

**HARRISBURG AREA CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION  
BOYS' GRADE SCHOOL BASKETBALL LEAGUE**

*Winning and Losing  
a CYO Perspective*

**Tom Herweg, Commissioner**

**BY-LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**ADOPTED MAY 22, 1973**

**AMENDED APRIL 9, 2000; AMENDED JUNE 19, 2001; AMENDED APRIL 21, 2002;  
AMENDED APRIL 27, 2003; AMENDED APRIL 25, 2004; AMENDED OCTOBER 24,  
2006; AMENDED APRIL 27, 2008; AMENDED AUGUST 1, 2010; AMENDED NOVEMBER  
10, 2011**

**PARTICIPATION**

All Catholic Parishes and Consolidated Grade Schools, authorized by the Diocesan Education Department, in the Harrisburg Area CYO are eligible to apply for entry into this league with the approval of the parish pastor or the consolidated school principal. The Harrisburg League will be operated with two divisions. One division will include all programs fielding both a Varsity and a Junior Varsity Team. This division will be a competitive division. Games will be scheduled on a home-and-away basis for these teams. The other division will be less competitive and will include Intermediate 1 and 2 and Novice 1 and 2 teams. Games for these teams will be scheduled according to available gym time. All teams that wish to participate in the league, whether they were league members the previous year or not, must so indicate by September 20 of each year by filing a league application form which will be sent to the previous year's league members. Failure to file this league application form will make them ineligible to participate in the league for that year.

**LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION**

The League Administration will consist of a Commissioner, Two Secretaries (one for the upper levels of Junior Varsity, Intermediate I and Varsity and one for the lower levels of Intermediate II and Novice I & II) and a Treasurer who will be elected by a majority vote of all participating teams. All of these officers shall be elected at the Spring Meeting and their term of office will be for one year.

**THE COMMISSIONER**

The Commissioner shall be the chief officer and will be responsible for enforcing the by-laws, rules, and regulations.

**THE SECRETARY**

The Secretary for each of the levels shall be responsible for all correspondence and any other information that the various teams will need to know, including the reporting of scores. He will also be in charge of publicity.

**THE TREASURER**

The Treasurer will be responsible for collection of league fees and paying of all league bills.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The Commissioner, the two Secretaries, and the Treasurer will form an Executive Board that shall be responsible for matters related to the operation of this league. If a member of this Executive Board represents a team that is involved in any infraction which requires a hearing by the Board, that Executive Board Member shall be temporarily replaced by another league member, until the issue is resolved. If the Board is deadlocked on any issue or infraction, a general meeting will be called by the League Commissioner of the Program Representatives or Junior Varsity Team Coaches with the involved programs not voting.

**VOTING**

Each parish with a team in the Varsity League will be entitled to one vote (the word team means that the Varsity, Intermediate I and Junior Varsity teams from a parish only have one vote among them). Whenever there is to be a meeting at which a vote is to be taken, all teams will be given at least a one-week notice by mail or e-mail. At the meeting, any measure will carry a simple majority of the members present at the meeting.

**LEAGUE PLAYING RULES**

National Federation and P.I.A.A. Rules are to be followed with the following additions or exceptions.

**PRAYER BEFORE GAMES**

Prior to the start of every game, players and coaches for both teams will gather at the mid-court circle, assume a respectful position (preferably kneeling on one knee) and jointly engage in a vocal prayer. It is suggested that the home team coach or game manager lead this prayer and it is further suggested that the prayer be either the Our Father or the Hail Mary. Once concluded, both teams shall return to their respective benches.

## PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

**BOYS ONLY ARE ELIGIBLE:** Any player who is or was on a junior high, varsity, junior varsity, freshman high school or middle school basketball team after December 1 of the season in which his team's roster is required to be filed is ineligible to participate in this league.

**Varsity Team:** This is a competitive program for participants in the eighth grade or lower who have not reached their fifteenth birthday before September 1 of the year in which a roster is being filed. Any student repeating eighth grade is ineligible to participate in the CYO grade school program.

**Intermediate I Team:** This is an instructional program for participants in the eighth grade or lower who have not reached their fifteenth birthday before September 1 of the year in which a roster is being filed. Any student repeating eighth grade is ineligible to participate in the CYO grade school program. Any participant listed on a Varsity roster is also eligible to participate in the Intermediate I program, but his name must be listed on both rosters. Varsity participants in this program should be restricted to players that receive limited playing time with that team and need additional skill development. All players are expected to play  $\frac{1}{4}$  of each game at a minimum.

**Junior Varsity Team:** This is a competitive program for participants in the sixth grade or lower who have not reached their thirteenth birthday before September 1 of the year in which a roster is being filed. Any participant listed on a Junior Varsity roster is also eligible to participate in the Intermediate II program, but his name must be listed on both rosters. **Junior Varsity participants in this program should be restricted to players that receive limited playing time with the Junior Varsity team and need additional skill development.**

**Intermediate II Team:** This is an instructional program for participants in the sixth grade or lower who have not reached their thirteenth birthday before September 1 of the year in which a roster is being filed. This program should help the participants further their basic skills focusing on team building and sportsmanship. All players are expected to play  $\frac{1}{4}$  of each game at a minimum. (See addendum concerning modification of playing rules for the Intermediate II Program.) All players are expected to play  $\frac{1}{4}$  of each game at a minimum. Any participant listed on a Junior Varsity roster is also eligible to participate in the Intermediate II program, but his name must be listed on both rosters. **Junior Varsity participants in this program should be restricted to players that receive limited playing time with the Junior Varsity team and need additional skill development.**

**Novice I Team:** This is an instructional program for participants in the fifth grade or lower who have not reached their twelfth birthday before September 1 of the year in which a roster is being filed. This program emphasizes skill development in a low-pressure atmosphere. Participants play in an organized league focusing on basic skills, team building, values and sportsmanship. Novice I participants may not participate or be listed on any other CYO roster. They are limited to participation with the Novice I team only. (See addendum concerning specific playing rules for the Novice I Program.) All players are expected to play  $\frac{1}{4}$  of each game at a minimum.

