

CYO MISSION AND PHILOSOPHY

MISSION OF CYO OUTDOOR MINISTRIES AND ATHLETICS

The CYO exists to provide opportunities for youth to develop strong moral character, self worth, interpersonal competence, and a commitment to caring for others and their community through activities of a social, educational, and recreational nature based on Christian principles that reinforce societal values.

YOUTH

Boys and girls from ages 5 through 18 of any race or national origin.

COMMUNITIES

The CYO athletics community is organized around the parish as its center of activities, as this is a natural environmental fact that provides a resource of volunteers and financial support necessary for the implementation of activities for youth in CYO. It is this environment that also encourages family participation in activities, as well as serving as a base of operations for coordinated programs and service projects to the greater community upon which youth can have a positive influence.

QUALITY OF LIFE

CYO is committed to the dignity and worth of each child it serves, regardless of physical talents, mental strength, or emotional health, and hopes that the same respect for life will become a part of his or her value system. CYO wants each child to know that they are wanted and loved.

PHILOSOPHY OF CYO ATHLETICS

Athletic programs are seen as one way of implementing the mission of the CYO. Program goals include: 1) to increase self confidence and self reliance; 2) to increase interpersonal competence; 3) to increase a sense of caring toward others. This will help athletes understand the aspect of service to others, and will help them better understand their sense of belonging. Youth are brought together from different schools and social backgrounds in an atmosphere that fosters the recognition of one's strengths and limitations, the lessons of winning and losing, and respect for all involved; fellow players, opponents, coaches, and officials. In other words, CYO is in the business of teaching life values that aid boys and girls in their development towards adulthood. It is worth noting that CYO athletics does not view itself primarily as a sport developmental program.

This philosophy is worthwhile only to the extent that it is incorporated into the CYO athletic programs. It is this philosophy that justifies CYO's involvement in athletics. It's implementation is not optional.