

ST STEPHEN'S

ATHLETICS PROGRAM

Welcome back to all of the students and families here at St. Stephen's. As we start the 2011-12 academic year the student-athletes will be participating in a new sport league, the Hillsborough Catholic Youth Sports League (HCYSL). The league is composed of Catholic schools from Hillsborough County, including St. Lawrence, Nativity, Villa Madonna, Most Holy Redeemer, Corpus Christi, Christ the King, St. Joseph's, and Sacred Heart. The change to the HCYSL allows our student-athletes the opportunity to compete with schools who have the same ideals and principals we share in the Diocese as well as develop relationships with those fellow students-athletes who our Mustangs may go on and participate with at one of the area Catholic high schools.

The HCYSL consists of separate boys and girls leagues and seasons. The only exception is co-ed soccer. The boys' league sports are co-ed soccer, track, basketball, and volleyball. The girls' league sports are volleyball, basketball, track, flag football, and softball. Please refer to the boys/girls league sports info sheet for what grades are eligible and the dates and times of the seasons. JV is grades 5-6 and Varsity is 7-8. The boys and girls league schedules are configured in a way to ensure availability of gyms for games as well as for facility usage at the home campus. The boys' league plays games after school during soccer and volleyball seasons while basketball and track may have games/meets on weekday evenings and on Saturday mornings. The girls' league plays most of their games/events/tourneys after school in the afternoon. This does mean additional drive/travel time due to the distances to some of the new schools. However, the league will do its best to alleviate traveling long distances whenever the scheduling allows.

As we enter the HCYSL there will be many new things to get used to and many questions. I will be discussing the new league and all things sports at the first sports meeting of the year, Thursday, September 1st, time/room TBA. Any parent with a student playing co-ed soccer or girls' volleyball must be present in order for their son/daughter to be eligible to participate in the season. Feel free to contact me by phone or email at school if you have any questions regarding athletics for the 2011-12 school year. GO MUSTANGS!!!!!!

God Bless,

Coach Green

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