**Novice II Team:** This is an instructional program for participants in the fourth grade or lower who have not reached their eleventh birthday before September 1 of the year in which a roster is being filed. This program emphasizes skill development in a low-pressure atmosphere. Participants play in an organized league focusing on basic skills, team building, values and sportsmanship. Novice II participants may not participate or be listed on any other CYO roster. They are limited to participation with the Novice II team only. (See addendum concerning specific playing rules for the Novice II Program.) All players are expected to play ¼ of each game at a minimum.

### **RELIGIOUS REQUIREMENTS**

In order to participate in the CYO program of the Diocese of Harrisburg, a student must meet one of the following Religious requirements:

1. **PAROCHIAL SCHOOL:** Be a baptized Catholic or a non-Catholic attending the Catholic School for which they play/manage.
2. **PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:** Be a baptized Catholic who attends Parish Religious Education classes and is a registered member of the parish for which they play/manage. In addition, parents or legal guardians must be registered members of the parish for which the student plays/manages by November 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.
3. **RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA):** Be enrolled in and participating in the RCIA (Adapted for Children) Process and be a registered member of the parish for which they play/manage. In addition, parents or legal guardians must be registered members of the parish in which the student attends RCIA (Adapted for Children) by November 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.
4. **HOME SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Be a baptized Catholic who receives Religious Education classes at home and is a registered member of the parish for which they play/manage. In addition, parents or legal guardians must be registered members of the parish for which the student plays/manages by November 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

The individual parish will determine satisfactory attendance in the Catholic parish parochial school or religious education classes. If the person in charge of the school or religious education program states that a student is not attending satisfactorily, that student will become ineligible to participate in the CYO program until such time as his attendance is deemed satisfactory.

### **COACHES**

All CYO programs are under the jurisdiction of the parish pastor or the consolidated school principal. Recruitment and selection of coaches shall primarily be their responsibility. Only those individuals rooted in faith, willing to support Gospel values and Catholic teachings, and willing to inspire students through their word and example to accept and live these values and teachings may be selected or retained as coaches in the Diocese of Harrisburg CYO. **In addition, all coaches must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.** Once coaches are selected, they are expected to maintain the quality of their faith commitment and their willingness to uphold the teachings of the Catholic Church. Coaches who espouse, by words or actions, practices which are contrary to the teachings of the Catholic faith will be dismissed. Catholic coaches, particularly, are expected to

fulfill their Sunday liturgical obligations and to otherwise participate in the life of the Catholic faith community. Coaches who are not of the Catholic faith community should demonstrate a similar involvement in their own Church. Coaches who, after they have been selected, fail to meet these requirements and obligations can, at the discretion of the parish pastor or consolidated school principal, be dismissed from coaching or participating in the Diocesan CYO program.

In addition, in compliance with Diocesan policy, all coaches must obtain PA State Police Criminal Record Check and a PA Child Abuse History Clearance prior to the start of the season. The director of each parish program will certify that he/she has obtained such clearances for every coach listed on any roster filed by that program. Failure to obtain such clearances shall prohibit said coach from participating in any games, practices or other functions associated with any CYO team.

In an effort to assist the CYO coaches and other bench personnel in their dual role of teacher-coach, all coaches and other bench personnel are required to attend the diocesan-sponsored Orientation Program prior to their first season. The following rules must be followed for ALL coaches in the CYO program.

1. **All new coaches must attend the New Coach Orientation Program.** This program will include legal issues of coaching and CYO philosophy and will be offered several times from September to the end of November. ALL coaches must attend this orientation before they will be allowed to coach in the CYO. There will be no second year allowed.

RENEWAL PROGRAM – starting in August of 2012

1. After the first year of coaching, all coaches must attend a CYO Renewal Program once every two years. Coaches will be able to choose from a variety of topics including an X and O session, conditioning your athlete and other topics related to coaching the youth of our Diocese. All sessions will include a topic on CYO philosophy.

2. Any coach who is a league Commissioner, Parish Athletic Association President or Parish CYO League Representative may meet the requirements of the Renewal Program by attending Diocesan CYO meetings held at the beginning of the year.

No coach or bench personnel will be permitted to participate in the Diocesan CYO Basketball Program including games, leagues, or tournaments unless he/she complies with the established standards of the Orientation Program and the Renewal Program.

No coach, bench personnel or scheduled volunteer shall be permitted to participate in any game without proper Diocesan youth protection identification. The ID badge is to be conspicuously displayed outside of one's clothing, above the waist when an adult is in the presence of minors. Verification of such identification shall be the responsibility of the individual CYO Area. Only players, approved managers and those adults with proper Diocesan youth protection identification are permitted in the locker rooms or on the bench.

In addition to the following, parishes and school programs are expected to be in full compliance with the Diocese of Harrisburg Youth Protection Program. This includes criminal record checks, "Creating a Safe Environment" training, and knowledge of the diocesan code of conduct.

(See [www.hbgdiocese.org/protect](http://www.hbgdiocese.org/protect))

## **INSURANCE**

Insurance is to be provided by each parish for every boy who participates or by the participants' parents or guardian. The league is not responsible for any injury or illness incurred during practice, games or travel to/from games.

