

Article One: **Name**

The name of this organization shall be “East Bay Parochial League.”

Article Two: **Philosophy**

The East Bay Parochial League embraces the Diocesan mission of educating the whole child; spirit, mind, as well as, body. Development of Christian values and practicing those values are the primary objectives of EBPL.

Values, sportsmanship, respect and athletic activity are integral to the EBPL program. There is an emphasis, in league play, on the teams’ attitude in victory or defeat, not the number of games won or lost.

The program should be well organized and have definite rules that must be respected and observed by each student, coach, referee, parent and other adults involved. Respect for the principles of fair play and sportsmanship will govern every activity. Each player will respect others and must consider players on his team as equals, and the opposing players as friendly competitors.

Students will learn patience and tolerance of all players, and be appreciative and respectful of the adults who facilitate each activity. Rules of conduct will be made clear to each player and available to all.

Appropriate conduct and behavior is expected of each student. When corrected by an adult, the student will accept the consequences of his/her action. Adults, coaches and spectators will use as their model Christian values, and shall encourage students to practice Christian behavior.

The EBPL shall be administered with Christian values and with a spirit of cooperation, not confrontation, and under democratic principles.

Article Three: **Membership**

A. Membership shall be limited to 13 parochial schools/parishes.

St. Anthony	St. Lawrence O'Toole
St. Leo the Great	St. Martin de Porres
Corpus Christi	School of the Madeleine
St. Elizabeth's	St. Philip Neri
St. Jarlath's	St. Joseph (Alameda)
	St. Theresa

B. All member schools/parishes shall have one (1) vote, which shall be cast by the principal/pastor or may, at the option of the principal/pastor, be delegated to the Athletic Director of said school/parish in writing delivered to the EBPL President, or the delegated Athletic Director. The delegation shall be delivered to the EBPL President prior to the beginning of each school year,

and shall be binding on the EBPL school or parish until superseded in writing delivered to the EBPL President.

C. Whether the membership will be all school or parish, it will be determined prior to the school year. The decision will be made by the pastor and principal. This determination will remain for the entire school year. No changes may be made mid year.

D. The League shall permit any member school/parish to participate in any CYO sport outside the EBPL, if such sport is not offered by the EBPL, and provided that such participation in CYO does not otherwise conflict with the member school's/parish's commitment to the EBPL.

E. A player may not play on more than one team of a similar sport per season with CYO/EBPL.

F. Each year fees are set per member and payable to EBPL. The EBPL fees shall be \$50 per school year per member if the EBPL member enters one or more basketball teams (boys' and/or girls') into the EBPL and \$30 per school year per member if the EBPL member enters one or more girls' volleyball teams into the EBPL, unless changed by a vote of a majority of the EBPL membership. In the event of financial hardship, the principals/pastors of the EBPL may waive any fee for any EBPL member by a majority vote of the principals/pastors.

G. The CYO makes separate assessments for each school/parish.

Article Four: **Eligibility**

A. Children who are currently enrolled in a member school are eligible to play in the EBPL. The school principal will verify birthdates and grades in order to participate and place a student's name on the team roster.

B. If a child is from the parish of one of the league membership, they must reside within the parish boundaries or currently and regularly attend the parish faith formation program in the membership parish for at least the previous two school years from the year starting to play. The child must be registered in that parish also for the previous two years. A written form must be signed by the pastor or parish administrator verifying said eligibility and attached to team roster.

C. A child, regardless of his/her age, may play for the grade in which the child is attending school or the CYO age requirements for those students from the parish. A child may play one grade above the child's school grade if the consequence of not allowing this would be that a member school may not be able to field a team with the minimum number of children needed to play the sport, or if the child is in a grade that itself cannot field a team with the minimum number of children needed to play the sport. The minimum number shall be the number of children that can play at any one time, plus three.

D. It is recommended that players maintain satisfactory academic grades and conduct on quarterly report cards. It is recommended that the schools/parishes have a written policy of those requirements.

E. It is recommended that each school/parish have an eligibility committee to ensure players are registered in school or parish according to above requirements. This committee would be

responsible to check birth certificates, quarterly report cards, and a letter from parents of their commitment to support the team and philosophy of the league.

F. A roster of players and coaches shall be submitted to the EBPL President and to CYO for each team prior to each school season.

G. All rosters must have the signatures of the principal/ pastor, Athletic Director and head coach in order to be valid.

H. Without written permission of the EBPL President, changes to the rosters may not be made after the commencement of play, unless a player changes schools or grade or a new student enters a school. Any changes must be given to the League in writing prior to playing the student.

I. Where teams are split due to large numbers it should be based on equal skill on each team, not an A or B team split where one team is better than another.

