

# Diocese of Cleveland CYO Coach's Meetings

*Giving the Very Best of Yourself!*

**Fall 2025**

**Tackle  
Football**





## DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND CYO

### 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TACKLE FOOTBALL COACH'S MEETING

1. Program Planner
2. Sponsoring Organizations/Sections
3. Official Game Day Roster
4. NFHS and CYO Points of Emphases
5. Coach's Eligibility
6. Becoming a Great Coach
7. Resources
8. Playoffs



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July	16	In-person mandatory fall sports season coach's meetings, 6-9 p.m. Akron Children's Hospital Sports Medicine, 215 West Bowery St., Akron, 44308
	21	Fall sports season opens, practices may begin,
	26	<b>Football Coaches Mandatory Continuing Education – Huntington Bank Field Mandatory for Head &amp; Assistant Coaches</b>
	28	Fall sports season early registration closes; regular registration begins, 9:00am
	29	In-person mandatory fall sports season coach's meetings, 6-9 p.m. Location: Notre Dame Cathedral Latin High School, 13000 Auburn Rd, 44024
August	30	In-person mandatory fall sports season coach's meetings, 6-9 p.m. Location: Magnificat High School, 20770 Hilliard Blvd, Rocky River, 44116
	4	Fall sports season regular registration ends, 9:00am
	5	Team fee payments and fee summary due Last day to enter teams' blackouts
	6	<b>Football Coaches Mandatory Continuing Education Make Up #1</b> Cleveland CYO Office – 6:00pm-9:00pm
	9	Coaches Development Program - St. Basil the Great (Parish Hall) 9:00 am 8700 Brecksville Rd, Brecksville, OH 44141
	11	Deadline to add athletes and coaches to rosters, 9:00am
	12	Coaches Development Program - Holy Family-Stow, 6:00 pm 3179 Kent Rd., Stow, 44224
	15	Fall sports season schedules available on CYO website
	18	Coaches Development Program - St. Jude 6:00 pm 594 Poplar Street, Elyria, 44035
	21	<b>Football Coaches Mandatory Continuing Education Make Up #2</b> Cleveland CYO Office - 6:00pm-9:00pm
	23	Fall sports regular season competitions begin
	13-14	Parents and VIP Weekend
	21	Team Mass Sunday
September	27-28	Officials Appreciation Weekend
	12-26	Diocese of Cleveland CYO Fall Championship Tournaments - 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade
	26	All sports season ends.





# TACKLE FOOTBALL SECTIONS

## SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

GRADES 7 & 8 GRADE ONLY

ONLY PLAYERS LISTED IN THE SECTION ARE ELIGIBLE TO PLAY FOR THAT SPONSORING ORGANIZATION.

**SPONSORING ORGANIZATION – in green**

MEMBERS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE WITH THE SPONSORING ORGANIZATION – in black

**Gesu** – St. Ann, St. Dominic

**Holy Family – Stow** – Seton Catholic

**Holy Family – Parma** – Mary Queen of Peace, St. Bartholomew<sup>^</sup>, St. Anthony of Padua-Parma,

St. Charles Borromeo, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Assumption, St. Basil the Great, St. Benedict, St. Columbkille, St. Michael

**Holy Trinity** – St. Mary-Avon, St. Joseph-Avon Lake

**Immaculate Heart of Mary** – St. Joseph – Cuyahoga Falls, St. Patrick-Kent

**Lakewood Catholic Academy** – This roster is closed to non-sponsoring organization athletes.

**Notre Dame Elementary** – SS. Robert & Williams, St. Anselm, St. Helen, St. Joan of Arc, St. Mary-Chardon, St. Rita

**St. Albert the Great** – This roster is closed to non-sponsoring organization athletes.

**St. Ambrose** – St. Francis Xavier

**St. Angela Merici** – This roster is closed to non-sponsoring organization athletes.

**St. Barnabas** – This roster is closed to non-sponsoring organization athletes.

**St. Bernadette** – St. Brendan, St. Christopher, St. Clarence

**St. Francis Assisi** – Corpus Christi Academy, St. Paschal Baylon

**St. Francis de Sales – Akron** – Sacred Heart of Jesus-Wadsworth, St. Augustine, St. Sebastian, St. Vincent de Paul-Akron

**St. Gabriel** – St. John Vianney, St. Mary of the Assumption

**St. Hilary** – This roster is closed to non-sponsoring organization athletes.

**St. Jude** – St. Joseph-Amherst, St. Mary-Elyria, St. Peter-Lorain, St. Peter-North Ridgeville

**St. Mark** – Our Lady of Angels, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel – Cleveland

**St. Michael** – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade\* – Assumption, St. Basil the Great, St. Benedict, St. Columbkille

**St. Raphael** – This roster is closed to non-sponsoring organization athletes.

**Sts. Joseph & John** – Incarnate Word Academy, St. Bartholomew, St. Mary-Berea, St. Mary of the Falls

\* The goal with this organization is to create an all-7th team. Please verify athletes are registered with the correct sponsoring organization for their grade level.