## **ROSTERS**

Every team covered by these by-laws, rules and regulations must file a roster certified by its pastor, parish school principal and Religious Education Coordinator, at the League Administration Pre-season Filing Period. This roster must be filed on the form provided by the league and must include name of each player, mailing address, parish, date of birth, age, grade and school the participant is attending. This roster will be closed on December 1st of each season and no additions will be allowed except in the case of a participant who becomes a new member of the parish after this date.

## **PARTICIPATING ON ANOTHER TEAM**

Any boy who is or was on a varsity, junior varsity, freshman high school or middle school basketball team after December 1st of the current season in which their team's roster is required to be filed with the Diocesan Director of CYO Grade School Basketball, is ineligible to participate in the Diocesan CYO basketball program for that season.

### **Participating with an Adjoining CYO Parish Basketball Program**

1. Any student whose parents or legal guardian are registered members of a Catholic parish that: 1) does not sponsor a CYO basketball program or 2) has a limited program, one that does not offer all levels of play, this student is eligible to participate in an adjoining parish's CYO basketball program. The individual CYO Areas are compelled to provide them the opportunity to participate. It will be the decision of the CYO Area League in which that player resides as to where the student will participate. When the CYO parish program where the student will participate is determined, the CYO Area President/Commissioner must notify, in writing, the Diocesan Director.

2. If at any time in the future his parish sponsors a CYO program or has enough players to participate in levels they previously could not or becomes part of a consolidation with another program, the player will be given the option of where he wishes to participate. In this case, the following **MUST** be followed to maintain eligibility.

- A letter from the parish CYO Basketball Program, requesting the option must be sent to the particular CYO Area President/Commissioner.
- The letter of request must be accompanied by a letter from the participant's parents or legal guardian and both parish pastors involved.

- The CYO Area President/Commissioner must receive all correspondence by November 1<sup>st</sup> of the year the player wants to participate. Only after the above procedures are followed will any consideration by the CYO Area President/Commissioner be given. The Diocesan CYO Director must be notified, in writing, by the CYO Area President/Commissioner of all approved options made in their area.
- A player cannot change teams after a decision has been made, in the current year or any year thereafter.

## **CONSOLIDATION OF CYO BASKETBALL PROGRAMS**

Any Catholic parish that cannot sustain a CYO Basketball Program may request that the league in which they participate finds another parish or parishes that would like to form a single CYO Basketball Program. The consolidation of parish programs requires specific and substantial documentation showing that the parish could not sustain a CYO program on its own, thereby denying the youth of its parish the opportunity to participate in the CYO program. The following must occur for this to take place:

1. The league must make sure that the consolidation of programs will not overburden an already strong CYO parish program, therefore giving them unfair competitive advantage or deny participants the opportunity to play because of excessive numbers.
2. The parish CYO program that requests consolidation must provide written requests from the pastor and Athletic Association President and presentation of all documentation to the League Commissioner early enough to provide the league an opportunity to hear the request and provide a solution. If not enough time is given, the league may make the ruling effective the following year.
3. The parish CYO program that is asked to consolidate must provide written acceptance letters from the pastor and Athletic Association President.
4. All decisions and evidence must be presented to the Director of CYO prior to November 1st of the current year.

## **LEAGUE FEES**

The League Commissioner will determine the league fees, which will be used to pay general operating expenses. This fee will be due at the Pre-Season Filing Period. If it is not paid at this time, the team will not be allowed to participate in the league until the fee is paid.

## **FILING OF ROSTERS AND LEAGUE FEES**

Prior to the start of league play, the Administration will hold a Pre-Season Filing Period. The date, time and location of this Filing Period will be announced at the Fall Meeting. At this time all

Varsity, Intermediate I and Junior Varsity Teams are required to file their rosters and pay their league fees. All information on these rosters must be complete or they will not be accepted. In addition, Intermediate II and Novice I and II rosters should be submitted with a separate league fee to be determined at the Fall Meeting.

### **BASKETBALL SEASON**

The Official CYO Basketball Season shall run from November 1st through the weekend of the State CYO Boys Basketball Tournament. CYO teams are not restricted from individual activities after this period. However, teams that participate in other basketball activities before the beginning or after the completion of the Official CYO Basketball Season will solely be under the jurisdiction of their individual parish. Sponsorship of games, leagues or tournaments by CYO Areas, Divisions or Parishes is prohibited except within the Official CYO Season.

### **MAXIMUM ALLOWED GAMES**

During the official CYO basketball season, a team may play a maximum of thirty (30) games. This includes all CYO regular season games as well as exhibition and/or independent tournament games. In the case of a weekend tournament (weekend is defined as a consecutive Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) the tournament will count as one game. For example, playing the first tournament game on Tuesday, the second game on Thursday, and the third and fourth games on Saturday and Sunday equal three games total (Tuesday = 1, Thursday = 1, Saturday and Sunday = 1 day). Post-season CYO Area and Divisional play-off games and Diocesan and State CYO Tournaments do not count against the thirty (30) game limit. For further clarification, contact the Diocesan CYO Director.

**Note:** A game is defined as any contest that meets any of the following criteria:

1. A score is kept.
2. The teams are in uniform.
3. P.I.A.A. officials are used.

### **TEAM PARTICIPATION IN OTHER PROGRAMS**

Teams participating in this program during the official CYO Basketball Season may also participate in other organized games, recreation leagues or tournaments, provided that participation in these other activities does not interfere with Diocesan, CYO Area or League Programs or cause the team to exceed the maximum thirty (30) game limit allowed during the Official CYO Basketball Season. However, league members are restricted, at all times, from being members of a Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (P.I.A.A.) sanctioned basketball league or participating in any basketball program other than the Harrisburg Area CYO Boys Grade School Basketball League.

