

# **C.Y.O Athletics Handbook**



**St. Mark the Evangelist  
Catholic Church and School**

# **St. Mark Athletic Committee**

## **Program Policies**

### **(Amendments governed by By-Laws, Article VII)**

#### ***1. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT***

The following regulations pertain to all St. Mark CYO activities so that every participant is treated equally and fairly. Individual coaches may make additional specific team rules to govern participant's actions during practices, games and CYO sponsored athletic events.

- A. The CYO "Code of Ethics" shall apply to all St. Mark youth sports events.
- B. The CYO "General Eligibility Standards" shall be strictly enforced.
- C. All CYO Rules and Regulations for a specific sport shall be strictly enforced.
- D. It is expected that St. Mark teams will take priority over any other concurrent team activities.
- E. The following actions will not be tolerated:
  - 1. The possession and/or use of alcohol, and /or other illegal drugs.
  - 2. Smoking or chewing tobacco
  - 3. Stealing of any kind
  - 4. Vandalism
  - 5. Use of vulgar language
  - 6. Any other inappropriate conduct or behavior that is inconsistent with CYO's standards or deemed inappropriate by SMAC.

#### ***2. INFRACTIONS***

Infractions of the standard of conduct listed above will be handled consistently. Any or all of the following actions can be taken as deemed necessary by the Athletic Director/SMAC.

- A. The athlete will be unable to practice with the team or participate in any games until the Athletic Director/SMAC and coach have a chance to investigate and decide what action to take.
- B. The athlete will be assigned duties by the Athletic Director which must be satisfactorily completed before the athlete is allowed to rejoin the team.
- C. The athlete will be suspended for at least one game. The athlete will not be allowed to practice or play with his/her team until that game is over.
- D. The athlete will be dismissed from the team for the remainder of the season and will not be allowed to be present at the games that remain.
- E. Academic/General Discipline Policy (*To be implemented Fall 2003*)  
If a student receives a "D/F" on a progress report, the student is put on academic and athletic probation. Participation in games and practices will be at the discretion of the Student's parents.

If a student receives an “F” on a report card, the student will immediately become ineligible to participate in all games until one of the following conditions are met:

1. The student receives a “C” or better on the next progress report.
2. The student receives a passing grade “D”, or better, in all subjects on the next report card.

F. Expulsion from the CYO sports program for one year may be assessed by the SMAC for:

1. Expulsion from school (automatic)
2. Any incident on school property, at a parish function, or while otherwise representing St. Mark, which can be substantiated, and could result in criminal charges (whether filed or not):
  - a. Assault of a coach or official
  - b. Serious assault of another player
  - c. Destruction of property
  - d. Sexual assault
  - e. Theft

(Applies to players, coach’s coordinators or spectators. For coaches the expulsion may be permanent.)

3. Single game suspension may be assessed to a coach or player for:
  - a. Ejection of a coach or player from a game by an official for conduct.(automatic)
  - b. School suspension of any kind.(automatic)
  - c. Team disciplinary action. (at coaches discretion)
  - d. Violation of the “Code of Conduct”.(at the discretion of the Athletic Director)
  - e. CYO rule violation by the coach (i.e. mandatory playing time-At the discretion of the Athletic Director. Multiple infractions by one coach must be brought to SMAC for review.)

The Athletic Director is responsible for notifying the Pastor, SMAC and the Business Manager about any suspension of players, and or coaches.

These rules apply to all participants whether a student at St. Mark or any other public or private school. It is the responsibility of all non-St. Mark students to provide copies of current report cards to the Athletic Director.

### **3. PROCEDURES FOR VOICING CONCERNS AND GRIEVANCES**

If a person has a concern regarding the athletic program, he or she should follow this process at all times:

- A. Confer with the coach or adult in charge of the team, event or activity.
- B. If, after a reasonable period of time, a solution has not been reached, one should confer with the Athletic Director.
- C. If, after meeting with the Athletic Director, the person remains dissatisfied about expressed concerns, then contact the Parish Business Manager. If the Parish Business Manager feels that it is something he or she can deal with directly, then he or she will do so. If not, The Parish Business Manager will present the problem to the entire SMAC, or offer the individual time to present the problem at the next SMAC meeting.

### **4. COACHES**

#### **A. Selection of Coaches**

The selection, notification and communication with the coaches is the sole responsibility of the Athletic Director or delegate (Sport Coordinator) with the input from SMAC.

#### **B. Guidelines for Selection of St. Mark Athletic Coaches**

The St. Mark Athletic Committee desires to have the best possible coaches working with our children. The Athletic Director should strive to improve the effectiveness of our coaches through selection and training.

1. The Athletic Director should strive to involve as many parents as possible with coaching our children. Coaches are not required to be parents of children in the program.
2. In selecting coaches for an upcoming season, past coaches should be given first priority if past performance has been acceptable in the coach's evaluation process. (i.e. Coach Smith coached Cadet A Boys Basketball team last season. He/She will have the first option to coach the same team the next season.) If it is determined by the Athletic Director or through multiple negative evaluations that a coach should not be asked to return, SMAC should be made aware of the problem
3. A list of coaching candidates should be submitted to SMAC before coaches are asked to coach a team for review.

4. All coaches are responsible for ensuring players are aware of, and adhere to, the Standard of Conduct. Notify the Coordinator and Athletic Director of any violation of the Standard of Conduct by a player, coach or spectator.
5. If any SMAC member has reason to believe that any coach or candidate to coach would not be suitable for coaching at St. Mark, such concerns should be brought to the attention of SMAC and the Athletic Director.

#### **5.VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND CHECK POLICY**

Background checks will be issued on all volunteer coaches for the St. Mark Athletic program. A background investigation check refers to the review of police records to determine if there is a history of criminal activity.

This policy is implemented as a result of the CYO and Archdiocese of Indianapolis mandating this procedure.