

**LANCASTER YORK GIRLS CYO BASKETBALL LEAGUE
BYLAWS**

Revised 04/2009

Article I. ORGANIZATION

This organization shall be named the Lancaster York Girls CYO Basketball League, hereinafter called "The League". The League is comprised of the following member organizations:

Sacred Heart	Resurrection
Our Lady of the Angels	St. Anne
O.M.P.H.	St. Joseph - York
St. Leo	

Article II. PURPOSE

The main purpose of The League is to provide a playing forum for girl's basketball. The League will reinforce the basketball programs in our parishes and will stress the importance of team play, fairness, and good sportsmanship according to Catholic principles.

Article III. MEETINGS

The League will meet regularly from September through April. Each participating parish is responsible to have a representative present at every meeting of the general membership. Special meetings may be called by any League Officer at any time deemed necessary.

A voting representative at a League meeting must be present within 30 minutes of the scheduled starting time of a League meeting to be considered present for the meeting. The Secretary will close the attendance sign-in sheet 30 minutes after the scheduled start time of each League meeting. In addition, a voting representative must be present for the majority of the meeting to be considered present at that meeting.

A fine of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) will be imposed upon any member program not having a representative present at a scheduled meeting, unless proper notification is made in advance to any League Officer.

Article IV. LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. Officers

The Officers of the League will be the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2. Election of Officers

Officers shall be elected for a term of two years and may succeed themselves. The terms of office shall begin and end so as to expire on alternating years with the offices of President and Secretary to coincide and the offices of Vice President and Treasurer to coincide. Candidates for office shall be nominated by the general membership at the March meeting. The officers shall be elected by a simple majority vote at the April meeting and shall assume the responsibilities of their office at the conclusion of the April meeting. Written notice of candidates for office will be given to a representative of each member program at least two weeks prior to the April meeting, notifying them of the forthcoming election.

In the case of a tie vote in an election of an Officer a second vote will be cast. In the case of a tie vote of the second casting a third vote will be cast. In the case of a tie vote in the third casting, the presiding Board of Officers of the League will each cast one vote to break the tie. In the case of a tie vote among the Board of Officers, a second vote will be cast. In the case of a tie of the second casting, the outcome of that election will be decided by a coin toss. The coin toss will be called by each of the nominees involved in the tied election vote.

In all cases of tie breaking votes by the Board of Officers, any current Officer of the Board directly involved as a nominee for the office being decided shall be excluded from voting in the process of breaking a tie vote.

Section 3. Resignation or Termination of Elected Officer

Any elected or appointed official may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the program members. The removal action must be presented at a regular or special meeting and there must be a minimum two weeks notice before the actual vote. Vacancies between elections due to the resignation or termination of any elected or appointed official shall be filled by a temporary appointment by the then senior executive officer of the organization. Said temporary appointment shall remain in effect only until such time as a duly elected official can be voted into office in accordance with the nomination and election procedure stated under Article IV, Section 2.

Section 4. Duties of Officers

1. President - The President shall be the senior executive officer of The League and shall preside at all meetings, exercising general supervision of the work and activities of The League. He/She shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to the office of President. In the case of a tie vote in decisions to be made at league meetings, other than the election of Officers, the President will cast the deciding vote.
2. Vice President - The Vice President will assume the responsibilities of the President in his/her absence and shall perform such other duties normally related to the office
3. Secretary - The Secretary shall be responsible for all official papers, shall give

proper notice of meetings and shall keep a complete record of the attendance and proceedings of all meetings, shall conduct correspondence, subject to the direction of the President, and shall perform such other duties normally related to the office.

4. Treasurer - The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all organization funds and keep proper records to that effect, which will be open at all times to inspection by the organization's members. He/She shall submit monthly financial reports and make no disbursements except upon approval of the organization. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties normally related to the office.

Article V. QUORUM

A simple majority of voting members present at a properly called meeting shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of establishing rules or voting.

