

The National Shrine of The Little Flower
Athletic Program Charter

Mission: To provide every child in the parish, the opportunity to play in an organized sports program, which operates in a supportive and supplemental role to the primary function of Christian development.

Athletic Board:

The Athletic Board shall consist of:

Athletic Director
Dad's Club Vice President
Dad's Club Manpower
Grade School Representative
Academy Representative
Recording Secretary
At Large Members (3)
Fall Sports Coordinator
Winter Sports Coordinator
Spring Sports Coordinator

The recording secretary shall record the minutes of each meeting and records will be stored in the CYO equipment room located in the basement of the High School.

The Athletic Board shall meet the second Tuesday of the months:
July, August, September, November, February

At least five of the Athletic Board Members must be present to conduct official business.

The Dad's club will appoint the Athletic Director; the Athletic Director will report to the representative appointed by the rectory.

Athlete Eligibility

1. Be member of, enrolled in, and participating in Shrine Parish Religious education program.
2. Be a student enrolled in the Shrine Grade School or Academy.
3. Be a member of an adjoining parish that does not offer a particular sport.
4. Be a member of an adjoining program, whose program may be full, only if there are openings in the Shrine program as determined by the Athletic Director.

5. All participants within the program must fulfill the criteria around family commitment to active athletic participation.
6. All CYO athlete's must have the following
 - a. Health certificate (dated after May 1, of the previous year)
 - b. Student Athlete Contract
 - c. Parental Consent Formprior to the first day of practice or tryouts
7. All CYO athletes must maintain good academic standing and citizenship in their respective school. Determining academic eligibility shall be the responsibility of the parents.
8. An Athlete shall be suspended for a minimum of one game for fighting. The Coach or Athletic Director may impose a longer suspension.
9. All Athletes are expected to attend school on the day of a scheduled practice or game, if it falls on a school day.

Team Policies

1. Minimum Team Sizes are defined by CYO guidelines. Maximum Team sizes as recommended by the Athletic Board are:

Soccer	16
Volleyball	12
Football	40
Basketball	12
Baseball	14
Softball	14
Track	No Limit
Cheerleading	No Limit
2. Team Sizes that do not follow the guidelines will be resolved between the Athletic Director and the Head Coach. It is the goal of the program to involve as many students as possible, given the constraints of coaches, practice time, and costs. Cuts will be made at the discretion of the Head Coach.
3. The "A" team coach will lead the tryout and team assignment in each division. The "A" team will be chosen with the purpose of fielding the most competitive team.
4. Student Athletes are expected to attend tryouts each year, even if they are returning from a prior year.
5. CYO league play is competitive in nature, and a primary goal is to field a competitive team. Despite the lack of CYO guidelines concerning equalization of playing time, consideration will be given to individual playing time to the extent practical.
 - a. Recommended playing time targets for 5/6th grade teams

Soccer	15 minutes per game
Volleyball	Game per Match
Football	1 Quarter per game

Basketball	6 minutes per game
Baseball	2 innings/1 at bat
Softball	2 innings/1 at bat
Track	All participate
Cheerleading	All Participate

6. Athlete Registration
 - a. Athlete registration for the upcoming season shall be held, before the CYO deadline, for team registration.
 - i. If at the end of the registration period there are not enough athletes to field a team, that team may be cancelled at the discretion of the Athletic Director.
 - ii. If at the end of the registration period, there are not enough coaches for the teams being offered, the athletic director may eliminate or consolidate the teams without coaches.
 - iii. If at the end of the registration period there are no Parent representatives volunteered, the Athletic Director may eliminate or consolidate the teams short volunteers.

Finances

1. The CYO Athletic Program is wholly funded and supported by the Grade School and Academy Dad's Club.
2. Funding for the program comes from pay to play fees, gate receipts, concessions, and other fund raisers held by the Dad's Club
3. Pay to Play fees are set by the Athletic Director and approved by the Dad's Club Board.
4. Expenses incurred are approved by the Athletic Director, and reimbursed by the treasurer of the Dad's Club. The treasurer will present the budget including all expenses to the general membership for their approval.
5. The Athletic Director and the Treasurer will prepare a budget for the upcoming Athletic year, to be presented to the Dad's Club Board for approval.
6. Uniform Deposits will be required of all participants to ensure their return at the end of the season. Deposits can be carried forward from season to season or from year to year. Return of the deposit may be requested in writing at the end of the final season of play in CYO sports at Shrine.

