

Immaculate Conception School Basketball Program (Revised March 2009)

1. Mission Statement

The purpose of the Immaculate Conception School Basketball Program is to allow the students to have fun while competing in the Syracuse Diocese CYO basketball league. As an extension of the classroom, the basketball program will provide an environment where the students can achieve their spiritual, intellectual, social, cultural and physical goals essential to their development. The basketball program has the following goals:

- To provide a fun experience for all students that choose to participate
- To teach teamwork and sportsmanship
- To teach players the rules and fundamentals of basketball
- To provide the opportunity to experience the thrill of competitive sports

2. Program Administration

2.1. Athletic Director

The Athletic Director is responsible for coordinating the basketball program and represents the program in communicating with other schools and CYO league officials. The Athletic Director is also responsible for running the Snack Shack, which generates the revenue that supports the program. The Athletic Director shall provide a report on the basketball program at HSA meetings. The Athletic Director shall be the physical education teacher.

2.2. Assistant Athletic Director

The Athletic Director shall have up to three Assistant Athletic Directors to assist in coordinating the basketball program. Assistant Athletic Directors shall be parents (or both parents sharing responsibility) of a student in the I.C. School. Preference will be given to assistants allowing for at least 1 assistant or couple from each grade level. One of the assistants will be in charge of team coordinators monitoring and overseeing the master of lists of volunteers for the Snack Shack and Mom's at practice. Assistant Athletic Directors shall be appointed by the Athletic Director and approved by the Principal.

2.3. Athletic Committee

The Athletic Committee shall be comprised of the following members from the Home and School Association (HSA):

I.C. School Principal
Athletic Director
Assistant Athletic Director
HSA Vice President
Two parents of student-athletes

The two parent-members will be selected by the HSA President at the start of each school year, and will serve a single year term.

2.4. Athletic Committee Meetings

The Athletic Committee shall meet at key times of the year, such as to plan for the upcoming season, choose the teams and coaches, and to plan the annual tournament. Athletic Committee meetings can be called as needed by Athletic Director or Assistant Athletic Director. Athletic Committee meetings shall be comprised of an open session, which is open to all interested coaches and parents, and a closed session, which is restricted to Athletic Committee members.

2.5. Decision-making

All major decisions on how the program is run each year shall be made by the Athletic Director, subject to the approval of the Athletic Committee. Decisions considered to be major, and therefore requiring approval by a majority of the Athletic Committee, include:

- 1) The number of teams
- 2) The number of players on each team
- 3) The players chosen for each team
- 4) The selection of head coaches and assistant coaches
- 5) Game schedule
- 6) Suspension of a player, coach or parent
- 7) Removal of a player, coach or parent from the program

2.6. Voting

When an Athletic Committee vote is taken, if a position is held by a husband-wife team (as opposed to just one of the two), the husband-wife team has only one vote, rather than two. Athletic Committee members shall not be permitted to vote on an issue in which they have a direct interest. They would be able to participate initial discussion but would need to be excused prior to any voting. The remaining members will then complete the voting in a closed session. For example, an Athletic Committee member may not vote on the assignment of a coaching position for which he/she is a candidate.

2.7. Principal's Authority

The basketball program is an extension of the school, and as such the I. C. School Principal shall have the final authority in all matters relating to the basketball program.

3. Divisions and Teams

3.1. Divisions

There are three divisions for both the boys and girls, based on grade level.

A for the 6th grade

B for the 5th grade

C for the 4th grade

3.1.1. Commitment to the team

At the 6th grade level, the student and the parents need to make a serious commitment to attending all practices and games..

3.2. Number of Teams

The number of I.C. School teams created for the boys and girls will be dependent upon the number of students that choose to participate. There will be only one boys' A team and one girls' A team, per CYO league guidelines. Multiple B and C teams are allowed.

3.3. Size of Teams

The goal for the number of players per team is ten to twelve players, so that each player will be able to play about half of each game. The Athletic Director will create sufficient numbers of teams to try to achieve this goal, with the aim of maximizing player participation in games.

4. Selection of Teams [The section is reserved for use when participation levels warrant.]

4.1. Eligibility

Boys and girls in grades 4, 5 and 6 are eligible to play in the program. The preference is that all players play with their grade except for cases where participation levels warrant players being moved to different levels.

4.2. Tryouts

Players will be selected for teams on the basis of tryouts, in which all players will be graded on their athletic ability and basketball skills. The primary determination on team placement will be player grading

4.3. Player Grading

The Athletic Director shall schedule the tryouts and choose parents to conduct the tryouts and perform the grading. No parent will be allowed to participate in the tryout or grading of their own child.

4.4. Selection of Teams

The Athletic Director and Assistant Athletic Director shall select the teams subject to the approval of the Athletic Committee.

4.5. Parent Input

A parent may choose to prevent their child from being "moved up" to a higher-level team than their peers. For example, the parent of a 4th grader may request that their child not be considered for a spot on a B 1 team, or a parent of a 5th grader may request that their child not be considered for a spot on the A team.

5. Coaches

5.1. Head Coach

The head coach is in charge of the team and will have the final say in all team matters. The head coach will run the practices, direct the actions of the team during games, and determine player substitutions during games.

5.2. Assistant Coach

The assistant coach's role is to help the head coach as directed by the head coach. One assistant coach will need to track playing time of all players during games and monitor attendance at practice.