Article VI. VOTING PRIVILEGES

Each Playing Level within each Program represented in the League shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote at any election or decision proposed by the organization provided all of the following items are met:

1. A designated representative of the Playing Level has been present for a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the six regularly scheduled League meetings prior to the meeting that the vote is taken.
2. The voting issue at hand is directly relative to that Playing Level. The Board of Officers shall determine the Levels of Play directly related to the voting issue at hand prior to the casting of any vote.

A Program is defined as all teams representing a particular parish or parochial school. The playing levels are defined as "Varsity", "Intermediate I", "Intermediate II" and "Novice 1". A designated person is defined as an individual in attendance at a League meeting who presents himself or herself to the League Secretary as the voting representative for a particular level of play within a particular Program.

The Secretary of the League will record attendance at all League meetings. The Secretary will determine the voting eligibility status of each Playing Level within each Program represented in the League. For the purpose of determining voting eligibility, the Secretary will have on hand at each League meeting the prior six meeting dates and the recorded attendance by Program and Playing Level at each meeting.

Article VII. FINANCING

Section 1. Team Registration Fees

Each team filing a roster is responsible to pay a registration fee at the beginning of each season. The registration fee shall be determined by the Officers of the League, pending approval by a vote of the Organization, prior to the start of each season and shall be payable to the Treasurer at the time rosters are filed, but not later than November 25th of each season.

Section 2. Fundraising

The League will sponsor fundraising activities as necessary to defray its operating costs. Each member program will be responsible to participate in the fundraising activities. Such activities shall include but not be limited to the following.

1. Gate Fee. A gate fee will be used to defray the operating costs of the League. The gate fee will be determined by the Officers of the League prior to the start of each season. Individual admission will be charged for entrance to the playing gym at all League games and/or events. Season passes will be available for purchase at the beginning of each season. Season pass rates will be determined by the Officers of the League, pending approval by a vote of the Organization, prior to the start of each season.
2. Concession. The League will operate a concession facility at all games and events sponsored by the League. The proceeds will benefit the League and will be used to defray the operating costs of the League. The League President shall appoint an individual responsible for the management of the concession facility prior to the start of each season. The concession "manager" shall coordinate the daily operation of the concession with each weekend host team.

Article VIII. PARTICIPATING PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES

Each participating program (A program is defined as all teams representing a particular parish or parochial school.) is responsible to assist in the overall operation and success of the League. In addition to each participating program's responsibility to attend every meeting, each participating program will also be responsible to host the weekend playing activities of the League. The host teams responsibilities shall include the following:

1. Gate Attendant. At least one individual is to be stationed at the gate and shall be responsible to collect gate fees as established by the League.
2. Concessions. At least one individual is to be stationed at the concession facility and shall be responsible for the operation of the stand beginning 30 minutes before the first scheduled game time and closing no sooner than 10 minutes after the end of the last scheduled game.
3. Security. At least one individual is to be committed to insuring

the security and safety of the participants and facility during all League events. The "Rules for Use of Catholic High School" as received by LCHS are to be strictly adhered to by all participants and spectators.

Article IX. BASKETBALL SEASON

Section 1. Official Basketball Season

The Official Basketball Season shall run from November 1st through the weekend of the State CYO Boys Basketball Tournament. CYO teams are not restricted from individual activities after this period. However teams that participate in other basketball activities before the beginning, or after the completion of the Official CYO Basketball Season will solely be under the jurisdiction of their individual parish. Sponsorship of games, leagues or tournaments by CYO Areas, Divisions or Parishes is prohibited except within the Official CYO Basketball Season.

Section 2. Maximum Allowed Games

During the Official CYO Basketball Season a team may play a maximum of thirty (30) games. This includes all CYO regular season games, exhibition or independent tournament games. In case of a weekend tournament (weekend defined as a consecutive Friday, Saturday and Sunday) the tournament will count as one game. Post season CYO Area and Divisional play off games, Diocesan and State CYO Tournaments shall not count against the (30) game limit. A game is defined as any contest which meets the following:

- (a) A score is kept.
- (b) The teams are in uniform.
- (c) P.I.A.A. officials are used.

Section 3. Team Participation in Other Programs

Teams participating in the Diocesan CYO Basketball Program during the Official CYO Basketball Season may also participate in other organized games, leagues or tournaments, provided that participation in these activities does not interfere with Diocesan, CYO Area or Divisional CYO Basketball Programs or cause the team to exceed the (30) game limit allowed during the Official CYO Basketball Season.