### **TIME OF QUARTERS**

**Varsity games** shall consist of four six-minute quarters. Overtime quarters shall be three minutes. **Intermediate I games** shall consist of four six-minute quarters. Overtime quarters shall be three minutes.

**Junior Varsity games** shall consist of four six-minute quarters. Overtime quarters shall be three minutes.

### **FIRST AID**

It is suggested by the League Administration that the team listed as the home team on the league schedule be responsible for furnishing first aid. This first aid should be in the form of a first aid kit and shall be placed at the score table for both teams' use.

### **SCOREKEEPERS AND TIMERS**

Every team is required to have a competent scorekeeper and timer. The scorekeeper for the home team will be the official book; the visiting team must also have a scorekeeper. All scorekeepers must be seated at the score table. The home team will have the responsibility of keeping time. In most cases this will require the operating of the scoreboard. All scorekeepers and timers are considered game officials and must understand the rules, the scorebook, the operation of the scoreboard, and the proper keeping of the time.

### **UNIFORMS**

Each team must be equipped with numbered uniforms. Numbers must appear on both the front and back of the jersey. The illegal number rule will be waived. If a participant wears a T-shirt under his team jersey, the T-shirt must be of a similar color as his team jersey; likewise, if a participant wears compression shorts under his uniform pants, they must be of a similar color as his uniform pants.

### **LEAGUE SCHEDULE**

Any league member who refuses to play a team on the league schedule, no matter what the reason may be, must first present to the League Executive Board the reason they refuse to play the scheduled league game. If the Executive Board rules that the reason they have given to not play the game is not valid to cancel the game, the team must play the game as scheduled. Failure to abide by the Board's decision will result in having the team forfeit all games for the entire season.

In the scheduling of athletic events, a conversation is to be had with the parish pastor or consolidated school principal regarding dates for the celebration of the sacraments of First Holy Communion, First Penance, Confirmation and annual Eucharistic devotions. No CYO athletic events (games, practice, or open gym) may begin in the Diocese of Harrisburg, before 1:00 p.m. on

Sundays, during school hours, or on the following days: Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday, or Ascension Thursday.

**CHANGE OF SCHEDULE**

After the league schedule is distributed to the league members, any changes to this schedule must be made in writing. A one-week notice must be given to the Board on any change. If the change of schedule is disputed by one of the participating teams, the League Commissioner will have the final binding authority on the change. **All change-of-schedule requests must be emailed to Rick Kanaskie and Tom Herweg.**

**LEAGUE CHAMPIONS**

At the completion of the regular league schedule, the teams with the best won/lost records in the Varsity and Junior Varsity Leagues will be declared League Champions. If two or more teams have the identical record, a playoff will be used to determine the Champion.

**ROUND ROBIN TOURNAMENT**

The Varsity and Junior Varsity teams in First through Fourth Place with the best won/lost record will play in a League Round Robin Tournament. If, at the completion of regular league play, there are one or more teams with identical won/lost records, the following system will be used to determine playoff placement: (1) the results of head-to-head competition during the regular season, (2) a coin toss. If there are teams tied for the fourth place position, a playoff must occur to determine the fourth-place entry (no head-to-head or coin toss will be used). Therefore, the head-to-head and coin toss will only be used to determine which place teams occupy within the four spots in the tournament bracket.

**FORMAT FOR THIS TOURNAMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:**

GAME #1	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Team	vs.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Team	
GAME #2	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Team	vs.	4 <sup>th</sup> Place Team	
GAME #3	Loser Game #1	vs.	Loser Game #2	(3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Place)
GAME #4	Winner Game #1	vs.	Winner Game #2	(1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place)

**LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES**

The League Commissioner will determine the site, dates, and times of all league play-off, championship and round robin tournament games. The League Executive Board will assist the Commissioner in the operation of these games. The decisions of the Commissioner on all of these games will be final.

### **PROTESTS**

Protests concerning games should be submitted to the League Commissioner in writing within 48 hours of the game with a \$25.00 fee. If the team filing the protest loses, the \$25.00 fee will go into the general fund. On any protest concerning a participant's age, the only document that will be accepted by the Executive Board will be the participant's birth certificate. **JUDGMENT CALLS BY OFFICIALS ARE NOT GROUNDS TO PROTEST A GAME.**

### **FORFEITS**

A team using an ineligible player will forfeit all games that player appeared in. Any team not appearing for a game 30 minutes after its scheduled starting time will forfeit the game unless in the opinion of the League Commissioner they had a valid reason for not appearing on time.

### **OFFICIALS**

The League Commissioner will be responsible for obtaining the officials. He will attempt, through the help of the Director of Officials, to assign officials for the entire season before the season begins. Any questions regarding officials should be directed to the League Commissioner. Home teams are responsible for paying the officials prior to each game. Any failure of an official to arrive at a game site prior to the start time should be reported immediately to the League Secretary, Joe Paese, via his cell phone: 717-805-2552.

### **DIRECTOR OF OFFICIALS**

The local chapter of P.I.A.A. Officials will appoint a Director of CYO Officials at the beginning of each basketball season. This Director of CYO Officials will be in charge of selecting officials for all games. He will attempt to assign officials for the entire season at the beginning of each basketball season. If you have any questions regarding the officials, contact the League Commissioner, do not contact the Director of CYO Officials.

### **RESPONSIBILITY OF OFFICIALS**

The prime responsibility of the officials is to ensure that all games are conducted in a manner to avoid injuries to the participants. All rules that pertain to this aspect are to be strictly enforced. Officials are also instructed to strictly enforce all rules pertaining to the Code of Conduct of the Coaches and Players. Officials are to follow rules as prescribed by the National Federation and P.I.A.A.

