



# ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

## 2021-22

### *Bishop Baraga Catholic School*

623 West Lincoln Ave    Cheboygan, Michigan 49721

Phone: (231) 627-5608

[www.bishopbaraga.com](http://www.bishopbaraga.com)



Dear Parents, Students, and Coaches,

*"[I] consider sports as an instrument of education when it fosters high human and spiritual ideals; when it forms youth in an integral way in values such as loyalty, perseverance, friendship, solidarity and peace.*

*Surmounting differences of cultures and ideologies, sports offers an ideal occasion for dialogue and understanding among peoples, for building the desired civilization of love. To put into practice these values, based on the dignity of the human person, in face of possible interests that might darken the nobility of sports itself."*

- Pope John Paul II (Sept. 16, 2002)

Welcome to Bishop Baraga Catholic School! In choosing to attend Bishop Baraga School you have elected a Christ-centered Catholic education and academic excellence. Many wonderful opportunities await you!

As a school community, we all must consider the appropriate role of athletics here at Bishop Baraga. A core characteristic of Catholic Christianity and Catholic schools is the concept of relationship and community and the conviction that humankind is "made for each other" (*Educating for Life*, Thomas Groome, p.60). Our prayer is stronger in community. Academic achievement is greater in a community with a similar mission and goals. Our athletic program adds another dimension to our school community. Pope John Paul II says that as manifestations of the communal body of Christ, athletics serve to unify all individuals, including coaches, student-athletes, and families in a spirit of peace.

This handbook outlines the philosophy and reflects the policies of the Bishop Baraga Athletic and extracurricular Program for the 2020-21 school year. Please read this document carefully, sign the attached agreement, and return it to school before attending the first practice date. The agreement states that you intend to abide by the policies of the Bishop Baraga Catholic School Athletic Program during the 2020-21 school year.

Bishop Baraga Athletics extends the work of Bishop Baraga Catholic School by offering another environment in which high human and spiritual ideals can be fostered to help children grow towards a deeper understanding of themselves and their roles in God's great world. Thank you for doing your part to help positively affect and develop the lives of all children by building a peaceful environment within our school, our parish, and in our larger community.

Just as those who create a document such as this are a work in progress, so is this Athletic Handbook.

Sincerely,

Chase Closs  
Principal

# ***Bishop Baraga Catholic School Athletics***

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## ***Mission Statement of Bishop Baraga Catholic School:***

Bishop Baraga Catholic School strives to provide the highest quality Catholic school education, with a commitment to academic excellence and to support families with the spiritual development of their children

## ***Mission of Bishop Baraga Catholic School Athletics:***

The Bishop Baraga School Athletic Program dedicates itself to the pursuit of excellence in athletics within the framework of a Catholic community and in accordance with its primary role as an educator and spiritual guide. The athletics program is committed to providing opportunities for each individual student-athlete to reach his/her highest potential while developing the qualities and spirit of a Catholic Christian.

## ***Philosophy:***

*“Do you not know that the runners in the stadium all run in the race, but only one wins the prize? Run so as to win. Every athlete exercises discipline in every way. They do it to win a perishable crown, but we an imperishable one.”*

*Corinthians 9:24-25*

We recognize that the imperishable crown offered by Jesus Christ far exceeds any of the perishable crowns or trophies offered by this world. As a Catholic school, Bishop Baraga upholds Christian values and principles. Though our athletic teams strive to win in the sense of having the best score, we recognize the real value of Catholic school athletics is realized only if it fosters the development of the human person—both in spirit and in body—by cultivating Christian character, strengthening personal integrity and responsibility, and promoting the pursuit of excellence in all endeavors.

Participation on a team is a privilege. With this privilege come responsibilities in the areas of preparation, attitude, sportsmanship, and academics. These responsibilities exist both in and out of school, both in athletic and non-athletic settings. We recognize the need for God’s support and guidance in meeting these responsibilities.

## ***Conference Affiliation:***

Bishop Baraga School does not affiliate with a specific conference. Schedules each year are filled with schools from the Northern Michigan area that have athletics schedules that coordinate with our schedule for each program offered at Bishop Baraga. Scheduling each year is dependent on the participation within each athletic program offered.

# ***Registration Information***

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## ***Nondiscriminatory Policy***

Bishop Baraga Athletics admits any students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students of the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its participatory policies, admissions policies, or athletic programs.

