

# *St. Margaret Mary CYO Basketball*

**To better understand the program, all parents and players are requested to read this letter.**

Dear Parents and Players:

**C.Y.O. was the first youth basketball program in Westwood.** For over forty years St. Margaret Mary has had a very successful basketball program in terms of both winning and enjoyment due to the volunteer efforts of coaches and parents. So this might continue, several points must be made clear.

1. **Religious Education** – Under no circumstances is this program to conflict with Religious Education! Religious Education classes always take priority.
2. **Philosophy** – A great deal of time and effort goes into the program. Commitments are made by the coaches and must be made by the players and their parents. Players are expected to participate in all the practices in order to play effectively in the games. Games are played on weekends and all players are expected to schedule their activities so as to be able to fulfill their commitment to their CYO team. CYO is a competitive league. There are no set provisions for playing time. It is the wish of the coaches that all participants get playing time in each game, this is not always possible.
3. **Expenses** – The St. Margaret Mary CYO Basketball Program is a self-supporting activity. We must pay approximately \$50 per hour for Saturday and Sunday gym time in addition to the referee costs \$80 per game and there is a administrative fee for all weekday gym time. We must also consider the expense of basketballs, first aid equipment, **uniforms (to be returned at the end of the season)**, tournaments and the Awards Night.
4. **Registration Fee** - \$190 per player. The fee should not be the reason for anyone to not play in this program. If this does present a problem, please discuss this confidentially with me.
5. **Parental Involvement** – There is a need for parents to assist with score keeping, timing and writing articles about the games for the local newspaper.
6. **Commitment** – For years, the policy at St. Margaret Mary (and St. Denis) has been school and school teams come first, CYO comes second, and other teams and activities follow. We are insisting on this order. If you have an obligation to other activities (skiing, other basketball teams, hockey, etc.) that will result in you being unable to make the required commitment to CYO, please do not take a position on the team away from another child who can make the commitment.

It is our wish those participating in the CYO program will consider it to be a worthwhile experience in every way.

God bless,

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