

**CATHOLIC YOUTH APOSTOLATE**

**CATHOLIC YOUTH COUNCIL-SPORTS**

**ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

**ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS**



**2011-2012  
CONSTITUTION**

**MSGR. MEYER YOUTH CENTER  
4354 S. KINGSHIGHWAY  
ST. LOUIS MO 63109**

**[www.cycstl.net](http://www.cycstl.net)**

*This Handbook is in effect for the 2011 Soccer & Volleyball,  
2012 Basketball, Golf, LaCrosse, Baseball, Softball and Track Seasons.*

*August 8, 2011*

# CATHOLIC YOUTH APOSTOLATE

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

## CATHOLIC YOUTH COUNCIL SPORTS

4354 S. Kingshighway, St. Louis, Mo. 63109

314-353-8911 [www.cycstl.net](http://www.cycstl.net)

*Fr. John Borcic, Executive Director, Catholic Youth Apostolate*

*Paul M. Scovill, Director of CYC Sports*

*Butch Rosier, Assistant Sports Director    Buzz Swanston, Assistant Sports Director*

*Mark Probst, Sports Associate*

<u>District</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>	<u>Vice-Chairperson</u>
<i>St. Charles</i>	<i>Chip Brandt</i>	<i>Mike Cahill</i>
<i>South Central</i>	<i>Pat Moore</i>	
<i>St. Louis City</i>	<i>Lori Greiner</i>	<i>Jerry Beckerle</i>
<i>South County</i>	<i>Bob Casey</i>	<i>Bob Wendel</i>
<i>North County</i>	<i>Dan Callan</i>	<i>Bryan Koen</i>
<i>West County</i>	<i>Eric Winschel</i>	
<i>Member-at-Large</i>	<i>Tony Bommarito</i>	

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## **CYC SPORTS CONSTITUTION ARTICLES**

### **ARTICLE I – NAME**

This organization shall be known as the CATHOLIC YOUTH COUNCIL (CYC SPORTS) ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION of the CATHOLIC YOUTH APOSTOLATE of the ARCHDIOCESE of ST. LOUIS, under the auspices of the (Arch)Bishop of the Archdiocese, affiliated with the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry.

### **ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

The general aim of the Catholic Youth Council is to help a boy or girl, regardless of their skill to become an ideal youth firmly loyal to God, Church, Country, and Community; physically fit, mentally alert and morally sound. Athletics, properly regulated, play a very important role in the development of youth. The Constitution of the CYC Athletic Association is a sincere effort to promote good sportsmanship, a respect for rules and self-discipline amongst the contestants. With the help of God, may it serve as a medium for Catholic action. We ask the blessing of God upon this phase of the Catholic Youth Council. In keeping with the spirit of the program, a pre-game prayer involving both teams together will take place before all youth (Atom through Junior Division) games; the home team will be responsible for leading the prayer.

### **ARTICLE III – POLICIES**

#### **Sec. 1:**

**GENERAL POLICY:** The Board of Control of each District shall have express authority to adopt, interpret and enforce rules and penalties consistent with this Constitution and By-Laws. The adoption and interpretation of any rule not consistent with the Constitution and By-Laws must have the prior written approval of the CYC Executive Athletic Committee and the Sports Director.

#### **Sec. 2:**

It must be understood by all, that rules adopted by individual Districts, are not to be enforced when playing in the Archdiocesan Championship Playoffs; i.e. this Constitution's Articles and By-Laws prevails and takes precedence over District changes. The CYC Sports Director may uphold suspensions of Managers, Coaches, and players by a Districts' written request of the District Chairperson.

District policies that are adopted or interpreted that are not consistent with this Constitution should be in writing and distributed to their parishes and a copy sent to the Sports Director. As stated in Sec. 1, these changes must have the prior written approval of the CYC Executive Athletic Committee and the CYC Sports Director.

#### **Sec 3:**

Managers and Coaches, as leaders have the responsibility of setting good examples for their youth to follow. They shall guide the youth in accordance with Catholic principles, and the purpose of the CYC Athletic Association, which is primarily dedicated to the formation of character and leadership.

## **WINNING IS OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE**

## ARTICLE IV – ORGANIZATION

### Sec. 1:

The CYC Executive Athletic Committee shall include the following: Archdiocesan Director (a non-voting member), Associate Archdiocesan Director (non-voting member), Spiritual Moderator (non-voting member), Sports Director (non-voting member), Assistant Sports Directors (voting member) Members-At-Large (voting member, if have attended two of the past three Executive Meetings) and the District Chairperson of the CYC District Boards of Control (voting member). Proxy voters will not be accepted. District Chairperson may appoint their Vice-Chairperson or designate their voting representative. The CYC Executive Athletic Committee in conjunction with the CYC Sports Department shall be the governing body of this Association. The CYC Sports Director will serve as the chairperson of this committee. The chairperson of each district shall be appointed/approved each year either by the Catholic Youth Apostolate Director/CYC Director or CYC Sports Director, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Catholic Youth Apostolate Director/CYC Director or CYC Sports Director. All policies, procedures and rulings are subject to approval or change by the Catholic Youth Apostolate Director/CYC Director or CYC Sports Director. The various functions of the CYC Executive Athletic Committee Members shall be governed by “ROBERT’S RULES OF ORDER.” Where these laws conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association, the Constitution and By-Laws shall govern.

