

Survey Results & FAQ

Question: Please rate your overall experience in the following area related to your child's experience with CYO Athletics.

Average rating from a total of 327 survey results (Scale: 1= Lowest 5 = Highest)

Registration Process: 4.3

Registration Fee: 4.1

Coaching Child Received: 4.1

Sportsmanship Taught: 4.3

AD Communication: 4.0

Coach Communication: 4.4

CYO Office Communication: 3.8

Quality of Practices: 4.0

Quality of Facilities: 3.8

Navigation CYO Website: 3.7

Play Like a Champion Training (PLACT): 3.8

Game Schedules: 3.9

What are the responsibilities of the school athletic director?

Each school participating in CYO Athletics has its own athletic director responsible for the following aspects of their school athletic program:

- Registration (opening Team Sideline offerings)
- Managing and overseeing the athletic budget
- Managing and overseeing the school gymnasium and/or field(s) upkeep
- Recruiting qualified coaches (volunteer or stipend)
- Developing and maintaining the practice schedule for sports
- Procuring the practice facilities
- Purchasing, distributing and collecting uniforms
- Purchasing, distributing and collecting equipment (soccer balls, basketballs, etc.)
- Communicating information to coaches and parents including the forwarding of communication from the CYO office to coaches and parents as required
- Communicating any school/parish conflicts to the CYO Athletics office for each sports season so the CYO Athletics office can avoid conflicts when scheduling games
- Managing (with 3rd party assistance) and conducting tryouts for Varsity and JV teams

What are the responsibilities of the CYO Athletics Office?

- Assisting the school athletics directors and families with Team Sideline (registrations, refunds, changing organizations, PLACT, game forfeitures, etc.)

- Organizing, scheduling, and overseeing 1,000+ games and tournaments for each sports season
- Communicating, renting and acquiring public fields, gyms and stadiums for games and meets
- Working with outside associations to procure referees for all soccer and basketball games
- Overseeing the recruiting, hiring and training of volleyball referees
- Working with school athletic directors and school administrators to problem solve incidents that occur throughout each sports season
- Providing timely responses to emails and fielding phone calls sent to our office in response to daily general queries regarding CYO athletics, issues and procedures
- Hosting/conducting athletic director meetings for each sports season (Fall & Spring meetings)
- Hosting/conducting meetings for coaches for each sports season
- Conducting/teaching Play Like a Champion training (PLACT) for all coaches

Why are there some issues with soccer fields (i.e., why are some deemed ‘not up to par’)?

- Unfortunately, many of our soccer games are played on Seattle Park & Rec fields, and CYO Athletics has no control over the conditions of these fields. We do our very best to work with Seattle Parks & Rec to get these fields fixed when issues are brought to our attention, but we must depend on Seattle Parks and Recreation to fix any issues.
- Please note that CYO teams are not the sole users of these fields. In addition to our teams using these fields, there are many public schools, club, and select teams also using these fields. Hence, there is quite a bit of wear and tear on these fields.
- We do want to relay that some of our schools do have soccer fields, and many of these schools and athletic directors do an amazing job before the season begins to get them ready for soccer season and continually maintain them during the season.

How can the CYO Athletics office support coaches who have limited background/understanding of the sport they are coaching?

Many responses we received in the survey were regarding coaches who have limited skills or understanding of the sport they might be coaching. We realize many of our coaches are volunteers, and we greatly appreciate their time and commitment to CYO Athletics as well

as their willingness to coach a team. Moving forward, CYO Athletics is committed to helping these coaches become more proficient by ensuring coaches have adequate coaching resources to assist them. This includes but is not limited to:

- Providing coaching clinics for soccer & basketball
- Continuing our volleyball coaching clinic
- Adding coaching resources to our website
 - Coaching videos
 - Practice plans
 - Etc.

Why is there not more direct communication from the CYO Athletics office?

While we do our best to address any communication that is sent to our office in a timely manner, the survey feedback regarding communication from our office is below where we would like to see it.

Historically, most of our CYO information is sent directly to school athletic directors. We expect this information to be communicated to teams and families as appropriate as it is not practical or effective for us to communicate directly with each individual family. That said, we would like to provide a mechanism by which we can more directly communicate with individual families participating in CYO to ensure that families are more informed. To that end, our office has decided **we will be sending out a monthly newsletter to all families via Team Sideline**. This newsletter will consist of relaying information about upcoming sports, registration deadlines, PLAY Like a Champion training dates, and much more. We look forward to having an opportunity to reach all our CYO families more directly.

How are our registration fees determined and how are the registration fees used?

