

Addendum 1

How to make sports a vibrant part of a parish youth ministry?

“Sports contribute to the love of life, teaches sacrifice, respect and responsibility, leading to the full development of every human person.” - St. John Paul II

	Specifically, how is our parish ↓ using sports to... ↓	Coaches can promote... ↓ ↓
Advocacy	...ensure a safe environment for youth? ...foster leadership in each youth? ...foster the development of marginalized youth? ... promote confidence?	...self-confidence; supportive environment among teammates, parents; the idea that <u>each</u> youth has leadership potential by providing opportunities to lead drills and activities; the support of players who need the most work or seem ostracized; a safe environment; identification of leaders of all sorts.
Catechesis	...teach and reinforce virtue in real-life experiences?	...sportsmanship; humility; obedience; respect; relying on others; care for others; corporal & spiritual works of mercy; persistence.
Community Life	...promote the team as community? ...make each youth feel part of the parish community? ...encourage family involvement?	...teamwork; engagement in the larger community; the idea of coach as role model; families getting involved in the parish; team socials; team activities and service for—and with—the parish (altar servers, etc.); authentic hospitality to guests.
Evangelization	...help each youth understand that how we play reflects our values? ...help each youth to be more Christ-like?	...demonstration of virtue and sportsmanship during practices and games to allow us to live our faith and for others to see that (effective player and coach role modeling makes others want what we have).
Justice and Service	...learn about the importance of respect? ...teach about service to others?	...assisting teammates who are in a tough spot; helping teammates outside of practice/games; respecting opponents, refs, coaches; corporal & spiritual acts of mercy; a team service project.
Leadership Development	...identify existing youth leaders and cultivate leadership characteristics in all? ...build confidence in each youth?	... youth respectfully advocating for themselves at practice; providing each youth with a responsibility and a leadership task; encouraging contributions by each youth; the rotation of team roles.
Pastoral Care	... to promote the total development of each youth? ...develop adult leaders and coaches to have the skills and attributes necessary to develop each youth?	...the total development of each youth; understanding each's strengths and weaknesses; treating others fairly in a game or practice; the art of winning and losing gracefully.
Prayer and Worship	...help youth become comfortable with prayer in their daily lives? ...encourage participation in the sacraments of our faith? ...help youth reflect on spiritual needs?	... faithfulness & what that looks like for a Catholic; prayer, by the coach being comfortable in leading prayer and ensuring the team prays before & after each practice and game; personal reflection by players about expected attitudes and behaviors in parish sports; team/families attending Adoration, Confession, Mass together.

(Components of Youth Ministry in left column developed by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Renewing the Vision*.)

Addendum 2

Code of Conduct for All Participants

As I consider my participation in NVJCYO, I am asked to reflect on the letters “C” and “Y” in the acronym—and how Catholic youth sports must be different. Each time a youth takes the field, court, track or other venue it *can be* an incredibly positive experience. *Whether it actually is a positive experience depends on me...*

... me, as an **athlete**, challenging myself to use all the gifts given to me by the Lord to give glory to Him and be a witness to Him.

... me, as a **coach** or **spectator**, remembering that the game or activity should be about long-term formation in every sense of the word—physical, mental, social and spiritual. What is at stake is nothing less than the mental and spiritual well-being of those who hear my words and see my actions. If I am to set an example at all, I pray it will be a good one.

What I expect of myself and others expect of me (All Athletes, Coaches, Spectators must acknowledge and agree to terms in order to participate)

- When my parish hosts, I will welcome parents/players of the other team as we prepare for friendly competition.
- I will represent our parish well by displaying excellent behavior, by being courteous and never using inappropriate language or taunting opponents or teammates or others in games or practices.
- I will cheer my team and applaud the efforts of all, never engaging in negative or unsportsmanlike cheering.
- I will be reverent and respectful when teams are in prayer.
- I will demonstrate good sportsmanship & sincerely congratulate the other team's effort.
- I will remain quiet during free throws.
- I will respect rules that I may not understand, such as no food or drink or smoking in the gyms and will cooperate in a courteous way with volunteers who are asked to enforce those rules.
- I will not engage in inappropriate physical contact, fighting or inappropriate verbal exchanges.
- I will not approach or engage with any official, timekeeper, or scorekeeper in a confrontational or sarcastic manner.
- I will respect the judgment of officials and abide by the rules of the contest and the facility. Mistakes happen; viewing angles and perspectives are different. I will demonstrate forgiveness, understanding and respect by not disputing the judgment of the officials who were selected to make those calls. If I feel my child's safety is at risk I then have the obligation to ask the coach to remove him/her from the game.
- I understand that no code of conduct can cover all circumstances and expectations and that team, parish, league or diocesan officials have discretion in evaluating behavior and

providing correction. Further, I understand that these officials have an affirmative responsibility to take disciplinary action, which may include but not be limited to relinquishment of my privileges to participate in parish/NVJCYO activities and/or forfeiture of games by my parish's team.

