

Criteria for Team Selection

5th & 6th Grade Philosophy

This program is available to all students in the 5th and 6th grades.

At the 5th & 6th grade level the focus is on learning the athletic skill and game rules, fundamentals of team play, emotional growth, and healthy competition. Participation is a key component for our 5th and 6th grade teams.

When there are large numbers of students participating in a sport, there may be multiple teams. These teams will be divided equally by grade and skill level.

7th & 8th Grade Philosophy

This program is available to all students in the 7th & 8th grades.

At the 7th & 8th grade level there is an increased emphasis placed on physical conditioning, refinement of fundamental skill, elements and strategies of team play in addition to emotional development, game knowledge, and rules.

Team selection at the 7th & 8th grade level will be based on ability and grade level whenever possible (exception: boy's football will stay by grade level). There may be circumstances where grade levels will be combined to form teams. This will be communicated to the athletes and the parents ahead of time. St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School will make a concerted effort not to make cuts at any of these grade levels. However, if the number of students trying out for a team creates a situation that is difficult to manage, poses a safety problem or is problematic because of facility considerations, reducing the team size may be necessary. Ultimately, the number of teams and size of the squad in and sport will be determined by the availability of 1) qualified and certified coaches, 2) suitable facilities, and 3) a safe environment.

If necessary, a written evaluation will be done to rate the athletes in several areas. Scores will be given according to ability and skill level. Evaluations will be done by the Athletic Director and the Assistant Athletic Director when possible but there may be situations where it will be necessary to bring in outside evaluators. Again, this will be communicated to the parents and the athletes ahead of time.