## ***Procedure for Registration***

A student can become a full, participating member of a Bishop Baraga athletic team or extracurricular club once the following requirements are met:

1. Student and parent/guardian have completed and returned Bishop Baraga Athletic Pay-to-Play Form (see Appendix A)
2. Student and parent/guardian have attended the Preseason Orientation Meeting
3. Student and parent/guardian have read the Bishop Baraga Athletic Handbook and signed the Athletic Contract (see Appendix B)
4. Medical Release form is updated and present in school office

## ***Athletic Pay-to-Play Form***

Bishop Baraga students wishing to participate in a sport must fill out a Bishop Baraga School Athletic Pay-to-Play Form. This form is accessible at the end of this handbook (see Appendix A) and in the main office of the school. Pay-to-Play forms must be completed and returned on or before the deadline set before the first tryout/practice date. Any student who decides to participate on a team after the deadline should see the Athletic Director before attending practice. Deadlines are not intended to prevent a student from participating on a sports team, but they are necessary to make sure that team sizes do not become too large to allow for proper instruction of participants. A Pay-to-Play form need only be completed one time during the school year. Please indicate in the spaces provided at the top of the form, which sports the student may be interested in playing.

## ***Preseason Orientation Meeting***

Prior to beginning each season, the Athletic Director will hold a *mandatory* meeting for all potential student-athletes and their parents. During this meeting the Athletic Handbook will be distributed and reviewed. The coaches will also facilitate a sport-specific discussion group during this meeting to introduce themselves and share their expectations specific to their sport. Parents should contact the Athletic Director prior to the meeting should they not be able to attend.

## ***Fees***

All sports offered at Bishop Baraga School have different costs required for operation. Student athletes and their families are required to pay a \$25 per athlete per sport fee to cover part of the operating costs, uniforms cost, equipment costs, and tournament fees. All checks can be made payable to Bishop Baraga School. Students and their families may be asked to provide their own personal equipment for certain sports.

Financial constraints should not inhibit any student from participating in student athletics. For financial assistance for Bishop Baraga athletics, please contact the principal.

## General Information

### Levels of Competition

Development of the skills fundamental to each sport receives primary emphasis on each athletic team offered at Bishop Baraga. Each team experience, however, may be slightly different depending on the level at which the team is competing.

LEVEL	Junior High Athletics	Developmental
	Teams at this level serve as transitions from the developmental level to junior high teams.	Though each team at Bishop Baraga School emphasizes the development of fundamental skills.
COMMITMENT REQUIRED	<i>Moderate</i> Students and families must commit to 4-5 events a week—practice, games, scrimmages, etc.  *attendance at Saturday practices and practices during holiday breaks may be requested.	<i>Low</i>
TRYOUTS	<i>Varies</i> according to interest and capacity	<i>None</i>
COMPETITION	Officiated games against other area schools as well as occasional scrimmages.	Intramural games provide participating athletes opportunities to practice learned skills in informal, competitive game situations. These intramural games may be within-team games or played against other developmental teams. Intramural games are often officiated by the coaches and stopped occasionally for instruction.
PLAYING TIME	Coaches will make every effort to play every team member in each game.	All athletes participate with emphasis on equal playing time for each athlete
SKILLS EMPHASIZED	-Importance of team cohesion -Individual fundamentals introduced and reinforced -Formal game strategies introduced	-Basic individual fundamentals -Introduction to team dynamics and rules of formal competition

### Athletic Teams at Bishop Baraga

SEASON	GIRLS	BOYS
Fall	<i>Basketball</i> <i>Cross-Country</i>	<i>Cross-Country</i>
Winter	<i>Volleyball</i> <i>Archery (Grades 3-7)</i>	<i>Basketball</i> <i>Archery (Grades 3-7)</i>

Bishop Baraga School offers the following sports to students in grades 6 - 7 (unless otherwise noted)

## ***Transportation Policy***

In accordance with the policies of the Diocese of Gaylord, Bishop Baraga School does not provide any transportation to or from athletic events. All transportation is privately arranged by parents/guardians. Bishop Baraga and the Diocese of Gaylord assume no liability for accidents that may occur en route to any sporting practice or activity.

## ***Tryouts***

In the event that tryouts are needed, announcements of tryout dates will be communicated to participants prior to tryout dates. Tryout flyers will be posted in Weekly Newsletters and communicated directly to parents. Students in grades 6 through 7 (grade 5 on occasion) may try out for any Bishop Baraga sports team. Students and parents should be reminded that not all students who try out will be chosen for a particular sport.

