DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH
SECRETARIAT FOR EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

CYM SPORTS LEAGUE COACHES PLEDGE:

I understand that my responsibilities as a Catholic youth ministry coach are of great importance and that my actions have the potential to significantly influence the young athletes I coach. Therefore, I promise to uphold the following…

RIGHTS OF A YOUNG CATHOLIC ATHLETE:

I. The right to be treated as a Christian, with human dignity and respect.
II. The right to participate in sports, and, at a level commensurate with my maturity and ability.
III. The right to be played regularly.
IV. The right to have qualified Catholic Christian adult leadership.
V. The right to play as a youth and not as an adult.
VI. The right to share in the leadership and decision-making of my sport.
VII. The right to participate in safe and healthy environments.
VIII. The right to proper preparation for participation in sports.
IX. The right to an equal opportunity to strive for success.
X. The right to have fun in sports.

THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR CYM SPORTS LEAGUE COACHES:

1. I will first and foremost be a Catholic Christian role model to all involved in the CYM Sports League, including the teams I compete against: my primary responsibility is to live out my baptism, being a living presence of Jesus Christ to all I meet.
2. I will be conscious of deadlines and paperwork.
3. I will treat each athlete, opposing coach and team, official, parent and administrator with respect and dignity.
4. I will do my best to learn the fundamental skills, teaching and evaluation techniques, and strategies of my sport.
5. I will become thoroughly familiar with the rules of my sport.
6. I will become familiar with the objectives of the CYM Sports League. I will strive to achieve these objectives and communicate them to my athletes and their parents.
7. I will uphold the authority of officials who are assigned to the contests in which I coach, and I will assist them in every way to conduct fair and impartial competitive contests.
8. I will learn the strengths and weaknesses of my Christian athletes so that I might place them in situations where they have a maximum opportunity to achieve success.
9. I will conduct my practices and contests so that all athletes have an opportunity to improve their skill level through active participation.
10. I will communicate to my Christian athletes and their parents the rights and responsibilities of individuals on our team, and that as the coach, I am also responsible for the behavior of our spectators.
11. I will cooperate with the Coordinator of our Sport and the staff member of the Diocese of Pittsburgh responsible for the CYM Sports League in the enforcement of rules and regulations. I will report any observed irregularities that violate Christian behavior and sound competitive practices that arise as the result of other adults inappropriately living out unresolved psychological issues vicariously through their young Christian athletes.
12. I will ensure that all practices begin with prayer, and that all competitions involve an opening prayer with both teams and all spectators participating.

By my voluntarily signing of this roster and pledge, I acknowledge: 1) that the contents of the roster are true to the best of my ability; and 2) that I have read, understood and agree with the contents of the pledge, and will do my best to fulfill the promises made herein. I will also ensure that all of my volunteers are familiar with, and in agreement with the items stated in the pledge.

_____		_____	
Signature of Pastor/Administrator	Date	Signature of Contact Person/Youth Minister	Date
_____		_____	
Signature of Head Coach	Date	Signature of Assistant Coach	Date
_____		_____	
Signature of Assistant Coach	Date	Signature of Assistant Coach	Date