

## Information for PHMS Athletics

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### Sports and Approximate Season Start Times

All sports, except cheerleading, have one boys and one girls team with players selected from the three grade levels during tryouts.

- Volleyball AND Cross Country: August-October
- Cheerleading: September-December
- Basketball: November-January
- Track: January-March
- Flag Football: February-April

Palm Harbor Middle School is in a competitive league and playing time for all sports is not guaranteed. It is left to the coach's discretion based on practice and game performance as to how much playing time is garnered by your child.

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### Requirements for Eligibility

All students are required to fulfill the following requirements at the time of tryouts. Any student that does not comply will not be eligible to try out. The GPA requirement does not apply to incoming sixth grade students during the first grading period.

- Athletic Participation Form signed by the legal guardian
- Student Athlete Expectation Form
- 2.0 GPA that is checked at the end of every six weeks
- \$7.00 school insurance - [Student Insurance](#) print receipt
- Updated sports physical dated after May 2025 (these are good for 365 days from the date of the doctor's signature)

All paperwork must be printed and taken to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade office **no later than 2 days before the date of tryouts for that sport**. Paperwork that is on file in the offices will not be accepted as proof due to Pinellas County regulations and liability. The paperwork that is submitted will be kept on file for the year and is accepted for all middle school sports. You do not need new copies for every tryout that is held during the 25-26 school year, but each student must submit a complete hard copy of each document on the Athletic Participation Checklist.

Digital files of the required forms can be found on our PHMS webpage under athletics.

## **Transportation and Requirements for Driving Students**

The county does not provide buses for away games and all schools rely on parent volunteers for transporting players to away game sites. Upon completion of an away game, players are not provided a ride back to Palm Harbor Middle School, and it is the parents' responsibility to pick up their child from the away site promptly upon completion of the event. PCSB policy only requires coaches to remain at practice or the game site for no more than 30 minutes following completion of the event.

Because we depend on volunteers to drive, we are required to comply with county policies applicable to being with students when not in the presence of a school board employee. All drivers must be Level II cleared by the county and fingerprints and a background check are required. For information regarding Level II screening, please visit [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org). Also, the proper amount of insurance coverage on your vehicle and passengers is required. The volunteer and driving forms are in the front office and there is a link [here](#). The form must be printed and brought to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade office no less than 1 week before travel. Background checks and fingerprinting are completed by a third party and take approximately three weeks to complete. Financial responsibility for background checks is the responsibility of each volunteer. If you plan to drive for volleyball, which begins at the beginning of the year, please consider completing your Level II screening prior to the start of the school year. When driving only your own child, the forms are not necessary.