**NOTE:** Only one Assistant Sport Director will have a vote when both are in attendance at meetings.

**NOTE:** All members of the CYC Executive Athletic Committee, as well as all members of all District Committees, must be in compliance with all/any Archdiocesan participation requirements.

### Sec 2:

Each District should have a Board of Control comprised of the Chairperson of the District, who will have the authority to set district policies without the approval of the District Board of Control members if it is in the best interests of the CYC program, the Vice-Chairman of the District, a Spiritual Moderator (appointed by the Board of Control), a Representative and an Alternate from each of the parishes that are in the District, even if the parish is not participating in the Sports Program. The Parish Representative and Alternate may be appointed by the Spiritual Moderator of the parish, subject to the approval of the Pastor. Alternates may have a voice, but not a vote, if the representative is present. The Board of Control of each District may appoint members for each Sports Committee, to regulate that sport in accordance with this Constitution and By-Laws. Decisions pertaining to rule changes or new rules adopted for the sport must have approval of the district chairperson before said rule changes or new rules might be put into effect for that sport. The Sports Chairperson of each District’s Sports Committee, may, at the discretion of the District Chairperson, be delegated a voting member of the District Board of Control.

In those cases where a district does not have a Board of Control as described above, a District Chairperson shall be appointed by the Catholic Youth Apostolate Director/CYC Director or CYC Sports Director. That Chairperson shall represent the District in voting matters. Voting in these cases should represent as nearly as possible the wishes of the majority of the parishes in the district.

All appointments are subject to the approval of the Catholic Youth Apostolate Director/CYC Director or CYC Sports Director, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Catholic Youth Apostolate Director/CYC Director or CYC Sports Director.

### Sec. 3:

No Committee Members shall receive any remuneration from the CYC Athletic Association for their services as Committee Members.

### Sec. 4:

The CYC Executive Athletic Committee shall have general charge of the affairs, funds, policies, property, selection of ball and/or equipment, referees, and umpires and full jurisdiction over all District activities connected with this Association. All minutes and records of any committee are the sole property of the CYC Organization. The financial affairs of all the Districts in this Association shall be the responsibility of the Central Office, and all income and disbursements, shall be processed directly through the Central CYC Office under the jurisdiction of the Catholic Youth Apostolate Director.

### Sec. 5:

The CYC Executive Athletic Committee shall meet the first Tuesday of each month, and wherever special meetings are necessary. District Board of Control & Sports Committees shall meet in accordance with the By-Laws.

**Sec. 6:**

- a. CYC Executive Athletic Committee meeting: A simple majority need not be present to conduct a meeting, but a simple majority of the Districts is necessary to render a valid decision. This does not include playoff hearings.
- b. Simple majority need not be present to conduct a meeting on any Committee or Board of Control, but a simple majority of participating parishes in a District is necessary to render a valid decision.
- c. Districts not in Good Standing may have voting privileges suspended, this applies to Executive meetings, Sport Rule meetings or hearings. Upon their return to “Good Standing” voting privileges will be reinstated.

**Sec. 7:**

The CYC Sports Director may dismiss any member, who does not comply with the philosophy and/or rules of the organization.

**Sec. 8**

A parish/organization can be a member of one district only. If a sport is sponsored by the district in which the parish resides, then the parish/organization cannot elect to participate in the sport in a different district.

**ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP****\*Sec. 1:**

- a. JUNIOR DIVISION—11 & 12th Grades: To include players who have not completed the 12<sup>th</sup> grade and were born on or after July 31, **1992**.
- b. JUVENILE DIVISION—9 & 10th Grades: To include players who have not completed the 10<sup>th</sup> grade and were born on or after July 31, **1993**.
- c. PAROCHIAL DIVISION: To include players who were born on or after July 31, **1996**.  
NOTE: A Parochial Division player may not have completed the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.  
(Also see RULE III, Sec. 7, Note 2).
- d. INTERMEDIATE DIVISION—8th Grade: To include players who have not completed the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and were born on or after July 31, **1996**.
- e. CADET DIVISION—7th Grade: To include players who have not completed the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and were born on or after July 31, **1997**.
- f. CRUSADER DIVISION—6th Grade: To include players who have not completed the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and were born on or after July 31, **1998**.
- g. MIDGET DIVISION—5th Grade: To include players who have not completed the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and were born on or after July 31, **1999**.
- h. BANTAM MAJOR DIVISION—4th Grade: To include players who have not completed the 4<sup>th</sup> grade and were born on or after July 31, **2000**.
- i. BANTAM MINOR DIVISION—3rd Grade: To include players who have not completed the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and were born on or after July 31, **2001**.
- j. ATOM MAJOR DIVISION—2nd Grade: To include players who have not completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and were born on or after July 31, **2002**.
- k. ATOM MINOR DIVISION—1st Grade: To include players who have not completed the 1<sup>st</sup> grade and were born on or after July 31, **2003**.

Minimum age for participation in the program is 5 years of age by **July 31, 2011** or a student in kindergarten.

NOTE: A player may change from one division to another in accordance with the provisions. For transfers see By-Laws—Rule II, Sec. 3.

**\*Sec. 2:****a. Playing up into an older age division:**

Playing up on an older age division team is allowed and covered under Article V-Membership, Section 1. Some districts and/or parishes may have restrictions regarding playing up. Please check with the appropriate district/parish.

