

# **CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION**

## **Sportsmanship – It's A Team Effort!**

### **THE COACH.....**

- ♥ Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior, and leadership, adhering to strong Christian, ethical, and integrity standards.
- ♥ Respect the integrity and personality of the individual student-athlete.
- ♥ Abide by and teach the skills and rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
- ♥ Set a good example for players and spectators to follow—please refrain from arguments in front of players and spectators; no gestures which indicate an official or opposing coach does not know what he/she is doing or talking about; no throwing of any object in disgust. Demand the same of your players.
- ♥ Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.

### **THE STUDENT-ATHLETE.....**

- Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of representing the parish, school, and community.
- Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by CYO, parish/school administration, and the coaching staff.
- Learn the skills and rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with teammates, parents, friends, and fellow students.
- Treat opponents the way you would like to be treated, as a guest or friend.
- Refrain from making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents during the game.
- Wish opponents good-luck before the game and congratulate them in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
- Respect the integrity and judgement of game officials. The officials are doing their best to help promote you and your sport.
- Win with humility; lose with grace. Do both with dignity.

### **THE CHEERLEADER.....**

- ◀ Understand the seriousness and responsibility of your role, and the privilege of representing the parish, school, and community.
- ◀ Learn the rules of the game thoroughly & discuss them with teammates, parents, fans, & fellow students.

- ◀ Treat opposing cheerleaders and fans the way you would like to be treated, as a guest or friend.
- ◀ Wish opposing cheerleaders good-luck before the game and congratulate them in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
- ◀ Establish standards of desirable behavior for the squad and attempt in a cheerful manner to transfer that to your spectators.
- ◀ Select positive cheers which praise your team without antagonizing the opponents.
- ◀ Encourage a positive crowd alternative by starting a popular positive cheer.
- ◀ Give encouragement to injured players and recognition to outstanding performances for both teams.
- ◀ Respect the integrity and judgement of game officials.

### **THE SPECTATOR.....**

- ☺ Remember that you are at a contest to support and cheer for your team and to enjoy the skill and competition; not to intimidate or ridicule the other team, fans, or officials.
- ☺ Remember that CYO level athletics are learning experiences for students and that mistakes are part of the learning process. Praise the student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes, and as people; just as you would praise a student working and striving in the classroom.
- ☺ Learn the skills and rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- ☺ Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators, support groups, and officials. Treat them as you would treat a guest in your own home.
- ☺ Refrain from making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents during the game.
- ☺ Respect the integrity and judgement of game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete, and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- ☺ Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- ☺ Be a positive role model through your own actions and by censuring those around you at events whose behavior is unbecoming, inappropriate, or distracting.

**EDUCATIONAL ATHLETICS**