



Catholic Athletic League Handbook

General Rules & Regulations

This Handbook has been approved by the Catholic Athletic League Board of Directors in conjunction with the Secretariat for Evangelization and Pastoral Planning of the Diocese of Providence, RI.

Mission and Philosophy

The Catholic Athletic League (CAL), operating under the auspices of the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) of the Diocese of Providence, serves as a vital extension of the Secretariat for Evangelization and Pastoral Planning. Our core mission is to **lead individuals to Christ and His Church through the transformative power of sports.**

We dedicate ourselves to the holistic development of every participant—nurturing them **physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually**. Our programs foster growth in **virtue and character**, aligning with the timeless wisdom of Pope St. John Paul II:

"Every Christian is called to become a strong athlete of Christ, that is, a faithful and courageous witness to his Gospel. But to succeed in this, he must persevere in prayer, be trained in virtue and follow the divine Master in everything."

Structure and Governance

The Catholic Athletic League functions as part of the Catholic Youth Organization Inc. of the Diocese of Providence (currently part of the Office of Family, Youth, and Young Adult Evangelization). The **ultimate authority** rests with the **Roman Catholic Bishop of Providence**. The Secretariat for Evangelization and Pastoral Planning holds the next level of authority concerning the governance of the Catholic Athletic League.

CAL Leadership Roles

- **Director:** The CAL Director holds primary authority and administrative oversight, operating under the direction of the CAL Governing Board. The Director is responsible for the overall mission and growth of the league, along with rules and regulations, disciplinary matters, etc. The Director is responsible for hiring Sport Coordinators.
- **Sport Coordinator:** Serving under the Director, Sport Coordinators are the primary contact for their specific sport. They oversee and guide individual sports programming, handle scheduling matters, and address all sport-specific inquiries.
- **Athletic Coordinator (AC):** Appointed by their pastor or principal, Athletic Coordinators serve as the vital link between individual parish and school programs and the league. ACs are the league's "mouthpiece" in their community, ensuring the shared vision is upheld. Their duties include:
 - Registration management, roster management, and score reporting.
 - Upholding league rules and regulations.
 - Retaining on file all required paperwork.
 - Ensuring league wide communication reaches the necessary recipients.

Key Stakeholders

- **Coaches:** The primary guides and formators of parish and school teams. Above all else, they are witnesses of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Their role is paramount in forming our youth physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually.
- **Parents:** As the primary educators of their children, parents play a significant role in the Catholic Athletic League. It is their duty to educate their children in virtue and proper sportsmanship.

General Rules and Regulations

Coaching Guidelines and Expectations

Coaches are essential to CAL's mission. Adherence to the following guidelines ensures a safe, faith-filled, and positive environment for all athletes.

- **G-1: Compliance Requirements** All coaches must complete the following requirements to be eligible to coach:
 - **G-1.1: Background Check (BCI) and Safe Environment Training:** Coaches must undergo BCI and Safe Environment training every three (3) years, as per the Office of Compliance.
 - **G-1.2: Play Like A Champion Today (PLACT) Certification:** All coaches must be PLACT certified.
 - **G-1.2.1:** New coaches must attend in-person PLACT training.
 - **G-1.2.2:** Coaches who have completed the in-person training must complete an online renewal after three (3) years.
 - **G-1.4: Eligible Coaches**
 - **G-1.4.1:** All head coaches must be at least 21 years of age, and all assistants must be at least 18 years of age. They must have signed an acknowledgment of the Diocesan Policy and Procedure in Cases of Sexual Misconduct and agree to conduct themselves according to the *Code of Ethics* and the *Guidelines for Adult Volunteers*.
 - **G-1.4.2:** All female teams coached by a male, and all male teams coached by a female must be accompanied by an adult (at least 21 years of age) that is the same gender as the members of team. Co-ed teams must both a male and female coach or volunteer accompany the team.
 - **G-1.4.3:** All volunteers working with youth, even if only occasionally accompanying them, must abide by the Guidelines for Adult Volunteers of the Diocese of Providence, BCI and Safe Environment guidelines. These volunteers are not allowed to coach from the sidelines.
 - **G-1.4.4:** Use of uncertified coaches may result in forfeiture of all games in which said person(s) has participated. Uncertified coaches are not permitted to provide any kind of instruction during a game.