## ***Coaching Expectations and Requirements***

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Coaches are first and foremost educators, and must work in coordination with the parents who are the primary educators of children. At all times, coaches must be examples of Christ the Teacher who serve as role models for student-athletes to emulate. They must be messengers of the school mission and ensure that athletic programs embody the Catholic characteristics prevalent at Bishop Baraga School.

### ***Goal Setting***

When working with Bishop Baraga student-athletes, a successful coach will work towards goals in the following three dimensions: team, personal, and school.

### **Team Goals**

Bishop Baraga coaches build a team by:

1. Advancing the athletes' understanding of their role as members of the communal body of Christ.
2. Creating a positive and memorable experience that will be cherished by the student-athlete for the rest of his/her life.
3. Teaching the specific and unique skills of this sport to the very best of his/her abilities by using all means, methods, and resources available.
4. Teaching the skills of healthy competition that will prepare athletes and the team to succeed.

## **Personal Goals**

Bishop Baraga coaches grow as individuals by:

1. Modeling character, sportsmanship, self-discipline, and a lived faith.
2. Appreciating the moments of grace throughout a season, at times of winning and losing.
3. Becoming a lifelong learner of their sport.
4. Maintaining perspective in and throughout all athletic endeavors, realizing teachable moments exist in all experiences.
5. Fostering positive relationships with all school community stakeholders.

## **School Goals**

Bishop Baraga coaches contribute to the school community by:

1. Infusing the school mission in all athletic activities.
2. Promoting academic excellence as an essential component in the development of student-athletes.
3. Committing to effective communication with administrators, teachers, parents, and athletes.
4. Supporting the development of student-athletes as leaders and role models in the greater school community.
5. Creating a culture of school unity and spirit as exemplified through sportsmanship, positive fan participation, and respect for all.

## ***Conduct of Coaches***

Coaches are called to be models and witnesses to their faith each day and as such, coaches are expected to uphold high standards of conduct in and out of season.

## **Language**

Language should be appropriate and constructive at all times. Coaches are expected to not only monitor their own language, but they should also set and enforce standards of appropriate language for their athletes. This includes, but is not limited to swearing, harassment, exclusionary language, sexual innuendo, personal attacks, and unsportsmanlike gestures.

## **Treatment of Opponents**

Although opponents are not a part of our school community, they are members of the larger body of Christ and should be treated as such. Coaches should model such respect for their athletes and should instruct players on how to welcome their opponents and all visitors in a way that conveys a sense of hospitality and community.

## ***Prayer***

Athletic experiences play an important role in the spiritual formation of students at Bishop Baraga School. Genuine and lasting spiritual development is only possible through careful and conscientious preparation by those in leadership positions. Coaches, as team leaders, are chosen not just to be mentors and role models for student-athletes, but also to be witnesses. Prayer should become an intentional component to a team's culture, not just a rushed event before or after a game or practice. Rather than emphasizing winning, prayers should focus on embodying the spirit of Christianity. Coaches are encouraged to build and create spiritual traditions into their approach to coaching at Bishop Baraga School.

## ***Holding Tryouts***

In a Catholic school, it is essential to demonstrate respect for all members of the school community. There is not an expectation that all students will be able to be members of a team, but when cuts are necessary, students should be treated fairly and with compassion. Coaches should provide individualized feedback to players rather than simply posting a list of team members. When individuals fail to make a team, alternative team roles should be considered, if possible.

## ***Coaching Duties***

In addition to serving as witnesses and models of faith, Bishop Baraga coaches are expected to fulfill the following duties:

Plan out practices and games  
Supervise athletes at all times until they are picked up from practices/games  
Condition athletes properly  
Assess athletes' readiness for practice & competition  
Instruct properly on what to do and what not to do

Maintain safe playing conditions  
Ensure cleanliness of facilities  
Provide proper equipment  
Communicate practice and game schedule to athletes and parents  
Select, train, and supervise assistant coaches

## ***Communication with Athletes and Parents***

Bishop Baraga coaches should establish clear procedures and guidelines for communication with athletes and parents that align with the philosophy and mission of Bishop Baraga School. E-mail should be used only to communicate basic information, such as time and location of games and practices. Discussions of concerns should always be done in person. If a face-to-face meeting is not possible, a phone call is acceptable. Before meetings, establish clear agendas and communicate that certain topics will not be discussed. Coaches do not have to discuss playing time, coaching strategies and specific plays, or information pertaining to other athletes.