Athletic Directors Responsibilities

1. The Athletic Director reports directly to the rectory-appointed School Liaison.
2. The Athletic Director shall administer the CYO sports program
3. The Athletic Director will serve on the athletic board
4. The Athletic Director will facilitate communication between the CYO, Shrine Parish, and Shrine CYO participants
5. The Athletic Director will ensure a complete inventory is prepared by the Equipment Manager, to assess and address needs for the upcoming year

6. The Athletic Director shall prepare and present an annual budget to the Dad's Club
7. The Athletic director shall select and assign coaches using CYO guidelines, and ensure the rectory required background checks are completed.
8. The Athletic Director shall facilitate a coaches meeting to initiate the beginning of each season.
9. The Athletic Director will register teams with the CYO and attend the preseason CYO meetings, on behalf of Shrine.
10. The Athletic Director will schedule practice time, with input from the coaches.
11. The Athletic Director will administer a formal feedback system, to assess and evaluate the coach's performance vs. expectations, to facilitate continuous improvement of the program.
12. The Athletic Director will act as an advisor to coaches in disciplinary matters and intervene when appropriate
13. The Athletic Director will coordinate the compilation and approval of team rosters and all required CYO forms.
14. The Athletic Director will distribute registration forms CYO rules and regulations and game schedules to the Head Coaches.
15. The Athletic Director shall schedule all games and coordinate tournament participation

Seasonal Coordinators Responsibilities

1. The Seasonal Coordinators are parent volunteers that report to Athletic Director, they are selected at the discretion of the Athletic Director. In the event a coordinator cannot be found the Athletic Director shall have the option of fulfilling the responsibilities or canceling the program in its entirety.
2. The Seasonal Coordinators shall facilitate a parent/athlete informational meeting at the beginning of each season.
3. The Seasonal Coordinators shall assist the Athletic Director in scheduling practice times and facilities
4. The Seasonal Coordinators will assist with the coordination of the compilation and approval of team rosters and all required CYO forms.
5. The Seasonal Coordinators will receive copies of the registration forms, CYO rules and regulations, and game schedules to the head coaches.
6. The Seasonal Coordinators shall assist with all scheduled games and coordinate tournament participation as required by the Athletic Director.

A CYO coach is primarily a minister to youth, with a gift of reaching out to young people through athletics. CYO coaches must be of high school age or older. An adult coach (18 years of age or older) must be present and responsible for the team at all times.

Responsibilities of the CYO Coach include:

1. Be knowledgeable of all CYO Athletics and make sure that all rules and policies are faithfully observed.
2. Attend the preseason coaches meeting at the time and place designated by the CYO Athletic Program Director for the respective sports.
3. Conduct pre-season meetings of parents/coaches to ensure that everyone understands their responsibilities.
4. Make sure the roster form for the team is filled out correctly and submitted to the CYO office on time.
5. Determine the eligibility of each player on the team through the Parish/School.
6. Conduct themselves in a Christian manner that will reflect credit on their Parish/School and the CYO, ensuring team members and followers to do the same.
7. Teach and guide the youth on the team with a sense of fair play, sportsmanship and acceptance of winning and losing in accordance with Christian ideals.
8. Coaches may suspend a player for violations of the Code of Conduct. The Head Coach is primarily responsible for investigating the incident, and reporting their finding to the Athletic Director.
9. Be responsible for the actions of the team members and followers from the Parish/School.
10. Coaches shall not leave Athletes unattended at a home or away gym.
11. Coaches shall not treat injured players other than basic first aid as required. They should not attempt to diagnose or prescribe how to treat specific injuries.
12. Take special precautions to protect all valuables and clothing of players. Be certain that playing conditions are safe for play. Take special precautions to ensure a safe playing environment. Maintain an adequate first aid kit and keep medical forms readily available. Provide required safety equipment in good repair and make certain that the players properly use them.
13. Take care not to schedule practices or events that will interfere with religious duties and classes.
14. Coaches are required to keep accurate game participation statistics and scorebooks.

Athlete Disciplinary Guidelines

In the event an Athlete, their parents, their family, or friends are disruptive/disrespectful, or behaves in other than Christian manner the coach should follow these guidelines:

