

## **Spectator Conduct**

The purpose of CYM athletic programs is to promote Christian attitudes while encouraging healthy physical activity by the youth of the diocese.

**9.6 Spectators must realize that they represent the parish/school just as much as team members or coaches. Parents, guardians, other family members and friends must be models of sportsmanship for all children that participate in contests. In addition, adults are expected to demonstrate positive support for all players of both teams and treat all coaches, officials and other spectators with respect at practices or contests.**

**9.6.1 Unsportsmanlike conduct, including but not limited to, objecting to decisions of game officials, disrespectfully addressing a game official, using inappropriate language/gestures, interrupting a contest by going on the floor or field or approaching a game official or coach will not be tolerated.**

**9.6.2 Chapter 5 of Policies and Guidelines for the Office for Catholic Youth Ministry states: “Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at events where young people are present, even if the only young people present are your own.” In addition, possession/use of illegal drugs and use of tobacco products at CYM events (practices/games/matches/etc is strictly prohibited.**

**9.6.3 Incidents of poor sportsmanship/inappropriate conduct will result in disciplinary action taken by the Office for Catholic Youth Ministry.**

**9.7 If a spectator is ejected from ANY parish or CYM athletic contest, whether sponsored by CYM or not, the spectator is banned from the next athletic contest played by that team. Additional action can be taken by the Office for Catholic Youth Ministry.**

**9.8 Any spectator who verbally or physically mistreats an official or behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner at any time may be banned from attending CYM athletic contests for a period of time to be determined by the CYM Office.**

**9.8.1 Monitoring of the team by the parish/school athletic association will be required as directed by the Office for Catholic Youth Ministry.**

**9.8.2 Violations of a ban will result in game(s) being stopped and a forfeit awarded to the opposing team. Two (2) forfeits during a season will result in a team’s dismissal from the league.**

**9.9 Improper conduct of spectators at any CYM athletic contest may result in sanctions to the team or the athletic association of that team. Serious or repeated spectator problems with the same parish/school program will result in a hearing before the Athletic Advisory Committee.**

**9.9.1 Parents/guardians are responsible for contacting their spouse, other relatives and friends that may attend a CYM practice or competition and inform them of spectator conduct expectations and potential penalties to teams/athletic programs.**

**9.10 Spectators are not permitted to file complaints concerning the performance of game officials. Only the head coach may file a complaint. Coaches and/or Athletic Association Officers are to review this spectator conduct section with parents/guardians of all players.**

## **Player Conduct**

**9.11 Incidents of improper conduct by players before, during and/or after a CYM athletic contest may result in disciplinary action taken by the CYM Office.**

**9.11.1 Disciplinary action can range from counseling, probation, suspension or dismissal depending upon the circumstances.**

**9.11.2 Coaches are required under the Volunteer Covenant to communicate to players the rights and responsibilities of individuals on the team.**

**9.11.3 The parent/guardian of each child participating in the CYM athletic program is required to review Player Conduct sections 9.11 and 9.11.1 with each child.**