



# The Meritas Games

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is the Meritas Games?

This competitive event, open to middle school students from all Meritas schools, includes the following sports:

- Archery (new)
- Basketball (boys & girls)
- Flag football (boys & girls)
- Sand Volleyball (boys & girls)
- Soccer (boys & girls)
- Swimming (boys & girls)
- Tennis (boys & girls)
- Track & field (boys & girls)
- Volleyball (girls only)



In addition to the competitive events taking place, students will be able to enjoy some down time, while participating in activities at the “Olympic Village”. Upon conclusion of each day’s events, students will also get to experience some of Orlando, Florida’s hottest attractions, including Splittsville Lanes Bowling, Dave & Busters, Mickey’s Very Merry Christmas Party at Disney’s Magic Kingdom, and Universal Studio’s Islands of Adventure Featuring Harry Potter.

### What are the dates?

December 1<sup>st</sup> – December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### What is the travel itinerary?

Southwest Airlines – William P. Hobby Airport  
Depart December 1st IAH 11:00 A.M. Arrive MCO 4:50 P.M.  
(Layover in Dallas)  
Depart December 5th MCO 1:30 P.M. Arrive IAH 3:05 P.M.

Students will meet directly at airport for departure and pick up!



### **Who can attend?**

All middle school students, grades 6th - 8th. Parents are also welcomed to attend the events, but would need to make all travel arrangements including flights, lodging, and entertainment on their own.

### **Where are the games held?**

Windermere Preparatory School  
6189 Winter Garden-Vineland Rd Windermere, FL 34786

### **How much does the trip cost?**

\$930.00 Base Fee  
\$482.00 Airfare (includes baggage fee)  
\$163.00 Chaperone Fee  
\$1575.00 TOTAL PACKAGE (Uniform and travel gear included)



### **Can I use my airline miles to pay for the airfare portion of the trip?**

NO. All participants must be a part of the group and airfare cannot be purchased using any airline miles/points.

### **Are there any discounts for enrolling multiple children?**

NO. All students are full price, regardless of number of siblings enrolling

### **Can I split my payments up and pay in installments?**

YES. Parents can coordinate with the business office to make multiple payments; however, all payments must be complete no later than October 24th.



### **Where do the athletes stay while in Florida?**

Courtyard Marriott – Lake Buena Vista at Vista Centre  
8501 Palm Parkway Lake Buena Vista, Florida 32836

### **How are the hotel arrangements decided?**

All athletes will be sharing a room with 1 or 2 other students. There will be at least 1 bed per child and boys will stay with boys and girls will stay with girls. We also ensure that appropriate grade levels are roomed together as well (ie – 7th grader with another 7th grader)



### **How does supervision work at the amusement parks/entertainment venues?**

Each Chaperone is responsible for 9-10 students during this trip and is always in constant communication with these students. They exchange cell phone numbers at the start of the trip and all students must stay in groups of 3 or more. There are check in times for each group and every students must check in with their Chaperone during these times. We will also provide parents with all Chaperone contact numbers if you ever need to get a hold of them or you child during the trip.

### **What travel gear is included for my child?**

Each participate will receive:

- 3 game shirts
- Long sleeve team travel shirt
- Meritas Games Sweatshirt

### **What sort of things would my child need to bring with them to the games?**

- Cleats, shin guards, socks
- PE Shorts (at least 3 pairs)
- Athletic shoes (basketball shoes for those participating in basketball)
- Tennis Racket (for tennis players)
- Warm clothes
- Swim suits, towels, goggles, and cap if competing in swimming
- Money for souvenirs



### **How does my child sign up for the different events?**

All enrolled students will be able to sign up for the events of their choice during PE. Although this is not the ultimate final list, we do encourage students to be thoughtful about what they sign up for as this really helps us determine how many teams we need to compile.

**Does my child have to be on the school team to participate in that event?**

NO. All students are welcomed, and encouraged, to play any of the events that they would like to. This is a great opportunity for your child to try something new. Realistically, we would try to limit no more than 4 different events to ensure that these athletes don't overexert themselves, but we would also hope that each student would want to participate in more than just 1 event.



**How are teams split up?**

Our team of coaches will split up rosters based on enrollments. Some events may require us to have up to 3 or 4 teams depending on participation.

**Are there practices for the Meritas Games?**

There is no outside practice scheduled, however, we may look to have occasional practices in a variety of the events during PE time leading up the games in December.

**What will my child be missing at school if they participate in the games?**

We work closely with Mrs. Cindy Proske and have been assured that the week of Meritas Games will be spent on project-based learning and other extracurricular activities to keep students that stay on campus engaged this week. This may include team building, games, and other enrichment activities. There will be no information covered during this week that any child will be tested on and no student attending the Meritas Games will be expected to make up any work upon their return.



**Who are the Chaperones/Coaches during the trip?**

All chaperones and coaches will be our very own Village School athletics and PE coaches. Not all coaches can participate as they are in season with their own high school sports teams, but we do provide some fantastic staff for this trip.

**What if I need to cancel my enrollment, do I receive a refund?**

Once a registration form is signed and submitted this essentially locks your child in for the trip and there will be no refunds given after payment is made. We have purchased all airline seats in advance.



**Will we have another meeting before we leave?**

YES. There will be final information meeting for all enrolled students and parents prior to our departure. Date and time is TBD, but we will cover many more things during this meeting and be sure that all parents have all necessary information.

**How do I register?**

Registration will be completed online this year by visiting:

<http://meritasgames2015.instapage.com>

Once registration is completed, parents will be invoiced by the business office to complete payment.

**What is the registration deadline?**

**DEADLINE TO ENROLL IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Who do I contact for any additional questions?**

If you have any additional questions, please email John DeBakey at [jdebakey@thevillageschool.com](mailto:jdebakey@thevillageschool.com), or you can reach us at 281- 496-7900 EXT 4041.