**b. Playing down into a younger age division:**

## 1. Grade School Divisions

The CYC Athletic Association/District reserves the right to approve/disapprove any player whose birthdate falls within the proper division classification but whose grade does not fall within the proper grade classification, provided that player advanced in grade for academic reasons.

## 2. High School Divisions

A player in high school may not play in the grade school divisions. A player that has graduated from high school may not play in any division except Adult.

Players seeking exceptions to this must request in writing special permission from their District or the CYC Office, the request may or may not be approved.

**SEC. 3:**

To be a member team of the CYC Athletic Association, each application must clearly set forth:

- a. Name of team.
- b. The name/address/phone number of Manager/Head Coach. This person must have completed the CYC Coaches Training Program (This requirement is for all CYC teams Kindergarten thru 8th grade.). All coaches need to have attended the Archdiocesan Program titled "Protecting God's Children" and have on file with their parish and/or the CYC Office a receipted copy of the "Missouri State Child Abuse Form" not more than two years old. (This requirement is for all CYC teams Kindergarten thru 12th grade.)
- c. To what division it wishes to participate.
- d. Name and address of Spiritual Director.
- e. Must be accompanied by the Entry Fee.

**NOTE:** See Attached – Grade School Athletic Associations Definitions

**NOTE:** In all divisions, except Parochial (see Rule III, Sec. 7) teams must be sponsored by a parish, synagogue, church, temple or agency that holds membership in and is directly connected to an established recognized religion. The CYC or its designee shall be the sole determining body of the acceptability of an application. All players on the team must be official members of the sponsoring entity. The teams must abide by all rules, guidelines & principles of the CYC. All accepted teams (5<sup>th</sup> grade through High School) would be eligible for District & Archdiocesan playoffs. Teams not accepted with full membership may be allowed to participate for league play only.

## **ARTICLE VI – PLAYING RULES**

Prior to the start of a given season, there will be a Rules meeting for possible revisions to the playing rules. Any decision made regarding playing rules/procedures will be put into effect with the upcoming sport season upon approval of the CYC Executive Athletic Committee/Sports Director.

The playing rules (Official RuleBooks) of this Association are to be governed as follows and not at variance with any of the Articles or By-Laws of this Association.

Official rules shall be those adopted by the CYC. These Supplemental Rulebooks containing playing rules/procedures are available through your District personnel.

In accordance with the CYC Philosophy, managers/coaches are responsible to see that all players receive a minimum playing time of 25% each game/match, in both league and tournament games/matches.

Managers/Coaches not fulfilling this responsibility are subject to disciplinary action.

**Officials/Umpires are to officiate forfeited games/matches. (see Rule III, Sec. 9)**

## ARTICLE VII – PROTESTS

### Sec. 1:

All District protests must be made in writing and filed with the Chairperson of the District and must be accompanied with a deposit of \$35.00 from your parish athletic association. Only managers or representatives (coaches) designated prior to the game/match can make an official protest. This protest must be approved by the Parish District Board of Control Representatives in writing within the time frame as set forth in this section. The manager or coach protesting, concerning an infraction of playing rules, must make announcement to the appointed official as follows:

- a. Baseball, Softball and Volleyball – at the time of the infraction; before play is resumed.
- b. Basketball – at the first stoppage of play, after the infraction.
- c. Soccer—at half time or immediately after completion of the game, whichever may occur first.
- d. In all sports protest must be noted on the scorecard.

Failure to meet the above specifications will void any possible protest. This does not include eligibility (see Sec. 3). Official should notify opposing manager that game is being played under protest. In case the protest is overruled the team forfeits the deposit but if the protest is upheld the deposit shall be returned to the team. Protests concerning the interpretation of the rules governing fact of play must be filed or postmarked with the District Chairperson, not later than 72 hours form the scheduled start time of the game.

### Sec. 2:

**OFFICIAL’S DECISION:** On point of fact connected with the play going on the decision of the Official shall be final. On questions of interpretation of rules or laws of the game/match a protest may be made to the Chairperson of the District Board but the Official’s decisions must be accepted while the game/match is in progress.

**PROTEST CONCERNING THE INTERPRETATION OF PLAYING RULES:** In any protest which is upheld due to interpretation of playing rules the status of the game/match in question shall be left to the discretion of the respective Sports Committee/Hearing Board.

### Sec. 3:

**PROTEST CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS** must be filed or postmarked not later than the NINTH day following the game/match between the team filing the protest and their opponent protested against to Chairperson of the District Board. Protesting team must also submit with their protest a copy of their receipted roster and applicable sections of Article VII, Sec. 1. No team shall protest a game/match on the grounds of ineligibility, unless their own players used in a game/match in question, are properly registered and eligible in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws. Time limit to determine the status of protesting team’s players shall be nine days subsequent to the date of hearing of the original protest on any league, or within 72 hours of the last game/match of that team’s regular league schedule.

**PENALTY:** game/match or games/matches covered in a 30 day period prior to the date of protest or date of District involvement in which ineligible players are used may be awarded to the opponent or opponents of the team violating eligibility rules. The date of the District involvement should be filed in writing with the CYC Sports Director or Assistant Sports Director. Managers and players of the offending teams will be reprimanded or suspended as the Sports Committee/Hearing Board deem necessary.

