

General Guidelines Governing CYO Athletics

These rules were amended on 5/16/10. All changes will be noted in *bold italic* font.
All Points of Emphasis will be noted in bold lettering.

Article I

Eligibility

A. Age and Division

Parish:

1. There are three (4 boys divisions and 3 girls divisions) divisions of competition:

BOYS DIVISION

Senior- under 19 and greater than 15 as of December 31 of the current school year. Not graduated from high school.

Junior- under 17 and greater than 13 as of December 31 of the current school year. *Not completed 10th grade* .

Cadet- under 15 and greater than 10 as of December 31 of the current school year. Not completed 8th grade.

Bantam- under 13 and greater than 9 as of December 31 of the current school year. Not completed 6th grade.

Catholic Grammar School:

1. There are 4 divisions of competition:

BOYS DIVISION

7th & 8th Grade – under 15 and greater than 11 as of 12/31 & not completed 8th grade.

5th & 6th Grade – under 13 and greater than 9 as of 12/31 & not completed 6th grade.

GIRLS DIVISION

Senior- under 19 and greater than 13 as of December 31 of the current school year. Not graduated from high school.

Cadet-under 15 and greater than 10 as of December 31 of the current school year. Not completed 8th grade.

Bantam- under 13 and greater than 9 as of December 31 of the current school year. Not completed 6th grade.

GIRLS DIVISION

7th & 8th Grade – under 15 and greater than 11as of 12/31 & not completed 8th grade.

5th & 6th Grade – under 13 and greater than 9 as of 12/31 & not completed 6th grade.

B. Player Restrictions

1. A player will register and compete in only one parish and in only one division per season. A player may compete in the parish & grammar school divisions **in the same age division**. *No player may compete in both grammar school divisions.*
2. No player will be a member of a varsity high school team or have participated (anyone entered into the contest) in a varsity high school, prep., academy, trade, or college activity that is under consideration for that season or as an underclassman will have participated at the varsity level at the same school and is under consideration for the current season.
3. CYO competition will be restricted to amateur participants only. Participants who have received remuneration or other compensation for play in their specific activity are ineligible.
4. No player will register, compete, or be publicized under an assumed name or *assumed residence*.

C. Residence

A participant will compete only for that parish in which the participant actually resides (defined as territorial).

A participant will compete only for the school at which he/she is enrolled.

1. Non Territorial Parishioner (NTP)

If any youth does not reside geographically within a parish boundary, BUT WHOSE FAMILY IS A REGISTERED PARISHIONER AND IS ACTIVE IN THAT CHURCH, he/she may play ONLY if the priest of the parish for which he/she is going to play fills out the NTP form and submits it with the roster. It is then subject to the approval of the Area Coordinator.

2. Multi-Parish Teams

When a parish does not sponsor a team **due to an insufficient number of players (defined as seven (7))**, that parish may join with a bordering parish and petition the Area Coordinator **and Archdiocesan** Board for authorization to participate in CYO athletic competition. **Any extenuating circumstances calling for the combination of more than two parishes must be brought before the Archdiocesan Athletic Director for consideration.**

Guidelines for Petition for a Multi-Parish Team

The petitioning parishes:

- a. may sponsor only one multi-parish combine per division.
- b. must have one member of that combine with an insufficient number of participants to sponsor a team (*defined as 7 players*).
- c. must supply a number of the Catholic players on the team roster.
- d. should share financial responsibility.

- e. must show proof of open invitation for tryouts to each parish of this combine (parish bulletins, newspaper clippings, etc.)
- f. must have the approval of the CYO Director or representative of each petitioning parish of this combine.
- g. must have the approval of the local Area Coordinator *and subsequently the Archdiocesan Board. A hearing will be held to determine this approval. Athletic Directors and Coaches will be required to attend this hearing. This meeting will be held at the Pastoral Center in Braintree on November 21, 2010 starting at 12 Noon.*
- h. must place all participants from the non-sponsoring parish on the same team in the event that two teams are entered.
- i. will not cut any players from either parish.

Guidelines for Approval of a Multi-Parish Team

The petitioning parishes will submit to the Area Coordinator *and the Archdiocesan Board* in writing a complete account and record of information pertaining to the **GUIDELINES FOR PETITION FOR A MULTI-PARISH TEAM BY NOVEMBER 8**

This multi-parish team will be eligible for competition for a period of one (1) season only. The parishes will re-petition the Archdiocesan Athletic Director for each succeeding activity or season.

