

## Uniform Policy FAQ

Hello Everyone! I hope you are having a great summer! I wanted to share the updated uniform policy again, and also answer some questions that you may have.

As released a couple weeks ago, we are starting the new uniform policy when uniforms are checked out within the new few weeks for volleyball and soccer. We are requiring a \$100 check deposit when you receive your uniform along with a signed form agreeing that you will follow the policy for each athlete.

Our intention is not to cash any check or keep any deposit. We are trying to encourage parent responsibility in caring for uniforms and returning them promptly upon completion of the sports season. This will hopefully allow for many athletes to enjoy the use of uniforms we can be proud of as a team, school and parish.

Here are some answers to questions you may have regarding the policy:

### **Is the uniform policy required for everyone?**

Yes. We are requiring this for each athlete when a uniform is being checked out.

### **Do I have to give a check?**

We prefer you write a check because it won't be cashed unless you do not return the undamaged uniform by the turn in date.

### **What if I don't have a check? Can I use cash?**

If you do not have a check we will require a cash deposit that will be given back to you when the uniform is returned. This is not preferred as our intention is not to put a financial burden on anyone.

### **Can I use sports pilot to put the deposit on my credit card?**

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide this service through sports pilot.

### **Is my check going to be cashed?**

We DO NOT want to deposit your check. We will only do this if the uniform is not returned or it is returned damaged.

### **Can I use online giving?**

No, Boosters is separate from the parish's online giving program and we have been advised to have payments made directly to the St. Helen Athletic Boosters.

### **Does I need to provide separate checks for each athlete?**

Yes. If you have multiple players participating in the same or different sports we are requiring separate checks for each uniform released to you.

### **Is \$100 really the cost of a new uniform?**

It is more complicated than replacing just one uniform. Often we are unable to get replacement uniforms that would be the same as the original set due to manufacturers changing styles every few years. When there is a need to replace just a few that have been lost or damaged we end up having to replace the entire set of uniforms.

### **Why are you requiring a deposit now after so many years?**

The St. Helen Booster Association is responsible for providing uniforms for the athletes that participate in sports. We have experienced many years of uniforms not being returned. This has resulted in new uniforms needing to be purchased in order to outfit entire teams. Over the last several years we have invested over \$10,000 to make sure we have matching uniforms that meet the CYO code and league requirements. A large portion of this amount was anonymously donated by a St. Helen parishioner.

### **Who decided that the policy needed to change?**

The St. Helen Booster Association voted for the new uniform policy on June 1, 2021. The policy itself was approved by the booster board on July 14, 2021 and Father Jay McPhillips gave his approval on July 27, 2021.

### **Will you let me know if my check is going to be deposited?**

Yes, we will inform anyone who is at risk of having their check deposited. This date will be communicated to anyone that does not turn in their uniform at the specific turn in dates.

### **How will I get my check back?**

When a uniform is turned in to a member of the booster staff at check-in you will be given your check back. Both the parent and a member of the booster staff will evaluate the jersey at the turn in. If there is any damage you will be notified immediately.

### **What if there is damage to the uniform when I receive it?**

When you receive the uniform we will have you inspect the jersey to ensure there is no damage and have you initial the form. Most of the uniforms are new and should not have any damage. We will not hand out any significantly damaged uniforms, but if there are any concerns there is a space provided to note those.

### **Who makes sure the uniform is checked back in?**

We have a uniform coordinator and other volunteers that are members of the booster staff that will assist with uniform check out and check in.

### **Can I give my uniform to the coach if I cannot make it to turn in?**

We ask that you turn the uniform in on a turn in day to ensure there are no issues with receiving it on time.

**\*\***We will be offering turn in sessions for both volleyball and soccer. There will be a few options that should accommodate your schedule.

### **Who is going to make sure my financial information is safe?**

Once the uniforms are handed out we will be keeping all checks in a lock box that only the booster president and the booster financial officer will have access to. This box will be kept securely in the parish administrators office until the turn in date.

**\*\***Due to this precaution we cannot accommodate additional dates for uniform pick up or drop off beyond the communicated dates. This process does limit us regarding flexibility but ensures the safety of your information.**\*\***

### **What if I forget to turn in my uniform by the turn in date?**

We will inform you of all available turn in dates. If you do not turn in your uniform at the turn in date/time we will inform you of the check being cashed and what date that is to happen. Please make the turn in date a priority.

### **What if I can't make the pick up dates?**

You must sign the uniform out and provide a deposit. If you do not pick up the uniform the player will not be able to participate in the games. We will attempt to accommodate parents by providing more than one pick up night; however, parents should make sure to schedule accordingly. Most uniform check out dates will align with the athletes practices so as to simplify the process for both parents and the volunteers passing the uniforms out.

### **What if I can't make the turn in dates?**

Several dates will be given in advance in order to accommodate different schedules. We ask that you please plan accordingly.

**What if I do not agree with the policy and won't sign the form?**

We understand that this a change and often people do not always like new policies. We did not come to the decision to develop and enforce this policy lightly. It is your choice as a parent to not sign the form; however, if you do not sign the form and give a deposit your athlete will not receive a uniform or be able to participate in our booster program.

Several parishes in our area have established a uniform policy and deposit requirement years ago. We have delayed doing so in an effort to avoid additional steps and paperwork for both Booster staff and parents. Our hope is to keep the uniforms in great shape so that we will be able to put funds currently used for uniforms towards other improvements to the program and facilities.

**What if I have further questions?**

Please email Megan Berman at [mp256501@ohio.edu](mailto:mp256501@ohio.edu). Responses will be answered as soon as possible. Most responses will be addressed within 24-48 hours.