### Sec. 4:

**GUIDELINES:**

- a. Burden of proof is on the protesting team. The CYC Executive Committee and/or District reserve the right to submit any pertinent information regarding this burden of proof.
- b. Referee or umpire shall submit a report and also be present if the Sports Committee/Hearing Board deems it necessary.
- c. Notice of ruling should be given to all the teams in the League directly affected.

### Sec. 5:

The CYC Executive Athletic Committee reserves the right to monitor, act on and if need be enforce: regarding eligibility without a formal protest being lodged.

### Sec. 6:

No protest will be accepted (including eligibility) if it is not filed with the District Chairperson or CYC Athletic Committee within 72 hours of the last game/match of the team’s regular league schedule only.

**Sec. 7:**

- a. All appeals, whether on a protest, a Committee decision or a District decision must be accompanied by appropriate fee and must be approved in writing by the Parish Representative.
- b. The first appeal (\$35.00) must be made in writing by the District appointed Parish Representative to the Chairperson of the District. The District Board of Control will then hear the appeal. Appeals must be filed or postmarked with the Chairperson of the District by the sixth calendar day from the date of written or verbal notification of the Committee's decision.
- c. A FINAL appeal (\$50.00) must be made in writing to the CYC Executive Athletic Committee. Teams must notify the District Chairperson in which the team is participating. This appeal must be filed or postmarked to the Chairperson of the CYC Executive Athletic Committee by the sixth calendar day from the date of written or verbal notification of the Board's decision.
- d. All appeals must be based on the same infraction or rule violation as stated in the original protest.
- e. At the discretion of the Sport Director/Assistant Sports Director/District Chairperson this appeal process may be altered.

**PLAYOFF PROCEDURES/PROTESTS & APPEALS**

For information regarding procedures including protest procedures for District or Archdiocesan Playoffs refer to information provided by District or CYC Office respectively.

**ARTICLE VIII – CHANGE (During Year)**

**Sec. 1:**

CONSTITUTION: Any Article in this Constitution may be amended or repealed as follows:

- a. A request from 50% of the Executive Committee is submitted to the CYC Executive Committee.
- b. Two-thirds favorable vote by the CYC Executive Athletic Committee.
- c. Approval of the CYC Sports Director.

**Sec. 2:**

BY-LAWS: By-Laws may be amended by the majority vote of the CYC Executive Athletic Committee and approval of the CYC Sports Director.

**ARTICLE IX – PROVISIO**

**Sec. 1:**

By-Laws and Rules consistent herewith may be adopted by the Association to facilitate the carrying out of the Constitution.

**Sec. 2:**

Any matter not covered by this Constitution and By-Laws shall be left to the discretion of the governing CYC Executive Athletic Committee and/or the Director/Associate Director.

**Sec. 3:**

All Articles and Bylaws of this Constitution must have the approval of the Catholic Youth Apostolate Director/CYC Director or CYC Sports Director.

**BY-LAWS**

**RULE I – MEETINGS**

Meetings of a Board of Control, District Sport Committee/Hearing Board shall be called whenever deemed necessary by the Chairperson of the District or upon the written request of at least one Representative from six parishes.

**RULE II – REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS/MANAGERS**

**Sec. 1:**

- a. All managers, coaches and players must be registered on an Official Team Roster Sheet certified with the manager and Spiritual Director (or authorized representative) of that team in the CYC District. (Exception—Emergency Coach)

- b. A player becomes an official member of a team when the District officially receipts their roster. The original roster and at least two copies, supplemental rosters and at least two copies must be recorded in the CYC District and postmarked on or before two days prior to game time. No later than 30 days after the first scheduled game of that league, one copy of all rosters shall be forwarded to the CYC office.
- c. In all grade school divisions, team managers must be at least 18 years old.
- d. Players are not required to sign the roster.

**Sec. 2:**

All divisions have unlimited rosters.

**Sec. 3:**

In any sport a player may be added or transferred anytime prior to 25 days after the first scheduled game of that league. Additions or transfers after 25 days must have the written approval of the appropriate District Chairperson and or his delegate. Exception: All senior divisions. No players may be added after the sixth game played.

**Sec. 4:**

The option of Open Play and Closed Play is in effect for Atom thru Parochial Divisions.

**JUNIOR AND JUVENILE DIVISIONS**

“Open Play Only – Teams are allowed to carry players on their rosters regardless of their participation in other leagues. Some leagues and/or organizations do have restrictions, such as the Missouri High School Athletic Association, which does not allow players to play the same sport with another organization during the same season. (Also see Rule III, Section 8) Players/coaches must familiarize themselves with the rules to avoid placing players in jeopardy.

**PAROCHIAL, INTERMEDIATE, CADET, CRUSADER, MIDGET, BANTAM MAJOR AND MINOR, ATOM MAJOR AND MINOR DIVISIONS.**

Each team shall be designated by their Parish Athletic Association/Commission, to play either as an “Open” or “Closed” CYC Team. Simply put, “Open” has no duplication restrictions as in the Junior and Juvenile Divisions. The “Closed” Division has restrictions, which does not allow the playing of the same sport, either in league play or **tournament play**, during the same season with the CYC and another organization. (Exception, if they are playing for another team from their parish/school in the tournament.) It is not permissible to play on two or more CYC teams during the same sport season. (Exception: **One** Parochial Division and one other CYC team.) The choice shall affect all individual players.