3. Change of Residence/ School Status

A participant who moves from one parish to another will be eligible to play for the parish from which the participant moved only if the date of moving occurred after *October 1.*

4. School Withdrawal/Suspension

If a player withdraws from a school, his/her eligibility ends upon withdrawal.

If a player is under suspension at school, he/she may not compete while under suspension.

D. Non-Catholics

The basic intent of persons of other faiths participating in any activity is to prevent separation of a group of youngsters who are frequently together even though **one or two of them are not Catholic in faith.** This would deter from the true spirit of ecumenism. *Use of more than 2 non-catholics on a roster requires the approval of the Archdiocesan Athletic Director. In addition, the NCP Form (new) must be submitted with this request stating all pertinent data and include proof of advertising in the parish bulletin and local newspapers. If the team is a multi-parish team, proof of advertising in both parish bulletins is required.*

Non Catholic players must be noted on the roster. No Catholic players should be dropped to allow non Catholic players to play. However, if numbers dictate that

cuts must be made and Catholic players must be dropped, the minimum number of players on that roster will be no less than 15.

Non Catholic players must reside geographically within the boundaries of the **parish/multi-parish combine** he/she wishes to play for.

Non Catholic players who attend a Catholic Grammar School are eligible to compete for their school.

Article II

REGISTRATION

A. Entry Forms

The Office for the New Evangelization of Youth & Young Adults will provide entry forms for participating parishes/school in each competitive activity. These forms will be made available well in advance of the beginning of each season.

The local Area Coordinators will take charge of the distribution of such forms in order that every parish/school within each area may have the opportunity to submit entries.

The entry will be returned to the Area Coordinator **no later than the deadline indicated on the entry form. All entry forms/fees must be submitted to the Archdiocesan office no later than December 10.**

B. Entry Fees

The Archdiocesan entry fee for each activity will be determined by the Archdiocesan CYO Board of Coordinators and noted on the entry form. This fee will be submitted with the proper entry form **by means of a check made payable to the Office for New Evangelization. Entry Fees and Forms must be sent to the local Area Coordinator. The local Area Coordinator will forward all forms and fees to ONE no later than December 10 of the current season.**

In order to meet local expenses, an Area Coordinator may charge a reasonable fee. Parishes/schools will be billed by the local Area Coordinator through a ONE Invoice. Local Fees should be made payable directly to the Area Coordinator and mailed to the Office for New Evangelization . All bills for local fees will be processed through ONE.

C. Rosters

All rosters must be signed by the parish pastor/principal only.

The Office for Youth Ministry will prepare OFFICIAL ROSTER FORMS and supply each form to the local Area Coordinators. The local Area Coordinators will distribute such forms to each of the parishes submitting entries in an activity.

1. Each parish will carefully prepare in triplicate an official roster of players, not to exceed twenty (20) names, for each team it will have competing in a particular activity.
2. Each person of another faith will be specifically noted on the roster.
3. Each player named on the roster will present a record of birth, and, if requested by a CYO official, must provide a certified copy or notarized photostat of that record of birth or a driver's license.

Any parish, coordinator, parent or guardian may contact the Archdiocesan Athletic Director in writing regarding a Letter of Waiver of the birth record requirement.

Application for a Letter of Waiver will be accompanied by as much documentation as is available and must be submitted to the Archdiocesan Athletic Director at least one (1) week prior to the roster deadline.

4. The local parish/school CYO director or athletic representative will examine each roster for accuracy in the matter of age, residence, status and identity, parental permission and medical release and will submit each roster to the local Area Coordinator for approval before the deadline established by the Coordinator.
5. **The local Area Coordinator will examine all rosters for completeness and for compliance with the general and specific rules and shall reject all incomplete rosters, and rosters which do not comply with the Archdiocesan general and specific rules.**
The Area Coordinator will:
 - a) send original copy along with Archdiocesan fees no later than January 5 to the the Office for the New Evangelization for Youth & Young Adults/CYO .
 - b) retain the second copy
 - c) return the third copy to the coach
6. All rosters must be submitted to the local Area Coordinator by a deadline established by the local Area Coordinator which is not to be later than the date of their first scheduled league game. Any team that violates this rule is not eligible to participate in league play and the tournament.
7. Teams whose rosters have not been filed with the Office for the New Evangelization of Youth & Young Adults by January 5 will be ineligible for the Archdiocesan Tournament.

