



Diocese of Metuchen

Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

CYM Sports - Guidelines & Rules 2021-2022

Our league focus is on ministry to the total development of each child including the formation of Catholic values in all participants. CYM sports are different from secular athletic programs.

Purpose and Philosophy:

We believe that Catholic Youth Ministry programs can assist in bringing our youth to a Christ-centered and Christ-like lifestyle within our parishes and schools. Our league focus is on ministry to the total development of each child including the formation of Catholic values in all participants. CYM sports are different from secular athletic programs.

CYM is different than non-church related athletic programs that promote appropriate behavior and build character but primarily emphasize winning or losing. CYM Athletics provides an atmosphere of care, growth and enjoyment for each child with the emphasis on a Christ-centered life.

CYM Basketball programs must provide not only for the development of particular physical skills but also for social interaction, emotional stability, affirmation and spiritual growth. Consciously, we work with our young people as whole persons. The young person, not the athletic activity, is our key focus.

We believe that all CYM programs should be well organized and maintain standards of high quality. We believe that all parishioners have the opportunity to be on a team at the level of their abilities and should also have the right to participate in each game.

We believe that all CYM programs should be viewed as a part of and in support of the life of the parish. These programs can be effective tools that will invite, welcome and involve a young person into the total life of the parish. The inter-relationship with family life, parish life and school life is essential.

Playing in a Catholic League:

In keeping with our Catholic mission to keep the Sabbath day holy, Bishop Bootkoski signed a letter in August 2004 prohibiting athletic practices or games from being conducted prior to 1 pm on any Sunday. This policy applies to ALL Catholic sports and parish team participation within the Diocese of Metuchen and is not limited to the Diocesan CYM Basketball League. It pertains to parish tournaments and other sports as well. Regardless of the availability of Saturday Vigil Masses, the Diocese of Metuchen is committed to maintaining Sunday mornings as a sacred time. Catholic families should not have to choose between sports or worshipping and being together. This policy is good for the players and their families and for the coaches and their families.

Committed to Catholic values, CYM Athletics shall enhance the spiritual development of CYM athletes through their participation in a pre-game prayer, choosing one specific Mass on a Sunday that team players and families will participate in and teaching our Faith through our example.

Central to CYM Athletic programs is the coach. The coach sets the tone and gives direction to any team. This position must be seen in the context of real ministry. The coach's challenge is to take those teachable moments of victory or loss and give witness to Catholic values by the manner in which he/she mentors the young people, respects each individual player, other coaches, officials and parents for their intrinsic value as a person created in the image and likeness of God.

Supervision:

Every team is required to have a minimum of two certified coaches at every game. This complies with the concern for how we care for youth today in Protecting God's Children. Coaches will be held directly responsible for their team's conduct and general supervision, including crowd control.

We are all charged with the responsibility for providing supervision and insuring safety. It is everyone's obligation to carry out this responsibility. All actions and behaviors of the players, coaches, and parents/guests are a reflection on the parish, school, CYM, and the Catholic Church. Consequently, inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

CYM Sports - Guidelines & Rules 2022-2023

All are expected to conduct themselves in a manner true to our Catholic tradition in fair play, sportsmanship, love of God and one another.

In addition, a Site Manager is to be present at all games. This person will be responsible for all aspects of the operation of his or her facility. This will include the ejection of any person at the facility not complying with the philosophy and rules of the Diocese.

