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