



Arizona Lutheran Academy

6036 South 27th Avenue • Phoenix, Arizona 85041 • 602-268-8686 • ALAcoyotes.org

Coyotes,

It's great to be back to school and athletics! ALA's athletic leaders have the responsibility to create a positive climate in their program and team relationships need to be full of love, forgiveness, empathy, and support. As we all know, our nation and local communities have gone through challenging times in the last 18 months. Now more than ever, I'm thankful that our coaching staff is full of people who are faithful, humble, forgiving, and poised.

I am sharing some information of note as we kick-off our fall sport seasons. Please contact myself or Mrs. Solofra (solofra@alacoyotes.org) with any questions or concerns.

God's blessings,

DAVID PETER, CAA
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR | HEAD FOOTBALL COACH | INSTRUCTOR

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1. Character Development:

- a. In our school and our athletic program, we truly care about the character of our students and the relationships that they are building. Thank you for giving your ALA coaches the opportunity to be partners in your child's time in high school.
- b. Our athletic program follows the Character Matters Program. This year's theme is "Leave No Doubt". This program provides tools for our coaches to help build the culture of their program as part of this school. Each season has character qualities that will be focused on in each sport at the same time. Each individual program will award a competitor of the week.
- c. At the end of the fall season, each head coach will select a Coyote Character award winner. The athlete selected **best exemplifies Christian character, servant-leadership, dedication to academic work, commitment to his/her faith and commitment to the team.**

2. Sportsmanship

- a. Do you want to be a good sports parent...or a great sports parent?
 - i. Teach and model great sportsmanship
 - ii. Trust that the coaches know what they're doing and it's in the best interests of your athlete AND the team.
 - iii. If questions or concerns arise, communicate with your coach directly.

3. Academics

- a. Athletes are students first, so time and attention must be given to academics. Our new late work policy and eligibility policy is in our student handbook. We want to help our athletes be successful in the classroom as much as on the field. Please contact Mr. Wiechmann or myself with any questions.

4. Communication

- a. We expect athletes to be at each practice and game that their team is participating in. But, we understand that life does happen and sometimes things like doctor appointments may interfere with practice time. **PLEASE, have your student communicate with their coaches in a timely manner.**
- b. ALA's extra-curricular handbook is a wonderful reference tool for all of our athletic policies. Our website and calendar are updated regularly to reflect any changes. Coaches will communicate regularly each week with any important reminders.

5. Athletic registration

- a. All athletes need to be registered prior to participating in official practices. The athletic page of our website provides step by step instructions for this and a link to our registration site, familyid.

6. Athletic trainer

- a. Many of you know our certified head athletic trainer, Mike McKenney. He is a professor at GCU and dad to two ALA students. Mike and I work great together and he is willing to help diagnose a student's injury before you go to the doctor. Your student-athlete should speak with me so I can make arrangements.

7. Athletic sponsorship

- a. Do you own a business or know someone that does? If so, would you consider partnering with us and being an athletic sponsor? You make a donation to the athletic program, we support your business by providing a banner and list your information in our athletic programs for home athletic events.
- b. Information can be found at the following link: [Athletic Sponsorship](#)
- c. Please contact Doug Meyer, the Director of Mission Advancement for more information and to sign up to be an athletic sponsor.