## ***Awards and Recognition***

The Bishop Baraga Athletics Program hosts an annual Sports Appreciation Night at the conclusion of the spring season. Coaches are expected to attend the evening to publicly introduce their players and summarize their season. Recognition of athletes, however, should be utilized throughout the season as a means of personal athlete formation and team-building. Particular recognition of athletes should embody the goals and philosophies of the athletic department and program, not only physical talent. Some areas of recognition may include one's academics, sportsmanship, and Catholic nature/spirituality.

## ***Student Expectations and Requirements***

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Students and parents should recognize that participation in the athletic program is not a right of all students, but rather a privilege to those selected individuals who possess the ability, attitude, disposition, cooperative spirit, and desire to represent the Bishop Baraga community in a favorable way. By joining the school's athletic program, a student becomes a representative of his/her team and of Bishop Baraga School.

### ***Eligibility and Probation***

We expect student-athletes to maintain academic and behavioral standards in keeping with the Bishop Baraga School Student-Parent Handbook and the teachings of the Catholic Church. These regulations and procedures apply while on school premises, during practices and competitions, and in the public arena. A student will be considered *ELIGIBLE* to participate in interscholastic athletics at Bishop Baraga School if their most recent academic report reflects:

- ❖ A passing grade in each subject
- ❖ A *Satisfactory* grade or better in all special subjects
- ❖ A *Satisfactory* grade or better in conduct for all subjects

A student-athlete will be considered *ON PROBATION* should his/her most recent academic report reflect any one or a combination of the following academic grades or conduct:

1. A failing grade in a core academic subject (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies, Religion)
2. Below *Satisfactory* in any special subjects
3. One *Incomplete* or *Missing Assignment* in any subject
4. Below *Satisfactory* conduct in any subject

A student-athlete will also be considered *ON PROBATION* should his/her behavior require:

1. Repetitive removal from a classroom
2. An accumulation of 3 or more Student Discipline Points
3. In-school suspension

*Probation* is one, two (2)-week period\* during which a student-athlete works to improve his/her grades and/or conduct. During this two-week period, a student is still considered a full, participating member of the athletic team, but *time should be spent wisely in improving one's grades and conduct*. Student-athletes are encouraged to seek extra help from those teachers in courses where he/she is struggling either before school or after school. Bishop Baraga School faculty and staff are always willing to assist students in their academic studies and personal growth as young adults.

\*The only exception to the two-week probationary period is the *Incomplete*. As soon as the student-athlete makes up the work that caused the incomplete AND the work is to the satisfaction of the appropriate teacher, the student-athlete is no longer on probation.

### **Evaluating Probationary Improvement**

A student-athlete remains a full, participating member of a team if his/her grades at the end of the probationary two-week period reflect a passing average or better in every class, and the student-athlete maintained conduct in keeping with the Bishop Baraga Student-Parent Handbook and the teachings of the Catholic Church.

### **Ineligibility**

A student-athlete will be considered *INELIGIBLE* for interscholastic sports at Bishop Baraga School should there be no improvement after the two-week probationary period. *Ineligibility* means that a student-athlete may NOT participate in interscholastic athletics at Bishop Baraga for the 1 week. Students may attend practices during this time if no other academic resource is available for the student to seek improvement in needed academic areas. Ineligible athletes may attend home games but will not dress for athletic events and will sit on the bench in support of their team.

### ***Student-Athlete Expectations***

A student-athlete's behavior is governed by the same rules, regulations, and procedures that apply to all students as set forth in the Bishop Baraga Parent-Student Handbook. Each student-athlete is expected to demonstrate and encourage in others behaviors that reflect good sportsmanship. If behavior infractions occur, student-athletes may face both a school and an athletic consequence.

### **Attendance**

All student-athletes must be marked as present the full school day of practice or a game in order to participate. Please see the *Student-Parent Handbook* for what constitutes an absence.

All student-athletes must recognize the time commitment made to a team. One is expected to attend all practices and games. If one cannot attend a practice or game, please make sure the coach and/or athletic director has been notified *in advance*. Consequences for a missed practice or game will be informed by the team rules as outlined by the coach/team at the beginning of the season in addition to the natural consequences that result from missing practice instruction or game experience.