Requirements for Athletic Directors, and Site Directors:

Site Directors must be a person at least 21 years of age and are required to:

- Have a current volunteer application and background check (within the last three years) on file in the parish/school office
- Have attended a 3 hour session of Protecting God's Children
- Have completed 3 National Federation courses: (1) Sportsmanship; (2) Bullying, Hazing and Inappropriate Behaviors and (3) Concussion in Sports, found at no cost at NFHSLEARN.com and have provided certification of completion.
- Read the Diocesan Code of Pastoral Conduct and CYM Basketball Athletic/Site Director Responsibilities and sign a statement of compliance with these documents
- Attend an annual meeting
- Email game results with scores by Saturday evening to cym.basketball@diometuchen.org
- Submit completed injury/incident reports to the Diocese Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry within 24 hours of the injury/incident

Requirements for Parish/School Representatives:

- Medical forms, photo release forms and discipline/transportation or damage costs forms are a part of, and readily available, in both the coaches' binders and at the local level.
- A list of ALL coaches (at my site). I will inform the Diocese if/when new coaches are added.
- Coaches and assistant coaches have completed 3 National Federation courses: (1) Sportsmanship; (2) Bullying, Hazing and Inappropriate Behaviors and (3) Concussion in Sports, found at no cost at NFHSLEARN.com and have provided certification of completion.
- Documentation to that effect is to be maintained and available at the local level.

Requirements for Head Coaches, and Assistant Coaches:

Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches must be a person at least 21 years of age and are required to:

- Have a current volunteer application and background check (within the last three years) on file in their local parish/school office via IdentGo.
- Have attended a three hour session of Protecting God's Children
- Have completed 3 National Federation courses: (1) Sportsmanship; (2) Bullying, Hazing and Inappropriate Behaviors and (3) Concussion in Sports, found at no cost at NFHSLEARN.com and have provided certification of completion.
- Read the Diocesan Code of Pastoral Conduct and CYM Basketball Coach Responsibilities and sign a statement of compliance with these documents
- Coaches are NOT permitted to be the head coach of more than one team. They can be an assistant coach for a second team only.
- Ensure that an assistant coach or another Virtus trained adult is present at every team activity.
- Ensure Parent Sportsmanship

Coach's Responsibilities:

Failure to abide by the following will result in consequences from the Diocesan Office

- Exhibit the highest level of sportsmanship and respect for all team members consistent with the beliefs and teachings of a Roman Catholic Community during each practice and game.
- Always set a good example for athletes, parents, and fans

CYM Sports - Guidelines & Rules 2022-2023

- Develop and enforce penalties for those athletes who do not abide by these standards
- Treat opposing coaches with respect
- Respect and work with officials, recognizing their importance to the athletic contest
- Follow the injury/incident procedures when necessary

Rules for CYM Basketball League Registration and Play:

ENTRY: The registration fee for the 2021-2022 Season, will be \$85 per team.

The Fee along with the Registration will be facilitated by ABILA.

The Deadline for Registration/Payment (ELECTRONIC) is November 8th. Rosters are due by **Nov. 15th**. Each CYM Basketball Program must submit their completed rosters through the designated Organization Rep. Rosters are also to include pastor's or principal's Electronic signature .

ELIGIBILITY: Players are to be enrolled in a parish religious education program or Catholic School, unless approved by the Pastor, keeping in line with the spirit of our league and rules, in order to be eligible to play in, in the Diocesan CYM Basketball league. High school players also need to be a member of the parish or the parish youth ministry program for which they are playing for, unless, their Parish does not have a basketball program to play for.

All players must have properly completed a Diocese of Metuchen CYM Basketball Registration/ Medical Form signed by the parent or guardian before participating in an organized practice session or game. A player can only play for one team in the Diocesan League. No new members can be added after the first game, unless approved by the Diocese.

Parishes may "combine" with other Parishes to form a team if player is not afforded the opportunity to play, due to their Parish not being able to field a program.

AGE REQUIREMENTS:

ALL PLAYERS MUST PLAY FOR THE GRADE , THEY CURRENTLY ARE ENROLLED IN, AND SECONDLY, UNLESS- THEY ARE PLAYING "UP" A GRADE LEVEL.

