



The CYO Officials Academy Program

FAQ

CYO Athletics welcomes your interest in youth sports officiating. We have attempted to answer some of the most commonly asked questions about officiating.

Q: Who can become a CYO official?

A: Any high school student grades 9-12 or college student.

Q: What experience do I need?

A: None. It helps if you have participated in the sport you officiate, but it is not necessary. Study of rules and working hard are important as anything.

Q: What are the requirements?

A: CYO sponsors training classes that are mandatory. Attend classes and you can become a certified CYO Official.

Q: I have participated in my sport, but I wasn't a star athlete. Should I bother trying to officiate?

A: It helps to have participated in the given sport you wish to officiate in. It is not necessary to have been an outstanding performer.

Q: What does it take to become a good official?

A: It takes a lot of things, but most certainly a very thorough knowledge of the rules of your sport, a love of athletics and kids, physical ability, self-confidence, the dedications and determinations necessary to work hard, and above all personal integrity. The athletes and coaches look upon each contest as being the most important thing happening in their lives at that moment, and the official must look upon each contest the same way and react accordingly. This avocation is not for everyone, but if you have the interest and the attributes described above you may find this to be the most rewarding work you will ever be involved in.

Q: What are the benefits of officiating?

A: Individuals may look at things differently, but officials will generally tell you they:

1. Want to give something back to the sport.
2. Want to stay involved in sports.
3. Want the physical exercise.
4. Enjoy working with the kids.
5. Want some extra money.

Q: What expenses will I have?

A: Each sport requires an official to dress specifically. The CYO Officials Sport handbook details the uniform requirements. There is no registration fee to take the class. CYO does provide a shirt & whistle for free. Pants & tennis shoes is the responsibility of the official. CYO will also provide in some sports additional equipment depending on the sport.

Q: What will I be paid?

A: Each sport will have a fee with officiating and each grade level you work. Fees vary throughout the year. Ranges are from \$10-\$20 per game.

Q: What do I do now?

A: If you decide you want to move forward please register for training classes on the CYO official's web page and if you have any questions please contact us at 330.379.3636 ext. 16. There is no fee for registering. Here is the link to register: [Official's Academy Registration](#)

Let us congratulate you on your interest in officiating. Officials play a very significant role in the success of youth sports programs. If you are ready to accept the challenge and move into this profession we welcome you. If not, perhaps you now have a better understanding and appreciation of the official. If you can't join our ranks now, perhaps you will be able to sometime in the future. It's your call to make.