

# Holy Rosary Wea CYO Board

*Using athletics to build self esteem!*

Dear Parents,

The Holy Rosary Athletic Association is well into a new year of athletic competition benefiting parish children, including the parish school. We would like to take a moment to introduce ourselves to you, and describe for you what it is we do.

Our Board of Directors includes:

- Russ Johnson (President)
- Cherona Bicknell (Treasurer)
- Sheri Hendrickson (Athletic Director)
- Jeff Foley
- Kevin Spatz (Secretary)
- Denise Sieben
- Michelle Britton

The Athletic Director runs, coordinates and is responsible for decision making of all athletics sponsored by the Holy Rosary Wea Parish, including selecting coaches and team formation. The board creates governing policies for the association as a whole and more specifically for the Athletic Director. We operate from established By Laws that guide the decisions of the board and Athletic Director. The President presides over all meetings (held monthly throughout the year) while the secretary keeps minutes of meetings. The Treasurer tracks the income and expenditures for all programs.

Our **primary focus** is to develop children's self esteem through athletic competition. Children develop differently; at different times; with different specialties. But throughout their development it is important that they are taught that through good sportsmanship, discipline, perseverance and teamwork great things can be accomplished.

Toward this aim we have developed several athletic programs (and continue to develop more) and provide sports equipment for our parish facilities (e.g. soccer goals, basketball goals, balls, etc...). Our main athletic program is the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) sports program. We have developed other programs, such as early age basketball programs, that feed into our CYO sports program. CYO provides leagues such as: volleyball for girls, football for boys, basketball and track for all children. CYO is primarily focused on participation for all athletes, although competition is a by-product. As part of our **primary focus** we strive to create teams that maximize playing time for all participants.

One of the most important decisions the Athletic Director makes is that of team selection. The board has provided the AD with three core principles in making these decisions. First, is to maximize playing time for all participants therefore, we strive to make the teams as small as possible. Second, we also attempt to create teams with athletes from the same grade; however, this is not always possible or best. Third, we apply a highly objective evaluation process where the AD utilizes independent evaluators and coaches to make the final selection of teams based upon class sizes and skills of the athletes. This is implemented at all levels from 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade.

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Our *second focus* is on finding, developing, and supporting coaches for all programs. All of our coaches are volunteers, making great personal sacrifices in order to teach our athletes. Most of them are parents of children in the program. Our feeder programs not only are used to develop athletes, but coaches as well. We strive to find the best individuals possible to take these jobs, and encourage all of you to help recommend new coaches.

Our *third focus* is to enlist volunteer support from all parents of participants or other parishioners to help provide the necessary “muscle” to sustain our programs. We are always in need of volunteers to help with concessions, admissions, referees, coaching, scorekeeping, gym set-up and gym clean-up at games. What a great example we as parents provide for our children when they see us volunteer to support our community. Each participant’s parent will be asked to help support our program through time. Please volunteer generously.

And finally, we are *focused on improving the program* each year. We encourage your feedback and constructive suggestions throughout the year through phone calls to any of the board members or letters delivered to the Athletic Director.

Together we can make this the best athletic program possible.

God Bless.

Your Holy Rosary Wea CYO Board