

TOPIC	POLICY #	POLICY
Participation	9.0	Participation in any CYM Athletic program is not based solely on Religious affiliation. Parishes/Schools are to establish guidelines for participation and can include factors such as number of teams/participants, budgetary considerations, facility availability and similar considerations. These guidelines must be clearly stated and properly followed.
Athletic Associations	9.1	The Office for Catholic Youth Ministry requires each parish/school to name an individual as the Athletic Association President (AAP) or Athletic Director (AD).
Athletic Associations	9.1.1	The AAP/AD is to serve as the primary contact between CYM and each individual parish/school.
Athletic Associations	9.1.2	The AAP/AD is responsible for approving rosters and assigning head coaches.
Athletic Associations	9.1.3	The Office for Catholic Youth Ministry reserves the right to overrule the Athletic Association of a parish/school on any decision if, in the opinion of the CYM Director of Youth Sports, the decision is not in the best interest of the overall program.
Athletic Associations	9.1.4	The Office for Catholic Youth Ministry may, for any grave reason, require the parish/school to replace their AAP/AD.
Program Divisions	9.2	Participants in the High School (Senior) Division are to be 9 th thru 12 th grade students or the equivalent and may not have reached their 19 th birthday before July 1 st of the current program year.
Program Divisions	9.2.1	Participants in the High School (Intermediate) Division are to be 9 th or 10 th grade students or the equivalent. They may not have reached their 17 th birthday before July 1 st of the current program year.
Program Divisions	9.2.2	Participants in the Grade School Varsity Divisions are to be 6 th through 8 th grade students. They may not have reached their 15 th birthday before July 1 st of the current program year.
Program Divisions	9.2.3	Participants in the Grade School Junior Varsity Divisions are to be 4 th through 6 th grade students. They may not have reached their 13 th birthday before July 1 st of the current program year.
Program Divisions	9.2.4	Participants in the Grade School Pre-JV Division are to be 3 rd or 4 th grade students. They may not have reached their 11 th birthday before July 1 st of the current program year.
Program Divisions	9.2.5	3 rd grade athletes may participate in Cross Country, Pre JV Basketball and Track. All other sports require 4 th grade or above.

Program Divisions	9.2.6	6 th grade athletes may request to play at the Varsity level and 4 th grade athletes may request to play at the Junior Varsity level provided that the request follows the Transition Year requirement for that particular sport as outlines in the Handbook.
Program Divisions	9.2.7	Under no circumstances may 2 nd graders play Pre JV or JV Sports, except in the possible case of Flag Football. 8 th graders may not play in either high school division.
Program Divisions	9.2.8	An athlete may not plat at 2 different levels, or on more than 1 team, during the same athletic season.
Program Divisions	9.2.9	Once an athlete is placed on a roster at any level, the athlete may not be moved to a team at a different level.
Program Divisions	9.2.10	No individual athlete may play on a CYM team for their parish and on any other team in a different league sponsored by a parish/school (St. Edmond's Academy league, St. Ann's league, St. Elizabeth's league). A violation of this rule will result in the CYM team forfeiting all games in which the individual played and the individual athlete will be removed from the roster. Further disciplinary action to the coach, coordinator and/or AAP/AD may be forthcoming.
Tryout/Practice Dates	9.3	Team practices are not permitted until the first day of the each sports season as determined by CYM and stated below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall Sports – 3rd Monday prior to Labor Day • Winter Sports – November 1st • Spring Sports – March 1st
Tryout/Practice Dates	9.3.1	Athletes participating in two sports in the same season are restricted to two hours of practice time per weekday. Exceptions are on the weekends where rest can be sufficiently achieved.
Tryout/Practice Dates	9.3.2	Any athlete who is on a roster in any sport may not attend any practices for another sport in a new season until he/she ceases to be a member of the prior season's team or that team's season schedule has been completed. This includes playoffs, but not post season tournaments.
Tryout/Practice Dates	9.3.3	No athlete is to be denied permission to tryout for an upcoming season's team because he/she is still actively participating in a current sport.
Sunday Morning	9.4	Parish and private Catholic school athletic teams (CYM and non-CYM) are not to practice or participate in athletic contests prior to Noon on Sundays.
Registration/Billings	9.5	No team will be admitted to any CYM league unless the proper registration form(s) are submitted by the deadline as established and published by the CYM Office.