1. Warning 1: The head coach will speak to the offending athlete and explain what they are doing wrong and what is expected of them. The coach will notify the parent of the incident and explain the consequences if the behavior is not discontinued. The coach is empowered in game situations to immediately remove a player from the contest for the remainder of the contest.
2. Warning 2: The coach will again speak to the athlete and speak with the parents regarding the inappropriate behavior. The coach will notify the Athletic Director of the situation. The Athletic Director will speak to the parents of the athlete regarding the consequences of the inappropriate behavior continuing.
3. Suspension: The athlete will be suspended for no less than one week, the coach will notify the parents and the Athletic Director prior to the suspension. The player will be required to present a formal apology to the teammates and to a competing school as applicable
4. Dismissal: the coach can dismiss an athlete from the team when the actions above have not improved the athlete's behavior. The coach must obtain the approval of the Athletic Director prior to administering the dismissal. The coach will first notify the Athletes parents, then the athlete. The Athletic Director shall inform the rectory representative and the athletic committee. An appeal may be heard by the Athletic Board, with their decision being final
5. In the event that a parent, family member, or friend is the initiator of a behavioral problem, the offending individual will be asked to leave the premises, first by the coach, second by the Athletic Director, and finally by the Police of the jurisdiction the offence has taken place. In the event of a referee ejecting a fan, that fan will be asked to leave in the same order. The offending individual will not be allowed to attend any remaining team functions. If they are unable to abide, the athlete will be dismissed from the team.
 - a. If the Police are called to remove any individual from the premises it will be for the remainder of the Athlete's Shrine CYO career.
 - b. A written documentation will be presented to the rectory representative and the athlete's parents. The Athletic Director or his representative shall complete the written documentation.
 - c. There is no Appeal.

1. Athletes will always display good sportsmanship, as they represent their home Parish
2. Athletes must always notify their coaches if they will be unable to attend any scheduled game or practice
3. Athletes will not tease/kid any other individual about their assignment, win/loss records or their abilities
4. Athletes will maintain a good academic standing
5. Athletes will sign their registration materials including their code of conduct forms prior to their first practice or tryout.

1. Parents should be supportive and non-confrontational. Games are intense and parents will not always see eye to eye with coaches, referees, and other parents. Parents must lead by example with composed words, thoughts, and actions.
 2. Parents should put things into perspective; winning and losing are to be expected throughout life. Part of being on a team is sacrificing for the team.
 3. Parents must adhere to the 24-hour rule, waiting 24 hours before contacting a coach or the athletic director with any matter they feel necessary to discuss.
 4. Before, during or immediately following any contest or practice is not the time to approach a coach, or the athletic director with an issue, unless the safety of any participant is in question.
 5. Parents will monitor their athlete's attitude toward other athletes, teasing, bullying, or kidding about other athletes is not acceptable behavior.
 6. Parents are asked to cheer for Shrine teams and not against other teams
 7. Parents are responsible for monitoring the academic and religious education of their athletes.
 8. PARENTS MUST PARTICIPATE IN AT LEAST TWO VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES PER CHILD PER SEASON. This will include fundraising, concessions, set-up, and clean-up, coaching, administrative function. This will be administered through the Dad's Club Manpower Director and the team Parent representative.
 9. Parents must deliver and pick-up Athletes in a timely fashion from all team activities.
 10. Parents will control all siblings and friends, and not allow them to roam unsupervised.
- Parents must sign the participation consent form at the beginning of each season.

Student Athlete Signature

Athlete Parent's Signature

Athlete Code of Conduct

It is an honor and a privilege to be an athlete in the Shrine CYO sports program. Due to the generosity and hard work of your parish, school, athletic committee, coaching staff an excellent athletic program exists. This program allows you the Athlete many valuable learning experiences which you will benefit from you, not only on the field but also for your entire life. Your coaching staff is dedicated to helping you become the best athlete you can be both physically and spiritually. We are proud to make this commitment to you and hope you benefit from your involvement in our program.

In return for the commitment we make, we expect from you, the athlete:

1. I promise to follow and obey all team rules.
2. I promise to attend all team activities. In making my commitment to this team I realize that only under rare circumstances shall I fail to attend a team activity. In the event I am unable to attend I will notify my coach immediately.
3. I promise to give my full attention, concentration, and abilities in participating in my sport. I will not waste my coach's time, my parent's time, or the time of my teammates by disrupting any team activity.
4. I promise to show respect and good sportsmanship to my coach, teammates and opponents.
5. I promise to conduct and represent my team, my parish, my parents and myself in a Christian manner at all times. This means at home, school, in public, at practice, and at all athletic competitions.
6. I promise to not allow my academic standing slip due to my athletic pursuits.
7. I promise my duties to God and family will be met. I will continue to attend weekend service and meet my obligations at home. If I do not attend a Shrine school I realize my participation in Religious Education is mandatory, and will not suffer due to my participation.

Failure to meet all of the criteria of this contract may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the program.

I hereby acknowledge and will observe all of the above rules and understand my commitment to the team. I will do my best, at all times, in representing my team, my parish, my family and myself.

Student Athlete Signature

Athlete Parent's Signature