- 4th Grade - must be in the 4th grade or lower
- 5th Grade - cannot be 12 years of age before September 1, 2022
- 6th grade - cannot be 13 years of age before September 1, 2022
- 7th Grade - cannot be 14 years of age before September 1, 2022
- 8th grade - cannot be 15 years of age before September 1, 2022
- High School Players - cannot be 19 years of age before September 1, 2022
- **COACHES MATERIALS DURING GAME:** Each Head Coach must have with them at all games, a binder containing an Official CYM Basketball Roster, a copy of ALL Player Registration / Medical forms. Game Sheet and Coaches' Course Certificates {This is a liability issue}
- **OFFICIAL'S GAME FEES:** will be **\$55** Grades 4-8 and \$65 for High School contests Payable with PAYMENT RECEIPT (downloaded from web), prior to the game.
- **OFFICIAL ROSTERS:** WE PREFER MINIMUM OF 10 PLAYERS (Hardship can be considered a case for a smaller roster, however, not in the case of multiple teams in one age group) Teams of 10 or more must be put together BEFORE creating an additional team, i.e. 24 kids – 2 teams of 12 and not 3 teams of 8.
- **PLAYERS TO START A GAME:** Each team must have a minimum of 6 players. Less than 6 players constitute a forfeited game. An unofficial game will be played with players in the roster and officiated by the Refs.
- **FORFEITS:** All games shall start promptly at the scheduled time. A maximum fifteen (15) minute grace period will be allowed by the referee's watch, after which the game will be considered forfeited, unless a prior contest exceeds the next contests' 15 minute grace period, at which time teams are ready to play at the conclusion of the prior contest. All league games must be played on the scheduled day or shall be forfeited and the forfeiting team pays both officials, however, if an exhibition game is played, then coaches share the fee. Coaches may not reschedule games. Any game not approved by the CYM Coordinator will be considered an unofficial game.
- **SUBSTITUTION RULE: BOTH TEAMS HAVE MORE THEN 10 PLAYERS**

CYM Sports - Guidelines & Rules 2022-2023

All divisions will operate under a "Substitution Rule" during the first three quarters of play and FREE Substitution during the fourth quarter. IF – BOTH TEAMS HAVE 10 or MORE PLAYERS. In this case, a referee 'timeout' will be called near the 4 minute mark of each quarter for this substitutions. Players who are 'on the bench' for the first 4 minutes of the quarter, are required to play the FULL 2nd 4 minutes of the quarter, barring injury.

Note: Only 10 players are required to play each quarter.

