

PHILOSOPHY OF CYO ATHLETICS

CYO Athletics is committed to the dignity and worth of each child it serves, regardless of physical talents, mental strength, or emotional health, and hopes that the same respect for life will become a part of his or her value system. A desired outcome is that each child knows that they are wanted and loved.

CYO Athletics is one way of implementing the vision and mission of the Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry. Program goals include:

- 1) To provide opportunities for youth to grow in faith;
- 2) To increase self-confidence and self-reliance;
- 3) To increase interpersonal competence;
- 4) To increase a sense of caring toward others.

This will help athletes understand the aspect of service to others, and will help them better understand their sense of belonging. Youth are brought together from different parishes, schools, and social backgrounds in an atmosphere that fosters the recognition of one's strengths and limitations, the lessons of winning and losing, and respect for all involved; fellow players, opponents, coaches, and officials. In other words, CYO Athletics is in the business of teaching life values that aid boys and girls in their social, spiritual, physical and emotional development towards adulthood not toward becoming a professional athlete. This philosophy is worthwhile only to the extent that it is incorporated into the programs of CYO Athletics. It is this philosophy that justifies the involvement of the Catholic Church in athletics. Its implementation is not optional.

Players, coaches, fans and officials are all part of the CYO community and should be treated with the respect and care befitting the CYO Philosophy. Good sporting conduct and fair play is expected by all participants – players, coaches, fans and officials.

GAME OFFICIALS

- The officials will be responsible for starting the game on time, but not at the expense of the pre-game prayer.
- They are expected to know the CYO Athletics specific rules.
- Officials should be signing the scorebooks for both teams.
- Officials should display professionalism by arriving on time, using proper officiating mechanics and rotations, dressing appropriately and maintaining objectivity throughout competition. This includes not working games of family members.
- Officials, coaches and/or captains should use pre-game meeting as an opportunity to discuss points of emphasis, CYO Athletics specific rules and any special circumstances;
- If appointed official(s) fail to appear, the game in question may be played providing both opposing coaches mutually agree, prior to the start of the game, on the acceptability of an alternate official(s). Such a contest will be recognized as an official game without recourse as to the quality of the officiating.
- Game officials are empowered to remove any official scorekeeper and/or timekeeper at any time during the game for reasons of incompetence or any other reason which they consider to be good and sufficient. In this event, the officials may appoint anyone they feel is capable of doing the job.
- Coaches have primary responsibility for managing the behavior of their fans but game officials are empowered to enforce the CYO Athletics Unsportsmanlike Conduct rule.
- Officials are asked to fill out an online evaluation form for a coach, team or community if behavior so warrants – positive or negative.
- They are also asked to fill out their own association report form in case of a circumstance that will require follow up from CYO Athletics to expedite the process.

The objective or absolute right or wrong of an official's call or non-call is never the point. Officials are non-partial and are doing their best. Their calls are judgments and are a part of the game!

Regardless of their training or expertise, officials need to be given respect and care as a member of the community participating in the CYO Athletics experience.

GAME FORFEITURE

- Each team scheduled for a match shall be dressed and ready for play at the appointed hour. Should any team not be ready with the required number of players at match time, the first game shall be forfeited at match time. If the team in question is not ready for play 11 minutes after match time, then the complete match will be forfeited.
- Should both teams not be ready with the required number of players at match time, the first game shall be a double forfeit at match time. If one team is ready for play 11 minutes after match time, then that team will be declared the winner of the match. If both teams are not ready after the 11 minutes, then the complete match will be forfeited, the match shall be declared a no contest, and both teams will be charged with a loss on their season's record. If both teams are ready after the 11 minutes, then the teams will play and the team winning that game is declared the winner of the match.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

Definition: Unsportsmanlike conduct at a game site is any antagonistic action(s), including vociferous and/or persistent complaints directed toward an official, another coach, opposing players, and spectators. This may include any types of verbal or physical abuse.

Any coach or spectator may be cited for unsportsmanlike conduct by a game official, a commissioner, or the Director of CYO Athletics. At the time of the alleged infraction, the above named are empowered to remove the accused offender(s) from the playing facility. If the accused offender(s) refuse to leave, the game will be forfeited in favor of the team not involved in the citation.

NOTE: EACH TEAM, SPECIFICALLY ITS COACH, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF ITS FANS!

WEATHER POLICY

All cancellations due to weather will be posted on the CYO Athletics voicemail message at 206.654.4643 as quickly as they are determined. If your gym is not listed as closed, it should be open.

DIRECTIONS TO GYMS

Go to the following website for directions: <http://seattleoyyam.org/programs/cyo-athletics/direction-to-fields-gyms>

UNIFORMS

Teams will make every effort to be in like uniforms, but for some schools this is a challenge and some players may be in different styles, color variations or sizes of uniforms. This is permitted. Teams should make an effort to wear like colored shirts under their uniforms, but if they don't - it is permitted. Taped numbers on jerseys may be necessary and are permitted as long as the tape does not fall off during play.

BALL HANDLING

Ball handling calls are so difficult, especially at this level of play, because they are so subjective to the judgement of the official and skill level can vary greatly from team to team. Calls should be appropriate to the age and skill level of the teams involved allowing for play to occur and yet proper skills to be encouraged and rewarded. Players attempting to set to a teammate should be given more leniency than someone pushing the ball over the net. A team with good

skills should not be penalized when playing a team with lesser skills. The official should find a medium level of skill for both teams which will allow for play and yet reward good skills. AAA teams should be called much tighter, and more towards a high school level. Consistency in calls throughout the match is key.

For more information on CYO Volleyball rules and expectations for coaches and teams, go to:

<http://seattleoyyam.org/programs/cyo-athletics/sports/volleyball>

For more information on CYO Philosophy, Rules and Regulations, go to: <http://seattleoyyam.org/programs/cyo-athletics>