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**St. Bartholomew
Athletic Association
(SBAA)**

Handbook

Revised

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1. MISSION

Catholic Youth Athletics furthers the mission of the Catholic Church by providing sports experiences for the youth that are firmly rooted in the Catholic faith tradition, based on the goals of the Catholic youth ministry and aligned with evangelizing mission of the Catholic Church.

Role of Catholic Athletics Organizations:

The St. Bartholomew Athletic Association (SBAA) understands the parish, and non-parish school, athletics organization is:

- (a) An integral part of the mission, ministries, and life of the parish, or non-parish school, and committed to that mission above and beyond other considerations;**
- (b) Under the direct authority of the Pastor (parish) or principal (non-parish school);**
- (c) Part of the youth ministry of the Catholic Church, with leaders, coaches, adult volunteers, and parents who understand the youth ministry mission of Catholic Youth Athletics**
- (d) Guided by the mission, goals and principles of this Charter (see Sec and,**
- (e) A source of inspiration, character development, virtue and Catholic Christian behavior that ideally will be beyond reproach.**

2. MEMBERSHIP and MEMBERSHIP FEES

The membership of SBAA shall be comprised of the parents/guardians of the children who are or who have actively participated in an SBAA sponsored sports program during the current year (August – June) and that have paid the required fees for each sport participated in and the annual dues of SBAA, if any. Parents/Guardians of children who participate in a sport that is administered through a joint agreement with another Parish or Parishes shall not be considered members unless they are members of St. Bartholomew or a affiliated member parishes as determined by St. Bartholomew Parish and the Archdiocese or have a child that is a student at John Paul II Catholic School.

Membership year runs according to school year calendar beginning with Fall registration. The SBAA will offer yearly, family memberships. This membership fee, if any, must be paid for a child of that family to be eligible to participate in the SBAA Program. Membership includes the right to vote in elections and on

proposals placed before the membership. For this purpose voting shall be limited to two (2) parents/guardians per member family.

Membership fees, if any, are non-refundable. Membership is contingent on a status of "good standing". "Good-standing" includes, but is not restricted to: participating in volunteer and fundraising activities, fees paid in a timely fashion, equipment and uniforms cared for appropriately and returned in a timely fashion. A decision of "good standing" is made by the SBAA Board. Loss of this status can and may result in loss of SBAA privileges, such as voting rights and the opportunity to participate in SBAA activities.

3. SPORTS OFFERED, SEASONS AND REGISTRATION FEES

The SBAA sports programs and seasons are as follows:

FALL SEASON:

Girls Basketball

Cheerleading

Football

WINTER SEASON:

Girls Volleyball

Boys Basketball

SPRING SEASON:

Boys Baseball

Slow Pitch Softball

Girls & Boys Track

Boys Volleyball

Bowling

A specific activity may, be downsized or canceled, if the Board deems that it is not viable. Reasons for this include, but are not limited to: lack of sufficient participants, lack of sufficient facilities, lack of sufficient adult volunteers for coaching, commissioners, etc., or any other reason that the Board believes that is in the best interest of the overall SBAA program.

Registration fees are due on or before the end of the prescribed registration period for that particular athletic season. The registration fees should be submitted with the registration forms and the membership fees, as scheduled by the Board. Late registration can and may be subject to a late fee and to refusal by Athletic Director based on team availability, timeliness of submittal, or as matters warrant. as scheduled by the Board. Late registration can and may be subject to a late fee

A fee schedule will be developed, approved, and published by the SBAA Board, prior to registration for the upcoming year. This will cover the following:

1. Activities offered

2. Fees for: Baseball, Basketball, Cheerleading, Football, Softball, Track, Volleyball

3. Late Fees: timing and amount

4. Additional Children: This applies to any two or more children in the same family

participating in SBAA Athletic Programs during the same season, or when any child

participates in two sports during the same season.