Substitutions for injuries will be allowed

- **SUBSTITUTION RULE: 1 or 2 TEAMS HAVE LESS THAN 10, BUT AT LEAST 6 PLAYERS:** THERE WILL BE NO SUBSTITUTION RULE IN EFFECT.COACHES WILL USE FREE SUBSTITUTION. The only requirement is: Both teams are required to play as many players, as the team with LESS players. This format pertains to the 1st THREE quarters, with NO specific playing time required. The 4th quarter is FREE substitution and players are NOT required to play.
- **Note:** Only 10 players are required to play each quarter in any event.
- **Pastoral conflicts** requiring SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENTS are to be reported PRIOR to the completion of the League Schedule. Any Requests for change in schedule and/or postponements will be honored to the best of our ability when the procedure is properly followed.
- **Schedule Change Requests:** Once the schedule is complete, ONLY MAJOR Parish /School/Site Issues can warrant consideration for a schedule change. Team rescheduling would only be considered if they couldn't field 6 players DUE TO THE ISSUE. If 6 players are available, the game must be played in ANY event. Only the Organization Rep could request this to the League Coordinator. REQUESTS DO NOT GUARANTEE CHANGES.
- **Cancelling During the week:** If a team cancels a game prior to the Saturday contest ,it will be considered a Forfeit and that team will be held liable for both Officials Fees, \$90, payable upon notification of that Forfeit
- **NO SHOWS:** This requires **IMMEDIATE PAYMENT** of BOTH OFFICIALS' FEES - Officials, (\$110) and the team is subject to PLAYOFF FORFEITURE. NO SHOWING GAME 10 will result AUTOMATIC PLAYOFF FORFEITURE. All forfeitures/fees must be paid prior to the next scheduled game, or risk additional forfeits. FORFEITS CALLED IN AFTER 12:00 PM (NOON) on FRIDAY fall under this NO SHOW rule.
- **CANCELLATIONS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER:** Will be sent via E-MAIL to the REPS and SITE MANAGERS. The Organization Rep's responsibility is to assist in notifying coaches and volunteers. Site Managers of the host team may also cancel due to local weather conditions on their site and will contact the league director. Weather decisions will be made no later than 7 AM Saturday. Teams scheduled to play are responsible to contact the site manager if there is a cancellation possibility. If bad road conditions cause a team to cancel on their own, they must contact the site manager by 7AM Saturday, upon will take it under consideration. Site managers' phone numbers will be listed on the diocesan website under Youth Ministry Sports. DUE TO THE SIZE OF OUR LEAGUE WE USUALLY FIND IT NECESSARY TO MAKE THE CANCELLATION ON FRIDAY.
- **CYM PLAY:** *The CYM League is governed by the Federation/NJSIAA HS Rulebook with League Rule Exceptions.*
- **CLOCK:** All games will consist of four eight-minute quarters. There will be a one-minute time out between quarters. The half time intermission shall be five minutes, (disputes regarding more than 5 minutes are determined by the site manager). In the case of a tie at the end of regulation time, ONE additional four-minute period will be played to declare a winner or tie. Each team is permitted four time-outs per game, and one in the overtime period.
- **25 POINT RULE:** If at any time in the 4th quarter a team is winning by 25 points, the clock will become a running clock for the REMAINDER of the game, stopping only for timeouts and foul shots. The clock will be stopped once the official announces a shooting foul.
- **DOUBLE DOUBLE BONUS RULE:** If at the start of the 4th quarter both teams are already in the double bonus, the clock becomes a running clock for the 4th quarter, only stopped for timeouts.

CYM Sports - Guidelines & Rules 2022-2023

- **4th GRADE CLOCK RULE:** The clock in the 4th grade division will be stopped for fouls, substitutions, and time outs. It will continue to run during normal out-of-bounds and dead balls. The clock will run normally in the 4th quarter.
- **UNFAIR PLAY:** Running up scores to a lopsided advantage is considered unfair play and will be investigated. Repeated offenses could result in offending teams losing their right to play in playoffs.
- **NO PRESS RULE:** The 4th and 5th grade divisions are NOT permitted to use a "FULL-COURT PRESS" UNTIL the final 4 minutes of the 4th Quarter. In addition, they MAY press the ENTIRE overtime period.
- **THE 6th GRADE DIVISIONS ARE NOW PERMITTED TO PRESS THE ENTIRE 4th QUARTER,** in addition to the OVERTIME period. They cannot press UNTIL the 4th quarter, though.
- **NO PRESS MEANS-**The defensive team is required to allow the offensive team to "**cross over**" the half-court line before deploying defensive tactics or attempting to gain possession. Position of a defensive player shall be at least three feet behind the half-court line until "crossover" occurs. In case(s) of infractions, the officials will give the offensive team possession at the mid-court point and warn the coach of the first infraction. Second infraction shall result in a technical foul.
- **PRESS CUTOFF:** When any 4th Grade team is leading by 10 or more points, they can no longer "full court press". The 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade divisions need to call the press off at 20 points.
- **FOUL LINE INFRACTION:** In 4th, 5th, and 6th grade divisions, there will be no penalty for crossing the line during a foul shot, providing the shot begins behind the line.
- **BALL:** Boys 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th grade: High School Men's Varsity; ALL 4th grade Boys and Girls divisions – Lady's Varsity
- **PENALTIES and EJECTIONS:** Players, coaches, parents, teams, spectators ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct, use of indecent language, violation of the rules by the site manager shall be minimally penalized as follows:

1st Offense – 1or 2 game suspension (Based on SEVERITY of the incident)

2nd Offense – SEASON suspension

Anyone ejected from a game for FIGHTING will be SUSPENDED for the REMAINDER of the SEASON and possibly expelled from the league. Failure to comply will result in playoff forfeiture and the same consequences for the Head Coach of the player involved.