### **Dress Code/Uniforms**

Student-Athletes are highly visible representatives of the school and, as such, are responsible for using good judgment in their overall appearance. All teams, regardless of level, have a responsibility to ensure that their game attire speaks volumes of their class and excellence. All game shirts will be tucked in. No player should make modifications to his or her uniform. Athletes are to wear a school issued uniform and treat their uniform with respect. Teams that treat their uniforms with respect, exude class. Student athletes are required to dress up on school days in which home sporting events occur. On days that a team travels to another school, student athletes are allowed to wear travel shirts or sweatshirts with uniform bottoms.

*Uniforms must be returned to the athletic director within seven (7) days of the last game. Progress reports and/or report cards may be withheld until the uniform is returned. If a uniform is not returned, parents are responsible for the cost of replacing the uniform.*

## **Sportsmanship**

### **Players**

All student-athletes are expected to represent **Bishop Baraga** School in an exemplary manner. This behavior is expected both on and off the court or field. Student-athletes are expected to display the best of Christian courtesy and manners to all officials, coaches, opposing coaches, players, and spectators. At all times good sportsmanship is the rule, not the exception. The penalty for unsportsmanlike behavior during a practice or game will be left to the discretion of the coaches for each sport along with input from the athletic director. This can range from sitting out at practice to a one-game suspension. In extreme cases when an athlete has been ejected from a game, multi-game suspensions and dismissal from the team may be appropriate. The athletic director and principal will make the final decision following a meeting with the athlete, coach, and parent.

### **Transfer Students/Injured Students**

Transfer students or students injured at the beginning of a season will be awarded a tryout for a team if there is one more than half of the games left in that sport's season. Transfer and injured students are guaranteed the same tryout duration as the other athletes, though they are not guaranteed placement.

## ***Expectations of Parents and Stakeholders***

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*"It is incumbent upon parents to cooperate closely with the school teachers to whom they entrust their children to be educated; in fulfilling their duty teachers are to collaborate closely with parents who are willingly heard and for whom associations or meetings are to be inaugurated and held in great esteem."*  
(Code of Canon Law, 796)

Bishop Baraga School coaches and administrators respect the primacy of the parents as the first teachers of their student-athletes, and will partner with parents in the formation of student-athletes. Parents and other members of the community play a vital role in the holistic education of children including students' participation in school-sponsored athletics. Together, all stakeholders should actively work to ensure that the Catholic mission and identity of Bishop Baraga School permeates the athletics program.

### ***Volunteer Opportunities***

Parents are required to volunteer as needed during home sporting events with various tasks such as working concession stands and/or admissions, keeping the official book at the scorestable, running the official game clock, and postgame cleanup of the gym and school. A schedule of volunteer opportunities will be made available for parents upon the beginning of each season.

## *Top Five Ways to Support your Student-Athlete*

1. **Be present** – Show up to games, cheer, and support our teams!
2. **Be positive** – Children learn from modeling. When talking about the game, season, performances and decision-making, please share the gift of a positive outlook on life! Make sure that your child knows that win or lose, he/she is loved and supported.
3. **Encourage independence** – Encourage student-athletes to be responsible for the care of their athletic gear and to be prepared for practices and games. In addition, student-athletes should speak directly with their coach about any questions and/or concerns.
4. **Observe the “24 Hour Cushion”** – As do all good educators, Bishop Baraga coaches will naturally and deliberately reflect on game situations and decisions. Please allow coaches the time they need to process their decisions before approaching them with any questions. As stated above, coaches need not discuss playing time, coaching strategies and specific plays, or information pertaining to other athletes.
5. **Model Bishop Baraga’s behavior expectations for visiting spectators** – Take pride in our athletic program and model for visitors how we...
  - i. cheer for our team rather than against our opponents.
  - ii. respect the integrity and authority of game officials.
  - iii. allow coaches to coach without criticism from the spectators.
  - iv. help clean up at the end of athletic events.

All parents of student athletes are expected to represent **Bishop Baraga** School in an exemplary manner. This behavior is expected both at practices and games. Parents of student athletes are expected to display the best of Christian courtesy and manners to all officials, coaches, opposing coaches, players, and spectators. At all times good sportsmanship is the rule, not the exception. The penalty for unsportsmanlike behavior during a practice or game will be left to the discretion of the coaches for each sport along with input from the athletic director and the principal. This can range from a parent being asked to not attend games to a parent being banned from attending any games. In extreme cases, the student athlete may also be dismissed from the team. The athletic director and principal will make the final decision following a meeting with the athlete, coach, and parent.