**REPORTS ON AND FROM OFFICIALS**

League members who have any constructive criticism of an official are to submit a detailed written report to the League Commissioner. These reports should be written not only when you have a complaint but also to let the League Administration know which officials are doing a good job. If you have a complaint, back it up with facts. If you have seen a good job done by an official, let the League Administration know so that this official can be used more in the future. The League Administration is also asking the officials to submit a written report any time they see something that should be corrected or if they have been impressed favorably by some incident that has taken place at one of their games.

**STARTING TIMES OF SUNDAY GAMES**

No athletic events may begin in this league before 1:00 p.m. on Sundays nor should they be scheduled during school hours. This includes all games regardless of what level of play they may be.

**CHEERLEADERS**

Cheerleading is not under the direction of this league. It is the responsibility of the participating parishes to set policies and standards for their individual cheerleading programs. Listed below are safety rules that must be strictly followed by all cheering squads when cheering at CYO basketball games:

1. No cheerleader shall stand on another person.
2. No flips are permitted from another person.
3. Mounts are not allowed.
4. Trampolines and/or mini tramps shall not be used.
5. Pom-poms will not be allowed in the gymnasium.

No cheerleading squad will be allowed to cheer on the floor (including sidelines) unless under the supervision of an adult. Violation of safety rules could result in squad suspension from further participation in any CYO activities for the remainder of the season.

**GAME CANCELLATION**

The cancellation of any games due to weather or other conditions can only be done by the League Commissioner or a deputy designated by him. Notice of cancellation of games due to weather will be given to all teams in sufficient time by telephone. Local radio stations will also be asked to announce cancellation of games due to weather conditions. For information on this tune your radio to radio stations WKBO-AM and WHP-AM Harrisburg. If necessary, you may call Rick Kanaskie or Tom Herweg for information concerning cancellations.

## **LEAGUE MEETINGS**

Under normal conditions, the league shall have at least two meetings a year. The first meeting will be the Spring Meeting at which the election of officers will be held for the coming season and any changes to the league by-laws, rules and regulations will be discussed. The second meeting will be the Fall meeting at which the league schedule along with all other information and forms will be distributed to the league members for the coming season. The League Executive Board can call a general meeting any time the situation warrants.

## **COMPLAINTS TO THE COMMISSIONER**

The League Commissioner will listen to all complaints relating to the normal operation of this league. Before the commissioner proceeds further on any complaint, the person filing the complaint must submit to the commissioner, in writing, with their signature, the details of the allegation.

## **TOURNAMENTS**

All teams covered by these by-laws that wish to host a tournament must submit an Official Tournament Application Form to their respective Diocesan Director of CYO Basketball and obtain approval to do so. All tournaments, regardless if they are composed entirely of CYO teams or not, must receive approval from the Diocesan Director of CYO Basketball. The host organization will be responsible for all non-CYO teams participating in these tournaments. All teams entering a tournament are required to check with the Diocesan Director of CYO Basketball to assure that he has approved the tournament. No tournaments, other than those hosted by the Diocesan CYO, are permitted after the last weekend in February. All teams covered by these by-laws are restricted from hosting or participating in any CYO or non-CYO tournaments, fun weekends, all-star games or any type of play-off games during the same weekends as the Diocesan Tournaments or State CYO Tournaments when our Diocese hosts them. The first responsibility of any team must be to this league. Any tournaments or exhibition games must be secondary. If a conflict arises, it should be worked out through the Commissioner.

## **PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE**

The League Commissioner shall have the authority to impose the prescribed minimum penalties for violations:

1. **FAILURE TO FILE A ROSTER BY DECEMBER 1st OF EACH SEASON:**  
Offending coaches (Head and Assistants) of the particular team will be suspended from all CYO participation for a period of 30 days and the team shall forfeit all CYO games until a roster is filed.
2. **VIOLATION OF STARTING DATE:**  
Offending coaches (Head and Assistants) of the particular team will be suspended from all CYO participation for a period of 30 days.

3. **INELIGIBLE PLAYER:**  
All games will be forfeited that the ineligible player appeared in and the player will be suspended for the remainder of the season. Coaches (Head and Assistants) of the particular team will be suspended from all CYO participation for a period of 30 days.
4. **HOSTING OR PARTICIPATING IN A CYO OR NON-CYO ACTIVITY DURING DIOCESAN TOURNAMENTS:**  
Offending coaches (Head and Assistants) of the particular team will be suspended from all CYO activities for one full year.
5. **FAILURE TO SUBMIT TO THE DIOCESAN CYO DIRECTOR A COPY OF LEAGUE BY-LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS BY DECEMBER 1 OF EACH SEASON:**  
The league will be suspended from all CYO activities until these are filed. All CYO games played by teams in the league will be recorded as losses, until a copy of the by-laws, rules and regulations are received by the Diocesan CYO Director.
6. **EXCEEDING THIRTY-GAME MAXIMUM:**  
Offending coaches (Head and Assistants) of the particular team will be suspended from all CYO activities for a period of one full year.
7. **VIOLATION OF 1:00 P.M. STARTING TIME ON SUNDAY:**  
Offending coaches (Head and Assistants) of both participating teams will be suspended from all CYO activities for one full year.

If a suspended coach disregards stated penalties, when properly notified by the League Commissioner, the team will be permanently suspended from the CYO basketball program for one full year. If necessary, penalties will carry over into the next season.