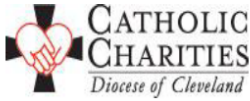
<sup>^</sup> Only Pre-Approved Athletes, who were rostered from previous seasons, may participate with these programs.

If a CYO Member Organization is *not listed*, their athletes must sign-up through the following link.

<https://forms.office.com/r/BLqjvab0jK>

Athlete's information will be given to the Athletic Director of the sponsoring organization they are placed with.

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# FOOTBALL GAME ROSTER PLAY COUNTING FORM

Use for All Divisions

List First and Last Names. No Initials or nicknames please.



TEAM \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
LEVEL/DIVISION 6th Grade 7th Grade 8th Grade LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_  
HEAD COACH \_\_\_\_\_ GAME TIME \_\_\_\_\_

List players in numerical order. Indicate the starters with a check in the first play column. Check the players unable to play in the U/P column.  
All Guest Players will be listed with "GP" before their name.

					Number of Plays in first half depends on team size and grade. See key below															
					First Half															
Uniform No.	Name	Dot	Position	U/P	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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## Participation Requirements

8th, 7th & 6th Grade Divisions:

- 20 or fewer players – 14 Non Penalty Plays, at least 7 in the first half
- 21 or more players – 12 Non Penalty Plays, at least 6 in the first half

Players Available: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Play Counter Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Final Score: \_\_\_\_\_





## 2025 NFHS FOOTBALL RULES CHANGES

**Electronic Equipment Approved to Permit Non-Audio and Still Images to Assist with Relaying Plays from the Sideline to Players 1-5-3c(2)** – This change allows for the use of some additional equipment, but continues to preclude in-helmet communication. This would allow for fixed electronic signs with play signals as well as nonaudio

methods but still would not permit the players between the numbers to watch video.

**Rules Additions Further Prohibit the Use of Video and Audio Devices by Players 1-5-3c(3) (NEW)** – No player participating in the game will be allowed to wear any type of audio or video device to record or transmit audio or video.

**Forward Fumbles Out of Bounds to be Returned to the Spot of the Fumble 3-4-3, 4-3-1 EXCEPTION (NEW)** – A situation potentially giving an unfair advantage to a fumbling team was revised. When a forward fumble goes out of bounds or is ruled out of bounds between the goal lines, the ball shall be returned to the spot of the fumble.

**Further Clarifications Made to Rule 10-4 in Specific Situations 9-6 PENALTY, 10-4-4b (DELETED)** – The committee continues its revisions and clarifications within the penalty enforcement rules to ensure consistency, particularly among illegal participation fouls.

**Rules for 6-Player Football Revised to Permit Advancement of a Fumbled Snap Six-Player – Rule 2 and 7, Six-Player – Rule 7** – The committee clarified that as long as there is a change of possession from the snap receiver to another player on offense, the ball can be advanced beyond the line of scrimmage.

1. Sportsmanship and Altercation Prevention and Protocol
2. Player Equipment and Enforcement
3. Formations

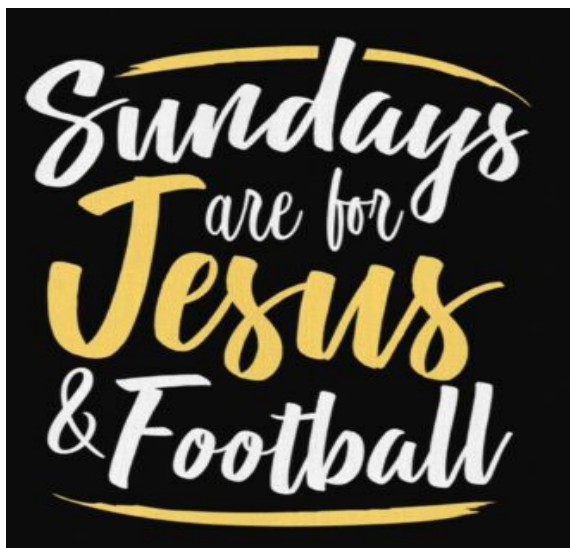


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## POINTS OF EMPHASIS

- ELIGIBILITY - MUST BE WITHIN YOUR SECTION
- NAME ON JERSEY
- DOTS - FRONT & BACK OF HELMENT
- THE NUMBER OF ZERO IS LEGAL
- RECERTIFICATION - CREDENTIALS - NO WHITE CARDS
- BENCH PERSONNEL - 6 COACHES & PLAY COUNTER - TEAM PHYSICIAN IN STANDS
- PARTICIPATION - BELOW 20 (14/7); OVER 20 (12/6)
- PLAY COUNTING - FORM
- ACCLIMATION DAYS - 5 - STARTS DAY PLAYERS STARTS HIS FIRST PRACTICE
- OVERTIME
- MERCY RULE - WHOLE GAME - 18 POINT LEAD
- PLAYOFFS