Article X. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

A. Age. Players must not have reached their 15th birthday before September 1st of the current year for which a roster is being filed.

B. Grade. Players must be in the eighth grade or lower. A participant who is repeating the eighth grade will not be eligible unless an exception is granted by this organization and the Diocese of Harrisburg CYO. An exception will only be granted if the President receives a letter from the principle of the school attended by the player, stating the reason why such an exception should be considered.

C. Residence. The participant must be a registered member of the parish for which they play by November 1st of the current year for which a roster is being filed. The only deviation from that rule will be in the case involving a player who is a registered member of one parish and who is attending another parish parochial school.

D. Religious Requirements. In order to participate in the CYO program of the Diocese of Harrisburg, a player must meet one of the following Religious requirements:

- 1.) Parochial School. Be a baptized Catholic or non-Catholic attending either a parish, consolidated or junior high Catholic school. Junior high school students are limited to the 7th and 8th grades only.
- 2.) Parish Religious Education Program. Only those players who are baptized Catholics, registered at the parish and attending religious education classes are eligible to participate in the CYO program.

The individual parish will determine unsatisfactory attendance in the Catholic parish parochial school or religious education program. If the person in charge of the school or religious education program states that a student is not attending satisfactorily, that student will become ineligible to participate in the CYO program until such time as their attendance is deemed satisfactory.

E. Participating on Another Team. Any girl who is or was on an interscholastic varsity, junior varsity, freshman high school or middle school basketball team after January 1st of the current season in which their teams' roster is required to be filed with this League is ineligible to participate in the Diocesan CYO basketball program for that season.

Article XI. ROSTERS

Every team participating in the League must file a roster with the Board of Officers at a designated time prior to November 25th of each playing season. The roster must be on the form provided by the Diocese of Harrisburg. It is assumed by the League that each program, in obtaining the necessary signatures as required on the approved roster form, has confirmed each player's eligibility to participate as determined by the rules stated under **Article X. Player Eligibility** of the League Bylaws. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the team's forfeiture of all games scheduled until such compliance has been achieved. Rosters will be closed on November 25th of each playing season and no additions will be allowed except in the case of a player who becomes a new member of the Catholic parish after this date (providing said player complies with all CYO and League eligibility requirements).

Section 1. Team Participation

The intention of the team participation levels described as Varsity, Intermediate 1 and Novice 1 is to provide an appropriate playing level for all player participants of the CYO program. It is not the intention of the described levels of play to accommodate any team

with a playing advantage by including players on more than one roster. The levels of play are to be defined as follows:

Varsity – This is a competitive program for participants in the eighth grade or lower who have not reached their fifteenth birthday before September 1 of the year in which a roster is being filed. Any student repeating eighth grade is ineligible to participate in the CYO grade school program and/or if an eighth grade student has already used her five seasons of eligibility in the CYO basketball program.

Intermediate 1 – This is a competitive/instructional program for participants in the eighth grade or lower who have not reached their fifteenth birthday before September 1 of the year in which a roster is being filed. Any student repeating eighth grade is ineligible to participate in the CYO grade school program and/or if an eighth grade student has already used her five seasons of eligibility in the CYO basketball program. Any participant listed on a Varsity roster is also eligible to participate in the Intermediate 1 program, but her name must be listed on both rosters. Varsity participants in this program should be restricted to players that receive limited playing time with that team and need additional skill development.

Intermediate II - This is an instructional program for participants in the fifth grade or lower who have not reached their twelfth birthday before September 1 of the year in which a roster is being filed. This program should help the participants further their basic skills, focusing on team building and sportsmanship. Intermediate II participants may not participate or be listed on any other CYO roster. They are limited to participation with the Intermediate II team only.

Novice 1 – This is an instructional program for participants in the fifth grade or lower who have not reached their twelfth birthday before September 1 of the year in which a roster is being filed. This program emphasizes skill development in a low-pressure atmosphere. Participants play in an organized league focusing on basic skills, team building, values and sportsmanship. Novice 1 participants may not participate or be listed on any other CYO roster. They are limited to participation with a Novice 1 team only.