**\*RULE III – ELIGIBILITY RULES****Sec. 1:**

IDENTIFICATION CARDS – (When “ID Cards” is stated, in these By-Laws, it implies, CYC ID Card and/or Coaches Training Card). All Kindergarten thru 8th grade Head Coaches /Managers are required to have a CYC Coach’s Training Program Card. A CYC Coach’s Training Program Card will serve as a coach’s official ID Card, but not as a player’s card. (Exceptions—an Emergency Coach). ALL other registered managers, coaches and all players in Midget Division/5th grade and above, of the CYC Athletic Association must have an Official CYC Registration ID Card to be eligible to participate. Teams must have their ID Cards and Roster present for every game. (Districts may require players below the Midget Division to also have CYC ID Cards.)

**NOTE: All Managers and coaches must be in compliance with all/any Archdiocesan participation requirements.**

NOTE: Adult ID Cards and Coach’s Training Cards do not expire.

- a. To be eligible to participate all teams are required to have present at each and every game/match played: their Official CYC receipted roster and valid Official CYC Registration ID Cards. At the start of each game/match, the team manager/coach, of each team, must submit to the game officials a game card/sheet that indicates the names of the manager, coaches, jersey number and name of each player, the date, time, team/league number/name, name of opposing team and site of where game/match had been played.

At the end of the game/match, the manager must sign the game card/sheet to verify that all persons listed had participated and score of game is correct.

Names can be added for late arriving players/coaches or delete those that did not participate.

The officials must turn in the game card/sheet, with their names/numbers on same, to the district designated person.

The District will maintain the game card/sheet in their files for payment of the officials of the game/match and as an official record as to who participated in the game/match.

- b. Each CYC District's Executive Board or their representatives reserves the right to require a mandatory review of rosters and ID Cards prior to each game/match of normal league play. This is recommended to be followed at least during the first three weeks of each league's schedule.
- c. Prior to the start of any CYC game/match the opposing Manager may request the appointed game/match officials to administer a roster and ID check.
- d. In all Archdiocesan and all District Playoff games/matches CYC Identification Card and Official CYC receipted Roster must be dated and follow Rule II – Registration of Players/Managers Sec. 3, must be presented prior to the start of the game/match to the appointed Official and on request to the opposing manager.
- e. In all games/matches where ID/Roster checks are required or requested the appointed game/match Officials must verify each player visually with ID Card and Official Roster. The opposing manager is allowed to observe the verification process.

NOTE: Late players prior to entering the game/match must display their ID card to the appointed official.

- f. If a manager, coach or player fails to display an Official CYC Identification Card along with an Official Roster as requested he or she may participate in that game/match provided that the said team or individual produces in person the ID Card or Roster in question before or at the completion of the game/match. If the ID Card and/or Roster (whichever is missing) is displayed in the above manner the manager, coach or player shall be deemed eligible and game/match in point is not subject to protest on this account. If manager, coach or player participates in the game/match and fails to follow this procedure said game/match may be awarded to opponent by governing Sports Committee without the need of protest.

**Sec. 2:**

No player shall receive any compensation for services rendered to a team of this Association. This shall not prevent suitable prizes from being given to players if approved by the CYC Executive Athletic Committee.

**Sec. 3:**

No player shall be eligible to play a game under the jurisdiction of the CYC Athletic Association if said player shall have received a monetary consideration for their services rendered as a player or a team after the opening of the current season of that particular sport.

**Sec. 4:**

An Open Division player may participate on the same day with another organization in either the same or different sport. Parishes may set their own guidelines concerning CYC activities missed.

A Closed Division player may participate on the same day with another organization provided it is a different sport. Parishes may set their own guidelines concerning CYC activities missed. (See By-Laws, Rule II, Sec.4). Parishes must have on file, with their District Chairperson, a Parish policy regarding CYC activities missed for both Open and Closed Divisions. Districts may address player(s) / Parish(s) not having a policy on file with their District Chairperson.

In either of the above cases during the Archdiocesan Playoffs these games must be participated in to entirety, if they are not, then the offending parties may be disciplined by the Playoff Committee.

**Sec. 5:**

Managers and coaches of teams, by signing the roster or submitting it electronically, shall be held accountable for statements of their players regarding eligibility, age and grade indicated on rosters and subject to disciplinary action.

**Sec. 6:**

Those eligible to play:

- a.
  1. Must be a resident of the St. Louis Archdiocese.
  2. If from another Diocese by special permission of Archdiocesan Director, Associate Director or Sports Director.
- b. In all grade school divisions, a Catholic player is eligible to participate in the CYC Program in the following manner and order:
  1. Parish of registration OR the Catholic school the player is attending as a full-time student.
  2. Parish of residence, if parish of registration or the player's full-time Catholic school does not have an eligible team for said player.
  3. If there is no program or available team for the player in sections 1 and 2 above, their parish representative shall submit the player to their District Chairmen for assignment with another team in the District. The assignment should be done on a "need" basis, that is, the assignment is to a team that is in need of players: while taking the player's past reassignments from previous seasons into consideration and also reasonable geographic factors.
- c. In all grade school divisions, a non-Catholic player is eligible to participate in the CYC Program in the following manner and order:
  1. Parish of residence OR the Catholic school the player is attending as a full-time student.
  2. If there is no program or available team for the player in section 1 above, their parish representative shall submit the player to their District Chairmen for assignment with another team in the District. The assignment should be done on a "need" basis, that is, the assignment is to a team that is in need of players: while taking the player's past reassignments from previous seasons into consideration and also reasonable geographic factors.