Registration/Billings	9.5.1	A parish/school is responsible for a team's registration fee once the team is entered into the season (at the time registration forms are submitted). If a team withdraws during the preseason or the season, the parish/school must still pay the team's fee.
Registration/Billings	9.5.2	No parish/school may register teams for an upcoming season unless all outstanding bills have been paid for any prior seasons. The CYM Director of Youth Sports must approve any request for an extension.
Registration/Billings	9.5.3	Payment for an athletic invoice to the Office for Catholic Youth Ministry must be paid from an account bearing the name of the parish or school. Personal checks or checks from businesses will not be accepted without the approval of the CYM Director of Youth Sports.
Online Rosters	9.6	Only rosters completed according to the stated policies will be accepted for play by the Office for Catholic Youth Ministry.
Online Rosters	9.6.1	Official team rosters must be completed online by the head coach, parish/school sport coordinator or the AAP/AD. The AAP/AD must approve all rosters before they are locked.
Online Rosters	9.6.2	Only individuals listed on a team's official, online roster may participate in team events. Individuals not listed may not participate with the team, and a team will forfeit any games played with an unrostered individual player or coach.
Online Rosters	9.6.3	Only adults listed on the team's online roster may act as a coach.
Online Rosters	9.6.4	Deadlines for completing online rosters will be communicated at the preseason sport meetings.
Online Rosters	9.6.5	Once the rosters are locked no athlete may switch to another team for any reason.
Online Rosters	9.6.6	A team cannot compete in any CYM or non-CYM athletic contests until all players and coaches are listed on the official online roster, the required adult/child ratio is met and the AAP/AD has approved the roster on the website. Team will forfeit any and all contests until these are completed.
Online Rosters	9.6.7	Coaches must follow up with parent/guardians on medical issues noted on the team roster.
Online Registration	9.7	Online Registration must be completed by the parent/guardian of every child who wishes to participate in CYM sports.
Online Registration	9.7.1	The parent/guardian must electronically sign both the registration and the concussion information sheet. Players must electronically sign the concussion information sheet.

Online Registration	9.7.2	Once registration is complete, the parent/guardian must print the Athlete Authorization Form and give it to the head coach/coordinator at the first tryout/practice. A player is not eligible to participate or tryout unless the parent provides the form and unless the form lists the proper parish affiliation.
Online Registration	9.7.3	Providing false information during the registration process will result in the participant being ruled ineligible for all CYM athletic programs in the current program year.
Online Registration	9.7.4	Any team allowing individuals to tryout, practice or participate in games that have not properly completed the online registration and been properly affiliated with that parish/school may be subject to further sanctions as determined by the CYM Sport Coordinator, CYM Director of Youth Sports and/or the Athletic Advisory Committee.
Team Participation/ Affiliation	9.8	All individuals shall be classified according to parish/school affiliations and are subject to the guidelines established by said parish/school.
Team Participation/ Affiliation	9.8.1	CYM cannot guarantee that all individuals requesting to participate in the CYM athletic program will be placed on a CYM team.
Team Participation/ Affiliation	9.8.2	An individual assigned an affiliation at a parish program is subject to approval by the parish athletic association. Parishes may refuse to accept an individual assigned to a parish. For example, registration may have closed, teams may be filled, or accepting an individual may adversely impact a team's eligibility for playoffs, etc. In such cases, the parish/school athletic association is to refer the individual back to the CYM Office for possible placement on another CYM team.
Team Participation/ Affiliation	9.8.3	The CYM Office will make affiliation assignments after a review of the Online Registration information for the individual. No individual may tryout, practice or play with a team until authorization has been received from CYM.
Team Participation/ Affiliation	9.8.4	It is the responsibility of a parent/guardian of a child wishing to play CYM sports to register said child at the parish/school by the deadline set by that parish/school. CYM will not consider requests for changes in affiliation if a parish/school deadline has not been met.
Affiliation Change	9.9	All requests for a Change of Affiliation must be in writing using the Change of Affiliation Request Form. This form and the supporting documentation must be submitted to the CYM Office by email at catholicyouth@cdow.org.
Affiliation Change	9.9.1	All requests for a Change of Affiliation must be submitted and approved before any player is permitted to tryout, practice or play in any athletic contest for either parish/school.