- **G.1.5: Consequence for Non-Compliance:** Failure to complete these requirements will result in a coach being ineligible to coach and removed from the roster, and all coached games will be considered forfeits.
- **G-2: Code of Ethics and Conduct** Coaches are held to a high standard of conduct and are representatives of their parish/school, team, and the Diocese of Providence.
 - **G-2.1: Player Responsibility:** Coaches are the primary responsibility for the conduct of players during sporting events.
 - **G-2.2: Prohibited Player Behavior:** Coaches are expected to regulate player behavior and prohibit actions such as **taunting, excessive celebration, any form of poor sportsmanship, and any other behavior deemed as taunting, excessive celebration, and any form of poor sportsmanship by the site coordinator or officials**
 - **G-2.3: Annual Agreement:** All coaches are required to sign the *Coaches Code of Ethics* each school year.
 - **G-2.4: Professional Conduct:** Coaches must always maintain calm composure and serve as strong, positive role models for our athletes.
 - **G-2.5: Respect for Officials:** Coaches must respect all officials and are **strictly prohibited** from any abusive or disrespectful actions or language towards them.
 - **G-2.5.1:** Violation of this policy could result in temporary or permanent suspension.
 - **G-2.5.2:** If a coach has a question or concern regarding a ruling, he/she is to approach the official calmly during a timeout or break to discuss.
 - **G-2.6: Modesty:** The Catholic Athletic League promotes the virtue of modesty. Coaches should carefully consider their attire, keeping in mind their representation of the league. **Wearing clothing that allows for active coaching** while maintaining dignity and professionalism (e.g., avoiding short shorts, low-cut tops, or clothing that is excessively tight or suggestive)
 - **G-2.7: Violations:** Any coach who violates the *Code of Ethics* or Diocesan guidelines may be subject to **temporary or permanent suspension** from the league.
- **G-3: Coach Badge Policy:** The coach badge signifies that an adult is an authorized coach who has successfully completed the required BCI, Safe Environment, and PLACT training. Coaches are required to wear the coach badge during athletic events.
 - **G-3.1:** Only coaches who are **both on the official roster and wearing their coach badge** may coach during a game.
 - **G-3.2:** If a coach loses their badge, they must immediately contact the CAL office to receive a replacement.
 - **G-3.3: Only authorized coaches are permitted on the bench during a game.**
 - **G-3.3.1:** The only exception to this rule is for a physical injury requiring immediate attention.
 - **G-3.4:** All coaches must wear a coach badge corresponding to the current school year.
 - **G-3.5: Penalty for Non-Compliance:** Any coach on the roster who does not wear their coach's badge will incur a **\$25 fine assessed to the parish/school** for each game until a new badge is obtained from the CAL office.

- **G-4: Prayer in Coaching** Prayer is a cornerstone of the Catholic Athletic League. Coaches are expected to lead their teams in prayer and foster an atmosphere of faith.
 - **G-4.1:** Coaches are expected to keep an atmosphere of prayer and to lead their team in prayer at the **beginning and end of each practice**.
 - **G-4.2:** Coaches are encouraged to lead their teams in other prayer exercises and to consider joining together for Mass once per season with their parents/family members.

Parent and Spectator Guidelines and Expectations

Parents and spectators are vital partners in upholding the values of the Catholic Athletic League.

- **G-5: Code of Ethics and Conduct:** Parents and spectators are expected to adhere to the following code of conduct:
 - **G-5.1: Annual Agreement:** All parents are required to sign the *Parent Code of Conduct* each school year.
 - **G-5.2: Representation:** Parents and spectators must always remember that they represent their parish/school, team, and the Diocese of Providence.
 - **G-5.3: Positive Role Models:** Parents and spectators are to maintain a calm composure and be strong, positive role models for our athletes.
 - **G-5.4: Prohibited Conduct:** Parents and spectators are **prohibited from any negative exclamatory remarks** during athletic events.
 - **G-5.5: Respect for Officials:** Parents and spectators must respect all officials and are **strictly prohibited** from any abusive or disrespectful actions or language towards them.
 - **G-5.5.1:** Violation of this policy could result in temporary or permanent suspension from attending games or participation in the league.
 - **G-5.6: Playing Area Access**
 - **G-5.6.1:** Unless in the case of player injury, **no parent or spectator is allowed in the playing area under any circumstances**.
 - **G-5.6.2:** Parents and spectators are prohibited from providing coaching instruction of any kind during a game, nor are they permitted in any team huddles.

