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WE BELIEVE:

The Doctrinal Statement

Kootenai Thunder Sports Inc.

The following is a doctrinal belief statement agree to and approved by the Kootenai Thunder Board. Those serving in leadership capacity must understand that they submit to the authority of God's Word first and foremost but where there is conflict of interpretation of scripture, this document will be used as a guide to the doctrinal beliefs of and what should be endorsed and communicated by those in the organization.

(A) THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

We believe that the Bible is God's written revelation to man, and thus the sixty-six books of the Bible contained in the Old and New Testaments given to us by the Holy Spirit constitute the complete Word of God (1 Corinthians 2:7-14; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

We believe that the inspiration of the Old and New Testaments is both verbal (inspiration extends to the very words used) and plenary (inspired equally in all parts). The Scriptures are inerrant in the original autographs, infallible and God-breathed (2 Timothy 3:16). The Scriptures thus constitute the only infallible rule of faith and practice (Matthew 5:18; 24:35; John 10:35; 16:12-13; 17:17; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

(B) GOD

We believe that there is but one living and true God (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 45:5-7; 1 Corinthians 8:4), an infinite, all knowing Spirit (John 4:24), perfect in all His attributes, one in essence, eternally existing in three persons, called the Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14) – each coeternal in being, coidentical in nature, and coequal in power and glory, having the same attributes and perfections, and equally deserving the same worship, homage, confidence and obedience (John 1:14; Acts 5:3-4; Hebrews 1:1-3; Revelation 1:4-6).

We believe that in the incarnation (God becoming man) Christ surrendered nothing of the divine essence, either in degree or kind. In His incarnation, the eternally existing second Person of the Trinity accepted all the essential characteristics of humanity, apart from sin, and so became the God-Man (Colossians 2:9; Philippians 2:5-8). In the incarnation, the second Person of the Trinity took on Himself an existence appropriate to that of a servant while never divesting Himself of His divine attributes (Philippians 2:5-8). We believe in the impeccability of Christ.

We believe that the incarnation was accomplished through the virgin birth of the Lord Jesus Christ (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23,25; Luke 1:26-35), Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18-25; Isaiah 7:14), that He is God incarnate (John 1:1, 14), and that the purpose of this incarnation was to reveal God, redeem men, and rule over God's kingdom (Psalm 2:7-9; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:29; Philippians 2:9-11; Hebrews 7:25-26; 1 Peter 1:18-19). Christ, then, represents humanity and Deity in indivisible oneness (Micah 5:2; John 5:23; 14:9-10; Colossians 2:9).

We believe that our Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through the shedding of His blood and sacrificial death on the cross and that His death was voluntary, vicarious, substitutionary, propitiatory, and redemptive (John 10:15; Romans 3:24-25; 5:8; 1 Peter 2:24).

We believe that on the basis of the efficacy of the death of our Lord Jesus Christ, the believing sinner is freed from the punishment, the penalty, the power, and one day the very presence of sin; and that he is declared righteous, given eternal life, and adopted into the family of God (Romans 3:25; 5:8-9; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; 1 Peter 2:24; 3:18).

We believe that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead. In this literal physical resurrection from the grave, three days after His crucifixion, God confirmed the deity of His Son and gave proof that God has accepted the atoning work of Christ on the cross. Jesus' bodily resurrection is also the guarantee of a future bodily resurrection for all believers (John 5:26-29; 14:19; Romans 1:4; 4:25; 6:5-10; 1 Corinthians 15:20, 23).

We believe that having been raised in a glorified, incorruptible body and existing for eternity as the God-man, Christ is now seated at the right hand of the Father in Heaven (1 Corinthians 15:3-23; Hebrews 1:3, 13; 8:1; 10:12; 12:2). From His position at the right hand of the Father, Christ now mediates as our Advocate and High Priest (Romans 8:34;

Hebrews 7:25; 9:24; 1 John 2:1); that Christ is the sole Mediator between God and man (1 Timothy 2:5).

(C) MAN

We believe that man was directly and immediately created by God in His image and likeness. Man was created free of sin with a rational nature, intelligence, volition, self-determination, and moral responsibility to God (Genesis 2:7; 15-25; James 3:9). It was God's intention in the creation of man that man should glorify God, enjoy God's fellowship, live his life in the will of God, and by this accomplish God's purpose for man (Isaiah 43:7; Colossians 1:16; Revelation 4:11).

We believe that because all men were in Adam, a nature corrupted by Adam's sin has been transmitted to all men of all ages, Jesus Christ being the only exception (and that by virgin birth). All men are thus sinners by nature, by choice, and by divine declaration, and in need of a Savior (Psalm 14:1-3; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:9-18, 23; 5:10-12).

(D) SALVATION

We believe that salvation is wholly of God by grace on the basis of the redemption of Jesus Christ, the merit of His shed blood, and not on the basis of human merit or works (John 1:12; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-10; 1 Peter 1:1-19).

(1) REGENERATION

We believe that regeneration is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit by which the divine nature and divine life are given (John 3:3-7; Titus 3:5).

(2) JUSTIFICATION

We believe that justification is the judicial act of God (Romans 8:33) by which He declares righteous those who, through faith in Christ, repent of their sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 11:18; Romans 2:4; 2 Corinthians 7:10; Isaiah 55:6-7) and confess Him as sovereign Lord (Romans 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 12:3; 2 Corinthians 4:5; Philippians 2:11). This righteousness is apart from any virtue or work of man (Romans 3:20; 4:6) and involves the imputation of our sins to Christ (Colossians 2:14; 1 Peter 2:24) and the imputation of Christ's righteousness to us (1 Corinthians 1:30; 2 Corinthians 5:21).

