

Nativity After-School Sports Contract:

Volleyball



We are excited that you want to play Panther Sports! You are part of a tradition of thousands of children who have had fun, stayed in good physical shape, and learned important life skills through team sports.

Nativity relies on the incredible devotion and time commitment of our volunteer parents, who serve as coaches and commissioners. The lynchpin of our program is RESPECT. Respect for coaches, respect for officials, respect for teammates. We insist on maintaining an atmosphere of respect in all aspects of the program: from both players and their families at practice and at games. You are being asked to sign a contract with us. Below, we will spell out some of the specific elements. Please read it carefully and please ask us about anything that is confusing. This is important, because Nativity School reserves the right to suspend any child from a sports team whose behavior or actions – or whose parents, guardians, or other family members' behavior or actions -- run contrary to the rules of our program.

- 1) I understand that Nativity School participates in the Peninsula Parochial School League. I agree to comply with all rules, regulations, and policies of the PPSL (A copy of those rules will be posted on our website).
- 2) I understand that, in order to be a member of this team, a child is expected to attend all practices and games, and to be on time. In the event of illness or other conflict that prevents attendance, the player has obligation to alert the coach as far in advance as possible. I understand that a player's role in any given game or meet may be limited by a failure to attend practice or cooperate fully with the coach at practice.
- 3) I realize that participation in this sport requires a fee of **\$75.00**. This fee is due by **Wednesday, May 14, 2010**, along with this signed contract.
- 4) I understand that my child's uniform is the property of the school and must be returned at the end of the season. If lost or damaged, I agree to pay the cost of replacement -- \$85.
- 5) I agree to make every effort to pick up my child on time from practices and games, and to make sure I have the coach's cell phone in case there is some kind of unforeseen delay. I also agree never to leave a child at a practice or game facility unless I make sure the coach is present.
- 6) I realize that I may be asked to perform some duties in connection with the team, such as serving as a scorekeeper, a volleyball linesman, a snack coordinator, a practice helper, a game summary writer for the newsletter, etc. I agree to help out as best I can.
- 7) To field a team, our school pays a significant fee to the PPSL and the teams are entered into a complex and lengthy scheduling process. Because this must be determined weeks in advance of the season, we are forced to follow a strict policy about participation. By signing this form, I acknowledge that, once a child signs up for a team, he or she has an obligation to play. If a child withdraws from a team, the child will be subject to suspension from the next PPSL sport (For example, if you sign up for basketball and withdraw, you will be ineligible for track).
- 8) I appreciate that coaching is a time-consuming and subjective activity. I/we recognize that our coaches are volunteers and that this program does not tolerate



heckling, negative criticism in front of players or families, or any form of interference during a game or practice including, but not limited to, coaching from the sidelines, advising a player to ignore coaching instructions or complaining to a coach about strategy or playing time during a game. I agree to discuss any issues I have with a coach's style or decisions directly with the coach at an appropriate time. If this does not resolve the issue, I will contact the relevant commissioner for this sport.

The safety and well-being of every child is Nativity's first and most important concern. I understand that sports involve activities that can lead to injury and I realize that a coach may have to take disciplinary actions to enforce proper behavior including benching a child during practice, or calling for a parent to come get the child, or, in rare cases, suspending a child for a game. I also acknowledge that coaching involves both positive and negative feedback, and that one of the benefits of sports for children is learning how to handle both types of feedback, an important life skill. I realize that the Nativity commissioners are anxious to learn of any situation in practice, at games, or involving any aspect of a program that a parent believes is harmful or counter to the best interests of a given child or a team. I agree to conduct any and all of these conversations in a respectful manner.

For players: I have read these rules and understand them. I promise to do my best to follow them and to have fun representing Nativity!

Student Signature

Grade

For parents: I have read these rules and understand them. I will do my best to support a positive coaching environment for my child and his/her team.

Parent Name

Date

COACH SIGN-UPS

I AM INTERESTED IN COACHING OR ASSISTING WITH A VOLLEYBALL TEAM.

Print Name: _____ **Grade:** _____

Daytime Phone: (_____) _____ **email:** _____