility, being ruled ineligible for playoffs, losing recognition of our athletes for All-District and All-State honors, and other penalties and fines. Lifegate Christian School is committed to full compliance with all TAPPS rules and regulation.

We are committed to informing TAPPS and other leagues if we believe that we have committed a violation of their rules. Lifegate Christian School will also inform TAPPS and other leagues if we believe that another school has violated the rules of our leagues.

We believe that courts of law are not the proper place to determine school athletic contests and rules. Any student-athlete or his/her parents who elect to use the civil courts to overturn an action concerning athletic eligibility or contest an athletic contest or decision by the school, districts, leagues or TAPPS (such as a "temporary restraining order") agrees to compensate Lifegate Christian School, the districts, leagues and/or TAPPS and their representatives for the cost of defense of such action. Additionally, Lifegate Christian School may choose to suspend that student-athlete for up to two years.

All coaches are expected to be familiar with TAPPS rules prohibiting inducement and tampering to encourage a student to transfer to Lifegate Christian School for athletic purposes. Coaches and athletic staff are not to discuss financial arrangements for any student with that student or his/her parents. Decisions on admissions, financial aid, reduced tuition and fees are to be made by school administration. Athletic

participation and/or skill are not to be factors in decisions concerning financial aid.

Each student-athlete is required to have on file at the school office a copy of the TAPPS Physician Examination Form (all grades) and Acknowledgement of Rules Form (Grades 9-12, signed by the parent and student-athlete). **These forms must be filed with the athletic department every school year, preferably at the start of the school year but no later than the team's first practice!**

TAPPS rules provide minimum academic standards for athletic eligibility. Lifegate Christian School has chosen to enforce a higher standard than the TAPPS rules.

All student-athletes must be eligible to compete for Lifegate Christian School under TAPPS rules before that student-athlete is permitted to play in an interscholastic athlete event involving Lifegate Christian School. If there is any question about eligibility, it should be discussed with the Athletic Director prior to competition.

If a student-athlete has attended a secondary school (Grades 9-12) at any other school than Lifegate Christian School and participated in interscholastic athletics at any level at that school, a signed Transfer Form must be completed and filed with our District President and TAPPS State Office before that student-athlete can compete. Depending on the time of enrollment, the student-athlete may be required to wait **15 full school days** from the first full day of attendance after completing the enrollment process before he/she is eligible for interscholastic competition. TAPPS rules also restrict mid-season transfers to play in district or post-season competition.

If a student-athlete resides with someone other than their parent(s) or legal guardian, another form needs to be prepared for the District and TAPPS State Office. Please contact the Athletic Director if these rules apply to you or you have any questions about the eligibility of a student-athlete.

Lifegate Christian School will not provide a Transfer Form for any student-athlete leaving Lifegate who has an outstanding balance (tuition, fees, and lost or damaged school property). Families should allow a sufficient time for Lifegate to process these forms and not expect that school staff will "drop everything" so that the form can be completed at the last minute.

Lifegate Christian School has participated in the TAPPS Home School Athletic Umbrella Program. This program was discontinued by TAPPS, but participants during the 2005-2006 school year are "grandfathered" for the remainder of their high school eligibility. Those students will continue to meet the requirements of Lifegate Christian School and

TAPPS. Following the 2008-2009 school year, Lifegate Christian School will not have any participants involved in this program. Lifegate Christian School will not participate in any TAPPS "home school division".

Participation in middle school athletics will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Student-athletes participating in the Home School Athletic Umbrella Program are held to the same standard as full-time students of Lifegate Christian School.

14. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS

We honor and recognize the sacrifices and involvement required of parents and student-athletes at Lifegate Christian School. Our expectations of parents include:

- † **School comes before sports.** Parents should expect their child to be passing and to use the resources of the school (study halls, tutoring, etc.) to maintain academic standing in order to remain eligible for participation. Please talk to your child's teachers and coaches when you have concerns about their studies.
- † Be an example of good sportsmanship at games by making only positive comments about student-athletes, coaches, officials, and treating our opponents with respect.
- † Cooperate in helping with the concession stand, the ticket sales desk, transportation and other

duties. Be an active participant in the Lifegate Booster Club.

- † The teachings of Matthew 18 govern concerns or complaints about our athletic program. First, contact the Head Coach if you have a complaint. If the complaint is not resolved, go to the Athletic Director and if the complaint is still not resolved go the Principal.
- † Ensure your child is healthy – proper sleep, nutrition, etc.

15. CONCLUSION

We are fortunate to have a special group of young Christian men and women representing Lifegate Christian School. We know that they are capable of achieving the high standards that we as parents, faculty, coaches, teammates and fellow students expect of them.

The Lifegate Christian School Athletic Code of Conduct was adopted by the LCS Education Committee in June 2002 and revised in April 2007.

Parents and student-athletes must sign that they have read and accept the Lifegate Christian School Code of Conduct for Student-Athletes each year.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with these young men and women.

Please have the student-athlete and parent(s) sign the letter below and return to the school office by August 1. Copies of the TAPPS Acknowledgement of Rules (Grades 9-12 only) and Physical Examination Form (all grades) must be on file in the school office.

I have read and understand the LIFEGATE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT for 2007-2008 and agree to abide by these rules.

Student-Athlete	Date

We have read and understand this Code of Conduct and pledge our support.

Parent	Date

Parent	Date

- Copy 1 -** For Student-athlete and parents (included with booklet)
- Copy 2 -** LCS Athletic Department (Last page only, school file)

Football and Volleyball players must have these forms on file PRIOR to the start of first scheduled game or scrimmage. Cheerleaders should have these forms filed before summer camp.

**Lifegate Christian School
395 Lifegate Lane
Seguin, Texas 78155**

(830) 372-0850

Fax (830) 372-0895

www.lifegatefalcons.org

School e-mail: lifegate@lifegatefalcons.org

Athletic Director: lcscoach@hotmail.com

Other Key Web Sites:

TAPPS Web Site www.tapps.net

District 5-1A Web Site www.eteamz.com/tapps5a

Football District Web Site www.stex6manfb.com

Junior High Football Web Site www.eteamz.com/ctfc

Seguin Gazette Enterprise www.seguingazette.com or blitz.seguingazette.com

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