The registration fees typically cover league fees, Tournament costs and awards. The registration fees do not cover gym rental, facilities management, uniforms, administrative costs, medical supplies, major equipment purchases and special projects. The SBAA will pay for one additional tournament fee for each team. This additional tournament may be the SBAA sponsored tournament, or other pre/post season play. The SBAA Board may decide to pay for additional tournaments if it is determined that due to certain circumstances such as team size or availability of leagues, it is warranted.

The SBAA shall make every effort to ensure that no student shall be denied the opportunity to play due to financial limitations. If a family cannot afford fees, on a temporary or permanent basis, the parents need to contact a Board Member request having the fees waived or delayed. This request shall be made to the full SBAA Board for consideration. Every effort to maintain confidentiality will be attempted.

The Fundraising Functions, and related efforts by the SBAA, cover these costs. It is expected that all members shall participate in some facet of these fundraising efforts, in addition to working the concession stands and collecting admissions fees at St. Bartholomew home games. If a family is unable or unwilling to participate in fundraising activities, at the discretion of the Board, an additional annual fee may be applied.

Requests for refund of a registration fee may be granted if the request occurs before the final tryout for the selection of teams or determination of team size if no tryout was required. Refunds after this time must be requested in writing to the applicable Athletic Director and subject to the approval of the SBAA Board. The Board shall not grant refunds unless they deem that there are extreme circumstances or financial hardship.

4. SCHEDULING CRITERIA: SUNDAY, TRIDUUM AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

a) **Sundays and Holy Days:** No scheduling of SBAA athletic activities (including games, practices, tournaments, and other meetings) at parishes, schools, or at facilities, on or off site, on Sunday and Holy Days before 1:00 PM (e.g., 1:00 PM kick-off, tip-off, starting whistle, etc. shall be permitted. Also, no scheduling of athletic activities that adversely affect the parish's worship due to noise or parking problems during Saturday afternoon and evening liturgies shall be permitted.

b) **Triduum:** No scheduling of SBAA athletic activities (including games, practices, tournaments, and other meetings) on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday or Easter Sunday shall be permitted.

c) **Religious Education and Sacramental Preparation:** Athletic activities (including games, practices, tournaments, and other meetings) are not to be scheduled when children involved normally would be attending religious education, sacramental preparation programs and the like. If conflicts occur, programs of religious education, sacramental preparation and the like take precedence. Coaches are expected to support the faith formation of their players and in no case are children to be penalized (for example, being required to sit out all or part of a game) by coaches or athletic leaders for missing a practice or game due to participation in such programs.

5. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

This section describes policies and best practices intending that children participating in SBAA activities are safe, have fun, are treated fairly and respectfully, and grow in their faith, character and virtues through the experience.

Determining Eligibility: Eligibility for participation on a SBAA team shall be determined by the following:

A) **Parish registration:** The participant's parent or legal guardian is registered with the parish sponsoring the team or other affiliated member parishes. If the parents of a participant are registered at more than one parish, the child is expected to play in only one parish per school year (July through June);

OR

B) **Catholic elementary school:** The participant attends John Paul II Catholic School. If a participant from one parish attends another parish's school, or a non-parish school, the participant may participate either on the team(s) of the school they are attending, or the parish's team(s);

OR

C) **Unaffiliated participants:** Children (Catholic or non-Catholic) who are not registered with a Catholic parish or attending a Catholic school may participate in SBAA activities only by special application and permission by the parish Pastor, the athletics organization(s) and

the league(s).

Terms of Team Membership: In any case, the participant is expected to play for that same parish or school for the rest of that school year, unless the family residence moves to a different locale and parish, in which case a change is permitted. If an individual's parish or school sponsors a team in a particular sport, the individual is to participate on that parish's or school's team and is not permitted to play for a different parish or school without written approval by the parish Pastor, or non-parish school principal, the athletics organization(s) and the league(s), on a case-by-case basis.

