

OLPH CYO

RULES FOR COACHES

OLPH CYO is a Catholic Church Ministry to children through sports. As such, *EVERY CHILD IS IMPORTANT AT OLPH CYO*. The safety and security of our children is paramount. Over the years, a number of incidents have occurred that have caused various rules to be enacted to promote the continuance of the program.

In every facility we play, including OLPH, we are a guest of the school principal. They can put us out simply on their decision. If we lose a gym, there is not a replacement facility. Your season and the season of every child using that building at other times and on other nights is instantly over. Every coach must do his/her part to see to it we do not have something serious happen to a child or lose a gym. The grief from something happening to one of our children is a frightening thought. The loss of a gym can't be altered or fixed. These rules are designed to avoid that. There are many worthy programs in Lindenhurst who would love to replace us in these facilities.

All coaches take on a joint responsibility in seeing there is a gym available later today, tomorrow, next week, next month and in future years.

1. Abusive behavior directed at children, opponents, and especially referees is strictly prohibited. This program is to be conducted in accord with the principles of Jesus Christ.
2. Start every event with a prayer.

3. Make it **FUN** for the children and have fun yourself. 75 % of Unites States children leave organized sports by age 13. Three reasons are cited: no fun, too much pressure from parents, and too much pressure from coaches. Most adults remember their coaches, teachers, scout leaders etc. Be a positive memory and example. We are forming our grandkid's coaches now.
4. Coaches **MUST** communicate to all their children's parents the following rule: It is a **violation** of OLPH School, Lindenhurst School District, and OLPH CYO Rules to conduct any practice or game unless **a volunteer parent hall monitor is in place.** Almost every single negative incident in recent years would have been prevented by this. If you as a coach, do not have a hall monitor in place at the start of your gym time, **DO NOT START PRACTICE ! DO NOT START THE GAME** until you do. If the hall monitor sees anything wrong, they must notify the coach. The Coach must take corrective action or call their Coordinator for instruction. We expect the hall monitor to be at the gym door so they can watch the game & the hall. The work can/should be split among the team's adult fans.
5. **NO** food is permitted to be brought in to any facility.
6. In 2004-05, after a great deal of thought, the Board voted to allow *Players* and *Players only* to bring *Water* and *Water only* into the building. Gatorade, soda, slurpees, coffee are not water. Those items are prohibited. The coach has to enforce this for players and spectators. We would like the coach to have a towel to clean up any water spills and at the end of the event, the bottles should be emptied in a sink and tossed away appropriately- (not tossed full into a trash bag so it breaks as soon as the custodian picks it up).
7. Lindenhurst School employees, OLPH School employees OLPH CYO Board Officers are the representatives of the Principals, the Superintendent and the Pastor and the OLPH CYO President. Their instructions are to be followed. No

- doors are to be held open by rocks, rugs etc. We have a hall monitor to address entry issues. No smoking is allowed on school grounds. Park legally. It is an OLPH program. Don't allow other sports equipment, even basketballs, or volleyballs into the gym that do not belong to OLPH. Non-players are not insured. They don't belong on the court during breaks, on the mats etc.
8. If you are faced with a question you can't answer, a problem you can't solve, someone is injured, or you need anything, notify your Coordinator or Vice-President or The President. That is why we have them. They are here to make your ministry easier.
 9. Weather: If Lindenhurst Schools are closed, we are closed. If you think it is unsafe to travel- cancel and err on the side of safety. Remember, during recent storms, areas of Lindenhurst were flooded, while others were not.
 10. The highest team award given out by OLPH CYO is the "Mills-Connolly Sportsmanship Award" (named in honor of the work of Deacon Phil Mills and Mike Connolly on behalf of our kids for over a decade). The highest individual coaching award is the "Role Model Award" not the coach with the most wins. It is nice to be the winner, but not at the expense of a child's feelings. Every child is important. Every child plays. If you as a coach worry less about winning, a lot of your problems will disappear.

We value the contribution and service of every volunteer. Jesus' standards are high, but so are his rewards. If for some reason you can't follow our procedures, please let us know. If you choose to continue, you must follow the rules.

All Volunteers must have a volunteer registration and background check form on file with OLPH CYO by October 15, 2007.

Returning volunteers must also complete an annual update to their background check by October 15, 2007. All volunteers must

complete Virtus Training by November 1, 2007 and provide attendance verification to OLPH CYO. (Information at www.virtusonline.org). Failure to do so will cause an interruption in your coaching ministry to our children. We must enforce the rules given us by The Diocese of Rockville Centre. We don't have the power to make exceptions.

Every Coach is important too !
Our thanks for your time & service to this Ministry,

CYO BOARD OF OFFICERS

OLPH CYO
210 S Wellwood Ave
Lindenhurst, NY 11757
olphcyo@aol.com www.leaguelineup.com/olphcyo
956-1938

Nassau/Suffolk CYO Mission: "Sport because of the wholesome elements it gives value to and exalts, may become more and more a vital instrument for the moral and spiritual elevation of the human person and therefore contribute to the construction of an orderly, peaceful and hardworking society.

The Church approves and encourages sports seeing it in a form of gymnastics of the body and of the spirit, a training for social relations based on respect for others and for one's own person and an element of social cohesion which also fosters friendly relations..."

Pope John Paul II