J. All coaches must go through the mandatory certification process provided by the Diocesan CYO Office. A list of certified, or to be certified, coaches, the number of teams each is entering for each sport, and the availability of gymnasium time will be sent to the principals and Athletic Directors prior to the start of the season.

K. Eligibility must be verified each school year.

Article Five: **Government**

A. The following League officers shall be elected each academic year in which there is a vacancy for that position:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer - (two signatures)
5. Boys Basketball Coordinator
6. Girls Basketball Coordinator
7. Girls Volleyball Coordinator
8. Referee Coordinator
9. Standings Coordinator

The same person may not serve two of the following positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer who shall be deemed to be the Executive Officers of the EBPL. Each of the Executive Officers of the EBPL must be current Athletic Directors or within the past two years and who are expected to serve as such for the term of their office. We will attempt to have officer positions staggered in order to ensure continuity. All elections for Executive Officers shall take place in May for the next academic year. The President shall be responsible for asking the EBPL members for nominations prior to April 15th of each year, and shall provide at least ten (10) days notice to the EBPL members prior to the May meeting to elect Executive Officers. Any Executive Officer may be terminated at any time from his/her position upon the vote of 75% of the EBPL members, and shall be terminated on the date that he/she ceases to be an Athletic

Director of an EBPL school/parish. In the case that an Executive Officer ceases to be an Athletic Director, his/her replacement at the EBPL school/parish shall assume their position until the EBPL votes by a majority of the EBPL membership on the replacement. No Executive Officer shall serve more than two consecutive full terms in the same office.

Each member school/parish is expected to participate in the work of the League. The EBPL encourages its members to actively seek non-Athletic Directors to take positions in the EBPL outside of the Executive Officers.

B. There shall be three (3) committees: one for Sportsmanship, one for Protests, and one for Appeals. At the end of each academic year, one member from each school/parish will be appointed to sit on one or the other of the Sportsmanship or Protest committees, each carrying one vote. The President shall head the Sportsmanship Committee, and the Vice President shall head the Protest Committee. Two principals will sit on each committee as non-voting members. The involved school/parish or schools/parishes shall have no vote on the issue. The final decision will be considered binding. The Appeals Committee shall be the entire EBPL Board, but a principal shall be designated by the principals of the EBPL schools to be the chairperson of the Appeals Committee.

The Sportsmanship Committee shall be responsible for items concerning unsportsmanlike conduct by players, coaches, or spectators. The Sportsmanship Committee may take action to suspend players, coaches, or spectators from games involving the EBPL. The Sportsmanship Committee shall develop its own rules of procedures and of governing principles, provided that they are not in conflict with the EBPL Bylaws. The rules of procedure and governing principles shall be subject to adoption by the EBPL. Until such time as they are adopted, any action of the Sportsmanship Committee shall be subject to appeal to the EBPL board. Any such appeal shall be accompanied by a check for \$100. To bring an item before the Sportsmanship Committee, the interim procedure is that an issue must be brought to the President in writing within 48 hours of the occurrence. The issue must be decided upon if practicable within two weeks after the issue has been presented to the EBPL. The principal/pastor of a school/parish or schools/parishes involved in an action for the Sportsmanship Committee must be notified at the beginning of the process.

The Protest Committee shall be responsible for items concerning the interpretation of the EBPL rules by either the referees or others in charge of the outcome of a game, or to assess the violation of rules by an EBPL team (for example, the "all-play rule"). The Protest Committee may take action to overrule the result of a game, provide for a makeup game, or take other action to redress the foregoing. The Protest Committee shall develop its own rules of procedures and of governing principles, provided that they are not in conflict with the EBPL Bylaws. The rules of procedure and governing principles shall be subject to adoption by the EBPL. Until such time as they are adopted, any action of the Protest Committee shall be subject to appeal to the EBPL board. Any such appeal shall be accompanied by a check for \$50. To bring an item before the Protest Committee, the interim procedure is that an issue must be brought to the Athletic Director of the school/parish that wishes to protest first and that Athletic Director must forward the protest to the EBPL President in writing within 96 hours of the occurrence in order for the protest to be heard by the EBPL. The issue must be decided upon if practicable within two weeks after the issue has been presented to the EBPL. The principal/pastor of a school/parish or schools/parishes involved in an action before the Protest Committee must be notified at the beginning of the process.

A nonrefundable fee of \$35 to EBPL must accompany the letter of protest to the League. If the protest concerns a particular game, the protest must be noted on the score sheet for the game.

The Appeals Committee shall be a forum to handle those issues appealed from the Sportsmanship Committee and the Protest Committee, or to question any decision made by the EBPL President. Any appeal must be accompanied by a check made payable in the amount of \$50 for an appeal, or \$35 for a protest, to the EBPL, and a written statement which is no longer than five pages (single-spaced, size 12 font), outlining the issue to be appealed. The written statement just be submitted by an Athletic Director, and just be submitted to the EBPL President (with a copy to all the Athletic Directors). The matter shall be taken up if at least two of the membership (not including the school/parish that submitted the appeal) agree that the matter should come before the Appeals Committee. If the matter does not come before the Appeals Committee, or if the appeal is won, the fee shall be refunded.