Article XII. STARTING TIMES

No athletic events may begin in the Diocese of Harrisburg before 1 PM on Sundays nor should games be scheduled during school hours. All regular season League games will be played on Saturdays and Sundays unless otherwise agreed upon by the participating coaches. Both teams are required to be on the game floor at least fifteen minutes prior to the scheduled starting time or immediately after the preceding game ends, whichever is later. No game may start with less than 5 players per team.

Section 1. Forfeiture of Scheduled Games

If you must forfeit your scheduled game, you must notify the League President and the person coordinating the officials at least two hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the game being forfeited. Failure to notify the proper individuals will result in an assessment, against the team in violation, equal to the costs incurred by the League for payment to the officials scheduled for the forfeited game.

Section 2. Cancellation and Rescheduling of Games

If a team must cancel a game for a reason(s) deemed legitimate by the Board of Officers of the League, the game will be rescheduled for a date and time agreeable to both teams. The Board of Officers of the League and the opposing coach must receive requests for games to be canceled and rescheduled at least 2 days prior to the scheduled game date. Requests received less than 2 days prior to the scheduled game date will be considered by the Board of Officers for extenuating circumstances and the disposition of the game will be decided by the Board of Officers.

If the Board of Officers cancels any scheduled game(s) due to inclement weather conditions or some other reason deemed necessary by the Officers, the game(s) will be rescheduled at the first opportunity.

Article XIII. GAME RULES

All games shall be played in accordance with the playing rules of the National Federation of High School Basketball and the P.I.A.A., except as modified herein.

A. A woman's ball will be used at all levels.

B. Length of Quarters

1. "Varsity" and "Intermediate 1" level games shall consist of 4 six minute quarters. The length of halftime shall be five minutes. Overtime periods shall be three minutes each. Sudden death will occur after two overtime periods ending in a tie score.

2. "Intermediate II" and "Novice 1" level games shall consist of 4 six-minute quarters. The length of halftime shall be five minutes. Overtime periods shall be three minutes each and will be limited to 2 overtime periods per game. The game can end in a tie after 2 overtime periods have been played.

C. Three point goals will be acknowledged on the "Varsity" and "Intermediate 1" levels. Three point goals will not be acknowledged on the "Intermediate II" or "Novice 1" levels.

D. "Intermediate 1" exception.

1. A defensive team leading in score by twenty (20) or more points may not press full court but must wait to pick-up the opponents at the half court line.

E. "Intermediate II" and "Novice 1" exceptions.

1. Each player available to play must play a minimum of one quarter in each game.

2. No player may play more than three-quarters per game unless there are fewer than 8 players on the team and available to play.

3. The player shooting a free throw may cross the foul line during the free throw before the ball hits the basket rim.

4. Five (5) seconds maximum will be allowed in the key for the team on offense.

5. The defensive team will remain in the back court until the ball crosses the half court line (The host team will designate the half court line for purposes of back court calls). After a defensive rebound the new defensive team will drop back to the top of the key, and may defend at half court as soon as the ball is moved across the half court line.

6. Only 1 player will guard the inbounds passer.

7. The "Home" team will be responsible to provide the official scorekeeper and timekeeper for that game.

8. "Intermediate II" and "Novice 1" rosters shall be comprised of Third Grade, Fourth Grade and/or Fifth Grade players. It is the intention of the League to provide a safe instructional environment for all participants. Players from the same program are to be organized by roster with this same intent.

Article XIV. UNIFORMS

All players shall be properly attired in basketball equipment and must conform to P.I.A.A. rules concerning jewelry, headbands, etc. The illegal uniform number rule will be waived.

Article XV. OFFICIALS

The League President shall appoint an individual to be responsible for the scheduling of officials for all games.

1.) There shall be two P.I.A.A. officials for each "Varsity" and "Intermediate 1" level games.

2.) There shall be one P.I.A.A. official for each "Intermediate II" and "Novice 1" level game.

Both participating coaches must approve any changes from these rules.