For sections b-3 and c-2, assignments may, cross District lines with the approval of both District Chairmen. Applications must be made no later than the deadline for application of parish teams.

The parish must consent to accept the player who is assigned and the player is subject to the rules of that parish.

In cases where a player is not placed on a team because of parish restrictions, that player would be eligible under b-3 or c-2.

- d.
  1. If in b and c above there is a program in the player's division but the parish or school team's roster is filled, the Parish, with the players consent, must apply to the District for assignment with another parish team in the District. There are no longer numbers stated for a roster to be considered filled.  
This assignment should follow the same procedures as in b-3 and c-2. (Not intended to move a majority of a team or intended to keep a player from that parish from playing with that team)
  2. If a parish has restrictions as to a player(s) not being allowed to play for that parish then the player(s) may be assigned to another team in accordance with b-3 and c-2 above. Such parish restrictions must be on file with the District. The final decision on the enforcement of the parish restriction(s) and the assignment will rest with the District.
- e.
  1. In all Grade School Divisions there must be at least one (1) Coach/Manager (Non-Player) in attendance with an ID Card and be responsible for the team's actions for the entire game.
  2. In the Junior and Juvenile Divisions there must be a least one adult, 21 years or older, in attendance with a CYC ID card responsible for the team's actions for the entire game. The Executive Committee reserves the right to require additional responsible adults for any or all Junior or Juvenile teams on a sport by sport basis. Junior and Juvenile teams should contact their District chairperson/sports chairperson and/or the supplementary rulebook for a full explanation of that sport's requirements.

Any team/parish not having the above conditions met is subject to forfeiture and disciplinary action. In an emergency a substitute coach must be appointed and the Head Official notified.

f. Closed vs Open Reassignments

1. A Closed Player can be reassigned to a Closed or an Open team, with no regard as to what their home parish's classification is.

2. An Open Player can only be reassigned to an Open team, with no regard as to what their home parish's classification is. Their assignment can only be to a team within their district, unless there is no Open team in that district.

3. If a player(s) of a certain Status and/or Grade is released from a Parish team for reassignment to another team in the same Parish or a different Parish/District, then the releasing Parish may not receive any players from outside their Parish for the same Status and/or Grade as the released player(s). Conversely, if a Parish accepts a player(s) of a certain Status and/or Grade from outside their Parish, then they may not release any Parish players of the same Status/Grade are not allowed to be released to another Parish/District. District Chairpersons have the discretion to approve exceptions to this accept/release policy.

NOTE 1: When a parish/organization conducts a tryout/evaluation, of certain grades, only constitutionally eligible player(s) of that parish/organization present at the tryout can be used to complete a roster. After all parish/organization players are placed on parish teams the parish/organization can then ask the District for additional players to fill out their team, if needed.

NOTE 2: A player who changes their status (residence or parish of registration) twelve months or less prior to the opening of a season will be considered as being eligible for their previous parish/school as a participant for the balance of the season. Before participating said player shall file a signed statement of change of registration/residence with the CYC District to be attached to their team's roster.

#### **Sec. 7:**

In Junior and Juvenile Divisions a team may have players living outside the parish. Written releases are not required in the Juvenile and Junior division unless the player's parish has a team. The Parish Rep/Lay Director, if needed, can give the release.

A release is needed for all grade school children seeking to play up in these divisions. A separate written request from the parent(s) is also required for this.

NOTE 1: If parish has no Parish Representative the Spiritual Director's signature is sufficient. No player may play with a team of another parish if their own parish has a team in that particular age group unless the player secures permission from the manager in addition to the Spiritual Director and Parish Representatives. Approval must be in writing, receipted prior to participation and on file in the CYC District. This letter of permission must be on file in the district. The number of players on a roster that are living outside the parish is unlimited.

NOTE 2: PAROCHIAL DIVISION – must be a student of the Catholic school the player is representing or a student attending that Catholic Parish School of Religion. Said student shall be eligible to participate for the player's parish team providing participant has not completed eight grades of education and has completed or is presently attending a PSR Program satisfying the present sport year's requirements. A Catholic parish, which does not have a Parochial School but conducts a School of Religion, may enter a team in the Parochial Division utilizing players of their parish PSR Program. A player that is attending a Catholic School or a Catholic Parish School of Religion whose school or PSR does not have a Parochial team may be reassigned by the District to another Parochial team. Note: A player may play in the parochial division and one other CYC division in the same sport, during the same season without being in violation of this rule.

#### **Sec. 8:**

**BASKETBALL, VOLLEYBALL & SOCCER – HIGH SCHOOL, COLLEGE AND PRO RULE:**

- a. High School/College Team Members are not eligible to play the same sport simultaneously in CYC, if they were on their school team for 51% of their high school's regular scheduled games and their school season was played during the same general time as the CYC season.
- b. District(s) may give permission to allow a player who did not complete 51% of their season with their school team to play with a CYC team, as long as said player is eligible under Rule I, Sec. 3.
- c. A pro player is one who is currently under contract or has received money during that current season. That player is not eligible to participate in the same sport that they have been declared a "pro" in.

NOTE: High School and College players should check on the high school or college rules from their governing bodies before participating.