C. Any rules or changes to rules must be brought to the President and distributed in writing by the President with the agenda for the meeting. Unless the agenda is waived by 75% of the membership, the rule may not be voted upon and may not be in effect if it was not given to the Athletic Directors and principals/pastors at least ten days in advance of the meeting.

All rules shall be subject to consideration and consensus. Any rule changes must be made prior to beginning of the season and published in writing. All rules must be voted in by a majority of members, not just the majority of members attending a meeting.

If any principal/pastor objects to a rule change based upon the principal's/pastor's good faith belief that such a rule change might have an adverse impact in the classroom, school, or parish, action on such rule change shall be tabled until the principals/pastors have a chance to meet and confer about it.

D. Rules of the EBPL will be codified, dated and distributed to each of the EBPL membership (Principals and Pastors and Athletic Directors) as a complete set for any change that is made.

Article Six: **Meetings**

A. The EBPL shall endeavor to have a minimum of three meetings each academic year.

B. An agenda will be developed by the President in advance of each meeting. Any Athletic Director may propose items to be on the agenda by written notice to the President, or by mentioning it at a meeting for the next meeting. The agendas will be sent to the principals, pastors and the Athletic Directors at least ten (10) days in advance of the meeting.

C. Two principals shall endeavor to attend each meeting. In addition to the other provisions of these Bylaws, no rule can be changed pursuant of Article Five if at least one principal/pastor is not present. If an issue needs broader input from all member principals/pastors of the League the principals/pastors will determine the validity of such an issue.

Article Seven: **League Scheduling**

A. The President shall appoint a scheduling committee to meet prior to each season to draw up the League schedule, and the President shall give notice of such meeting at least one (1) week before the meeting to all principals, pastors, and Athletic Directors; the notice shall include the date, time, and place of the meeting and an invitation (and request for response) to each school/parish to send volunteers to the meeting.. The committee shall be coordinated by the coordinator for that sport. Prior to the meeting of the scheduling committee, the Athletic Directors of the League shall report the number of teams entered at each grade level, dates available for gym usage, requests for consideration due to parish or school activities, and any other special requests.

Teams from the same school/parish and the same grade level shall be scheduled to play. If the schedule allows, they should be scheduled to play only once during the season, and should be scheduled before the midpoint of the season. The school principal/pastor may determine that the teams should not play. Should the teams not play, the school/parish shall then notify the League prior to the game of the intent not to play. The school/parish shall also notify the League as to which team is to be credited with a win and which team is credited with a loss.

B. Following the publication of the schedule, schools/parishes may request games to be rescheduled only for school or parish activities if the League has sufficient time to do so. The person in charge of scheduling sports may only reschedule games with approval from all affected members, and upon the consent of the League President, or with the consent of a majority of an executive board of Athletic Directors at a League meeting. Games should only be rescheduled under extraordinary circumstances. Games may not be rescheduled because of the lack of availability of a coach or outside activities of the players.

Article Eight: **Penalties and Forfeits**

Principals/Pastors must be notified immediately of a penalty or forfeit. Forfeit fees are as follows: Volleyball - \$50.00; Basketball - \$50.00. In addition to these fees there is a graduated forfeit fee of \$10.00 per game for any additional games a same team forfeits. **(LEAGUE WILL PAY FROM THE FORFEIT FEES THE GAME OFFICIALS.)**

Article Nine: **Breaking Ties and Play Offs**

The First, Second, Third and Fourth place teams in the event of ties at the end of the regular season will be determined by the tie-breaking rules below:

The tie-breaking procedures are:

1. Matching the “head-to-head” records of the tying teams. (“Head-to-head” means games played against each other.) The scores of the games shall not be considered.
2. If the teams have split their regular season competition, the tie will be broken by using the following formula: By comparing the record of how each team has done against the team(s) that have finished ahead of them during the League season one by one from the first

place team downward until the tie is broken. If this fails, by taking their records against the teams placed below them one by one until the tie is broken.

3. If this procedure fails to break the tie, then the seeding for the playoff will be determined by the toss of the coin. There must be an officer of the League or a Principal present.

4. The majority of the executive board of Athletic Directors shall have the sole power of interpretation of the tie-breaking rules. Decisions regarding the breaking of ties may only be appealed to the Diocesan CYO Office.

5. As per Diocesan rules, procedures for breaking ties may only be modified by the League prior to the first game of the season.

All rules and policies of CYO which do not conflict with the EBPL Bylaws shall be followed.

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