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# COACH

## ELIGIBILITY

**ONLY SIX ELIGIBLE COACHES ARE PERMITTED ON THE FIELD**

**GREEN CARDS – GOLD CARDS – BLUE CARDS**

**WHO NEEDS A GOLD, GREEN, BLUE CARD?**

- ✓ **ALL HEAD & ASSISTANT COACHES OF 7/8 GRADE CYO FOOTBALL**

**WHAT DO I NEED IF I'M A FIRST YEAR COACH IN 7/8 GRADE CYO FOOTBALL?**

- ✓ **NEED CDP CARD**
- ✓ **NEED GOLD CARD**

**HOW DO I GET A GOLD, GREEN OR BLUE CARD?**

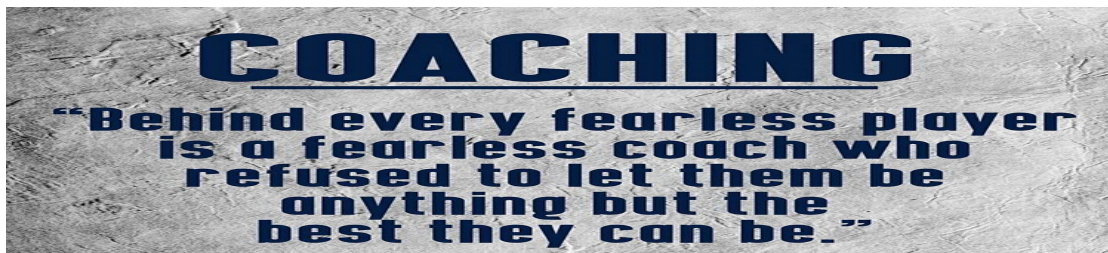
- ✓ **YOU NEED TO COMPLETE THE CYO RECERTIFICATION CLASS.**
- ✓ **YOU NEED TO COMPLETE THE USA FOOTBALL CERTIFICATION (ONE TIME)**

**IF I WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND THE JULY RECERTIFICATION CLASSES, DO I HAVE ACCESS TO THE SIDELINE?**

- ✓ **NO, ONLY COACHES WHO HAVE BEEN RECERTIFIED AND OBTAINED A GOLD, GREEN OR BLUE CARD.**

**IF I REFUSE TO PLAY SOMEONE, WHAT HAPPENS?**

- ✓ **PLAYOFF PRIVILEGES ARE REVOKED.**



*A transformational coach views winning as an outcome, not a priority, and puts the focus on helping athletes grow and reach their full potential, beyond just sports. On the opposite side, a transactional coach is someone who makes winning the ultimate goal and is less concerned about the overall experience.*

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[HTTPS://FDM.USAFOOTBALL.COM/COACHES/COACH-RESOURCES](https://fdm.usafootball.com/coaches/coach-resources)

[HTTPS://USAFOOTBALL.COM/DEVELOPMENT-TRAINING/CERTIFICATION/](https://usafootball.com/development-training/certification/)

[HTTPS://USAFOOTBALL.COM/DEVELOPMENT-  
TRAINING/CERTIFICATION/YOUTH/](https://usafootball.com/development-training/certification/youth/)

[HTTPS://WWW.TEAMSNAP.COM/COMMUNITY/SPORTS-SCIENCE/COACHING-  
SCIENCE/TEACHING-YOUTH-FOOTBALL-COACHES-ABOUT-PLAYER-SAFETY-  
REDUCES-INJURIES](https://www.teamsnap.com/community/sports-science/coaching-science/teaching-youth-football-coaches-about-player-safety-reduces-injuries)

[HTTPS://YOUTHFOOTBALLONLINE.COM/DEFENSE/THE-5-FUNDAMENTALS-TO-  
YOUTH-DEFENSE/](https://youthfootballonline.com/defense/the-5-fundamentals-to-youth-defense/)

[HTTPS://YOUTH1.COM/FOOTBALL/1263855-WHAT-ARE-THE-MOST-COMMON-  
MISTAKES-YOUTH-FOOTBALL-COACHES-MAKE-](https://youth1.com/football/1263855-what-are-the-most-common-mistakes-youth-football-coaches-make-)

[HTTPS://WWW.THEIMPERIALPOINT.COM/10-TIPS-FOR-MOTIVATING-YOUR-  
YOUTH-FOOTBALL-TEAM-ALL-SEASON/](https://www.theimperialpoint.com/10-tips-for-motivating-your-youth-football-team-all-season/)



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9





## CYO GRATITUDE

Coach complete the following sentence: *One thing that I am grateful for receiving this evening is...*

## Closing Prayer



St. Teresa of Avila (1515–1582)

*Christ Has No Body*

**We will read our closing prayer together out loud in our breakouts**

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: AMEN**

Christ has no body but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks  
Compassion on this world,  
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,  
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.  
Christ has no body now but yours!

Amen!

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