**Suggested Parent Meeting for Coaches**

Objectives of the Parent-Coach Meeting

* To familiarize parents with the purpose, goals and objectives of the Catholic-sponsored sports program.
* To enable parents to support their child in a manner positive for the child without undue pressure.
* To introduce parents to positive coaching philosophy, team rules, game and practice procedures, and allocation of playing time.
* To emphasize the need to be good spectators.
* To organize assistance from parents in supporting the team in various tasks.
* To provide an avenue for feedback and communication.
* To discuss safety concerns, inherent risks of the sport and medical considerations.

Outline of the Parent-Coach Meeting

1. Opening Prayer (5 minutes)
   * Welcome and Introductions.
   * Introduce coaches to the parents and the parents to one another.
2. Philosophy of the Catholic Youth Sports Program (10 Minutes)

Ideas to mention:

* CYO is a youth sports team that is a ministry of the Parish to provide a Christian atmosphere of play enabling young people to practice Christian values.
* Players will be treated by coaches and parents in a positive, encouraging manner to build self-esteem.
* Players will be encouraged to make friends with their own teammates and with players from other parishes, to play without belittling others.
* Players and all involved should grow closer to God, the church and to each other.

1. Philosophy of the Coaches (10 minutes)

Ideas to mention:

* Coaching will be positive and non-critical.
* Attention will be given to all athletes regardless of talent. Each player will be treated with respect.
* Explain how playing time will be allocated among players per the DOR CYO Bylaws.
* Discuss team goals for the season.

1. Team Rules and Code of Conduct (15 minutes)

Ideas to mention:

* Discuss team rules with expected behavior and penalties.
* Explain “Code of Conduct” for all involved in CYO per Diocesan guidelines.
* Discuss officials and the need to respect them at all times. Emphasize that Spectators are never to approach game officials.

1. “Nuts and Bolts” Issues (10 Minutes)

Ideas to mention:

* Safety Issues – CYO Health History forms, first aid and safety procedures, inherent risks of the sport discussed.
* Practice schedule – schedule, procedure for changes, expected conduct, arrival and departure process.
* Uniforms – issued, returned and expected care.
* Game Schedules - when to arrive, transportation, game-change notification procedure.
* Transportation Policy – per DOR CYO Manual.
* Discuss ways that parents can support the team – parent volunteer responsibilities and sign-up sheets.

1. Sport Strategy and Rules (10 Minutes)

Explain the strategy of the sport and those rules that parents need to be aware of to positively support their children and practice good sportsmanship themselves. Cover any rule changes from the previous year.

1. Addressing Problems (10 Minutes)

Discuss what the Parish and Diocese of Rochester procedure is if a problem should arise. Discuss how decisions are made on the team.

1. Additional Items/Issues from Parents
2. Closing Prayer