

SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

ARTICLE XIX – 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. Secondly, the 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.

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)