**Sec. 9:**

When a parish/organization team, in any division, finds that it will not have the required number of player(s) to start a game, according to the rules of that sport, they can use any CYC rostered player(s) of the same gender in the same division or younger to play the game.

NOTE#1: The team that did not have the required number of players to start the game, will forfeit their scheduled game.

NOTE#2: The scheduled officials will be required to officiate the game.

NOTE#3: The game card(s), of both teams, must be submitted, to the scheduled official(s).

NOTE#4: The game will be played under these circumstances only if the non-forfeiting team agrees to play.

**Sec. 10:**

Teams using players that are not eligible under the terms as set forth in these rules shall be liable to disciplinary action as the district sports committee/hearing board may deem proper.

**RULE IV – SEASONAL PARISH TEAM MERGER**

In all divisions parishes in the same District may combine their players for a particular sport for a sport season. Parish Representatives must agree to the combination and the District Chairperson must approve. The merged parishes shall be considered as from one parish.

**RULE V – PARISH MERGER**

Each District shall consider application for merger of parish CYC programs. The CYC Executive Athletic Committee must approve all mergers. The CYC Executive Athletic Committee shall not consider any merger not approved by a quorum present at a regular District Board of Control Meeting. The following requirements must be met before the CYC Executive Athletic Committee shall give consideration. Districts may add own requirements.

1. The pastors must agree.
2. Parish Athletic Boards must agree and show that the parishes will participate in the governing of the program.
3. A “genuine” need must be shown. It must be shown that a concerted effort was made to establish a program with the parish.
4. Entire Athletic Program must be merged. Players from each parish must be integrated on the teams.
5. The responsibility for payment of all CYC fees must be determined.
6. Merger applications, in writing, must be received by the CYC Executive Athletic Committee at least ninety days prior to the proposed date of the merger.
7. Merger may be revoked upon written request by the pastor of any of the participating parishes prior to the next Sport Season.
8. Rules of eligibility apply to merged parishes.

**RULE VI – DISTRICT MERGERS**

In any sport two or more Districts may merge for the purpose of regular season play if a “genuine” need exists. Such mergers are in effect for the current Sport Season only. By agreement of the merged Districts a Sponsoring District must be designated. All teams must adhere to the rules and regulations of the Sponsoring District. District mergers must have the approval of the Chairpersons of the merging districts and the CYC Sports Director and/or the CYC Assistant Sports Director.

NOTE: When District mergers occur all teams of the affected Districts must participate in this merged program.

## RULE VII – CONDUCT

### Sec. 1:

All that is dishonorable and unsportsmanlike is particularly and expressly condemned. The manager, coach, player, spectator or team guilty of such violation shall be removed at the discretion of the District/Officials. The District provided the District/Official's report warrants may further penalize managers, coaches, players and teams. If a player, coach or manager is ejected from a game or placed on report, they must surrender their ID Card to the game official(s) or CYC personnel, upon request.

### Sec. 2:

Upon failure of any player, coach, manager, team or league to comply with any requirements of the Constitution, playing rules, By-Laws or Philosophy of the CYC, the CYC Executive Athletic Committee/Executive Director shall have the power to expel any such person(s) or group(s) from the organization.

### Sec. 3:

Any person directly or indirectly approaching another parish(s) and/or player(s) for the purpose of inducing parish team(s) or player(s) to leave that parish and/or team shall be liable to punishment as the District deems proper.

### Sec. 4:

All participants of CYC events are required to adhere to the following code of conduct. All members shall display good sportsmanship at all times. Anything less has no place in our program. Good sportsmanship includes but is not limited to:

- a) punctuality by teams and officials.
- b) respect for district officials as well as the opposing team, coaches, managers and game officials.
- c) The avoidance of all deliberate dangerous plays.
- d) The awareness of goals of the CYC. These goals include the concept that the game is for the young people and that winning is secondary.

Also, expressly prohibited is the use of profane or blasphemous language, smoking on the bench, court or field the consumption, or under the influence of alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances and possession of firearms as defined by the Missouri Law on Firearms, while under the jurisdiction of the organization.

### Sec. 5:

Managers, coaches and team captains only may confer with the Officials, provided it is done in a civil manner. Anyone attempting to rush the Officials, cause scenes, or dispute decisions in an unsportsmanlike manner is to be ejected from the game and/or placed on misconduct report.

## RULE VIII – SUSPENSIONS

### Sec. 1:

Any manager, coach or player is INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED FROM ALL CYC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION activity until ruled upon by the particular District if they are:

- a. Ejected from a game, even if not put on misconduct report by the appointed Official, discretion to handle cases as they deem necessary if notified of such expulsion at a subsequent date.
- b. Put on misconduct report by a CYC Official before, during or after the game.
- c. A closed division player playing in another organized program in the same sport, at the same time.  
EXCEPTION: Junior and Juvenile divisions. (This rule pertains to players only.)

### Sec. 2:

Suspensions are issued in terms of number of games or periods of time or any other penalties the District chooses to impose and may overlap into succeeding sports seasons. The District will state in its suspension as to what areas of involvement in the CYC the suspension covers.

### Sec. 3:

The CYC Athletic Association upon review will recognize other Athletic Association's suspensions.

## **RULE IX – CYC PLAYOFFS**

Archdiocesan Playoffs for both Closed and Open will be conducted in the same manner, in regards to how teams are determined to participate in the Playoffs.

A District having one or more teams in a division will have a position in those respective divisions for Archdiocesan Playoffs.

