

ST. JOSEPH CYO

CODE OF CONDUCT

At St. Joseph Parish, CYO Sports is an integral part of the Parish youth ministry. The primary goal of CYO Sports is to allow the youth of our Parish, through sports, to grow in their relationship with God and come to better understand themselves and their Catholic faith.

The St. Joseph CYO Board has developed this Code of Conduct to ensure our children enjoy and get the most out of their CYO experience in a manner that is consistent with the underlying mission of the Catholic Youth Organization. It is imperative that all coaches and parents exemplify the CYO Mission Statement through Christian Discipleship and living our Catholic faith in all CYO activities.

This Code of Conduct applies to coaches, parents and players and will be strictly enforced. Noncompliance with this Code of Conduct may result in your being deemed ineligible to participate in the CYO program.

- **Players, coaches and parents must, at all times:**
 - Attend Mass on every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation.
 - Maintain the self-control necessary to perform their best in all competitions, developing a healthy attitude in both winning and losing.
 - Do not lose their temper, resort to abusive language or gestures, fighting or poor sportsmanship.
 - Show respect towards game officials and their judgment, even when they seem unfair or incorrect.
 - Demonstrate good sportsmanship towards teammates and opponents alike, and treat opposing coaches, participants and fans with respect.
 - Set a good example for others to follow, exemplifying the highest moral and ethical behavior.

- **Players must:**
 - Treat opponents with respect; shake hands prior to and after contests.
 - Respect the judgment of officials and abide by the rules of the contest.
 - Accept seriously the responsibility of representing the Parish by displaying positive behavior at all times.
 - Play in a positive manner, reflecting Christian values.
 - Accept responsibility for all equipment and uniforms.
 - Return uniforms at the end of the season to the coach or team parent.
 - Support and participate in service projects, activities and fundraisers of our CYO program.

Code of Conduct (continued)

- **Coaches must:**
 - Set a good example for participants and fans to follow, exemplifying the highest moral and ethical behavior.
 - Respect the judgment of officials; abide by rules of the event.
 - Treat opposing coaches, participants and fans with respect.
 - Instruct participants in sportsmanship and demand they display good sportsmanship.
 - Coach in a positive manner, reflecting Christian values.
 - Begin and end all practices on time and with a prayer.
 - Lead the team, within the course of the season, in at least one service project or assign another parent to this task.
 - Accept responsibility for all facilities that are used and for equipment and uniforms.
 - Return all equipment and uniforms to the equipment manager or assign a parent to this task.
 - Make sure that a medical kit and ice are available at all practices and games.
 - Support and encourage participation in activities and fundraisers of our CYO program.

- **Parents and other Spectators must:**
 - Remember that the players are children and are playing for their enjoyment, not yours.
 - Remain seated in the spectator area during the games.
 - Respect decisions made by contest officials, scorers and clock managers even when they seem unfair or incorrect.
 - Accept that coaching comes from the coaches not from the sidelines.
 - Be a role model by positively supporting teams and by not shouting instructions or criticism to the players, coaches or officials.
 - Make no derogatory comments or gestures to players, coaches, and parents of the opposing team or to officials.

CYO Sports – Mission Statement

CYO Sports is one component of a parish's comprehensive youth ministry program which enables the partnership of parents, coaches, priests, religious, teachers, and adult leaders to manage and support a sports program that allows youth to grow in their relationship with God and come to better understand themselves and the Catholic faith.