

SAINT CLEMENT OF ROME



St. Clement CYO Handbook

**343 South Main Street
Romeo, Michigan 48065
586-752-9611**

**Fr. Stephen C. Reckker, Pastor
Dave Phillips, Athletic Director**

Dear CYO Athletes and Parents,

It is great to observe the sense of community and pride that our CYO teams have brought to our parish. Please familiarize yourself with the responsibilities and expectations that we have in place for the CYO basketball season.

Coaches Responsibilities

St. Clement coaches are extensions of the Religious Education Program and are primarily ministers to the youth of the parish. All coaches will adhere to the following guidelines.

- 1. Be knowledgeable of and abide by the regulations and policies as dictated by the Catholic Youth Organization.**
- 2. Attend preseason meetings and clinics conducted by the CYO.**
- 3. Attend “Protecting God’s Children” workshop.**
- 4. Take proper care of all parish athletic equipment.**
- 5. Set a positive sportsmanship environment for the team by conducting themselves in a Christian manner.**
- 6. Inform the Archdiocese of Detroit of any injuries or problems that may occur in the season.**
- 7. Collect and inventory all parish equipment after the season.**

Players Responsibilities

Members of the various teams at St. Clement are representatives of our parish community and must conduct themselves accordingly. Players will adhere to the following guidelines:

- 1. Abide by the team rules and those directed by the CYO.**
- 2. Be respectful of coaches, teammates, opposing players and coaches and officials.**
- 3. Be financially responsible for all the equipment issued during the season.**
- 4. Attend the Religious Education Program at St. Clement and attend Mass regularly with their family.**

Parent's Responsibilities

Parents of athletes in the St. Clement CYO program should serve as positive role models for their children. To ensure the success of the athlete during the season, parents should adhere to the following guidelines.

1. Pay all fees associated with the season.
2. Attend all games when possible.
3. Promote an attitude that emphasizes team spirit.
4. Set good examples of sportsmanship.
5. Drop off and pick up their children on time.
6. Attend Mass regularly and be an active and supportive member of St. Clement parish. Make sure children are enrolled and attend Religious Education classes and encourage participation in parish sponsored activities.

Eligibility for Play

Requirements to participate in the CYO Athletic Program at St. Clement Parish.

1. Must be a registered member of St. Clement Parish on or before May 1.
 - Must attend St. Clement Religious Education Program. Two unexcused absences will result in a warning.
 - Four unexcused absences will result in a permanent suspension from the program for the remainder of that school year.
2. Attendance of Religious Education classes takes priority over practices or games.
3. A participant must register for Religious Education on or before October 1 for eligibility in the CYO program.
4. A participant is eligible immediately for the CYO program if the family has recently moved into the parish area and has registered with the parish and Religious Education Department.

5. Participant must have a sports physical signed by a doctor with a phone number dated after April 15.
6. No CYO player may be a registered member of more than one (1) parish at the same time. In the event that a player is registered in two (2) parishes, the CYO Athletic Department Director will determine which registration is valid and where the athlete is/was eligible.
7. In the event that a participant is qualified to play with both a parish and school, that participant may initially choose to play with either, but must participate with the initial choice for the balance of the school year, for all later teams as long as the initial choice sponsors a team.
8. Eligibility Requirements for CYO Purposes:
 - Catholic is defined as a person who is baptized Catholic (or)
 - A person, according to the norms of RCIA:
 - a. Has celebrated the Rite of Acceptance into the Catechumenate (or)
 - b. Preparing for reception into full communion with the Catholic Church who has celebrated the Rite of Welcoming.

Age Limitations:

1. Eighth Grade League: Players whose 15th birthday falls on or after September 1st of the current school year are eligible for the balance of the school year. Players cannot be enrolled in any grade higher than the eighth (8th) grade.
2. Sixth Grade League: Players whose 13th birthday falls on or after September 1st of the current school year are eligible for the balance of the school year. Players cannot be enrolled in any grade higher than the sixth (6th) grade.

Checklist for St. Clement of Rome CYO Program

Parent and Athlete to Initial

_____ I have read and understand the responsibility and eligibility requirements.

_____ Completed application for play.

_____ Include copy of signed and dated sports physical form (Dated after April 15) Keep a copy for your files.

_____ Check payable to: St. Clement of Rome for total amount.

CYO Prayer

We pray for young athletes, who through sports, develop important values such as loyalty, perseverance, friendship and sharing.

We pray for coaches, who appreciate the gifts of all players and have respect for the game, who place players before winning and value sportsmanship.

We pray for the parents, who love their children for who they are, not for how they perform.

We pray for officials, who inspire fair play and protect the integrity of the game and players.

O God, we pray for all who participate in games; may their hearts be open to see your presence in and through sports; may their minds remember the element of fun reflective of your spirit; may their bodies reflect the gracefulness and wonder of your creation. Let all who play the games be enriched by your presence in the gym and locker rooms. Amen