The League Commissioner or the Diocesan Director of Basketball may impose more severe penalties for the violations listed above if warranted. Penalties for any violations not listed shall be decided by the Executive Board and the Diocesan Director of Basketball.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES, PLAYERS, AND SPECTATORS**

The primary purpose of CYO basketball is to provide opportunities for youth to grow in faith and understanding of their Church through involvement in parish and diocesan life. The secondary purpose is to teach young men and women the fundamentals of basketball, including good sportsmanship, healthy competition, and cooperative team play. In light of the importance of these aspects on the development of youth, the following rules govern the conduct of the coaches, players, and spectators in this program. Enforcement of these rules of conduct is the responsibility of the individual CYO Areas. Failure to abide by these rules could result in expulsion of the CYO Program or CYO Area from participating in the Diocese of Harrisburg CYO Basketball Program.

**SECTION 1. Drug-Free Program**

Any player or coach found to be under the influence or in the possession of drugs or alcohol during practices or games will be suspended from further participation in this program.

**SECTION 2. Offensive Actions**

No coach or player is to:

1. Refuse to abide by officials' decisions.
2. Be guilty of objectionable demonstrations by throwing equipment or any other forceful action.
3. Be guilty of heaping personal verbal abuse upon any official for any real or imaginary wrong decision or judgment.
4. Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon any player, opposing coach, official or spectator.
5. At any time lay hands upon, push, shove, strike, or threaten to strike an official, coach or spectator.
6. Be guilty of physical attack as an aggressor upon any player.
7. Be ejected by an official from any game as the result of an unsportsmanlike technical foul.

**SECTION 3. Penalties for Offending Coaches and Players**

1. Violation of numbers 1 through 4 by a coach or player: Minimum automatic 30-day suspension.
2. Violation of numbers 5 and 6 by a coach: Minimum automatic suspension of offending coach for 1 full year from participating in the CYO Basketball Program.
3. Violation of number 5 by a player: Minimum automatic suspension of offending player for 1 full year from participating in the CYO Basketball Program.
4. Violation of number 6 by a player: Minimum automatic suspension of offending player for 14 days, which must include at least 2 CYO league and/or play-off games.
5. Violation of number 7 by a coach or player: Minimum automatic 7-day suspension, which must include at least 1 CYO league and/or play-off game.
6. If a suspended coach or player disregards stated penalties, when notified by a proper CYO Area officer, the team is to be suspended from the Diocesan CYO Basketball Program for 1 full year.
7. If necessary, penalties will carry over into the next season.
8. See "Code of Conduct – Technical Fouls" Section.

**SECTION 4. Acceptable Standards for Spectators**

Acceptable standards of spectator behavior include:

1. Remembering that the players are children and are playing for their enjoyment, not yours.
2. Remaining seated in the spectator area during the games.
3. Respecting decisions made by contest officials.
4. Being a role model by positively supporting teams and by not shouting instructions or criticism to the players, coaches or officials. Do not coach from the stands.
5. Making no derogatory comments or gestures to players, coaches, parents of the opposing team, officials or league administrators.

**SECTION 5. Responsibility and Penalties Related to Spectator Behavior**

1. *Participating teams and coaches are responsible for the conduct of their spectators.*
2. Any spectator who displays poor sportsmanship may be removed from the facility by an official, their team coach, a league official or the host gym person-in-charge.
3. Any spectator who interferes with the conduct of a CYO activity may, at the discretion of the spectator's parish, league, or the Harrisburg Diocese, be barred from attendance at subsequent CYO activities.

**Special Note:** In addition to the Code of Conduct listed above, coaches and players are expected to abide by the Codes of Conduct in the Diocese of Harrisburg Youth Protection Program. (See [www.hbgdiocese.org/protect](http://www.hbgdiocese.org/protect))

If a suspended coach or player disregards stated penalties after notification by the League Commissioner, the particular team will be suspended from the CYO program in the Diocese of Harrisburg for one full year. If necessary, penalties will carry over into the next season.

Teams are to play the game to win but they must not run up the score to embarrass the other team. When a team has a large lead, they should play all of their players.

**Unsportsmanlike Conduct Technical Fouls Player/Coach**

1. All Unsportsmanlike Conduct Technical Fouls must be reported within 24 hours of the game in which they were received (this includes all league, tournament and non-league games). This must be reported to the Commissioner/President of the appropriate league by the offending coach or the league representative. This report must include the following information:

- a) Location and time of game
- b) Offending team
- c) Coach's name
- d) League Level
- e) Time of the Infraction (e.g., 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr at 2:07 mark, etc.)

2. In cumulative fashion, the second Unsportsmanlike Conduct Technical Foul issued to a participant will generate a conversation reminding the participant of the principles of CYO.
  - a. Player – will be handled by the parish program
  - b. Coach – will be handled by the league Commissioner/President or representative.
3. A third Unsportsmanlike Conduct Technical Foul will result in a minimum 1-week suspension that must include at least 1 CYO League/Playoff game.
4. A fourth Unsportsmanlike Conduct Technical Foul will result in a 1-month suspension. This will include all practices and games.
5. A fifth Unsportsmanlike Conduct Technical Foul will result in a 1-year suspension from all CYO activities and the coach will be required to attend the Diocesan Certification Program prior to any CYO involvement.
6. Any Player or Coach removed from a game for any reason will be ineligible to play in the next game.

The failure to self-report any Technical Foul will be viewed as a violation of CYO procedures that could result in sanctions against the non-reporting program including suspension of offending coaches. Continued failure to self-report infractions will result in increased suspensions. A second failed report will result in a two-week suspension from all CYO activities. While it is hoped that no further measures will be needed, the Board reserves the right to declare forfeits in games where programs continually refuse to abide by Harrisburg Boys' CYO League rules.

#### **NOVICE COACHES' ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITY:**

The Novice level of play is under great scrutiny and behavior must remain beyond reproach. The first unsportsmanlike conduct technical foul assessed against a Novice coach will result in a letter of warning with copies to the Program Director. A second technical foul will result in a one-week suspension. Subsequent technical fouls will be dealt with more severely.

