

# **Catalyst Catholic Athletic Ministry**

## **Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct**

Catalyst Catholic is unwavering in its commitment to the evangelization of the Young Church. We unite, support, and empower pastors, parish leaders and coaches within the New Albany Deanery as they form bold disciples of Jesus Christ.

In accordance with our Mission Statement, it is the primary goal of Catalyst Catholic to help every young person we serve get to Heaven! As your child's first teacher, we rely on you and other adults present at all Catalyst Catholic events to model appropriate behavior to assist in this quest.

The purpose of the Parent or Spectator Code of Conduct is to develop parental/adult support as positive role models for our student athletes as well as represent the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, the New Albany Deanery, and the Catholic Church appropriately. The Catalyst Catholic athletic program intends to promote the physical, moral, mental, social, emotional, and faith formation of all student athletes. Parents and Spectators are an integral part of this process. We expect every parent and Spectator to follow this code and abide by the Catalyst Catholic Mission Statement.

### **As a Catalyst Catholic parent or Spectator, I will:**

1. Provide positive support and encouragement to our student athletes and their team, the opposing team, and all coaches.
2. Set the right example and promote good sportsmanship through my own behavior and attitude at all athletic practices and contests, home and away.
3. Display control and respect the authority of and decisions made by officials.
4. Make no derogatory comments or gestures and refrain from using foul language toward players, coaches, officials, or spectators.
5. Refrain from criticizing student athletes and their coach or team or any other spectators at the event, as well as game officials.
6. Refrain from interfering with the coach and respect the coach's authority and responsibilities during practices, games, and team-related activities.
7. Not threaten, either verbally or physically, any coach, player, official, or spectator.
8. Remember that coaches and parents set the example for the behavior of our children.
9. Assist in providing for student safety and welfare.
10. Be responsible for the conduct of other family members who are in attendance at the game.
11. Take responsibility for my actions and not attempt to circumvent rules or guidelines of Catalyst Catholic.

### **Code of Conduct Violations**

Catalyst Catholic will be responsible for reviewing, at its earliest convenience, all potential violations that come to our attention as well as handling any disciplinary action deemed necessary based on facts and circumstances. Disciplinary actions taken by Catalyst Catholic may include, but are not limited to: verbal warning, written warning, immediate ejection, single-game suspension, multiple-game suspension, and/or permanent ban. As needed, the Pastor, Dean, Director, and Athletic Director will be consulted as well as included in any formal communications that occur between a parent/Spectator and the Catalyst Catholic Office.

## **In-Game Procedure**

Code of Conduct violations can vary and therefore will be handled on a case-by-case basis. However, the following factors will be important considerations in how violations will be handled:

1. It is the Coach's, Gym/Field Manager's, and AD's responsibility to ensure players and fans conduct themselves appropriately and assist game officials in maintaining control. All parents and Spectators are required to follow an official's request to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all times, especially after a warning has been issued by a referee.
2. Common sense will be used when considering what is inappropriate behavior and in determining any disciplinary action deemed necessary.
3. Disciplinary action for unsportsmanlike behavior could range from a verbal warning to suspension from one or more future Catalyst Catholic activities.
4. Any parent or Spectator who is deemed to have threatened and/or physically or verbally abused a coach, player, official, and/or spectator will be suspended immediately for a period of at least one game.
5. If a parent or Spectator is in violation of the Code of Conduct during a game, a game official will issue a warning to the coach, and the game will be paused. This is an official's initial effort to let the coach know that a parent or Spectator is not displaying appropriate behavior. It is the coach's responsibility to tell the Gym/Field Manager or AD that a warning has been issued to a parent or Spectator. It is then the responsibility of the Gym/Field Manager or AD to let the parent or Spectator know that they have received a warning.
6. At the discretion of the official, a parent or Spectator may receive an unsportsmanlike penalty prior to a warning if their behavior is deemed highly inappropriate.
7. If the parent or Spectator continues to display inappropriate behavior following the warning, the official will administer the appropriate unsportsmanlike penalty for that sport to the team.
8. This unsportsmanlike penalty administered by an official will result in the parent or Spectator being ejected from the game, and he/she will be required to leave the premises. This will also lead to the parent or Spectator being suspended from the next game as well.
9. This unsportsmanlike penalty will be charged to the team. However, if the coach is deemed to be instigating poor conduct by the fans, the coach can also receive an unsportsmanlike penalty.
10. The Parish Athletic Director will be contacted and disciplinary action will be taken.
11. It is the parent's responsibility to make sure that other family members who are in attendance at the game follow the Spectator code of conduct as well.