

## **Article XII – Athletics Philosophy**

The members of the West Catholic Athletic League believe that athletic participation is integral to our common Catholic/Christian mission. We consider athletics to be an extension of the classroom, another facet of our educational mission. The members of the WCAL pledge not to use undue influence in attracting student-athletes to our schools, including the following:

1. No one associated with any WCAL School may approach a student or his/her parents, either directly or through a third party (teacher, coach, etc.), for the purpose of inducing that student to attend any WCAL School in order to participate in athletics.
2. Prospective students or their parents or representatives should contact the school Admissions Office, not coaches or athletic administrators, to discuss application, admission, financial aid, etc. WCAL coaches or athletic administrators who may be contacted in this way should direct the person to the Admissions Office.
3. WCAL coaches or other Athletic Department personnel are not to discuss, promise, or infer admission or financial aid to prospective students or their parents or representatives.
4. WCAL coaches or other school personnel or representatives are not to discuss team membership, playing time, etc., with prospective students or their parents or representatives.
5. WCAL coaches are not permitted to send text messages or make phone calls to grammar school or middle school students.
6. WCAL does not award athletic scholarships.
7. No middle-school-age individual or team may be invited or given discounted admission to WCAL athletic contests. These may be extended only to entire classes or school student bodies.
8. WCAL does not target specific individual students for invitation to sport camps. Sport camps are open to the general public.
9. Financial aid for sport camps is not based on athletic ability.
10. Any correspondence from WCAL representatives to camp participants must be sent to all participants, and not targeted at specific individuals.
11. No middle school students may participate in open gyms or other athletic activities with WCAL students during the regular school year.
12. Incoming freshmen are not eligible for summer league play. Incoming freshmen may not begin organized practice until the league-sanctioned starting date.