Religious Education Requirements:

Catholic participants: Catholic participants will be enrolled in and regularly attend the parish's or school's religious education in the current school year (which may be scheduled during the summer or the school year). Three or more unexcused absences from religious education sessions will normally result in suspension from the team. Legitimate excused absences such as due to illness will be assessed on a case-by-case basis at the local level.

Non-Catholic participants in Catholic schools: In the case of non-Catholic children enrolled in Catholic schools, they are eligible to play provided they attend the school's religious education classes in the current school year.

Non-Catholic participants in Catholic parishes: In the case of non-Catholic children whose parents have enrolled in RCIA or are otherwise in the process of becoming Catholic, they are eligible to play provided they are enrolled in and regularly attend the parish's religious education in the current school year. Missing three or more religious education sessions will normally result in suspension from the team.

Unaffiliated participants: Unaffiliated participants are not required to attend religious education, but may be welcomed and encouraged to do so.

Other Eligibility Requirements: The SBAA has the right to establish in its Organizational Documents additional criteria for eligibility, with the approval of the Pastor, and may deny team membership to any otherwise qualified individual based on those criteria, provided the criteria are aligned with the mission, goals, principles, policies and guidelines of the Archdiocese Charter on Youth Athletics.

Where Participants May Join Teams: Determination of the parish or school where a child is eligible to join a team is based on (i) the home parish where the parents and family are registered; then (ii) the school; then if neither the child's home parish nor school offers a given sport, (iii) proximity to the child's residence. In this case, distance considerations are expected to radiate out in all directions from the child's primary residence, as follows:

The first request for participation is expected to be made to the parish/school that is closest to the individual's residence. If the closest parish/school does not have a team, or doesn't accept the individual, the individual may play for the second closest parish, and so on.

A parish that cannot provide a complete team in a particular sport, but has children interested in participating, can:

Place them on another parish team geographically adjacent to the parish that cannot field a team, or

Form a combined team with one or more adjacent parishes, in which case all children from a given parish are expected to play for that team.

If no parish or school is able to accept an individual, the league and/or the Commission may assist in placing the individual in an appropriate program.

6. SAFETY AND WELL BEING OF THE CHILDREN

Archdiocese of Cincinnati Decree on Child Protection. The provisions of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati *Decree on Child Protection* must be followed by SBAA, meaning that the Archdiocese of Cincinnati *Decree on Child Protection* and all related policies and recommendations are in full effect, *including the following sub-points of 4.3.1 which have been excerpted verbatim from the Decree* (visit the Archdiocesan website to review the *Decree* in its entirety):

(a) Regular and occasional volunteers: For purposes of the *Decree*, a “regular volunteer” is an adult who is not a cleric or employee (for example, a catechist, scout leader, coach, server coordinator, etc.) who functions in a regular relationship having contact with children. This includes interns, student teachers and others in similar capacities. For example, a regular volunteer is one who has contact with children on any overnight event; on at least a monthly basis; or in a multi-day program (e.g. Vacation Bible School). A regular volunteer has contact with children at least once a month, or participates in any overnight event with children. It does not include the occasional volunteer such as a driver or chaperone whose contact with children is less than one hour per month for activities that are not overnight.

(b) VIRTUS®: (A.3 Policy) All candidates for ordination, clerics, regular volunteers and employees who have contact with children must attend a VIRTUS® Child Awareness Session on the *Decree* before they have contact with children. Responsible supervisors who hire personnel furnished by a third party contractor who have contact with children, or who utilize auxiliary services personnel, are to inform such personnel of the existence of the *Decree*, inform them of the requirements of the *Decree* which pertain to them (for example, the C.9 Policy), and give such personnel the option of attending a VIRTUS® Child Awareness Session on the *Decree*.

All adult volunteers are encouraged to attend a VIRTUS® Child Awareness Session, including training on the provisions of the *Decree*, even if they are not regular volunteers as defined in the *Decree*.