Officials and Ejection Policy

- **G-6: Respect for Officials:** Officials are to be respected and dignified before, during, and after games.
 - **G-6.1: Prohibited Conduct:** Jeering, shouting, taunting, and exclamatory remarks towards officials are strictly prohibited.
 - **G-6.2: Violation:** Violation may result in **temporary or permanent suspension or expulsion** from the league.
- **G-7: Ejection Policy:** Anyone who is ejected must immediately leave the location. Athletes who are present without a parent or guardian can remain at the location but must leave the playing area and be supervised by the site coordinator.

- **G-7.1: Athlete Ejection:**
 - **G-7.1.1:** If an athlete is ejected, they automatically receive a **one (1) game suspension**.
 - **G-7.1.2:** Communication will be sent to the Principal and Pastor (if applicable), and a **mandatory meeting** will be scheduled with the player, their parent or guardian, the CAL Director, and the Athletic Coordinator of the parish/school. This meeting will address the circumstances of the ejection and outline any further necessary actions or consequences.
- **G-7.2: Coach Ejection:**
 - **G-7.2.1:** If a coach is ejected, they automatically receive a **one (1) game suspension**.
 - **G-7.2.2:** Communication will be sent to the Principal and Pastor (if applicable), and a **mandatory meeting** will be scheduled with the coach, the CAL Director, and the Athletic Coordinator of the parish/school. This meeting will review the incident and discuss any further necessary actions or consequences.
- **G-7.3: Parent/Spectator Ejection:**
 - **G-7.3.1:** If a parent or spectator is ejected, they automatically receive a **one (1) game suspension**.
 - **G-7.3.2:** If a parent/spectator violates the one-game suspension rule by attending, their child cannot play in that game.
 - **G-7.3.3:** Communication will be sent to the Principal and Pastor (if applicable), and the ejected parent/spectator must undergo the **Parent Like A Champion course** at their own expense before being reinstated.
 - **G-7.3.4:** Two or more ejections for a parent/spectator will result in a **season-long suspension** from all league activities.
- **G-7.4:** The CAL Administration reserves the right to suspend or eject anyone from the league, if necessary, outside of these guidelines, depending upon the reason for ejection.
- **G-7.5:** Schools and Parishes reserve the right to suspend or eject anyone from participating in their athletic programming, in consultation with the Athletic Coordinator, Principal, and Pastor.

Protest & Appeals

- **G-8: Protests:** A protest consists of a coach, athletic coordinator, principal, or pastor challenging the result of a game due to a rule violation.
 - **G-8.1:** Protests are received by and reviewed by the Protest Committee under the CAL Board. All decisions by the Protest Committee will be considered final and no further escalation will be available.
 - **G-8.2:** A protest must be based on a rule infraction only and not on the official's judgement.
 - **G-8.3:** If a perceived infraction to a rule exists that cannot be resolved, the game/match should be played in full with the team seeking a ruling notifying both the opposing teams' coach and officials that they are proceeding "Under Protest".
 - **G-8.4:** A detailed report of the protest must be submitted to the CAL Office by mail or email within 48 hours of the incident outlining the specific rule violation.

- **G-8.5:** A protest fee of \$100 will be assessed to the parish/school if the protest is not upheld.
- **G-9: Appeals:** An appeal consists of a decision to apply or enforce the rules of the Catholic Athletic League (not relating directly to the outcome of a specific contest as in a Protest) can be accepted by the CAL Board Executive Committee and is submitted by coaches, athletic coordinators, pastors, and principals.
 - **G-9.1:** A majority vote on the appeal by the CAL Board Executive Committee will determine the outcome of the appeal, and their judgement will be final.
 - **G-9.2:** A detailed written report stating the basis for the appeal must be submitted within 48 hours by mail or email of any decision being challenged.
 - **G-9.3:** An appeal fee of \$100 will be assessed to the parish/school if the protest is not upheld.