Article III

CONDUCT

Any player, coach, or manager involved with the CYO program who is found guilty by the Area Coordinator and Area Board of unsportsmanlike or improper conduct on or off the scene of any CYO contest or activity will be subject to suspension from participation in all CYO athletic activities.

A. Ineligibility

1. Any coach, player, or manager ejected by an official from a game once during a season will be ineligible to participate in **at least** the next scheduled game played by the team in that activity in the season.
2. Anyone ejected by an official from more than one (1) game during a season will be subject to suspension from participation in **all** remaining games in that activity in that season.
3. Coaches involved in a game in which a participant is ejected will submit in writing/email to the local Area Coordinator all pertinent information pertaining to the ejection of the participant. The local Area Coordinator will notify the coach of the team as to the ineligibility of the participant in any CYO athletic activities.

Article IV

AREA LEAGUE

A. Entry

1. Parishes/schools submitting entries to the local Area Coordinator will play league games only within their territorial athletic area.
2. Should a parish/school submit an entry to the local Area Coordinator and that local area does not sponsor a league in that division, the local Area Coordinator may place said parish/school with a neighboring area league. The Coordinator of the area into which teams come from another area will be responsible to the Office for the New Evangelization of Youth & Young Adults for entry forms, fees and rosters of those teams.

B. Schedule

Due to the observance of the Lord's Day, no games may be scheduled prior to 12 Noon on Sunday. Any exceptions must be approved by the Archdiocesan Athletic Director.

1. All teams within a CYO league will observe strictly that schedule which the local Area Coordinator prepares.

2. Any postponed game will be rescheduled within seven (7) days of the original date for a new date by agreement of the teams involved subject to the approval of the local Area Coordinator.
* If no new date is mutually agreed upon *within 7 days*, each team will be credited with a forfeiture unless the local Area Coordinator is notified.
3. Any team which fails to play two (2) scheduled games within a season will be required to attend a hearing by the local Area Advisory Board and is subject to suspension from further participation in its league for that season.
4. Any team which fails to complete its schedule will be required to attend a hearing by the local Area Advisory Board and is subject to suspension from participation in the activity during the subsequent season.

C. Postponement

1. A game may be postponed **only in the case of inclement weather**. The local Area Coordinator will determine whether the game will be played and will inform the opposing team and officials.
2. Any other cases requiring postponement of a game must be approved by the Area Coordinator prior to postponement.
3. When a team is unable to play a scheduled game, its coach or athletic representative will notify the Area Coordinator and the coach or athletic representative of the opposing team at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the scheduled game time.
4. Should a team fail to make notification of cancellation/forfeiture, such team will forfeit the game and be responsible for the payment of officials and any gym fees. If such team fails to pay for the official and gym fees, all games subsequent to said failure to pay will be forfeited until payment has been made.

D. Protests

1. All protests should be typewritten and filed with the local Area Coordinator and must include a protest fee of \$50.00 made payable to The Office for the New Evangelization of Youth & Young Adults. (ONE)
2. All protests of player eligibility must be specific with definite facts.
3. Protests of rule interpretation during actual game conditions must be made orally with the game official at the point of the alleged misinterpretation. The game must be completed or the protest will not be allowed. Such protest must be submitted and postmarked within forty-eight (48) hours of the protested game.
4. Under no circumstances will protests involving the judgment of officials on decisions be considered.

5. Should a rule interpretation protest be upheld the game will be replayed.
6. All protest rulings will be decided by the local Area Advisory Board.

E. Forfeiture

1. All games in which a proven ineligible player participates will be forfeited.

F. Officials

1. The local Area Coordinator will assign certified officials to all area league games.

G. Game Results

1. Immediately following each game the winning team's coach should submit to the local Area Coordinator the results and statistics of that game.

H. Uniforms

1. **Players must be in full uniform (shirt and shorts) with the shirts numbered and of the same color, and shorts of the same color and striping. Teams not in uniform will not be allowed to play. Uniforms should display the name of the parish/school. Uniforms MUST BE LEGALLY NUMBERED.**

I. Equipment

1. Each team is responsible for providing the proper and safe equipment for its own players. The home team will supply the game balls in suitable condition.

J. Financial Responsibility

Any parish/school which fails to meet the financial responsibilities of a season (e.g., Payment of fees and officials) will be required to attend a hearing by the Archdiocesan Advisory Board and will be subject to suspension from participation in all CYO athletic activities.

