

# Lighthouse Christian Athletics

## General Registration Policy

Revised August 2025

**Mission Statement:** The mission of Lighthouse Christian Athletics (“LCA”) is to develop strong Christian character through competitive and challenging athletic programs.

**Player Eligibility:** Lighthouse Christian Athletics complies with a combination of eligibility rules from MSHSAA (Missouri State High School Activities Association) and certain specific Homeschool athletic associations relevant to each competing sport.

Athletes who are homeschooled are allowed to participate in Charger sports with no restrictions. Participants who attend a private school on a full time basis (not homeschooled) without a participating competitive sport may be eligible to play for Lighthouse Christian Athletics in non-MSHSAA competition, depending on the particular sport of interest. However, ONLY homeschooled participants are eligible to play against MSHSAA sanctioned competition in any sport.

**Homeschool Player Eligibility:** All homeschool player participants must meet the following guidelines (per MSHSAA Official Handbook, Section 1.1.1.e.):

- Meets homeschool definition, as defined by the State of Missouri (MO Rev Stat § 167.012) <https://revisor.mo.gov/main/OneSection.aspx?section=167.012>
- Must have been homeschooled for at least 365 consecutive days immediately preceding the competitive season.
- Must meet the age requirements set by MSHSAA for Junior High and Senior high participants.

**During the registration process you (parent) will be asked the following questions:**

- Does the participant meet the definition of a homeschool student, as defined by the State of Missouri?
- Has the participant been homeschooled for at least the last 365 days prior to beginning competition with the Chargers?

**A “No” answer to either of these questions will mean your participant will be ineligible to participate against MSHSAA competition.**

**Any registration submitted that is found to have falsified answers to the homeschool compliance questions will be immediately ineligible for participation as a Charger athlete for up to 365 days.**

**Transcript:** Lighthouse Christian Athletics reserves the right to request a transcript for Junior High and High School athletes. This is a requirement for certain sports. Failure to provide the transcript when requested could result in ineligibility for certain events and tournaments.

**Non-MSHSAA/Club Competition:** Please note that for out of season club competition, the MSHSAA guidelines do not apply. Contact a representative of your particular sport to learn the specific requirements for out of season play. Contact information for your sport can be found on our website by selecting your sport under the “Program” menu.

**Age Requirements:** See sport specific sport program pages for age classification details. Junior High and Senior High sports will align to MSHSAA age guidelines (Sections 3.5.1 and 3.5.2 of MSHSAA handbook) unless otherwise specified in sport specific policies. Our registration system will automatically determine if your participant is age eligible. It will not let you register a participant that does not meet the age requirement for that sport.

**Years of Eligibility:** Per MSHSAA guidelines, athletes are eligible to participate in high school activities for a maximum of four consecutive years, starting the year they first participate in high school competition. Additional sport specific age restrictions may apply. Participants who reach age 19 prior to July 1st are not eligible to participate in Charger sports for the coming year.

**Registration Requirements:**

- Meet all eligibility requirements defined herein and any additional sport specific requirements, or receive an exception to policy from the Sport Director.
- Agree to parent and participant code of conduct policies
- Agree to terms of the liability waiver
- Obtain an athletic physical, signed by physician
- Submit any sport specific eligibility forms and documentation requirements.
- Have family provided Health Insurance (LCA holds only general liability)
- Provide required equipment (defined by sport program.). Sign for responsibility of any checked out Chargers-owned equipment (defined by sport, may or may not be applicable to you).
- Pay all applicable registration fees in full and submit all required documents prior to the first official day of practice. See the schedule for your specific sport for dates.

**Multi-Sport Participation:** It is the general position of Lighthouse Christian Athletics that multi-sport participation should be encouraged. Numerous reports and studies point to the benefits of multi-sport participation, which may include reduced injury rates, improved leadership skills, teamwork, athletic performance, and academic performance. Many college coaches also prefer multi-sport athletes.

- Lighthouse Christian Athletics encourages athletes to participate in as many sports as they wish, with the following restriction. Only one sport should be played in a given primary season (Fall, Winter, Spring).
- This restriction is to prevent the logistical conflicts that inevitably arise in the schedules of two different sports operating in the same season. Additionally, it is believed that attempting to participate in practice and competition for more than one competitive sport at the same time may take a toll on the physical well-being of the athlete.
- For sports that overlap such as Fall and Winter sports, the sport that has started competition first will be the priority of the athlete until competition ends for that sport. The athlete will then be free to begin practice immediately with the sport that has just started.
- Exceptions in certain situations may be permissible at the discretion of the head coaches. If you would like an exception to be made for your athlete please discuss with the head coaches of both affected sports.

**Fees:**

- **Payment:** See sport specific program pages for details on payment policies, schedules, and payment plans.
- **Refunds:** See sport specific program pages for detailed refund policies and schedule.
- **Scholarships:** Money should not come between an athlete and athletic participation. If a family cannot afford registration fees, arrangements for a scholarship can be requested. An agreement for additional volunteering will typically be discussed as part of the scholarship. You can begin this request with the program director or head coach.
- **Equipment Return:** All Charger owned equipment will be turned in at the end of the season. Families are responsible to pay for any lost or damaged equipment.