Coach Registration	9.10	All coaches (head and assistant) are required to complete all necessary trainings and certifications before they are permitted to participate in a coaching role.
Coach Registration	9.10.1	All coaches (head and assistant) are required to complete a background check to comply with the “For the Sake of God’s Children” policy of the Diocese of Wilmington. Coaches need to be fully cleared before they can actively participate in any coach role.
Code of Conduct for Coaches	9.11	It is the responsibility of all coaches to ensure that the For the Sake of God’s Children policies for the Diocese of Wilmington are followed at all practices, games and team activities.
Code of Conduct for Coaches	9.11.1	If the actions or attitude of a coach are found to be detrimental to the athletes or the CYM program, that coach will be subject to review and discipline. Disciplinary action can include, but is not limited to, probation, suspension, or dismissal, depending upon the circumstances.
Code of Conduct for Coaches	9.11.2	Upon completion of a period of suspension lasting more than 5 athletic contests, a coach must request reinstatement in writing to the CYM Athletic Advisory Committee. This letter must indicate that they suspended coach has reviewed and will support the Statement of Purpose and Philosophy of CYM Athletics. The letter must also be reviewed and approved by the pastor of the parish or the principal of the school where the coach will be participating.
Code of Conduct for Spectators	9.12	Spectators may not file complaints with CYM concerning game officials, coaches, players or other spectators. Only the head coach of a team may file a complaints. If a spectator has a complaint, he or she must wait 24 hours after the athletic contest and then bring the complaint to the head coach and/or AAP/AD. The head coach and AAP/AD will review the matter and decide how to proceed, including whether to bring the complaint to CYM.
Code of Conduct for Spectators	9.12.1	Spectators should remember that they represent their parish/school just as much as team members and coaches. Parents, guardians, other family members and friends must be models of sportsmanship for all of our youth athletes. Adults are expected to demonstrate positive support for all players of both teams and treat all coaches, officials and other spectators with respect at practices or contests.
Code of Conduct for Spectators	9.12.2	If a spectator attends an athletic contest when restricted from doing so, that spectator’s team will forfeit the contest (or, if the team lost, will have its playoff win count reduced by 1). A second occurrence will result in the team’s exclusion from playoffs, or in the case of a non-playoff team, termination of the team’s season.

Code of Conduct for Spectators	9.12.3	Coaches and/or athletic associations are responsible for ensuring a spectator ban is enforced, and are expected to assist and cooperate with a referee, sports coordinator or Advisory Committee member who attends the game and acts to enforce a spectator ban.
Code of Conduct for Spectators	9.12.4	Repeated or continuous inappropriate spectator conduct may result in sanctions against the team or athletic association, including forfeits, exclusion from playoffs, or dismissal from the league.
Ejections	9.13	If a coach or an assistant coach of a CYM team is ejected from ANY parish or CYM athletic contest, whether sponsored by CYM or not, the coach will be suspended. Head coaches will be suspended from the next athletic contest and assistant coaches will be suspended from the next two athletic contests played by that team.
Ejections	9.13.1	If an athlete is ejected, the minimum suspension will be the next athletic contest played by that team.
Ejections	9.13.2	If any spectator is ejected from an athletic contest, the minimum suspension will be from the next two athletic contests for that team.
Ejections	9.13.3	The CYM Director of Youth Sports may impose additional penalties for all players, coaches and spectators that are ejected after reviewing the facts of the case.
Ejections	9.13.4	Suspended games will include playoffs and tournaments.
Ejections	9.13.5	Two ejections for the same individual in any one athletic season will minimally result in a disqualification and seasonal ban for the remainder of that athletic season, including playoffs and tournaments.
Ejections	9.13.6	If an ejection occurs in the last game for that team, a suspension will carry over to the playoffs, tournaments, next athletic season or next program year as determined by the CYM Office.
Ejections	9.13.7	It is the head coach's responsibility to report all ejections to the CYM Director of Youth Sports and to their AAP/AD within 24 hours of the athletic contest. Failure to do so may result in penalties imposed to that head coach or the team.
Ejections	9.13.8	A member of the parish/school Athletic Association must be present at all athletic contests during all suspensions for that team. Any violations of the suspension will result in an immediate stoppage and forfeit by that team.