K. Area Advisory Board

1. The Area Advisory Board will be made up of the local Area Coordinator and at least two (2) other mature and impartial individuals selected by the coordinator.
 2. The Area Advisory Board will hold hearings in regard to any violation of Article IV, A; Article V, B-3, 4, D-6 of the general rules and submit the hearing records and findings to the Archdiocesan Athletic Coordinator.
1. When the decision of the local Area Advisory Board is unanimous that decision will be final.

ARTICLE V

Archdiocesan Tournaments

A. Eligibility

1. All Archdiocesan tournaments will be invitational.
2. A Parish CYO team who wins at least 70% of its scheduled games will be eligible to be invited to represent their area in the Archdiocesan Tournament. Catholic Grammar School teams are eligible for the Archdiocesan Tournament in accordance with criteria established by the local area coordinator. These criteria should be published prior to the season.
3. A player should have participated in at least one half (1/2) of the number of games played by the team during the local area league schedule to be eligible for tournament participation.

B. Schedules and Rules

1. The Tournament Committee will make available to all local Area Coordinators and all participating teams a copy of the tournament schedule and specific tournament rules, sufficiently in advance of the first tournament game.
2. The Tournament Committee will seed all teams according to their record. Whenever possible, teams from the same league will not be paired against each other in the first round of play.

C. Rosters

The manager or coach of each participating team will submit that team's copy of the original Archdiocesan roster and proof of age to the Tournament Committee or representative before the start of each tournament game.

D. Postponement

Only the Archdiocesan Tournament Committee may postpone a tournament game or change the scheduled starting time. The Office for the New Evangelization of Youth & Young Adults/CYO will inform teams involved in time to minimize inconvenience.

E. Protests

1. All protests will be filed with the Tournament Committee or representative.

2. All protests of player eligibility must be submitted within four (4) hours after the game in question.
3. Should an ineligible player take part in a tournament game, the team will forfeit the last tournament game in which the team played.
4. Any manager, coach, or director who allows an ineligible contestant to compete will be required to attend a hearing by the Archdiocesan Advisory Board and is subject to suspension from participating in all CYO athletic activities.

F. Officials

All tournament officials will be assigned by the Tournament Committee.

ARTICLE VI

Archdiocesan Advisory Board

This board will be made up of the Archdiocesan Director of the Office for the New Evangelization of Youth & Young Adults, the Archdiocesan Athletic Director and Assistant Directors, and the Area Coordinators. The board is listed online at oymboston.org.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

The Archdiocesan General and Specific Rules may be amended by a majority vote of the membership of the Board of Coordinators present at any meeting.

REVISED September, 1975
 AMENDED March, 1976
 AMENDED October, 1978
 AMENDED October, 1982
 AMENDED October, 1991
 REVISED October, 1992

REVISED September, 1993
 REVISED July, 2001
 AMENDED October, 2008
 AMENDED May2010

Specific Rules Governing CYO Basketball

1. Eligibility

A. Determining Date

The participant will be within the specific age for his/her division as of December 31, of the year of competition. (i.e.) Archdiocesan Tournament).

B. Refer to General Rules Article I, A, B, C, D.

2. Player Restrictions

A. Refer to General Rules Article I, B.

3. Game Restrictions

A. No team should play more than one (1) game in a single day. In the event of a league emergency, which absolutely requires the playing of two (2) games in a single day, at least four (4) hours must elapse between the *starting times of games*.

2. Playing Rules

The CYO Program adheres to the National Federation rules with the following exceptions:

A. Refer to General Rules, Article IV.

B. Play should begin in each local area on a date early enough to permit the full schedule to be completed by the date specified as the deadline for the specific season of the season of competition (for 2011, that date is February 20, 2010. From that date the teams representing their local area must be ready to compete in the tournament.

1. No shot clock

2. Length of Games

Parishes: (2) 15 minute halves

Schools: 7th& 8th- (4) 7 minute quarters.

5th& 6th- (4) 6 minute quarters.

5. Men who coach girls' teams *must* be at least twenty-one (21) years of age. *The Pastor* and local Area Coordinator must approve an exception to this rule.

6. Slaughter Rule - any team that establishes a lead in the score of 20 points or more is not allowed to play any form of defense in the opponent's back court.

7. The 3 point shot is allowed in all divisions.

8. The 28.5 cm basketball must be used in all 5th&6th grade boys & girls games.