

I. PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY. The Inter City Catholic League (ICCL) exists to coordinate and regulate inter-scholastic athletic competition among Catholic elementary schools located in St. Joseph and Elkhart Counties, Indiana. The school must be a member of the Fort Wayne/South Bend Catholic Diocese. In cooperation with participating schools, the ICCL:

- establishes season schedules for each sanctioned sport;
- defines rules of play for each sanctioned sport;
- establishes and enforces rules regarding player eligibility;
- establishes and enforces rules regarding team composition including consolidation of two or more school teams;
- establishes and enforces rules of conduct for players and coaches;
- provides for the facilities, officiating crews, and other resources required for regular season and tournament games where required;
- performs other functions as necessary for the proper governance of inter-scholastic athletic competition among Catholic elementary schools and parishes;
- will sponsor and govern the Varsity Sports (7th & 8th grades), and the “B-Team” Sports (5th & 6th grades). 4th Graders can be used to fill in teams only, with prior league approval.

The prime objective of the ICCL is to ensure that the involvement of Catholic elementary school students in inter-scholastic sports is a constructive experience. For this reason, the ICCL, and all its volunteers will at all times strive to provide a positive example through their personal conduct and collective actions on and off the field of competition. The ICCL will not dictate any academic policy or academic requirements to its member schools.

II. PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS. Participation in the ICCL shall be available to Catholic schools located in St. Joseph and Elkhart Counties that are members of the Fort Wayne/South Bend Catholic Diocese, whose enrolled students participate on one or more ICCL sanctioned sports. Full participation shall be automatically granted to any of the eligible schools. This participation will continue indefinitely with no requirement of periodic renewal or reapplication. Current members are:

1. Christ The King
2. Corpus Christi
3. Holy Cross
4. Holy Family
5. Our Lady
6. Queen of Peace
7. St. Adalbert
8. St. Anthony
9. St. Bavo
10. St. John the Baptist
11. St. Jude
12. St. Mary of the Assumption
13. St. Matthew
14. St. Monica
15. St. Joseph-Mishawaka
16. St. Joseph-South Bend
17. St. Pius
18. St. Thomas
19. St. Patrick-Walkerton
20. Little Flower
21. St. Michael the Archangel-Plymouth
22. Sacred Heart

A special provision was given to St. Pius Parish, Queen of Peace Parish, Little Flower Parish, Sacred Heart. They have been allowed to be in the league with no school. They are allowed the use of CCD students, but must adhere to **Player Eligibility Requirements Section VII**.

A parish that is not currently a member may request to participate in the ICCL by making such request to the President of the ICCL in writing. The request shall then require a majority vote by the ICCL Governing Board for approval.

III. GENERAL AND GOVERNING BOARD. Each member parish/school is entitled to one ICCL vote. The respective ICCL Voting Representative should cast that vote. In the event that the Representative is absent, an alternate Voting Representative shall be appointed by the member parish/school. The whole group of Voting Representatives will be known as the "GOVERNING BOARD". Voting Representatives shall:

- receive notification of all regular and special meetings of the Governing Board;
- be entitled to attend and participate in all regular and special meetings of the Governing Board;
- be entitled to vote on behalf of their respective parishes in all matters brought before the Governing Board in any regular or special meeting;
- be responsible for effective communications between their respective parishes and the ICCL;
- be eligible for nomination and election as ICCL Officers.

In addition the Pastor and School Principal of each parish/school are ex officio non-voting representatives.

A. **REGULAR MEETINGS.** The Governing Board shall meet six (6) times each year. Generally the meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September and November. The specific dates, times, and locations of regular meetings shall be determined by the ICCL President in consultation with the Governing Board. The ICCL President shall determine the agenda for each regular meeting. Written notice of each regular meeting will be mailed to the Voting Representatives at least 1 week prior to the meeting.

B. **SPECIAL MEETINGS.** The ICCL President, as necessary to address business of an urgent nature, may call a special meeting of the Governing Board. The ICCL President shall be required to call a special meeting if requested by the Voting Representatives of at least one-third (1/3) of the participating parishes. The President may also poll the Voting Representatives via telephone if deemed necessary.