Thus God is able to be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus (Romans 3:26).

(3) BAPTISM

We believe that Christian baptism is by immersion. It is a solemn and beautiful testimony of a faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, and a union with Him in death to sin and resurrection to a new life (Romans 6:1-11), and is to be administered after conversion (Acts 2:41; 8:35-39). It represents the spiritual reality of our baptism into the Body of Christ by the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation (1 Corinthians 12:13), and is also a sign of fellowship and identification with the visible Body of Christ, the Church (Acts 2:41-42). Baptism is an act of obedience, does not convey grace in and of itself, and is not necessary for salvation.

(E) ETERNAL SECURITY

We believe in the eternal security of the believer, that all the redeemed once saved are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever (John 5:24; 6:37-40; 10:27-30; Romans 5:9-10; 8:1, 31-39; 1 Corinthians 1:4-8; Ephesians 4:30; Hebrews 7:25; 13:5; 1 Peter 1:5; Jude 24). It is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word, which however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion for sinful living and carnality (Romans 6:15-22; 13:13-14; Galatians 5:13; 25-26; Titus 2:11-14).

(F) SEPARATION

We believe that separation from sin is clearly taught in both the Old and New Testaments.

We believe that out of our deep gratitude for the undeserved grace of God granted to us and because our glorious God is so worthy of our total consecration, all believers should be separated unto our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:11-12; Hebrews 1:1-2) living in such a manner as to demonstrate our adoring love to God so as not to bring reproach upon our Lord and Savior. We also believe that separation from all religious apostasy and worldly and sinful practices is commanded of us by God (Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 John 9-11).

(G) THE CHURCH

(1) FORMATION AND PURPOSE

We believe that all who place their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are immediately placed by the Holy Spirit into one united spiritual Body, the Church (1 Corinthians 12:12-13), the Bride of Christ (2 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:23-32; Revelation 19:7-8), of which Christ is the Head (Ephesians 1:22; 4:15; Colossians 1:18). The formation of the Church, the Body of Christ, began on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-21, 38-47) and will be completed at the coming of Christ for His own at the rapture (1 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). Thus, the Church is a unique spiritual organism designed by Christ, made up of all born-again believers in this present age (Ephesians 2:11-3:6). The Church is distinct from Israel (1 Corinthians 10:32), a mystery not revealed until this age (Ephesians 3:1-6; 5:32).

We believe that the establishment and continuity of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures (Acts 14:23, 27; 20:17, 28; Galatians 1:2; Philippians 1:1; 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:1) and that the members of the one spiritual Body are commanded to associate themselves together in local assemblies (1 Corinthians 11:18-20; Hebrews 10:25).

(H) DEATH

We believe that physical death involves no loss of our immaterial consciousness (Revelation 6:9-11), that the soul of the redeemed passes immediately into the presence of Christ (Luke 23:43; Philippians 1:23; 2 Corinthians 5:8).

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men both saved and lost. The saved are resurrected to eternal life (John 6:39; Romans 8:10-11, 19-23; 2 Corinthians 4:14), and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment (Daniel 12:2; John 5:29; Revelation 20:13-15).

(1) THE RAPTURE

We believe in the personal, visible, bodily, and imminent return of our Lord Jesus Christ before the seven-year tribulation (1 Thessalonians 4:16; Titus 2:13) to translate His Church from this

earth (John 14:1-3; 1 Corinthians 15:51-53; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-5:11).

(2) THE SECOND COMING AND MILLENNIAL REIGN

We believe that after the tribulation period Christ will come to occupy the throne of David (Matthew 25:31; Luke 1:31-33; Acts 1:10-11; 2:29-30) and establish His Messianic Kingdom for a thousand years on earth (Revelation 20:1-7).

(I) CREATION

We believe in the direct creation of the heavens and the earth by fiat from Almighty God as described in the first two chapters of Genesis (Genesis 1-2; Colossians 1:16-17; John 1:1-3). We believe Adam and Eve were literal historical characters (Genesis 1-3; Matthew 19:4-5; Romans 5:12-21), the parents of all men of every race, tribe, and kindred (Acts 17:26). We believe in the literal fall of our first parents in the Garden of Eden resulting in the depraved, fallen, sinful state of all humanity, necessitating their regeneration. We believe that death, decay, and suffering entered creation for the first time as a result of this fall (Genesis 3:1-3; Romans 5:12-21). We believe in a literal global flood of Noah as described in Genesis 6-9. We believe that the early chapters of Genesis are literal history.

(J) HUMAN SEXUALITY

We believe that God has given sex to the human race for the purposes of procreation and recreation and that no intimate sexual activity is to be engaged in outside of marriage between a man and a woman. (Proverbs 5:15-23; 1 Corinthians 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4). We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex (Genesis 2:24; 19:5, 13; 26:8-9; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; 1 Corinthians 5:1; 6:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4). We believe that God rejects any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance.

We believe that the only legitimate biblical marriage is the joining of one man and one woman (Genesis 2:24; Romans 7:2; 1 Corinthians 7:10; Ephesians 5:22-23).

(K) ABORTION

We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, inexcusable taking of unborn human life. Abortion is murder. We do not believe that abortions of pregnancies due to rape, incest, birth defects, gender selection, birth or population control, or the mental well-being of the mother are acceptable or justified (Job 3:16; Psalm 51:5; 139:14-16; Isaiah 44:24; 49:1, 5; Jeremiah 1:5; 20:15-18; Luke 1:44).