#### **PRE-SEASON FILING PERIOD**

***The pre-season filing period will be scheduled by the League Administration in November and will be announced to all programs at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.***

#### **THE FOLLOWING MUST BE FILED WITH THE LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION AT THIS TIME:**

1. **TEAM ROSTER:** A Team Roster must be filed with the League Administration. There is no limit on the number of players permitted on the rosters. This roster must include the name of each player, mailing address, parish, date of birth, age, grade and school the participant is attending. The roster must have all signatures where applicable. Any roster that does not have all of this

information completed will be considered incomplete and will not be accepted by the League Commissioner.

2. **LEAGUE FEES:** All league fees must be paid at this filing period. Please check the fee schedule on following page to determine the amount of your team's league fees. All checks should be made payable to the Harrisburg CYO Boys' Grade School Basketball League.

### **PROCEDURES FOR CLARIFICATION OF QUESTIONS AND MANAGEMENT OF DISPUTES**

1. Disputes or questions related to Parish/Consolidated School CYO Basketball Programs Should first be directed to the parish pastor and/or consolidated school principal for resolution on the local level.
2. Disputes or questions related to CYO Area By-Laws or rulings should be directed, in writing, to the league officers.
3. In the spirit of the gospel, all persons should attempt to resolve questions and disputes at the local level. Where that is not possible, a written appeal may be directed to the Diocesan CYO Director within 20 working days of the original incident or decision under dispute. This appeal must occur after contact with the pastor or consolidated school principal AND the CYO Area Commissioner/President. All documentation used during the above process must accompany this appeal. The Diocesan CYO Director will review the documentation provided and will respond within 5 working days.
4. The aggrieved party may submit a written appeal to the Diocesan CYO Review Board within 5 working days of the Diocesan CYO Director's decision. The Diocesan CYO Review Board will determine whether or not to hear the appeal. This written appeal and the case file from the previous hearing will be considered. New evidence will not be considered on appeal. Decisions will be made by a 2/3 majority.
5. There is no appeal beyond the Diocesan CYO Review Board.

### **DIOCESAN CYO REVIEW BOARD**

The Diocese of Harrisburg CYO Review Board shall consist of all of the CYO Area Commissioners/Presidents. The Diocesan Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry and the Diocesan CYO Director may choose to add one Ad Hoc member to the Diocesan CYO Review.

### **RESPONSIBILITY FOR PARISH PROGRAMS**

All responsibility for the management and control of parish CYO Basketball programs rests with the sponsoring Parish. These by-laws, rules and regulations are standards to which Parish CYO

Basketball Teams must conform if they wish to participate in the Harrisburg Area CYO Boys' Grade School Basketball League.

**LEAGUE AND OFFICIAL FEES**  
**LEAGUE FEES FOR THE 2010 – 2011 SEASON WILL BE:**

VARSITY LEAGUE	TBD
INTERMEDIATE I LEAGUE	TBD
JUNIOR VARSITY LEAGUE	TBD

The above league fees must be paid in full at the pre-season filing period. The League Treasurer will pay the local chapter of P.I.A.A. Officials the amount we will be charged for assignment of officials for the entire season. It is the responsibility of each home team to pay the officials the fees listed below prior to the start of the game(s).

**MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**  
**THE HARRISBURG CYO BOYS' GRADE SCHOOL BASKETBALL LEAGUE.**

**OFFICIALS' FEES FOR THE 2010 - 2011 SEASON WILL BE:**

VARSITY LEAGUE GAMES	\$25.00
INTERMEDIATE I LEAGUE GAMES	\$25.00
JUNIOR VARSITY LEAGUE GAMES	\$25.00

Where an official works a game alone, the official should be paid \$37.50.

**AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED**

**LEAGUE CHAMPIONS**

**VARSITY LEAGUE:**

The Harrisburg Area CYO Boys' Grade School Varsity League Champions will be presented with a Team Award and Individual Awards.

**JUNIOR VARSITY LEAGUE:**

The Harrisburg Area CYO Boys' Grade School Junior Varsity League Champions will be presented with a Team Award and Individual Awards.

### LEAGUE ROUND ROBIN TOURNAMENT

VARSITY AND JUNIOR VARSITY TEAMS PARTICIPATING IN THE LEAGUE ROUND ROBIN TOURNAMENT WILL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING AWARDS:

TOURNAMENT CHAMPION: Team Award and Individual Gold Medals

SECOND PLACE: Individual Silver Medals

THIRD PLACE: Individual Bronze Medals

FOURTH PLACE: Individual Bronze Medals

INDIVIDUAL TEAM AWARDS AND MEDALS WILL BE PRESENTED TO ALL ACTIVE ROSTERED TEAM MEMBERS, ONE MANAGER, AND TWO TEAM COACHES.

### REPORTING OF SCORES

The collection of information and the preparation and distribution of the League Scores & Standings will be undertaken by Mr. Joe Gabriel, the league's website administrator.

