

BYLAW 4 - ELIGIBILITY

Section 8 CYO Eligibility Request Form

4-8-1 Eligibility Request Forms are to be submitted for each athlete that may be eligible under the PSR (Bylaw 4-1-3-C) or “Parish/School does not offer a team” (Bylaw 4-2) eligibility rules outlined above.

- A. The Eligibility Request Forms are to be submitted to the Area CYO Athletic Director by the published Team Entry deadline.
- B. The student seeking eligibility is not permitted to participate in any practices, scrimmages or competitions for the sponsoring parish until written approval is received from the CYO Administration.
- C. Eligibility Request Forms submitted after the Team Entry deadline, incomplete or returned to the Pastoral Designee will result in the athlete being ineligible for practices, preseason and early season competitions and scrimmages.
- D. Eligibility Request Forms may not be altered by a member or revoked by a member after the application has been approved by the CYO Athletic Administration.
- E. *Members that do not offer a sports program may fill out an Eligibility Request Form once for all sports for an athlete wishing to participate with another member’s program. The process is outlined in Bylaw 4-2-5.*
 1. *The form will be good for one (1) athletic year.*
 2. *The form is due to the CYO Office by the published team entry date of the first sport the athlete is applying for.*
 3. *All deadlines and athlete participation limitations apply as outlined in 4-8-1-A and 4-8-1-B.*

BYLAW 5 - MERGERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FIELDING ATHLETIC TEAMS

5-1-1 *Multiple* Parishes/Schools, one the sponsoring Parish/School and *multiple Parishes/Schools* may merge for the purpose of fielding an athletic team. A Merger should be the last resort and be used only when all other attempts by *all Parishes/Schools* to field a team have been exhausted *and/or when Parishes/Schools do not offer the program.*

- A. ***A merger will be considered for approval by the CYO Athletic Office for Parishes/Schools that have offered, in the prior year, the sport they are wishing to merge when the following criteria are met by the Parishes/Schools.***
1. The athletes of ***each Parish/School*** must report to their home ***Parish/School*** first to see if there is enough interest to field the team.
 2. A measurable effort by the ***each Parish/School*** to field a team is to be documented before a merger is applied for. Examples as follows:
 - a) Pre-season meetings well in advance to notify the athletes of a program.
 - b) Advertise in Church bulletins, mailings or phone calls to children's home.
 - c) Any other effort as long as it is well in advance of the merger deadline.
 3. ***A Merger Proposal needs to be submitted by the sponsoring member to the CYO Athletic Office for approval no later than the following dates:***
 - Fall Sports by June 30***
 - Winter Sports by September 30***
 - Spring Season by January 31***
 4. ***Once approval of the merger proposal is made, the final merger agreements need to be submitted to the CYO Athletic Office no later than ten (10) business days before the published Team Entry Deadline.***
- B. ***For Parishes/Schools that have not offered in the past year, do not offer or have no interest in offering the program wishing to be merged, a letter signed by the Pastor/Administrator stating that do not offer the program will take the place of 5-1-1A sections 1 and 2.***
- C. The CYO prohibits the sponsoring member from recruiting players from other ***Parishes/Schools***, and vice versa until the above efforts by ***all Parishes/Schools*** have been attempted. The merger time limit will be strictly enforced and it is the sponsoring member's responsibility to see that all paper work is properly completed and all fees submitted.
- D. The Merger Agreement Form must be signed by ***all*** Pastors/Administrators and Pastoral Designees and submitted to

the CYO Athletic Office before the athletic program entry deadline.

- E. A Merger is for one athletic team and for one season only.
- F. The CYO prohibits merged Parishes/Schools from recruiting, rostering or using players from other Parishes/Schools on the merged team.