### **Sec. 1:**

For MIDGET, CRUSADER, CADET, INTERMEDIATE, PAROCHIAL, JUVENILE and JUNIOR DIVISIONS only, a Championship Contest, conducted by the District Sports Committee shall be played at the end of the season by the league winners of 4 and 5 team leagues; 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners of 6 and 7 team leagues; 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners of 8 and 9 team leagues, provided there are multiple leagues in a given division. Where there is only one league operated in a particular division the first place team shall be the District Champion and no District Playoff will be conducted. The District may change the aforementioned method of conducting playoffs for the season, provided that all teams are notified prior to the start of the season. The CYC Athletic Committee shall conduct CYC Archdiocesan Championship Playoffs for aforementioned divisions. There shall be no District or Archdiocesan Championship Playoffs in the Atom and Bantam Divisions. Districts may conduct regular season leagues and may award appropriate trophies.

### **Sec. 2:**

To qualify for all CYC Playoffs, a player must meet with the following requirements:

- a. Must be registered with their team not later than the specified number of days or games. (Refer to Rule II, Sec. 3 of the By-Laws.)
- b. In order for a player to be eligible to participate in the CYC Playoffs, they must have played at least 50% of the games of the current season. Special circumstances, such as illness or injuries, with doctors' letter must be presented to the District for approval.

### **Sec. 3:**

All Teams, Parishes and Districts must be in good standing in order to participate in the Playoffs. Good standing is defined as adhering to the Rules, Guidelines and Financial Requirements of the CYC Organization.

## **RULE X – TOURNAMENTS**

The CYC Athletic Association and/or CYC District reserves the right to monitor and, if need be, discipline players, managers or coaches of CYC teams should their actions at tournaments be inconsistent with the Philosophy of the CYC Program. This applies to all team members, parishes and organizations that sponsor or participate in tournaments.

## **RULE XI – WAGERING**

No wagering of any sort shall be tolerated, and such violations shall lead to immediate expulsion from the league upon the decision of the District, and subject to recommendations and approval of the CYC Executive Athletic Committee.

## **RULE XII – OFFICIALS (REFEREES & UMPIRES)**

### **Sec. 1:**

The Referees and Umpires are obligated to report to their District as per instructions following:

- a. Report of the game, i.e., results, lineups, et-cetera.
- b. Misconduct of any kind that took place before, during or after the game.
- c. To immediately file a statement regarding the possible protest of an interpretation of playing rules to be filed as announced to the Official by the manager of the protesting team. He is directed to notify the opposing manager that the game is being played under protest.

Note: Failure to notify the opposing manager does not negate the protest.

### **Sec. 2:**

The District may remove any Referee or Umpire for just cause.

**Sec. 3:**

In cases of emergency arising when the appointed Official is unable to officiate or when the appointed Official is unable to continue the game, it is permissible for the managers involved to select one or two Officials to continue with the game. Both managers must provide a written agreement, before the game; or when an emergency arises during the game. This written consent is to be forwarded to the CYC District Chairperson.

**RULE XIII – FORFEITURE RULE****Sec. 1:**

Any team that forfeits two consecutive games or a total of three league games in a season may be dropped from the league pending the decision of the District. All remaining scheduled games shall be awarded to the opponents if so prescribed.

**Sec. 2:**

In the event both teams of a scheduled game/match fail to appear with a sufficient number of players the game/match may be forfeited and not rescheduled. A loss may be charged to both teams.

**RULE XIV – LOCAL GOVERNMENT – (Any CYC League)**

Any league may draw up a Constitution and By-Laws from the management of that respective league (not at variance with this Constitution and By-Laws or the spirit thereof), as interpreted by the District, but such Constitution and By-Laws must be approved in writing by the CYC Athletic Committee.

**RULE XV – KNOWLEDGE OF CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS**

Managers shall be supplied with a copy of this Constitution & By-Laws and they shall acquaint their players with the contents. Ignorance shall not be accepted as an excuse for violation of this Constitution & By-Laws.

**RULE XVI – POSTPONEMENTS**

Games postponed will be rescheduled according to specific policy of each District. All teams should be supplied with this policy in writing.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**A listing of last year’s Archdiocesan Champions and Award Winners can be viewed on our website.**

CYC GENERAL NUMBER	314-353-8911
CYC FAX NUMBER	314-792-7619
WEBSITE	<a href="http://www.cycstl.net">www.cycstl.net</a>

**2011-2012 ARCHDIOCESAN PLAYOFF DATES (TENTATIVE)**

<b>SOCCER</b>	November 16 - 20, 2011 (Girls and Parochial Boys) November 30 - December 4, 2011 (Boys and Parochial Girls)
<b>VOLLEYBALL</b>	December 3 - 4, 2011 (Girls) December 7, (Parochial Boys) December 10 - 11, 2011 (Boys) December 9, (Parochial Girls)
<b>BASKETBALL</b>	March 30 – April 15, 2012
<b>BASEBALL &amp; SOFTBALL</b>	July 28 – August 5, 2012
<b>TRACK</b>	April 28, May 5, 12 & 19, 2012
<b>GOLF</b>	June 23, 2012
<b>LACROSSE</b>	TDB

**Markwort—“The Official Playoff Ball” for Baseball and Softball**  
**Molten—“The Official Playoff Ball” for Basketball, Soccer and Volleyball**