1. The Home Parish Program is responsible for collecting results for each Varsity and Junior Varsity League game in their program, regardless of winning or losing.
2. The deadline for reporting league game results is 9:00 p.m. on Sunday. Saturday games have the same deadline of Sunday by 9:00 p.m. Weeknight games should be reported as soon after the game as possible. Weeknight results will be reported to league members with the following weekend's games.
3. Only one person for each Parish/Program shall communicate the results for your home games (Varsity and Junior Varsity games only please) to Mr. Gabriel. This person (the league representative, a coach, or one designated as the reporting person) should be selected at the beginning of the season and the relative information provided to the League Secretary.
4. The preferred reporting method is e-mail. The e-mail address is [Jgabriel@epasd.k12.pa.us](mailto:Jgabriel@epasd.k12.pa.us) and a backup phone number is 717-732-0723. **Important: the phone reporting system is only for those reporters who do not have access to e-mail.**
5. Only the following information shall be reported by league members in the following order:  
A) Winning Team Name, Winning Team Total Points, Last Name of Winning Team High Scorer & His Total Points Scored; B) Losing Team Name, Losing Team Total Team Points,

Losing Team High Scorer & His Total Points Scored. C) If the game went into overtime, please indicate OT or OT (1), or OT (2), etc. depending on the number of overtime periods.

6. The weekly league standings and game results will be posted on the league's website and will be provided to league members via e-mail to all those who desire to receive the reports (coaches, league representatives, pastors, coordinators, etc). The results will be provided via e-mail on Monday evening. Please provide the e-mail addresses for each person in your program who wishes to receive the results and standings. If desired, one set of results will be mailed to the head coach only.
7. All results are subject to verification by asking for a copy of the scorebook, if necessary. The home team scorebook is always the official scorebook for each game.

### **REGISTRATION OF CYO COACHES**

All CYO head coaches and CYO assistant coaches in the Diocesan Basketball Program are required to register with the Diocesan CYO Director before December 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. To become registered, the parish must submit a list of coaches in its program. This list must include the following information for each person: coach's full name, what level they coach, head coach or assistant coach, mailing address, zip code, telephone number and if they have attended the Diocesan CYO Coaches' Orientation Program. Additions can be made to this list at any time during the year except one month prior to the Diocesan Tournament. All lists are to be sent to the DIOCESAN CYO DIRECTOR, 4420 UNION DEPOSIT ROAD, HARRISBURG, PA 17111-2908. If a parish does not have all of its coaches registered with the Diocesan CYO Director, it will not be allowed to participate in any CYO games, leagues, or tournaments.

**LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION**

**COMMISSIONER**

Tom Herweg  
 521 Penn Ayr Road  
 Camp Hill, PA 17011  
 761-6577 (Home)  
 302-888-6814 (Work)  
 therweg@aol.com -- therweg@morrisjames.com

<p><b><u>SECRETARY</u></b>                  Joe Paese                  1416 Farmhouse Lane                  Middletown PA 17057                  986-0568                  joepaese@comcast.net</p>	<p><b><u>TREASURER</u></b>                  Denny Ritchie                  2006 Brandt Ave.                  New Cumberland PA 17070                  774-6826                  dennyandbabe@comcast.net</p>	<p><b><u>SECRETARY</u></b>                  Rick Kanaskie                  2305 E. Tilden Road                  Harrisburg PA 17112                  657-8688                  hnjcoachk@comcast.net</p>
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**LEAGUE MEMBERS BY DEANERY**

<b>DAUPHIN DEANERY</b>	<b>CUMBERLAND/PERRY DEANERY</b>	<b>LEBANON DEANERY</b>
Holy Name of Jesus, Harrisburg St. Catherine, Harrisburg Harrisburg City Catholic St. Margaret Mary, Harrisburg Seven Sorrows, Middletown	St. Theresa, New Cumberland St. Patrick, Carlisle Our Lady of Lourdes, Enola Good Shepherd, Camp Hill St. Joseph, Mechanicsburg	St. Joan of Arc, Hershey Lebanon Catholic, Lebanon

**ADDENDUM REGARDING PLAYING RULES FOR NOVICE PROGRAMS**

All games shall be played in accordance with the playing rules of the National Federation of High School Rule Book and the P.I.A.A., and as modified and listed herein.

1. Games will be played with a 20-minute running clock for each half; halftime will be five minutes. There will be no overtime.
2. The clock will stop in the last two minutes of the second half in accordance with normal P.I.A.A. rules.
3. The clock will stop during timeouts and injury situations.
4. Each team is awarded one 30-second timeout and one 60-second timeout per half. Timeouts do not carry over to the second half.
5. A woman's basketball (28.5") will be used by all Novice I & II teams.
6. Novice I and II teams are restricted from using full-court pressing at any time throughout the course of the game. In addition, no pressure is allowed at the half-court line. The defenders are required to remain behind the crest of the 3-point arc until the offense crosses the mid-court line and puts the ball in play. An exception is made for fast breaks.
7. Teams are required to drop behind the mid-court line under the following restrictions:
  - any inbound play in the back court
  - any change of possession resulting in but not limited to a rebound or steal (teams must drop back when a referee determines the offense is in control)
8. Players will be permitted to step over the free throw line as part of their follow-through on foul shots as long as they begin behind the line and make a reasonable attempt to adhere to the rules. Actions meant to gain an unfair advantage will not be allowed.
9. Substitution and playing time for participants in the Novice I and II program will be at the discretion of each individual coach, although we encourage active, meaningful participation for all players.
10. Any game between Novice Teams may be officiated by coaches or volunteers. All scheduled volunteers must have proper Diocesan youth protection identification.

PENALTY: Failure to meet any of the requirements listed above may result in suspension of coaches and forfeiture of games.

**ADDENDUM REGARDING PLAYING RULES FOR INTERMEDIATE II PROGRAMS**

All games shall be played in accordance with the playing rules of the National Federation of High School Rule Book and the P.I.A.A., and as modified and listed herein.

**11/10/2011**

Intermediate II teams are restricted from using full-court pressing at any time throughout the course of the game when they are leading their opponent by 15 points.

Substitution and playing time for participants in the Intermediate II program will be at the discretion of each individual coach, although we encourage active, meaningful participation for all players.