(c) **Fingerprinting and Background Check (B.1 Policy):** Background checks through fingerprinting or otherwise in a manner approved by the Chancellor in accord with the current policies of the Archdiocese must be performed on adults as follows: candidates for ordination, clerics, regular volunteers (see definition above) and employees may not have contact with children until an acceptable background check through fingerprinting or otherwise in a manner approved by the Chancellor is completed in accord with the current policies of the Archdiocese.

(d) **Recruiting Volunteers (B.3 Policy):** Those persons who recruit volunteers to work regularly with children in the parishes, schools, agencies and institutions of the Archdiocese must exercise caution in selecting volunteers. No volunteer has the right to insist on a particular volunteer position. If there is any cause for concern in a particular case, the matter should be brought to the attention of the responsible supervisor for further review.

(e) **Permission, Health Information and Release of Liability Forms (C.2 Policy):** A child may participate in an organized program sponsored by a parish, school, agency or institution of the Archdiocese only with the written consent of the child's parent or guardian on a standard *Permission, Release and Medical Power of Attorney* form (available online at the Archdiocese website at www.catholiccincinnati.org). Such written consent is expected to provide for emergency care of the child, as warranted by the program or activity.

(f) **Minimum of Two Adults, Gender Ratio, Etc.:** For any activity sponsored by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, at least two adults, both of whom have successfully completed a VIRTUS® Child Awareness Session and background check through fingerprinting or otherwise in a manner approved by the Chancellor in accord with the current policies of the Archdiocese, and who are not related to each other, must be present for any activity.

Moreover, the number and gender of the adults are to be in proportion to the age, number and gender of the participants, and the duration and difficulty of the activity. Prudence is required in applying this policy to different age groups, length of activity and the risk level of the activity.

- (i) A ratio of 1:10 is recommended;
- (ii) Whenever there is a mixed group of boys and girls it is preferred that one adult of each gender is present. The proportion of male / female chaperones should be similar to the proportion of the children;
- (iii) Single sex athletics must have at least one adult of the same gender as the players (e.g., in case of injury or illness requiring attention in a rest room).

Whenever possible, one of the adults should be a parent or guardian of a participant.

For purposes of this Policy, "adult" excludes 18 and 19 year-olds not yet graduated from high school and others who have graduated from high school but who wish to attend activities with members of their high school class during the three months following their graduation with others who are less than 18 years of age.

(g) Discipline (C.4 Policy): No child may be disciplined corporally or corrected with abusive language.

(h) Reporting (Ohio Revised Code § 2151.421(A)(1)(a); § 2151.421(G)(1)(a)): Ohio law requires all persons acting in an official or professional capacity to immediately report any actual or suspected act of child abuse to the public children's services agency or to a municipal or county peace officer in the county where the child resides or where the abuse or neglect is occurring. Failure to do so is a misdemeanor and can result in prosecution. The Archdiocese encourages all persons to immediately report any actual or suspected acts of child abuse to Civil Authorities. In either case, a person reporting in good faith in making such a report is immune from both civil and criminal liability.

Concussions. Head injuries can happen in any sport. Catholic Youth Athletics should comply with state law (see Ohio HB 143 for more details) as regards concussions, including:

- 1) Before practice or play begins for each sport or season, the parent or guardian of each participating child should review and sign the head injury information sheet required by Section 3707.52 of the Ohio Revised Code and available at www.healthyohiprogram.org/concussion.
- 2) Before beginning to coach or officiate, coaches and officials in Catholic Youth Athletics should receive training on concussions and the requirements of Ohio law.
 - a) If a player exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with having sustained a concussion or head injury while participating in practice or competition, the player shall be removed from the practice or competition by either of the following: (i) The individual who is serving as the student's coach during that practice or competition; or (ii) an individual who is serving as a referee or official during that practice or competition. Parents are expected to be notified of the injury as soon as possible.
 - b) If a player is removed from practice or competition as per Section 4.3.2(c) above, under Ohio law the coach or referee who removed the player must not allow the player, on the same day the player is removed, to return to that practice or competition or to participate in any other practice or competition for which the coach or referee is responsible. Thereafter, under Ohio law the coach or referee shall not allow the player to return to that practice or competition or to participate in any other practice or competition for which the coach or referee is responsible until both of the following conditions are satisfied: (i) The student's condition is assessed by a physician or other authorized licensed health care

provider; and (ii) the player receives written clearance that it is safe to return to practice or competition from a physician or other authorized licensed health care provider.