5.3. Eligibility

Parents will be considered eligible to coach the team on which their child plays. If not enough parents volunteer, other adults connected with the school will be considered for coaching positions. The Athletic Director will not be considered eligible for coaching positions. All coaches must be Virtus trained. All coaches must be trained and certified in First Aid including AED training.

5.4. Number of Coaches

Each team will have one head coach and at least one or two assistant coaches.

5.5. Selection of Coaches

The Athletic Director shall select the head and assistant coaches, subject to the approval of the Athletic Committee. In choosing between multiple candidates for coaching positions, the following criteria will be used:

- Coaching training, experience and philosophy
- Teaching training and experience
- Basketball playing experience
- Coach's survey rating from one or more prior seasons

6. Practices

6.1. Practice Time Assignment

The head coach from each team will meet with the Athletic Director to determine the practice times for each team. The A teams will be given preference over B teams in the allotment of practice time.

6.2. I.C. School Gym

All team practices must take place in the I. C. School Gym.

6.3. Two Parents

At least one coach and at least one other parent must be present in the gym for a team to practice. For all girls' practices and games at least one adult female must be present at all times. This parent must also be Virtus trained. If an adult female is not present, the practice must be cancelled.

7. Games

7.1. Game Schedule

Upon receiving the season schedule from the CYO league, the Athletic Director shall create the program schedule, assigning the times for the home games. The game time slots shall be rotated among the different teams. This is so that the less-desired late game times and last game "clean-up duty" are not unfairly assigned to only one or two teams. The game time schedule shall be subject to approval by the Athletic Committee.

7.2. Minimum Playing Time

Each child will be guaranteed to play at least one quarter in each game. This is contingent upon the player being present for practice in the week preceding the game.

7.3. Equal Playing Time

During most games, the playing time should be distributed roughly equally among all players. This gives each child an opportunity to have fun and develop its skills. Equal playing time does not apply in special cases, such as a game against a very superior team, or in the finals of a tournament.

7.4. Tracking Playing Time

One of the assistant coaches will need to keep track of playing time during each game to help ensure that all players are being treated fairly. The tracking also needs to include any players that missed practices during the week. The head coach is responsible for submitting the playing time record to the Athletic Director on a weekly basis.

8. Additional Parent Roles

8.1. Referee

All home games at Immaculate Conception will now have paid referees. We will provide two paid referees for all "A" games. One paid referee will be provided for "B" and "C" games. These fees will be paid from the registration and snack shack proceeds.

8.2. Scorebook

One team parent needs to keep the team scorebook for each league game.

8.3. Scoreboard

One team parent needs to operate the clock and scoreboard for each home game.

9. Codes of Conduct

9.1. Introduction

Each major role in the basketball program will have a code of conduct that needs to be followed for continued participation. Players or parents that fail to conform to the code of conduct will be subject to suspension or removal from the basketball program.

9.2. Player

Every player in the program shall:

- 1) Regularly attend practices and games and show up on time
- 2) Follow the coaches' instructions in practice and during games
- 3) Practice good sportsmanship, with proper respect for coaches, referees and opponents
- 4) Be a good teammate, and refrain from taunting or bullying of other team members

9.3. Coach

Every coach in the program shall:

- 1) Provide a safe environment for the players
- 2) Organize practices that are fun and challenging for the players
- 3) Be knowledgeable about the rules of the game and CYO league
- 4) Be a model of fair play and sportsmanship for the players and their parents
- 5) Treat all players and their parents with respect
- 6) Treat players fairly and not give special attention or treatment for their own child
- 7) Respect the emotional and physical well-being of the players

9.4. Parent

Every parent in the program shall:

- 1) Be responsible for getting their child on time to practice and games, and notify the coaches head of time when their child will be unable to play in a game
- 2) Support the program by working their fair share of time in the Snack Shack at home games and during the annual tournament.
- 3) Moms at all girls' practices. If you are assigned and are unable to attend practice you are responsible to find a replacement.
- 4) Support their child's coaches in order to provide a positive experience for all
- 5) Be a model for good sportsmanship by treating all players, coaches, referee and fans with respect
- 6) Let the coaches do the coaching, refraining from giving the players advice or instructions during the game
- 7) Let the referees call the game, refraining from questioning or complaining about the

referees' calls

- 8) Never forget that the game is for the players - not the parents

9.5. Referee

Any volunteer referees in the program shall:

- 1) Provide a positive experience for the players, coaches and fans by knowing the rules of the game and the techniques of basketball officiating
- 2) Provide a safe and fair environment for the players to participate in
- 3) Treat their fellow referees, as well as the players, coaches and fans with respect

9.6. Scoreboard and Scorebook Officials

Every scoring official in the program shall:

- 1) Provide a positive experience for the players, coaches and fans by knowing the rules of the game and how to run the scoreboard or keep the scorebook
- 2) Be a model for good sportsmanship in carrying out their duties

9.7. Athletic Directors

The Athletic Directors and Assistant Athletic Directors shall:

- 1) Provide a safe environment and positive experience for the players, coaches and fans by competently overseeing the conduct of the athletic program
- 2) Enforce the policies of the basketball program in a fair and even-handed fashion
- 3) Perform responsibly the fiscal duties of coordinating the program, including the running of the Snack Shack, and purchasing uniforms and equipment.

10. Academic Eligibility

10.1. Good Academic Standing

Each player must be in good academic standing in order to participate each week in the basketball program. The principal may suspend a player from a team for a period of time if that player is not meeting expectations in their schoolwork.