CYO Code of Conduct For All: Coaches, Players, Families, Spectators

When registering for the CYO season, all players, families, and coaches agreed to follow the sportsmanship policies outlined in this Code of Conduct. The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) uses sports to help children learn Christian values, build friendships, and practice good sportsmanship. The goal is for everyone involved—coaches, players, and spectators—to make the games fun for the children.

Coaches

Coaches are expected to:

- Be role models by showing good behavior and sportsmanship.
- Respect the referees and follow the game rules.
- Treat other coaches, players, and fans respectfully.
- Teach players to show good sportsmanship.
- Stay seated on the bench during games unless the rules allow them to stand.

Penalties for Coaches:

- If a coach is ejected for bad behavior, they will miss the next two games and could face more consequences.
- If a coach physically harms anyone, they could be suspended for the rest of the season and may not be allowed to participate in CYO again.

Players

Players are expected to:

- Treat their opponents with respect, such as shaking hands before and after games.
- Respect the referees and follow the rules.
- Always represent their school/parish positively.
- Play fairly, without taunting or teasing opponents.

Penalties for Players:

- If a player is ejected for bad behavior, they will miss the next game and could face additional consequences.
- If a player physically harms another person or an official, they may be suspended for the rest of the season and could be disqualified from CYO.

Spectators

Spectators are expected to:

- Remember that the children are playing for fun, not for the spectators.
- Stay in the designated spectator area and respect the officials' decisions.
- Be positive role models by supporting the teams and not yelling instructions or criticism.

- Avoid making negative comments or gestures towards anyone involved in the game.

Penalties for Spectators:

- Coaches are responsible for their team's spectators. Any spectator showing poor sportsmanship can be removed from the game by an official, coach, or gym staff.
- Spectators who cause problems may be banned from attending future CYO games.

Enforcement

The CYO Code of Conduct is enforced by parishes and leagues, under the Diocese of Oakland. Any complaints about violations of the Code should be brought to the parish or school athletic directors first. Coaches, players, or spectators can be suspended or placed on probation if they break the rules.

By following these guidelines, we can ensure a positive and enjoyable experience for all children participating in CYO sports.