



MPCS Athletics Frequently Asked Questions

1. Which students are eligible to participate on MPCS teams?

Mount Paran Christian School middle school and high school students are eligible to participate in all sports. Fifth grade students are allowed to participate in no-cut sports (cross country, football, swimming, wrestling, and track/field).

2. What sports are offered, and when?^

Fall Sports (Aug. - mid Oct.)

MS Cheerleading (girls) * + ~
Varsity Cheerleading (girls) * + ~
MS Cross Country (boys/girls)
Varsity Cross Country (boys/girls)
MS Football (boys)
Varsity Football (boys)
MS Boys Soccer
MS Fast-Pitch Softball (girls)
Varsity Fast-Pitch Softball (girls)
MS Volleyball (girls)
Varsity and JV Volleyball (girls)

Winter Sports (mid-Oct.- mid Feb.)

MS Basketball (boys/girls)
JV Basketball (boys/girls)
Varsity Basketball (boys/girls)
MS Cheerleading (girls) + ~
Varsity Cheerleading (girls) + ~
MS Swimming (boys/girls)
Varsity Swimming (boys/girls)
MS Wrestling (boys)
Varsity Wrestling (boys)

Spring Sports (Feb.- April/May)

MS Baseball (boys)
Varsity and JV Baseball (boys)
MS Golf (boys/girls)
Varsity Golf (boys/girls)
MS Lacrosse (boys)
Varsity Lacrosse (boys)
MS Soccer (boys/girls)
Varsity and JV Soccer (boys/girls)
MS Tennis (boys/girls)
Varsity Tennis (boys/girls)
MS Track/Field (boys/girls)
Varsity Track/Field (boys/girls)

^ Equestrian (not listed) is offered as a club rather than a school sport; the competition season is September – April.

* Competition format

+ Sideline format

~ Tryouts held in spring

3. Are all sports offered at both high school and middle school levels?

Yes.

4. Are tryouts required for all sports?

Because of the number of students interested in MPCS athletics, most of our teams have a formal tryout at the beginning of the season (typically a 2-3 day event). Cross country (fall), football (fall), swimming (winter), wrestling (winter), and track and field (spring) are no-cut sports, which means that any student meeting eligibility requirements may participate in these sports. However, these teams require the same level of commitment to practices and competitions.

5. Are there eligibility requirements for students to participate on a MPCS team?

For both middle and high school athletes, a 2.0 grade point average is required. In addition, high school students who transfer to MPCS any time after the first day of their freshman year must meet GHSA eligibility requirements. Please contact the athletic office for more information.

6. What forms and fees are required to participate on a MPCS team?

- **GHSA Physical Form:** Before participating in a sport at MPCS, every student athlete is **required** to have a Georgia High School Association (GHSA) Physical Form on file in the athletic office. Some physicians prefer to provide their own physical form, but these are not recognized by GHSA, nor are they as comprehensive in evaluating fitness for athletic competition. The form is valid for one calendar year (if dated after April 1, 2010, it is valid through the entire 2010-11 school year).
- **2010-2011 Athletic Participation Consent Form:** This form, signed by both student athlete and parent, is to be completed once each school year for each student athlete.

Both forms may be obtained via the school website (choose “Athletics” on the website home page, then “Required Forms/Fees” on the left side-bar of the Athletics page), in the Athletic office, or in the main school office.

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6. *What forms and fees are required to participate on a MPCS team (continued)?*

- **Athletic fee:** \$65 one-time fee per school year for each student athlete.
- **Player pack fee.** Competition uniforms are owned by the athletic department, and must be returned at the end of the season. Player pack items are consumables, such as practice gear, hoodies, equipment bags, etc., which are used during the season, and then retained by the athlete for his or her personal use.

7. *Does the school provide transportation to away games?*

MPCS provides bus transportation for student athletes to away competitions. Athletes **must** travel under the school's supervision and must return with the team to the school campus. The only circumstance in which the requirement to return with the team to the school campus will be waived is when the student is released into the supervision of a custodial parent, legal guardian, or adult authorized by advance written notification from a custodial parent or legal guardian. Such written notification authorizing release to a noncustodial adult must include:

- the noncustodial adult's name
- the activity date
- the parent or guardian's signature
- the parent or guardian's legible name.

High school student athletes are not allowed to drive to/from athletic competitions.

8. *May a student participate on more than one Mount Paran Christian team in a season?*

Although it is not common, some student athletes are able to participate as dual-sport athletes in the same season, participating in both a team sport and individual sport, such as track or cross country. Students who wish to compete on more than one team during a season **must** obtain permission from the coaches of those sports, and follow the guidelines set forth in the Athletic Manual, Section 2.7, which is available on the school website (choose Athletics on the website home page, then "Athletic Policies" on the left side-bar of the Athletics home page). **The team sport always takes priority over the individual sport if competitions are scheduled at the same time.**

9. *What should we do during the summer to prepare for MPCS athletic teams next year?*

Obtain a GHSA physical for your rising sixth through twelfth grade student and turn it in to the athletic office. (NOTE: Rising fifth graders who plan to participate in a no-cut sport must also obtain a GHSA physical.) This will ensure that your student is eligible to try out for any sport during the next school year. Also, encourage your student to stay active and fit, participating in activities he/she already enjoys, such as playing on a recreation team, taking lessons, and going to sports camps.