

St. Peter's CYO Basketball FAQ for 2022-2023

1. Who is eligible to play CYO basketball for St. Peter's?

The following details the list of participants who are eligible to participate in CYO at St. Peter's. (Please note that the CYO league rules for participation are also applicable):

- Students attending St. Peter School
- Children of parishioners of St. Peter's Capitol Hill
- Children of parishioners at St. Patrick's, St. Joseph's, St. Mary Mother of God, St. Frances de Sales and St. Dominic's.
- Former students at St. Peter School

The basketball program currently supports athletes in grades 3-8.

St. Peter's School students must maintain a passing grade in conduct and academics to be eligible to play CYO sports. Failure in these areas disqualifies the student from CYO sports for that marking period. Students who are suspended or expelled from school will lose eligibility from the CYO athletic program for school year. Parental support of these requirements is expected.

2. When does registration close?

Registration closes on November 5th. Register as soon as possible so we can align coaches and practice times!

<https://backoffice.sportspilot.com/register/family/default.asp?asoid=106385>

Please note volunteer coaches can/should also register using the same link.

3. How are participants placed on teams?

St. Peter's CYO believes that every child should have the privilege to play and participate in any sport that child selects. St. Peter's CYO will attempt to properly place a child with a team that best suits that individual. Depending on the sport and grade level, groups of athletes will be evaluated individually by the coaches. Additionally, in keeping with doctrine set forth in the CYO Handbook, teams will be divided to match the league's prescribed criteria.

Prior participation in CYO activities will also be a consideration in team placement. The Athletic Director and coaches will do our best to place all participants in the appropriate level of competition.

Age is also a determining factor. CYO offers divisions for U10 (10 and under), U12, and U14 for boys and girls. The cutoff date for each division is the participants age as of November 30th.

Over the first two weeks of practice, coaches and the AD will work to finalize team selections, which will impact practice schedules and game schedules (more below).

4. Who are the coaches? What are the requirements for serving as a volunteer coach?

The basketball program is lucky to have volunteer coaches from the parish, SPS alumni, and parents. We always need more volunteers! *In fact, particularly for the younger teams, we will need parents to step up and be coaches so we can have teams.*

A few important notes on coaching:

- Any volunteer coach (parents included) must be VIRTUS trained & fingerprinted. There are a few additional requirements from ADW, but that’s the biggest hurdle. No parent or volunteer will be able to participate as coach until that’s complete.
- Each team is required by ADW to have two registered coaches who meet the requirements.
- Any parent willing to be a volunteer coach should contact Ryan Donahue (ryandonahue20@gmail.com) immediately to begin the process in time for the upcoming season.
- If we do not have enough volunteers, we will not be able to support all teams/participants.

5. What do the practice schedules look like?

The gym at St. Colletta’s is rented out for our use on Tuesday and Wednesday nights (excluding holidays) from November to late February. As a rule, earlier practices go to younger teams while later practices go to the oldest teams. Here’s a sample from a few years ago:

Tuesday	Court 1	Court 2
5:30-6:30	U10 Boys	U10 Girls
6:30-7:30	U12 Boys (NT)	U12 Boys (MA)
7:30-8:30	U12 Girls	U14 Girls
8:30-9:30	U14 Boys	
Wednesday	Court 1	Court 2
5:30-6:20	U10 Boys	U10 Girls
6:20-7:10	U14 Girls	U12 Girls
7:10-8:00	U12 Boys (NT)	U12 Boys (MA)
8:00-8:50	U14 Boys	

8:50-9:30	U18 Boys	
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The final practice schedule will very much depend on number of teams/participants for each group. The program does try to make exceptions to accommodate volunteer coach schedules and where possible, allow for use of the full court for some teams. We also try to have teams that can scrimmage together practice at the same time if possible.

6. What does the facility at St. Colletta's offer?

St. Peter's CYO is very lucky to have access to St. Colletta's as a practice facility as gym space in the DC area, and particularly on the Hill, is a precious commodity.

St. Colletta's offers a full regulation court that can be split into two halves. On each half, each practice/team will have three hoops to work with. There are bathrooms on site and water fountains. Parking is available via the entrance on Independence Ave.