Team Registration, Rosters, and Structure

Accurate and timely registration is crucial for the smooth operation of the league.

- **G-10: Registration Process**
 - **G-10.1: Athletic Coordinator Responsibility:** Registration is completed exclusively by Athletic Coordinators through calsportsri.org.
 - **G-10.2: Deadlines:** Athletic Coordinators are expected to complete registration by the stated deadline.
 - **G-10.2.1:** Registration fees must be submitted by the end of each sport season.
 - **G-10.2.2: Late Registration Fee:** A **\$50 fee** per team will be assessed to the school/parish for late registrations.
 - **G-10.3: Team Withdrawals:**
 - **G-10.3.1:** If a team withdraws after the stated registration deadline, a **\$150.00 fee** will be assessed to the parish or school.
 - **G-10.3.2:** If a team withdraws after play has begun, a **\$250.00 fee** will be assessed, in addition to the loss of the team's registration fee. All games played against that team (won or lost) will be expunged from the remaining teams' records.
- **G-11: Roster & Team Structure Requirements**
 - **G-11.1: Participation Eligibility:** Only rostered players and coaches are permitted to participate in games.
 - **G-11.2: Roster Submission:** Rosters must be accurately submitted by the submission deadline at calsportsri.org.
 - **G-11.3: Required Forms:** Players, coaches, and parents must complete all necessary forms to participate:
 - **G-11.3.1: Players:** Liability waiver
 - **G-11.3.2: Coaches:** *Coaches Code of Ethics*
 - **G-11.3.3: Parents:** *Parents Code of Ethics*

- **G-11.4: Penalty for Non-Rostered Participants:** If a game is played with a non-rostered or non-authorized player or coach, the game will result in an **automatic forfeit**.
- **G-11.5: Co-ed Teams:** Teams in co-ed sports must have both genders represented on the roster.
- **G-11.6: Team Names:** Teams are named after the School/Parish in which they are affiliated
 - **G-11.6.1:** If a School/Parish has more than one team in a division, teams are to use color designations to distinguish between teams, such as the “Blue” team or “Red” team. Teams are not permitted to use numerical nor alphabetical designations, such as an “A” team or “B” Team.
- **G-11.7: Roster Deadlines:** Deadline Dates for eligibility (including pool and additional players) for each season (players may not be added to the roster after these dates; except for students who transfer from a non-Catholic School to a Catholic School):

Fall sports: October 1 Winter sports: January 10 Spring sports: May 1

- **G-12: Team Definitions**

- **G-12.1: School Team:** A School Team is solely affiliated with a Catholic school.
 - **G-12.1.1:** All school students are eligible to play for their school team.
 - **G-12.1.2:** CAL Administration may request verification of student enrollment status.
 - **G-12.1.3:** For parish-schools, the pastor holds ultimate authority over teams.
- **G-12.2: Parish Team:** A Parish Team is solely affiliated with a parish.
 - **G-12.2.1:** Parishioners are eligible to play for parish teams.
 - **G-12.2.1.1:** A parishioner is individual who actively participates in the life of a parish. This includes activities such as enrolling in faith formation programs, attending Mass regularly, etc.
 - **G-12.2.2:** Non-Catholics who live within the boundaries of a territorial parish are eligible to play for a parish team, provided that rule G-12 is followed. For confirmation of the boundaries of territorial parishes, please contact the Office of Pastoral Planning.
 - **G-12.2.2.1:** Non-Catholics who want play on a team from a national parish will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
 - **G-12.2.3:** CAL Administration may request verification of a player’s status as a parishioner.
 - **G-12.2.4:** If a player’s parish and school both offer teams for the same sport, the player has the option to play for either team of their choosing but cannot play for both at the same time nor switch teams mid-season.
 - **G-12.2.5:** The pastor of the parish holds ultimate authority over teams.
- **G-12.3: Co-Op Team:**
 - **G-12.3.1:** A Co-Op Team provides parishes and schools with an insufficient number of players to join with a neighboring parish or school to form a team.