Additionally for Spectators, Parents, Guardians...

- I will respect the coaches' time and effort and will leave the coaching to them during the games, and focus on how I can make the most of my role in encouraging my player.
- I understand that it is my responsibility as the parent or guardian to ensure that I do not leave my youth at an activity until there are 2 appropriate adults to chaperone him/her.
- I will remain in the bleachers/on the sideline and never enter the field of play or court; I will also stay off the playing surface after the game and will not congregate in the foyers so that the next teams may warm-up and proper egress is maintained.
- I will not allow those under my care to roam free, especially under the bleachers, in the hallways, foyers, restrooms, on the stages, on parish grounds or in parking lots.

Additionally for Coaches...

- When interacting with the officials, I will remember that all eyes and ears are on me as a role model and I will interact with respect and humility. (Coaches without son/daughter on team, simply review agreement and sign first line below (parent space). Coaches do not have to sign each participant's form—just their own agreement.)

I/We have read the above expectations and I/we agree to abide by its terms as a prerequisite to my participation.

Parent/Guardian #1 Name (Print)

Parent/Guardian #1 Signature
Date

Parent/Guardian #2 Name (Print)

Parent/Guardian #2 Signature
Date

Player Name (Print)

Player Signature
Date

Addendum 3

Minimum Consequences for Unsportsmanlike Conduct

(To be implemented by parish. A Pastor/parish has the ability to impose sanctions beyond these minimums but must meet the minimums.)

Law Enforcement Should be Notified/ Lifetime Ban		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs brought into gym/facility during games Child endangerment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An adult (coach, spectator, etc.) who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Makes a threat of bodily injury or acts in a threatening manner (approaches someone aggressively) Puts someone in fear of bodily injury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fighting (adult)
Minimum of a 10-Game Suspension		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to remove oneself from a venue after a request to do so is made by the Commissioner, Acting Commissioner or an official of the parish or Diocese. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fighting (youth) 	
Minimum of a 5-Game Suspension		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult chastising a youth from another team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult approaching a youth from another team with anything other than sincere congratulations/praise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An invitation to step outside with the inference to address physically
Minimum of a 3-Game Suspension		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inappropriate language by coach, assistant coach or any adult on player bench or where within hearing distance of youth Using the Lord's name in vain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking a swing at anyone (even if it does not land) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spectator approaches a referee, timekeeper or scorekeeper (other than to indicate a sincere thank you)
Minimum of a 1-Game Suspension		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inappropriate language by adult spectator (not within hearing distance of youth) Failure to be respectful during prayer Failure to remain quiet during free throw (basketball) or service (volleyball) Being argumentative with anyone charged with enforcing facility rules (e.g., acting commissioner, league official, parish official, your own team's Christian Sportsmanship Liaison, etc.) Spectator audibly, or through exaggerated or inappropriate gesture, disputing the call of an official. Coach standing during play for more than a coaching moment (e.g., 10 seconds) Disrespectfully addressing an official Inciting undesirable crowd reactions Entering the court without permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to "walk away". In addition to any other sanctions, if an adult fails to walk away from a situation and de-escalate he or she will be sanctioned. The prudence of walking away from a situation (threatening incidents, etc.) to let cooler heads prevail is an important lesson for adults in this league to teach the youth. Walking away is not cowardice. If you'd like to work something out with a person—exchange phone numbers and wait 24 hours before contacting them. Just remember, they are not required to give you their number. Pushing a player from behind when they are going up for a layup Shoving a player in an effort to stop the clock 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure for athletes or coaches to shake hands at the end of the game Negative or unsportsmanlike cheering Taunting Failure to abide by no food/no smoking/no vaping rules Inappropriate verbal exchanges Approaching or engaging with any official, timekeeper, or scorekeeper in a confrontational or sarcastic manner. (Note: if one does so "aggressively" or anyone feels threatened this becomes a minimum of a 10-game suspension. A coach who fails to pull a player and have them remain on the bench for any infraction instances the coach is aware of in the next section
Minimum: Player Pulled/Remains on Bench for Remainder of Game		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inappropriate language by youth Failure to be reverent/respectful during prayer Verbal exchanges deemed confrontational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distracting during free throws (talking, noises, "fake" coughing, etc.) Demeaning or derogatory language toward anyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open questioning of officials or gestures (including throwing hands in the air, spiking the ball, comments, etc.)