7. When do game schedules look like for different teams?

First off, please know that most games are played in Maryland or NW DC depending on gym availability, so expect that travel commitment when your son/daughter's season begins.

When seasons begin:

- 14U and some 12U teams start in December.
- 10U and some 12U (depending on division) start in January.
- Games are typically on Saturdays, but games on Sundays do happen. Very much depends on division and gym availability. The one thing I can say is it's usually consistent: if you have Saturday games, that's likely to be the norm for a season.
- 14U and possibly some 12U teams will have playoffs/post-season tournaments. Most 10U and 12U teams just have regular season games.

8. What level of competition should participants expect?

All games are managed by ADW to include referees and scorekeepers. 10U is very recreational as most kids are just learning to play. Most 12U teams are also more recreational in nature, but competitiveness tends to increase as kids get older. 14U teams and leagues tend to be more competitive.

As a rule, St. Peter's participates in divisions that best suit its players. Those decisions are made by coaches and the AD in early November.

9. How is the \$350 registration fee determined?

Basketball is by far the biggest St. Peter's CYO program in terms of participants and costs. Participants/parents fund the program and costs each season are divided equally amongst participants. Overall, expected costs incurred by the parish are estimated to be about \$25K depending on number of teams we field.

Costs include:

- Gym rental at St. Colletta's (\$15,500 for the season)
- \$900-\$1,200 cost per team as an ADW charge
- Uniforms for each player (usually \$2-\$3K per season)
- Equipment for each team: basketball, pinnies, etc.

10. What is the code of conduct for participants and parents?

Players, coaches and parents represent St. Peter's parish and St. Peter School and should keep that in mind at all times. As such, each parent/volunteer/participant should understand the following:

Code of Conduct for Participants and Parents

- Participants/athletes are taught to respect the sport, their opponents, game officials, and their coaches.
- Participants should behave according to the rules of their sport(s) and of the Parish, and should avoid conduct that demeans, harasses, and threatens any person. For example: Physically or verbally abusing another person; using profane language or gestures; demeaning or belittling another person; making derogatory comments; and engaging in conduct intended, or so reckless as to cause harm to another.
- The conduct of all participants should reflect the fact that Parish athletic programs are first and foremost an educational experience. Coaches and student athletes should focus on developing skill, experience, and character. Student athletes should not allow their participation in athletic programs interfere with their other educational activities.
- The conduct of all participants should reflect the fact that by their participation in student athletic programs sponsored by St. Peter's, they are representing the Parish and school. As a result, participants are expected to exhibit a higher standard of behavior than might be expected of other students, staff and faculty, and to avoid conduct that is likely to appear improper.
- Parents and guardians of student athletes should consider these rules when considering their own conduct during practices and games.
- Any coach or spectator ejected from an event is subject to a fine from the Archdiocese/CYO office and will not be permitted back on the field until a letter, explaining your actions, from the Parish Priest and the fine are received by the CYO office.

Code of Conduct for Coaches

All of the above principles apply with special significance to coaches because of their influential role in the lives and careers of student athletes, and the fact that they represent the Parish in dealing with student athletes, opposing teams, officials, sports organizations, and the public.

Coaches are also subject to the following rules:

- All participants should treat one another and all other people with dignity and respect.
- Athletic programs by definition require coaches to interact physically and vigorously with student athletes. However, conduct that is verbally or physically threatening or abusive, belligerent, or harassing is never appropriate and should not occur at any time.
- Coaches should not take advantage of their relationship with, and influence over, student athletes for personal advantage. This principle not only prohibits financial and sexual relationships with student athletes, it also requires coaches to avoid undue influence or control over matters outside of the student athlete's participation in athletic activities, such as social and extracurricular activities and personal relationships.
- Coaches should not in the performance of their duties, by words or conduct, manifest prejudice or bias based upon race, sex, religion, age, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation, and should not permit those under their control to do so.
- Coaches may establish team policies, provided they are consistent with this Statement and other applicable requirements. Team policies should be in writing, approved by the Athletic Director, and should be provided to each member of a team. Team policies should not conflict with this Statement, other Parish or CYO policies, or other applicable requirements