Article XVI. LEAGUE CHAMPION

The League Champion for the "Varsity" level will be determined by the overall win/loss record at the end of the regular playing season. The League will also acknowledge 2nd through 4th place teams. In the event of a tie in win\loss records at any of these places, a play-off game (s) will determine the team standings.

Article XVII. END OF SEASON LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

All teams participating on the "Varsity" level during the regular season are eligible to participate in the End of Season League Tournament. The format for this tournament will be determined by the League prior to the start of the regular season.

Article XVIII. LEAGUE ALL-STAR PLAYERS

Section 1. All-Star Teams

The League will recognize ten (10) players from the "Varsity" Level for the "Varsity" all-star Team and ten (10) players from the "Intermediate 1" Level for the "Intermediate 1" all-star Team.

Section 2. All-Star Selection

Each "Varsity" & "Intermediate 1" team head coach will provide a list of their team's candidates for All-Star selection. A deadline date for submitting a team's list of candidates will be determined by the League Officers at the beginning of each playing season. An open discussion time will be scheduled for all coaches at each level to review the lists of candidates submitted. This open discussion shall take place before the actual ballots are cast for All-Star selections and should provide relevant information necessary to cast responsible votes.

Section 3. Voting for All-Stars

Each "Varsity" team head coach will cast his/her vote for the ten (10) suggested "Varsity" Level All-Stars. Each "Intermediate 1" team head coach will cast his/her vote for the ten (10) suggested "Intermediate 1" Level All-Stars.

1. A coach may not cast a vote that includes a suggestion for any player on his/her team.
2. An All-Star ballot will be furnished to each head coach of the "Varsity" and "Intermediate 1" teams. Positioning a player's name on the ballot is very important and will determine the number of points awarded to each player on the ballot. The number 1 position on the ballot will be worth ten (10) points, the number 2 position on the ballot will be worth nine (9) points, etc. The ten players from the "Varsity" Level receiving the highest total number of points from all "Varsity" Level ballots will be recognized as the "Varsity" All-Stars. The ten players from the "Intermediate 1" Level receiving the highest total

number of points from all "Intermediate 1" Level ballots will be recognized as the "Intermediate 1" All-Stars.

3. In the event of a tie at either playing level for the tenth position, eleven (11) players will be recognized. A tie in the tenth position at either level involving more than two players will be decided by the League Officers.

4. The League Officers will establish a deadline date for submitting completed ballots for All-Star selections. All head coaches at the "Varsity" and "Intermediate 1" Levels will be notified of the deadline date. To cast a qualifying vote a completed ballot must be given to the League President or Secretary by the deadline date.

Article XIX. TEAM SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

The League will award a Team Sportsmanship Award to one team from each of the "Varsity" and "Intermediate 1" Levels. The Officials for the League will select the recipients.

Article XX. DIOCESAN TOURNAMENT

The League will pay the entry fee for any participating League team that qualifies for the final round of the Open Diocesan Basketball Tournament.

Article XXI. PROTESTS AND GRIEVANCES

Section 1. (a). Roster Violations

Any team found to be in violation of **Article XI. Rosters** will forfeit all games played utilizing a roster engineered by the Coaches (Head and Assistant) found to be compiled to purposely disregard the intent of the designated levels of play as stated under that Article. A second violation imposed on any team during any one playing season will result in the immediate suspension of Coaches (Head and Assistants) of the particular team from all league participation. If necessary, penalties will carry over into the next season.

Section 1. (b). Protests or Grievances Involving Dual Eligibility Violation

Any protest or grievance relating to an abuse or violation of the intended "spirit" of the dual eligibility or dual rostering of players as described under **Article XI. Rosters, Section 1. Team Participation**, which, after review and investigation by the Executive Board, is found to be valid, shall carry the following penalty: First Offense – forfeiture or replay of the subject game; Second Offense – forfeiture or re-play of the subject game, plus possible suspension of the offending coach(es) for a period to be determined by the Executive Board; Third Offense – forfeiture or re-play of the subject game, plus suspension for one (1) year of the offending coach(es) from all League participation. If necessary, penalties will carry over to the next season.