3) Heat, Inclement Weather, Lightning, Thunder and Thunderstorms.

- 1. Lightning, Thunder:** When thunder is heard or a lightning bolt is seen at a practice or competition, teams will suspend play and take shelter immediately. Once play has been suspended, play or practice will not resume until approximately 30 minutes has passed since the last thunder was heard or lightning flash witnessed.
- 2. Heat:** To prevent heat illness (i.e. heat cramps, heat exhaustion, or heat stroke), when there are high temperatures, leagues, athletics organizations, coaches and teams should exercise prudence (such as by monitoring athletes closely, limiting practice duration, allowing lighter clothing, providing frequent fluid breaks for rehydration, and/or providing for shade).
- 3. Best Practice – Inclement Weather:** When at outdoor practices and competitions, coaches, athletes, game officials and administrators should be aware of potential inclement weather and the signs that indicate thunderstorm development. It is advisable to monitor local weather forecasts the day before and morning of the practice or competition and by scanning the sky for signs of potential thunderstorm activity. Weather can also be monitored using small, portable weather radios from the National Weather Service (NWS). The NWS uses a system of severe storm watches and warnings. A watch indicates conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop in an area; a warning indicates severe weather has been reported in an area, and everyone should take proper precautions.

Best Practices – Safety of Parish or School Gymnasiums, Athletics Fields, Athletics Facilities:

The maintenance, upkeep, and general condition of a Facility are the responsibility of the parish or non-parish school that owns the Facility.

Coaches and adult athletics leaders should take care to ensure that their children are using Facilities that are safe and secure, including:

- 4. Gymnasiums:** Paying attention to any apparent damage to backboards, bleachers, and other seating that could render such items unsafe. Gymnasiums that lack sufficient space outside the boundaries of play can pose safety risks to larger players whose momentum could carry them into walls or chairs; accordingly, it is

recommended that athletics events for larger children be scheduled in larger gymnasiums.

5. **Athletics Fields:** Before beginning practice or play, coaches or athletics leaders should inspect the field(s) for any unsafe conditions.
6. **Postponing or Cancelling:** If it is apparent that the condition of a Facility may pose a risk of injury, coaches and athletics leaders are expected to postpone or cancel events until a safe Facility is available, and any such postponement or cancellation will not incur a penalty.
7. **Reporting:** Any problems with a Facility should be reported to (i) the leaders of the parish, or non-parish school, responsible for the Facility, and (ii) the league leaders who schedule athletics events at the Facility. If the problems persist and as a result there are ongoing safety risks, the coaches, athletics leaders, league leaders or concerned parents should contact the Commission.

Age, Human Development and Health Considerations. To avoid injury and to enhance the health and well-being of children it is imperative that coaches and athletics leaders who work with younger children avoid putting demands on their bodies and emotions for which such children are not developmentally suited. Coaches and athletics leaders who work with younger children are expected to be especially attentive to asking too much of children at too early an age. Parents are expected to be vigilant in monitoring the development of their children and working with coaches and athletics leaders to do what is best for their children.

Biennial Red Cross Certification. SBAA shall strive to have a minimum of one coach or other adult with Red Cross Basic First Aid Certification present at practices and games. Athletics organizations are expected to maintain records of Red Cross Basic First Aid Certification of participating coaches and volunteers. Red Cross Basic First Aid Certification should be renewed on at least a biennial basis.