- **G-13.3.2:** The formation of a Co-Op team is not to promote parish-hopping nor player recruitment but rather to provide a wider opportunity for player participation.
 - **G-12.3.3:** A cooperative team can be made up of at least two but not more than four parishes combining from the same Deanery.
 - **G-12.3.4:** All Co-Op teams must be approved by both parishes/schools and the CAL Administration.
 - **G-12.3.5:** Parishes can co-op with other parishes, and schools can co-op with other schools. You cannot co-op a parish with a school.
 - **G-12.3.6:** The team will compete under the name and auspices of the host parish and all families will contribute toward the team expenses per the direction of the host team coordinator.
- **G-12.4: Mixed Parish-School Team:**
 - **G-12.4.1:** In the event that a school cannot field a team in the school divisions due to an insufficient number of players, then a mixed team of parish and school may be formed. Mixed team shall be comprised of those from both the school and its parish after petitioning to the Catholic Athletic League.
 - **G-12.4.2:** The petitioning school shall submit a request form. This request must include confirmation that all school and parish members have had the opportunity to participate.
 - **G-12.4.3:** This request must be submitted no later than two weeks prior to the Roster Deadline Date.
 - **G-12.4.4:** The only schools allowed to participate in a mixed division are parish (or inter-parish) schools.
 - **G-12.4.5:** Approved mixed school and parish teams shall be eligible for one activity season only in the parish division.
 - **G-12.4.6:** A mixed school/parish team cannot participate in the Diocesan Basketball Tournament as they are not eligible for the New England Tournament.
- **G-13: Pool Player Policy**
 - **G-13.1: Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to provide the opportunity for Catholic parishioners and students to participate in CAL in the instance where their parish/school does not offer a particular CAL sport.
 - **G-13.2: Eligibility:** A pool player must be a parishioner of a Catholic parish or attend a Catholic school. This is a parish-to-parish and school-to-school system.
 - **G-13.3: Player Pool Submission:** A Catholic youth whose home parish or school does not have a team in the particular sport/division may submit their name into a player pool using the appropriate forms (available on the CAL website).
 - **G-13.4: Assignment Process:** The CAL Administration will then assign a player for the duration of participation in that division according to guidelines and availability of openings in neighboring parishes and schools. Every effort will be made to accommodate needs within the available options.
 - **G-13.5: Sibling Eligibility:** Once a player has been pooled onto a team, their siblings are also eligible for the same consideration of assignment.

- **G-13.6: Returning to Home Parish/School:** A player who was placed on a team other than their own through the player pool, and whose parish now offers a team in that respective division, must play for their originating parish.
- **G-13.7: New Division Rules:** If a player is moving up into a new division, they must play for their home parish/school if it sponsors a team in that division.
- **G-13.8: Multi-Sport Pooling:** If a player is pooled into a parish for one sport, he/she will remain pooled in that parish for other sports, provided their home parish does not have a team for that sport. He/she may do so without submitting a new pool form for as long as that player stays within that division.
- **G-13.9: Sponsoring Parish/School Welcome:** All pool assignments are contingent upon the welcome of the sponsoring parish/school.
- **G-13.10: New Pool Request:** Once a pooled player has completed the division they were pooled into, they must re-submit a new pool request for the next division.
- **G-13.11: Authorized Players:** Players who have been assigned through the Player's Pool will be known as **Authorized Players**.
- **G-13.12: Pool Player Limits:** The number of Pool Players assigned to a team cannot exceed the number indicated in the chart below, based on team size. For New England CYO Playoffs, parish teams are specifically limited to a maximum of two (2) authorized players, who may fill non-Catholic spots (with the exception of Catholic School students playing for their school team).

Team Size	Pool Players Allowed*	NE Competition (Pool/Non-Catholic)
20	4	2
19	4	2
18	3	2
17	3	2
16	3	2
15	3	2
14	2	2
13	2	2
12	2	2
11	2	2
10	2	2
9	By exception of league administration	2
8	By exception of league administration	2

Player Participation

- **G-14.1: Playoff Eligibility:** Players must play at least 50% of season games to be eligible for playoffs.
- **G-14.2: Sickness Exception:** Players will not be penalized for missing games due to sickness.