Complaints	9.14	A head coach may file a complaint with the CYM Office regarding an official, coach, player or other spectator. Coaches must first discuss the concern with the AAP/AD of their parish/school. The AAP/AD should consider whether to bring the pastor/principal into the conversation.
Complaints	9.14.1	A player, parent, or spectator must first bring concerns or complaints to the head coach's attention for the head coach to address according to CYM Procedures. If the concern is about the head coach it must be brought to the AAP/AD.
Complaints	9.14.2	Complaints addressed to CYM may begin with a phone call, but also must be submitted in writing or by email, including the name of the complainant. All names will be kept confidential except by permission of the complaining person. However, anonymous complaints will not be addressed.
Postponements/Forfeits	9.15	All games must be played according to the game schedule.
Postponements/Forfeits	9.15.1	Coaches may not cancel or change any athletic contest for any reason unless authorized to do so by CYM.
Postponements/Forfeits	9.15.2	Any team found refusing to travel to a scheduled location for league competition will suffer a forfeit, pay a fine equal to that of the game officials and be immediately ruled ineligible for playoffs or post season tournaments.
Postponements/Forfeits	9.15.3	The CYM Director of Youth Sports will make a decision on the postponement of all CYM athletic contests due to inclement weather, driving conditions or field conditions. A decision made by the CYM Office to postpone a contest is not reversible by any other authority. A coach may NOT postpone a scheduled contest unless authorized by CYM.
Postponements/Forfeits	9.15.4	CYM regular season and playoff athletic contests will NOT be rescheduled due to tournaments or outside events. Forfeits will result if teams cannot participate due to the lack of players.
League Playoffs	9.16	The CYM Office will determine play-off alignment for all sports. Ties for final regular season league standings or playoff seed will not require a play-in contest.
Medical	9.17	Injuries, other than head injuries, will only be reported at the parish/school athletic association level and not to the CYM Office. Athletic Associations are directed to implement policies and maintain records to deal with player injuries and ensure player safety. The CYM Office, or any game official, reserves the right to remove a player from a game if the player appears to be hurt or otherwise playing under unsafe physical conditions.

Medical	9.17.1	An athlete that has asthma may not practice or play in games/athletic contests unless the coach has possession of an inhaler, with the athlete's name inscribed on the inhaler, and the athlete is able to administer the inhaler without aid.
Medical	9.17.2	An athlete that is allergic to bee stings and has a history of anaphylactic reaction may not practice or play in games/athletic contests unless the coach has possession of an EPI-PEN with the athlete's name inscribed on the EPI-PEN and the athlete is able to administer the EPI-PEN without aid.
Medical	9.17.3	A concussion is a traumatic brain injury. Signs and symptoms may show immediately or may not appear for 24-48 hours. All CYM coaches are responsible for reading and being familiar with the "Concussion Handout for Parents" and making certain all parents/guardians of team members have a copy of this handout. In the event an athlete receives a potential head injury during a practice or game/athletic contest the athlete must be seen by a physician who is required to clear them to return to play.