7. GUIDELINES FOR TEAM SELECTION

The Team selection process will be overseen by the Athletic Director, the Coordinator/Commissioner of the sport, and one other Board Member (Team Selection Committee).

Any parent, who for specific reasons does not wish to have their child placed under the direction of a particular coach, must submit their reasons in writing to the Athletic Director prior to the team selection process and appointment of players to a particular team/coach. The Team Selection Committee may resolve the request or recommend the matter to the SBAA Board. While the granting

of such requests shall be considered, there shall be no guarantee or the requirement that it will be accommodated.

The following guidelines shall be followed:

3rd, 4th and 5th Grade Levels:

1. Maintain same grade level teams whenever possible.
2. Utilize a process for evaluation recognizing proficiency skills in dividing the players into equal teams. This will consist of "evaluation tryouts " held in a practice atmosphere with participation by all players. Allow the Coaches to select players to ensure that the teams are created so they each have equal ability. If there is a dispute among the Coaches, then the Team Selection Committee shall make the final decision.
3. Carpooling requests will be considered on a case by case basis and will be honored at the discretion of the Team Selection Committee.

6th, 7th and 8th Grade Levels:

1. Maintain same grade level teams whenever possible.
2. Utilize a process for evaluation recognizing proficiency skills in dividing the players into A & B teams where multiple leagues are available. This will consist of "evaluation tryouts " held in a practice atmosphere with participation by all players interested in playing on the "A" Team. Player will be rated by 4-5 independent evaluators. Utilizing this data, Team Selection Committee and the head coach will select the "A" team.

The remaining teams will be made as equal as possible, using an open-draw format by the coaches under the observation of the Team Selection Committee

The minimum and maximum number of players per team for a particular sport are as follows unless specifically approved by the SBAA Board or Specific Sport Joint Parish Administrating Board otherwise:

Boys Sports:

Football	1 st thru 8	As established by Sabrecat Board
Basketball	3 rd thru 8 th	7 Player Min/12 Player Max Per Team
Baseball	3 rd thru 8 th	12 Players Min/15 Players Max Per Team
Track	3 rd thru 8 th	As established by Sabrecat Board
Volleyball	3 rd thru 8 th	8 Players Min/ 12 Players/Max
Bowling	3 rd thru 8 th	4 Players Min/No Max

Girls Sports:

Basketball	3 rd thru 8 th	7 Player Min/12 Player Max Per Team
Cheerleading	1 st thru 8 th	4 Player Min/No Max
Softball	3 rd thru 8 th	12 Players Min/15 Players Max Per Team
Track	3 rd thru 8 th	As established by Sabrecat Board
Volleyball	3 rd thru 8 th	8 Players Min/ 12 Players/Max
Bowling	3 rd thru 8 th	4 Players Min/No Max

The SBAA Board shall have full discretion to modify these guidelines, where it is determined by the Board that the SBAA Program and Student Participant's best interest will be served.

8. CODE OF CONDUCT

All who are involved in SBAA are expected to conduct themselves as examples of Christian behavior. This is essential and expected as a witness to the mission of the ministry of Catholic Youth Athletics, both on the field of play and away from it. The conduct of coaches and players in practices and in competitions has a powerful impact on the conduct of parents and fans, the love of the sport, and the reputation of the Catholic faith community. This Code of Conduct extends to all events or activities sanctioned or sponsored by athletics organizations; including but not limited to meetings, games, practices, travel to and from events, attendance at another team's game, camps, players' clinics, officials' clinics, and during other related activities. Any violations of this Code of Conduct will be subject to disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the athletics organization leadership, and/or league leadership.

There are four sections to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Catholic Youth Athletics Code of Conduct, as follows:

Spirit of Catholic Youth Athletics:

Treat everyone with respect and love according to the Great Commandments: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments." Matt. 22:37-40

Demonstrate good sportsmanship, patience, manners and an attitude indicative of the spirit and mission of the Catholic Church.

