**Secondary Competitive Sports General Information Sheet Winter Season**

Hello and welcome to the 2018-2019 Winter Season!

\**All the information below can be found on the new VIS Intranet!*

Aligned with the IB Program, we offer a seasonal sports program to further develop a child’s physical, emotional and academic well being. At VIS we value the great importance of our program and we aim to offer a program for everyone. This being said, we want to stress the need for commitment to the trainings, tournaments and friendly games in order to fully develop the team atmosphere. We feel this is an integral part of the experience and in order to get the most out of the experience, attendance at trainings is mandatory. We of course understand that there are other time constraints within the daily life of everyone, so if there is a circumstance where a child cannot attend a training, the coach must know beforehand. Child Safeguarding is a top priority of our school and it is vital that we know where a team member is if they are not at training. Coach contact details can be found on the VIS Intranet.

The 2018-2019 **VIS Competitive Sports Program**, dedicated to the Secondary students, offers a range of sports to allow participants to experience and enjoy a balanced program, which aims to develop an all-round athlete. The Program is divided into 3 main seasons, as described in the table below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Season*** | ***Period*** | ***Sports offered*** |
| Autumn | August 27th – November 10th | Soccer |
| Volleyball |
| X-country |
| Winter | November 19 – March 9 | Ski |
| Basketball |
| Spring | April 1st – June 10th | Volleyball |
| Rugby |
| Track & Field |
| Softball |
| Tennis |
| Golf |

The cost for registering in the Competitive Sports Program is usually € 50 per season per person (the cost reflects the coaching fee for training the students 2-3 times per week for approximately 10 weeks). Tennis, Swimming and Golf may experience increased costs due to possible year long training opportunities.

In addition to the training sessions, the VIS Competitive Sports Program offers the students the opportunity to compete against other international schools in the International Schools Sports Tournament (ISST), Danube Valley Athletic Conference (DVAC) and Central & Eastern European Schools Association (CEESA). During one season, a student generally has the opportunity to participate in 2-3 (optional) tournaments or Saturday friendlies. Please note that the season cost does not include the trips to tournaments, which will be invoiced separately, based on the parent/ guardian’s approval at the beginning of the season on the Athlete Contract.

All of this information with trip costs is communicated in the **ATHLETES CONTRACT,** which needs to be filled out by November 30 at the latest. In order to participate in practice after November 30, student athletes must have the Athletes Contract filled out by a parent. Thank you for your cooperation with this important child safety procedure. Please refer to the VIS Athlete Handbook on the VIS Intranet for more information on child safety procedures, “Profile of a VIS Student Athlete”, tournament selection, and general overview of the program.

**Coach Contact Details**

We ask that all coaches communicate regularly with their team and team parents. We provide our coaches with the contact details based on the info we receive form the Athlete Contracts. Each coach should establish contact about the Winter Season by December 1 latest. If this is not the case, please let the Sports & Activities Office know.

**Athletes Contracts and Child Safeguarding**

Each team will have an Athlete Contract which needs to be filled out by a parent. Aligned with our VIS Child Safety procedures, this must be filled out by November 30. Please fill this out and be sure to stay in contact with the Sports & Activities Office and the team coach if you child cannot attend trainings or tournaments.

**Athletic Handbook**

Our Handbook will provide further details on the program including descriptions of what sports we offer, principles of the program, travel team selection, our hosting program and much more! Check it out!

**Hosting**

All families who have children in our sports program are asked to host at least two visiting students when we have international tournaments at VIS. This can be a very rewarding experience to meet and learn from student athletes from other cultures. On the Athletes Contract, there will be a drop down menu to choose which tournament you can host for. Specifics details of the Hosting Program can be found in the Athletes Handbook.

**No Cuts and Travel Teams**

We run a no cuts program at VIS and all who wish to commit to a team will be allowed to participate. However, the tournaments we participate in, only allow a certain number of players to travel. The Athletic Handbook outlines the criteria for choosing the travel team and attendance at all trainings is one of the most important factors!

**Calendars, Tournaments and Friendlies**

Our Sports Calendar is being constantly updated with new friendlies and any changes to tournament locations or times. We coordinate with over 40 other schools within our leagues so sometimes you will see changes to existing calendars. Usually the dates of the events don’t change, but often locations can change so please be aware of this and keep checking the Intranet regularly. Also the team coach will communicate any changes to the team and the parents when/if changes are made.

**Trip Letters and Trip Invoicing**

For each trip, we will produce trip specific letters which include the specific trip information. This will also have the detailed trip cost breakdown which will be invoiced to the parents by the VIS Finance Office after the trip is done. Trip Letters can be accessed approximately two weeks prior to departure. They can be found here:

**Tennis, Golf, and Swimming, Badminton and Bike Club**

These sports run a little differently due to the fact that our facilities do not allow for these sports to train on campus or because we don’t participate in tournaments. Because of this we are able to offer trainings for these sports all year long! If you are interested in these sports please contact the coaches directly who will provide you with the specifics on trainings, sign ups etc.

Golf: Jason Bowie [jbowie@vis.ac.at](mailto:jbowie@vis.ac.at)

Tennis: Pavol Cabada [pavol.cepino@gmail.com](mailto:pavol.cepino@gmail.com)

Swimming: Dmitry Khalin [dmkh68@gmail.com](mailto:dmkh68@gmail.com)

Badminton: Alexander Lazarev [alexanderlazarev0@gmail.com](mailto:alexanderlazarev0@gmail.com)

Bike Club: Daniel Smith [dsmith@vis.ac.at](mailto:dsmith@vis.ac.at)

Thank you and we are looking forward to a great year of sports, fun, teamwork and cooperation! Feel free to stop by the office or email us with any questions you may have. Have a great day!

All the Best,

Jason Bowie

Sports and Activities Coordinator