During the period of ANY suspension, the SUSPENDED person; player, coach, parent or spectator may not attend the team's games. Ejection is clearly defined as no longer being allowed to remain in the building. Such incidents must be submitted to the Diocesan CYM Basketball Coordinator and Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry in writing within 2 days of the incident by the Athletic/Site Director. Each site director and coach is expected to manage disciplinary measures regarding their players, parents and guests, and themselves.

- **DISPUTES-** Disputes (league rule infractions) will be settled on site between the site manager and the referees. The *Officials and site manager* will be the final decision maker on rule disputes. If further action is necessary, the site manager will notify the CYM Basketball Coordinator of the problem. The site manager will recommend punitive action (fines or suspensions) in the event of misconduct. The CYM Basketball Coordinator will then contact the teams involved to settle the dispute by Wednesday following the disputed game. Therefore, there are to be no coaches' calls until Wednesday regarding this. A grievance process can only be initiated by the filing of a written grievance. Which must be signed by the coach and the athletic/site director and filed within two days of the incident and sent to the CYM Basketball Coordinator.
- **SITE MANAGERS-** Site managers are deemed the governing body of the league as the on site authority to report/take action regarding Fan misconduct. Referees will have authority to handle both player AND FAN misconduct, **IF NEED BE**, with the assistance of the Site Manager. The Site Manager/ Referees' information will have the most bearing on punitive action decisions

CYM Sports - Guidelines & Rules 2022-2023

applying to ALL. Site managers will use complete integrity in their decision making that will support and uphold the league rules and philosophy.

While a Site Manager is coaching a game, he or she needs to have a replacement to cover their site duties. Such is to avoid the perception of “conflict of interest”.

- Any child who wears corrective eyeglasses while participating in basketball needs to wear eyewear that meets the frames 1[and lens]1 standards of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) F803 1and lens standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z87.11. Responsibility for this lies with the parent of the child.
-
- **RULES SPECIFIC TO HIGH SCHOOL:** CYM Basketball High School teams will be governed by NJSIAA Rule Book, including ejections as a 2 game suspension. All participants should be registered members or active youth ministry members of the parish for which they are playing for. The Pastor will attest to this roster and birth certificates will be required. Those turning 19 on or after September 1, of the current year are eligible to play provided they are enrolled in High School or the equivalent. Current Varsity Basketball players and **junior year**, JV players are ineligible to participate in our league for the entire season. Once a participant appears on a high school varsity roster, they will not be eligible to play in our league. Once a player is declared ineligible, he or she will remain ineligible for the entire season (even though the high school season might be completed). Rosters are due by **December 1, 2018**. No changes to the rosters will be allowed after **December 15, 2018**. No schedule will begin for any team until the Diocesan permission forms and roster is completed correctly and submitted. High schools may be contacted to verify eligibility. Teams found to be in non- compliance will be removed from the league.
- **The High School will field 2 divisions.**
- **JUNIOR VARSITY** - ONLY FRESHMAN and SOPHOMORES – NO EXCEPTIONS
- **Varsity** – Seniors and Juniors. Sophomores and Freshman can also compete in the Varsity Division, if desired.
- A player can only be rostered on 1 team in his organization.
- **OUR VARSITY DOES NOT EQUATE TO HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY!**
- As per our rules above; NO High School Varsity player can compete in our league. Failure to comply with any eligibility rule will result in dismissal from our league
- There is no Substitution Rule or 6 player MINIMUM Rule in the HS Division