Adherence to Laws, Rules and Policies:

Catholic canon law and Archdiocesan laws and policies including, but not limited to, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati *Decree on Child Protection*.

Federal, state, and local laws and ordinances.

The mission, goals, principles, and policies of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Charter on Catholic Youth Athletics, and those of the SBAA and leagues.

Specific Violations:

Eligibility: Violation of the eligibility policies of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Catholic Youth Athletics Charter, including using an ineligible player.

Recruiting: No recruiting for athletic purposes or to enhance a team's competitive advantage is permitted.

Leaving the field of play: No team may leave the field, floor, game or tournament because of dissatisfaction with the officials, or their decisions.

Losing control: Coaches are expected to control their own conduct and the conduct of their players and report to the league and Commission instances where opponents, officials, parents, or fans have failed to control their own conduct.

Running up the score: It is not permitted to humiliate an opposing team by playing in such a way so as to intentionally run up the score after the outcome of the game is no longer in question.

Inappropriate communication and behavior: The use of inappropriate, insulting, disrespectful, bullying and demeaning language or behavior before, during or after meetings, practices or games by players, coaches, officials, parents, fans, site personnel, volunteers, or others involved in any parish athletics program is prohibited. Also prohibited are physical intimidation and the use of profane, vulgar, abusive or sexually-oriented language, in oral, written or electronic forms of communication (such as texting or email), by players, coaches, officials, parents, site personnel, volunteers, or fans.

Escalating behaviors: Behaviors that incite others to act in ways that are in direct conflict with the spirit of Catholic Youth Athletics are prohibited.

Vandalism and theft: There will be no vandalism, theft, or destruction of property at any athletics venue.

Alcohol, tobacco, illegal controlled substances: No alcohol, tobacco, or any illegal controlled substance is permitted at practices, league competitions, or tournaments where children are present (such as "tailgating" where alcohol is present). Athletics organizations are expected

to establish and communicate zero tolerance policies regarding alcohol, tobacco, and illegal controlled substances at competitions, tournaments and gatherings where children are present.

General Violations:

Activities that are contrary to the mission, goals, principles, values, provisions or spirit of Catholic Youth Athletics and this Handbook are prohibited.

9. COACHES GUIDELINES

SBAA Coaches are responsible for overseeing the youth ministry mission of youth athletics, then it's the coaches and the adults that assist them in the day-to-day meetings, practices, games and tournaments who are key to making youth athletics a ministry with young people and their families. Their roles are twofold: to develop young athletes, and to help form young Christians. SBAA shall exercise great care and attention in the recruitment, selection, preparation, training and support of coaches. Our children – God's precious children – are in their hands. Coaches of SBAA teams under Catholic auspices in the Archdiocese should:

- (f) **Charter compliance:** Abide by and uphold the Organizational Documents of the athletics organization and the mission, goals, principles, policies and procedures of this Charter, including the Archdiocese of Cincinnati *Decree on Child Protection*, and the Code of Conduct.
- (g) **Sportsmanship:** Represent the team with a high level of sportsmanship, integrity and respect towards team, parents and opponents at all times (sidelines and practices included).
- (h) **Player development:** Support and assist in the spiritual, emotional, social and physical development of all players by providing opportunities for athletic skills training, character development, and spiritual growth.
- (i) **Faith and spirit:** Work with the athletic organization's Spiritual Liaison to ensure an environment conducive to growth in faith, character, and virtues. Reinforce with children and their families the importance of faith and religious practices including Sunday Mass, Holy Days of Obligation and regular, ongoing religious education.
- (j) **Regular prayer:** Ensure that prayer happens at each practice and game.
- (k) **Head coaches:**
 - (i) Ensure that assistant coaches are clear on the Code of Conduct and how they are expected to enforce it in practice. All coaches, including head coaches, are expected to sign and submit copies of the Code of Conduct affirming their commitment to it. These should be retained and kept on file at the parish, or non-parish school.