

Athletics Registration For 2022-2023 is Open!!

Registration is now open for participation in athletics during the 2022-2023 school year. Any student who will be in 5th through 8th grade during the 2022-23 school year who is either registered to attend St. Mary, or will be attending Christian Formation at St. Mary, St. James or Good Shepherd is eligible to participate. St. Mary offers the following sports for both boys and girls: Volleyball (August thru October), Basketball (November thru March) and Track (April thru May).

All sports practice two times a week for 1.5hrs (5th and 6th grade) or 2hrs (7th and 8th grade). Volleyball and Basketball teams will participate in 1-2 league games each week and will also play in 2-3 tournaments each season. Track participates in several meets in the area during their season.

We welcome participants from all levels, whether you have no experience and are just looking to learn and try it out, or you have a few years of club experience already and are looking for more practice to hone your skills.

Registration will be open through June 30th. Please sign up soon. Once registration is closed, we will begin the process of selecting coaches for the Volleyball season as well as submitting rosters to the league and paperwork to the Archdiocese.

We ask that you please be considerate when signing up for sports. All we ask is that you only sign up if you are certain your child will be playing. It is much easier for us to add a child before a season begins than to remove. The leagues we play in require a commitment from us on the number of teams we will field, and we set those based on the number of children who register. We try to keep the teams large enough to account for vacations, illness, and the like, but small enough that all get playing time and coaching. If we register 2 teams for volleyball because we have 20 kids registered, then 4 decide after July 1st that they are not going to play because it will be too hard with Football and Soccer practices/games on top of volleyball and we have to drop to a single team of 16 that makes for a long and hard season for all involved...and we lose the team fees we paid for any dropped teams.

Signing up for sports also requires a commitment from each family to volunteer for Concessions or Admissions hours. This can be taken on by anyone within the family: Mom, Dad, Older siblings, grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, etc. This involves a couple of 2 hour shifts per season and is a commitment you make when signing up (there is a signed acknowledgment/agreement) and is how we keep our sports fees as low as possible. Sign-up during your league games, a tournament, or any other time you have available. We always welcome you to take more shifts if you enjoy watching volleyball or basketball and want to volunteer your time in this fun way.

The basketball season falls during the same time as club volleyball is being played. A few years ago, the Archdiocese changed their policy to allow students to play for both a club team and their school team. Part of allowing this to happen was that the expectation is that during the school season priority is given to the school team. If the Archdiocese determines that too many students are "ditching" their school games to play for their club team, they will likely go back to not allowing students to play for both. We expect that if you are signing your student up for basketball that you will prioritize school games over club. We have some teams that will have several club players on them and having just a couple skip their school game could lead to forfeits, which we do not want to happen. Please take this into account when signing up, coaches will be reiterating this during their pre-season meetings.

Our Athletic Board is always looking for more parents who would like to help as well. We have open positions as well as 'member at large' positions. The commitment is minimal, only one meeting a month August through May and board duty shifts running the gym during the volleyball and basketball season.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out.

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/stmaryathletics>

See the Athletics Website for more information: <https://stmaryparish.net/parish-athletics>



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