Section 2. Protests or Grievances Involving a Game Situation

Any dispute or incident involving a game situation during League play should be brought to the attention of the League President. Every member of the League has the privilege to request a review of their protest or grievance provided the following procedures are followed:

- (1.) If the protest or grievance is the result of a situation that occurs before, during or immediately following a game, the coach making the protest or grievance must notify the Official of his/her protest or grievance and such should be noted in the score book.
- (2.) If the protest or grievance is something other than game conduct, the originator of the protest or grievance must contact the League President within 24 hours of his/her learning of the situation in protest. In the event the President is unavailable to be contacted, another League Officer may be notified.

Section 3. Protests or Grievances Relating to a Bylaw or League Decision

Any protest or grievance relating to a Bylaw or League decision shall be referred to the League President no later than 24 hours following such dispute. The President will refer the matter to a Grievance Committee as stated under Article XXI, Section 4.

Section 4. Grievance Committee

Any protest or grievance involving League bylaws, actions occurring before, during or immediately following an event sponsored by the League, or a decision made by the League, will be referred, by the President, to a Grievance Committee no later than 24 hours following his/her notice of such. The President, if not involved in the grievance, shall appoint three coaches, not involved in the grievance, to serve as the Grievance Committee. If the President is involved in the grievance, the next highest ranking Executive Committee Officer not involved in the grievance will make the appointments. The decision of the Grievance Committee, by majority vote, will be binding and final. The Officer appointing the Committee will serve as an advisor to the committee and will vote only in the case of a deadlock.

Section 5. Protests Relating to Eligibility Rules

The President, when notified of a possible eligibility rule violation, will initiate an investigation of the situation and upon completion of the investigation, if necessary, will immediately announce the forfeiture of games played by any team while in violation of any eligibility rule. If the coach of the offending team does not agree with the fact that an eligibility rule has been violated, the President will immediately refer the situation to a Grievance Committee as stated under Article XXI, Section 4.

Article XXII. AMENDING THE BYLAWS

The League Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting provided the following procedures are met:

- (1.) Proposed changes, additions or deletions to the League Bylaws must be submitted in writing to the League Secretary for presentation to the general membership at a regular or special meeting.
- (2.) The proposed amendment shall be voted on at the next regular or special meeting. There must be a minimum of two weeks between the presentation of the amendment to the general membership and the actual vote.
- (3.) There must be a quorum of voting members present for the vote.

In the event of an emergency situation involving a necessary amendment to the Bylaws, such as a policy change directed by the Diocese of Harrisburg CYO, the two-week waiting period required before the actual voting occurs, may be waived. The League Officers will determine the classifying of a situation as an “emergency” for the purpose of waiving this two-week period.

Article XXIII. CHUCK PLETCHER MEMORIAL FUND

Each year the League will award one Novice Level basketball player a \$500.00 scholarship to be used toward her parish school tuition. The player must be active in the CYO basketball program. The player must be in good academic standing at the time of the award and the player’s custodian family must have a financial need. In order to respect the privacy of the recipient family the parish priest and parish school principal will jointly determine the recipient.

Each parish school program participating as a League member program will receive this opportunity on a rotating basis. The annual presentation to the Parish Program will be made at the League’s annual season-end banquet. Presentation of the Award to the recipient family can be made at any time prior to the tuition payment deadline for the upcoming academic school year.

End of Season League Tournament

1. This is a single elimination tournament.
2. Overall team win/loss records for the regular season will be used to determine seeding for the tournament.
3. In the current, 6-Team Varsity League the following format will be used:
 - (a.) The Regular Season 1st place and 2nd place finishing teams will receive a 1st Round Play-off Bye. The 3rd place team will play the 6th place team in Game #1. The 4th place team will play the 5th place team in Game #2. The 2nd place team will play the winner from Game #1 in Game #3. The 1st place team will play the winner from Game #2 in Game #4. The winners from Game #3 and Game #4 will play for the Tournament Championship.
4. If the Varsity League is comprised of more, or less, than 6 Teams, the League President will establish a commission of League members to study optional Play-off formats and make a proposal, to the general League body, for acceptance. The final play-off format must be established by January 1st.
5. The League will acknowledge the 1st and 2nd Place Tournament Teams with trophies.