- Each school participating in CYO sets their own registration fee. The CYO Athletics office gives some guidance, but it is up to each school athletic director to determine the registration fee per child. Schools set up their registration fee to cover practice space (if renting a field or gym), equipment, uniforms, and any other necessary expenses.
- The CYO Athletics office charges schools a team fee or an individual athlete fee. At the CYO level, this money covers field and gym rentals, paying referees, buying new equipment for cross-country and track & field meets and other general CYO-related costs. (Please note that in the past few months, the rental fees for fields, parks and stadiums have increased very significantly. As a result, our office has had to raise

team and individual athlete fees. For example, soccer field rentals for Seattle Parks & Recreation have increased by 30% and there will be another increase in the next year.)

Why is there not more flexibility regarding when our teams play on the weekend?

Due to limited space and a high volume of teams (500+ for a sports season) our office does its best to schedule games with the time slots we have been given.

- Since games are only played on the weekend, we must play on *both* Saturday & Sunday since we cannot fit all games in on Saturday
- All games on Sunday start at 1pm to give families the opportunity to go to Mass on Sunday morning. On a handful of occasions, we have needed to start a game or meet on a Sunday at 12pm due to scheduling issues, but this is always cleared with the archdiocese beforehand.
- We do our best to avoid school or parish conflicts. This, of course, requires the participating-school athletic director to communicate important school and/or parish events to us.
- We cannot and do not make exceptions for other sport schedules (select or club teams). Our feeling is that all student athletes signed up to play CYO sports are committed to playing for their CYO team and to supporting and representing their respective schools.

Why do we have Play Like a Champion training for coaches & parents?

Approximately two years ago when Mark Webb (Director) and William Woodworth (Asst. Director) took over CYO Athletics, one challenge we noted was ensuring proper behavior during athletic contests. To ensure that everyone (parents and coaches) had the proper guidelines for respectful and appropriate behavior during athletic contests, we strongly endorsed the Play Like a Champion training (PLACT) for all families and coaches.

- We made the Parent Play Like a Champion training accessible via the online module so that families could take this anytime they wanted. Many families were excited about this new platform.
- The Coach PLAY Like a Champion training is still in person via Zoom.
- In 2023-24 we had 127 coaches take the Play Like a Champion training. In the 2024-2025 school year we had 437 coaches take this training. +344.1% increase!

- In 2023-24 we had 362 families take the Play Like a Champion training. In the 2024-2025 school year we had 1,773 families take this training. +489.8% increase!
- With the increase of coaches and families taking this training, we have seen a dramatic **decrease** in bad-sportsmanship reports and incidents occurring at games.

As evidenced by the data, we believe this program is very effective. While understanding that due to human nature, incidents will still occur, we do believe that this program has helped dramatically and that there has been a culture shift for the positive in the CYO Athletics program because of this great program.

Can schools and parishes combine teams or play up one grade if there are not enough children to form a team?

- Yes, when a team does not have the adequate number of athletes to form a team, we highly encourage athletic directors to reach out to other schools or parishes to see if they have room to combine teams so that all children have an opportunity to play.
- We also allow a child to play up one grade for their own school team if there is room. For example, a 2nd grader can play up on a 3rd grade team.
- There are times when playing up a grade is restricted for a certain sport. For example, a 4th grader playing volleyball may not play up on a 5th grade team. This is due to safety and skill level concerns.
- We usually don't allow a child to play up two grades, but exceptions are made on a case-by-case basis.
- All requests to combine teams or have a child play up one or two grades must be sent to the CYO Athletics office by the school athletic director to be approved before the start of each sports season.

What are the specifics regarding CYO officials?

- Our soccer and basketball referees are officials from the Washington State Association.
- Soccer referees are certified and trained through the WASFC.
- Basketball referees are certified and trained through the PNBOA.
- Volleyball referees are hired and trained through CYO Athletics.
- All referees are compensated monetarily, and we have provided a pay increase from last year. It goes without saying that regardless of training or expertise, officials

must be given respect. As parents and coaches, we need to remember officials are human and mistakes will be made at times. Officials are non-partial and are doing their best.

- CYO Athletics is always looking for more officials. If you or someone you might know are interested in becoming an official for one of our sports, please feel to reach out to us.

What sports are offered by CYO Athletics?

Soccer: Kindergarten – 8th Grade (K & 1st Grade – Coed, 2nd – 8th Grade Boys & Girls)

Cross Country: Kindergarten – 8th Grade (Boys & Girls)

Basketball: 3rd – 8th Grade (Boys & Girls)

Volleyball: 4th – 8th Grade (Boys & Girls)

Track & Field: 4th – 8th Grade (Boys & Girls)

High School Basketball (Boys)

High School Volleyball (Co-ed)

Adult Volleyball (Co-ed)

Adult Softball (Co-ed)

For any additional questions please contact Mark Webb (Director).

Email: Mark.Webb@seattlearch.org

CYO Athletics Website: [Seattle CYO Athletics](#)