Team Composition (Rostered Catholics & Non-Catholics)

- **G-15.1: Majority Catholic Requirement:** Teams must be majority Catholic.
- **G-15.2: Non-Catholic Participation:**
 - **G-15.2.1:** Participation by non-Catholics in CAL competitive activities is allowed if the non-Catholic resides within the parish boundaries.
 - **G-15.2.2:** In no instance can there be more non-Catholics than Catholics on a team, including school teams.
 - **G-15.2.3:** For New England CYO Playoffs, parish teams are strictly limited to no more than two (2) non-Catholics (registered, baptized/Roman Catholic) on their rosters (with the exception of Catholic School students who are playing for their school team).
 - **G-15.2.4:** No Catholic participants may be cut or dropped from their team(s) in order to make room on the roster for a non-Catholic.
 - **G-15.2.5:** The determination of team placement for both Catholics and non-Catholics is at the discretion of the Parish/School program administration.
- **G-14.3: Coach Faith Requirement:** The head coach must be Catholic.

Scheduling and Forfeits

- **G-15: Scheduling Procedures**
 - **G-15.1: CAL Administration Authority:** Scheduling procedures will be defined by the CAL Administration.
 - **G-15.2: Rescheduling Policy:** Games in the Catholic Athletic League are **not rescheduled, unless due to grave emergency.**
 - **G-15.2.1:** Rescheduling of games is solely determined by the CAL Administration.
 - **G-15.2.2:** The CAL Administration does not accept rescheduling requests from teams.
 - **G-15.3: Mandatory Scheduled Games:** All games must be played as scheduled by the CAL Administration.
 - **G-15.3.1:** If a game is forfeited due to such a request, an administrative forfeit fee no greater than \$75 may be assessed.
- **G-15: Forfeit Policy**
 - **G-15.1: Rule Violations:** Violation of league rules (including roster violations) will result in the automatic forfeiture of every league game from the time the infraction occurred, and a win will be awarded to the offending team's opponents. Once the infraction has been rectified, no further penalty will occur.
 - **G-15.2: Mutual Ineligibility:** If two competing teams each use ineligible players during the regular season, the game will be disregarded and will not be replayed.
 - **G-15.3: Team Unable to Play:** If a team is unable to play a scheduled game, it will be considered a forfeit, and a **\$75 forfeit fee** will be assessed.
 - **G-15.4: Both Teams Unable to Play:** If both teams are unable to play a scheduled game, it will result in a "moot point," and a **\$75 forfeit fee** will be assessed to both teams.

- **G-15.5: School-Wide Cancellations:** If a school cancels all athletic activities due to extenuating circumstances, such as, serious illness, an unresolved issue at the physical location, or other serious circumstance that impacts a school community, all games will be considered forfeits, with the **\$75 forfeit fee being waived**.
- **G-15.6: Late Arrival Forfeit:** Failure of a team to arrive within fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled starting time will result in forfeiture of the game. The forfeiting team is responsible for the administrative penalty fee of **\$75.00**.
 - **G-15.6.1:** This fee must be paid to the Catholic Athletic League prior to participation in the playoffs.
- **G-15.7: Excessive Forfeits:** Two successive forfeits, or three overall, may result in ejection from the league.
- **G-15.8: Reporting Forfeits:** The opposing team must complete the reporting form and mark the game as a forfeit.

Prayer at Games

- **G-16: Game Day Prayer:** Prayer is an integral part of every Catholic Athletic League game.
 - **G-16.1:** All games will begin with prayer.
 - **G-16.2:** The **head coach of the Home Team** will lead all present in the **Our Father**.
 - **G-16.3:** The coach should announce for everyone to stand for prayer.
 - **G-16.4:** If a crucifix is present, all should stand and face the crucifix.
 - **G-16.5 (Suggested):** The game will conclude with the **Glory Be**.



Catholic Athletic League Coaches' Code of Ethics and Conduct Agreement



The following is a list of policies concerning conduct and behavior expected of all coaches in the Catholic Athletic League (CAL), a mission of the Office of Family, Youth, and Young Adult Evangelization of the Diocese of Providence.

I will uphold the integrity and honor of being a coach in programs sponsored by the Catholic Church, setting an example of high ethical and moral conduct in accord with Catholic teaching in all personal contact with the youth, opposing coaches, fans, and officials.

I understand that in my role as coach, I am held to a high standard of conduct and represent my parish/school, my team, CAL, and the charitable, educational, and religious entities within the Diocese of Providence.

