



Catholic Youth Activities Organization

During the Saunders Catholic Schools Strategic Planning process it was determined that there needs to be general oversight in youth activities that are associated with youth club activities and athletics, as it is an important part of our student's and families' participation and perception of the Catholic educational environment that we provide. Therefore the Catholic Youth Activities Organization (CYAO) was formed in 2015 to provide this support for clubs and organizations that provide activities for our students outside the classroom.

I. Purpose

The purpose of the Saunders Catholic Youth Activities Organization (CYAO) and the board is to ensure that our youth programs function within the Catholic mission of our schools, including spiritual development, skills development and the involvement of our children and families as a part of our faith community. Cavalry youth club teams are a positive extension of our Catholic Schools and are meant to enrich students in physical, intellectual, spiritual and creative formation activities.

II. Support Functions

Spirituality – The CYAO Board supplies guidelines and support for youth activities that are consistent with our schools and the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Volunteer Credentials – Coaches and volunteers who work independently with students in the clubs or organizations are required to pass background checks and follow the volunteerism guidelines established by the Diocese of Lincoln. (<https://www.lincolndiocese.org/all-documents/education/safe-environment-coordinators/sec-docs/1263-safe-environment-training-instructions/file>).

Finance & Insurance – Finances and club bank accounts are verified by Bishop Neumann Catholic High School and monitored by the Chief Administrative Officer. Each club may have their own board, insurance and day to day management of their club; the CYAO Board will provide support, guidance, transparency, and annual financial reporting for Cavalry Clubs and organizations that are associated with Saunders Catholic Schools.

Facility Usage Policy – Clubs and organizations are allowed to use school facilities, prioritized after school-sponsored events, based on the Saunders Catholic Schools Facility Usage Policy. Fees to use the facilities may be charged based on the specific policies of the school and supporting parish.

Participant Priority Guidelines – The Catholic Youth Activities Organization supplies priority guidelines for student involvement in Cavalry Club teams. The first priority is given to students currently attending Saunders Catholic Schools, second priority to Catholic students within the Wahoo Deanery that intend to go to one of the three Catholic schools, third priority to Catholic students within the Wahoo Deanery that may consider going to one of the schools and the fourth priority is at the discretion of the club team. Any non-school student, and their family, who participates in one of the CYAO clubs must agree to follow all of the guidelines and rules of the club and CYAO. And their parents must be involved in club activities and fundraising events.

Annual Scheduling Oversight – Club schedules are reviewed annually, to ensure consistency, transparency and to avoid overlap when possible and to avoid Sunday practices and games when practical.

Code of Catholic Conduct – The club teams and organizations will follow guidelines established by Saunders Catholic Schools for good sportsmanship, conduct and being good role models of our Catholic faith. (SCS Code of Catholic Conduct & Parents Meeting Letter).

Conflict Resolution Escalation Resource – After parents have followed their club guidelines for conflict resolution they may present the issue, with their Club Representative, at a CYAO Board Meeting for further guidance. CYAO Board Meetings are held annually in August, but a Club or Parent may request a meeting at any time to resolve an issue.

New Organization Applications – The Catholic Youth Activities Organization has the responsibility to review and process new club and organization requests. (SCS New Program Application Form).

III. Meeting Schedule

Regular Board Meetings – To be held annually or as necessary to set calendars, club fees, facilities, issues, etc.

Community Meetings – To be held following the annual CYAO Board meeting, to encourage open communications and transparency with community members. Annual CYAO meetings are held in August, other meetings may be scheduled and held at the request of a Cavalry Club Representative or parent.

IV. Board Membership

Board Members – The members of the CYAO Board will consist of the Neumann Athletic Director, two members from each club, one representative from each of the grade schools, the Neumann Finance Director, and the Neumann Booster Club President. The Chief Administrative Officers from each of the schools have designated a representative that attend meetings, but are also considered part of the board and have general oversight of the organization.

V. Members

- Neumann Representative
- Neumann Booster Club President
- Each Club – 2 Members
- St. John’s Representative
- St. Wenceslaus Representative
- Neumann Finance Director

VI. Meeting Dates

- August CYAO Board – Financial Reports Due
- Other Board Meetings At the request of Club Directors or Parents

V. Calvary Club Teams

Cavalry Basketball	4 th Grade – 8 th Grade Teams & Academies	1 st Grade – 3 rd Grade - Academies
Cavalry Softball	4 th Grade – 8 th Grade Teams (HS summer teams)	CYAO Board Oversight through 8 th
Cavalry Volleyball	4 th Grade – 8 th Grade Teams	
Cavalry Robotics	4 th Grade – 8 th Grade Teams (HS Teams)	CYAO Board Oversight through 8 th
Cavalry Wrestling	2 nd Grade – 8 th Grade Teams	