

Saint Albert the Great

Parents Athletic Code of Conduct

As a parent or guardian, you play a special role in contributing to the needs and development of youngsters. Through your encouragement and good example, you can help all the boys and girls learn good sportsmanship and self-discipline. In CYO sports, young people learn to work together, to sacrifice for the good of the team, to enjoy winning and deal appropriately with defeat - all while becoming physically fit and healthy. Best of all, they have fun.

Support Your Child

Supporting your child by giving encouragement and showing interest in their team is very important. Help your child work toward skill improvement and good sportsmanship in every game. Teach your child that hard work and an honest effort are often more important than victory - that way your child will always be a winner despite the outcome of the game!

Always Be Positive

Parents serve as role models for their children. Be aware of this fact and work to be a positive role model. Applaud good plays by your player's team as well as good plays by the opposing team. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from youth sports.

Remember: Your Child Wants To Have Fun

Remember that your child is the one playing, not you. It's very important to let children establish their own goals - to play the game for themselves. Take care not to impose your own standards and goals on them. Don't put too heavy a burden on your child to win games. Studies reveal that most children would rather play for a losing team than ride the bench for a winning team. Children play for the fun of playing.

Reinforce Positive Behavior

Positive reinforcement is the best way to help your child achieve their goals and overcome their natural fear of failure. Nobody likes to make mistakes. If your child does make one, remember it's all part of learning, so encourage your child's efforts and point out the good things your child accomplished.

Don't Be A Sideline Coach Or Referee

CYO coaches and referees are usually parents just like you. Coaches volunteer their time to help make your child's sporting experience a positive one. **They need, and deserve your support, too.** Refrain from coaching or refereeing from the sidelines of a game. In a volunteer organization like CYO there's always an opportunity to take your interest in coaching or refereeing to the next level! By signing this letter, you are telling your child/team, their school, their classmates, team mates and other CYO athletes, coaches, referees, and officials, that you will follow these guidelines and help ALL children to grow, and develop as a player, a Catholic, and a member of the Saint Albert the Great community!

Failure to follow this code of conduct could result in the forfeiture of the privilege of attending games.

Go STAGS !