I will attend any and all necessary meetings and training set forward by CAL.

I will promote and be a model of good sportsmanship towards officials, players, coaches, and parents, always maintaining a calm composure and serving as a strong, positive role model for our athletes.

I accept primary responsibility for the conduct of my players during sporting events and am expected to regulate their behavior, prohibiting actions such as taunting, excessive celebration, and any form of poor sportsmanship.

I am responsible to know and adhere to league and contest rules, and for their communication to my team members. I will cooperate with the CAL Board and representatives in the enforcement of CAL Rules and regulations, and I will, in a timely manner, report any irregularities that violate said rules, sound competitive practices, and Christian ideals of sportsmanship.

I will respect all officials and am strictly prohibited from any aggressive actions or language towards them. If I have a question or concern regarding a ruling, I will approach the official calmly during a timeout or break to discuss it.

I understand that prayer is a cornerstone of the Catholic Athletic League, and I am expected to lead my team in prayer, fostering an atmosphere of faith by leading them in prayer at the beginning and end of each practice.

I understand the conduct expected of me as a coach as outlined in this Code and the CAL Handbook. My failure to conduct myself in accordance with this Code and the CAL Handbook may result in my removal from the contest, temporary or permanent suspension from attending games, or participation in the league, and/ or other sanctions as deemed appropriate by CAL.

I have read the above and agree to abide by these policies of the Catholic Athletic League.

Name _____ Parish/School _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Be diligent with unceasing prayer. Ask for greater understanding than you have. Be on the alert, possessing an always active spirit. Speak to each individually with agreement in God's convictions. Bear the sicknesses of all like the perfect athlete. Where the trouble is greater, the gain is great.

—Saint Polycarp



Catholic Athletic League Parents' Code of Ethics and Conduct Agreement



The following is a list of policies concerning conduct and behavior expected of all parents and guardians in the Catholic Athletic League (CAL), a mission of the Office of Family, Youth, and Young Adult Evangelization of the Diocese of Providence.

I will uphold the integrity and honor of my role as a parent/guardian in programs sponsored by the Catholic Church, always setting an example of high ethical and moral conduct in accord with Catholic Teaching in all personal contact with youth, opposing coaches, fans, and officials.

I understand that in my role as a parent/guardian, I represent my parish/school, my child's team, CAL, and the charitable, educational, and religious entities within the Diocese of Providence.

I will promote and be a positive role model of good sportsmanship, showing respect and courtesy to all players, coaches, officials, and spectators, and demonstrating positive support for everyone involved.

I will applaud good play by all teams and players, recognizing and applauding a good effort in both victory and defeat.

I will teach my child that good sportsmanship is essential to CAL athletics, and that teammates, coaches, and officials are human and sometimes make mistakes which are part of the game, emphasizing that no single person "makes or breaks" the outcome.

I will teach my child responsibility, ensuring they make every effort to attend practices and games on time and are picked up promptly at their conclusions. If my child cannot attend a practice or game, I will make sure they call the Coach and advise him/her.

I will encourage my child to practice on his/her own to build his/her skills.

I will respect the Coach's authority and game plan, allowing them to coach without interference, comments regarding officials, or shouted instructions from the sidelines.

I will not engage in any unsportsmanlike conduct, nor will I condone the use of foul or inappropriate language. This includes, but is not limited to, booing, taunting, using profane language or gestures, making negative exclamatory remarks during athletic events, or engaging in any aggressive actions or language towards officials, coaches, players, or parents.

I understand the conduct expected of me as a coach as outlined in this Code and the CAL Handbook. My failure to conduct myself in accordance with this Code and the CAL Handbook may result in my removal from the contest, temporary or permanent suspension from attending games, or participation in the league, and/ or other sanctions as deemed appropriate by CAL.

I have read the above and agree to abide by these policies of the Catholic Athletic League.

Name _____ Parish/School _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Be diligent with unceasing prayer. Ask for greater understanding than you have. Be on the alert, possessing an always active spirit. Speak to each individually with agreement in God's convictions. Bear the sicknesses of all like the perfect athlete. Where the trouble is greater, the gain is great.
—Saint Polycarp