### *Transportation*

Transportation to/from practices and games is the sole responsibility of the parents. Please ensure that your student-athlete is picked up promptly at the end of each practice/game.

### *Removal from Team – Parent Decision*

The principal, athletic director and coaches will respect and support the decision of a parent to remove his or her child from a team for any reason. However, once the child is removed, he or she may not return to that team for the remainder of the sport season.

## ***Revisions/Modifications to Policy***

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The Principal may make changes to any policies outlined in this handbook as needed, and has the final decision with regards to any policy. Changes will be made public in the weekly letter.

***The Principal has the authority to remove a student or cancel a season if student-athletes or parents are not adhering to Bishop Baraga School standards.***

# Bishop Baraga Athletics - Pay-to-Play Policy

Dear Parents and Student Athletes,

The Bishop Baraga Athletic and Extracurricular Program is striving to increase the overall experience for our students who choose to participate in athletics at Bishop Baraga School. In order to successfully enhance the experience for student athletes, we have implemented a **Pay-to-Play Policy** to help supplement the cost of supplies and expenses needed to make BBCS's athletic program operate successfully. **Students participating in the following athletics will be required to pay a fee of \$25 per student for each sport the student participates in.** The sports and activities that will fall under the Pay-to-Play policy will be **Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Cross Country, Junior Volleyball and Grades 3-7 Archery**. These fees will help build our athletic program and will be used for equipment maintenance, officiating expenses, and uniform expenses. We appreciate all of the support that families give throughout the course of the school year, and hope that we can continue to provide students with the best possible experiences at Bishop Baraga Catholic School.

Payment of sports programs that students are participating in can be made prior to the season as well as at the beginning of each sports program students are involved in. Please return the bottom portion of this form, filled out, signed, and dated with the appropriate payment amount to the Bishop Baraga Main Office. Thank you again for your continued support.

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## Bishop Baraga Athletics Pay-to-Play Policy Form

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

### Waiver of Liability

We, the undersigned, hereby certify that I (we) am (are) the parent or legal guardian of the student. I hereby give permission to the staff of Bishop Baraga Catholic School to seek during the period of school athletic activities, appropriate medical attention and for the student to receive medical attention and treatment to be covered under the student's insurance policy detailed on page 1 of this form. I/We the undersigned, for ourselves, our heirs, our executor and administrator, waiver, release, and forever discharge Bishop Baraga Catholic School and its staff, officers, agents, employees, representatives, successors and assigns from any and all liability claims, demands, actions, and causes of action whatsoever arising out of or related to any loss, personal injury or property damage that may be sustained or occur during participation in student athletic activities or while at school.

Signature of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ***BBCS ATHLETIC CONTRACT***

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Please initial each statement below to acknowledge your agreement to this contract. Then, sign the form at the bottom and return to the Athletic Director to be eligible for participation.

As a Bishop Baraga Student-Athlete...

\_\_\_ I will strive to give my best to the team in every practice and every game.

\_\_\_ I will be on time for all practices and games.

\_\_\_ I will not miss a practice or game because of another outside sport or extra-curricular activity unless approved by the coach or athletic director.

\_\_\_ This experience is an opportunity to learn not only \_\_\_\_\_ (sport), but also teamwork with all its inherent responsibilities. There will be times when I will follow someone's lead and there will be times when I must assume that lead – I always have a contribution to make to my team.

\_\_\_ I will take my coaches' directions and comments as constructive suggestions, which make me a better athlete and my team a successful unit.

\_\_\_ Practice is where I learn the concepts of the game. How I apply those concepts in mind and body in practice will carry over into the game situation.

\_\_\_ I will always play hard, but always will be a fair sport whether we are winning or losing the game, realizing that everyone on my team and my opponent's team is playing for fun and the competitive experience.

\_\_\_ I will carry these principles to my schoolwork and my family life with the realization that these are of greatest importance and take precedence to any sport.

\_\_\_ I will be an example of Christ in all my actions on and off the field/court of competition.

\_\_\_ I have read the athletic handbook and agree to follow the policies and procedures as stated.

Player Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

Appendix B