C. **QUORUM.** The presence of the Voting Representatives of at least one-half (1/2) of the participating parishes shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of any regular or special meeting of the Governing Board. **REMOVED FROM CONSTITUTION MAY 19, 2004.**

D. **MAJORITY REQUIRED FOR ACTION.** Except as otherwise specified in the ICCL Constitution, a simple majority, i.e., fifty percent plus one, of those Voting Representatives *PRESENT* at a regular or special meeting shall be required to approve any action of the Governing Board.

E. **COMMITTEES.** The President can appoint ad hoc or standing committees if deemed appropriate. The President shall clearly define the purpose of the committee, the task(s) it is expected to perform, and expected completion dates. The President shall appoint the members of the committee and shall designate a chairman of that

committee. A committee shall automatically be dissolved upon the completion of its assigned task(s) or by the order of the President.

F. **ORDER OF MEETINGS.** The following is the order of regular meetings:

1. Call to order.
2. Opening prayer.
3. Sign in/roll call of ICCL Voting Representatives.
4. Report of Secretary. (Previous meeting minutes)
5. Report of Treasurer.
6. Sports Reports.
7. Any special committee report.
8. Unfinished business.
9. New business.
10. Moderator's remarks.
11. Comments from the floor.
12. Future meetings scheduled.
13. Adjournment.
14. Closing Prayer.

IV. **OFFICERS.** Officers shall be appointed or elected to manage ICCL business affairs in accordance with the ICCL Constitution and Governing Board directives. With the exception of the Moderator, all league officers shall be elected for a period of two years by a simple majority of the Governing Body in attendance at the July meeting. The term of the newly elected officers shall begin after the July meeting. No person shall hold more than one office during the same term.

A. **MODERATOR.** The Bishop of the Fort Wayne/South Bend Diocese shall appoint a Moderator as his administrative liaison to the ICCL. The Moderator shall provide spiritual guidance and leadership to the ICCL and its governing board.

B. **PRESIDENT.** The President shall be elected by the Governing Board and shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- in consultation with the Governing Board, determine the dates, times, locations, and agendas for all meetings;
- preside at all regular and special ICCL meetings;
- have the authority to order the removal of any person engaging in disruptive behavior;
- appoint and dissolve committees;
- appoint and remove all ICCL Sport Directors;
- serve as the official public representative and spokesman for the ICCL;
- ensure compliance with the ICCL Constitution and Governing Board directives in the conduct of all ICCL business affairs;
- act as liaison between the Governing Board and the Varsity sports directors.

C. **VICE PRESIDENT.** The Governing Board shall elect the Vice President and shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- preside at all regular and special ICCL meetings in the President's absence;
- assume the duties and responsibilities of the President during any vacancy of that office;
- serve as chairman of any special committees established by the President;
- be responsible for the collection, and verification of all players rosters, athletic contracts, and coach's code of ethics;
- act as liaison between the Governing Board and the B-Team sports directors.

- D. **SECRETARY.** The Secretary shall be elected by the Governing Board and shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
- prepare and distribute meeting notices in accordance with the ICCL Constitution and as directed by the President;
 - record and publish minutes of all regular and special ICCL meetings;
 - maintain in good order the official records of the ICCL including meeting minutes, correspondence, and documents other than financial records;
 - preside at ICCL meetings in the absence of the President and the Vice President.
- E. **TREASURER.** The Treasurer shall be elected by the Governing Board and shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
- receive, manage, invest, and disburse funds on behalf of the ICCL in accordance with the ICCL Constitution and Governing Board directives;
 - prepare and present a thorough written report of ICCL finances at each regular ICCL meeting and as directed by the Governing Board;
 - maintain in good order the financial records of the ICCL;
 - advise the Governing Board concerning the financial performance and requirements of individual sport programs and the ICCL overall;
 - preside at ICCL meetings in the absence of the President, Vice President, and Secretary.
- F. **ELIGIBILITY.** Any person, including persons who are not members of the ICCL Governing Board may be nominated and elected to the above-mentioned offices.
- G. **NOMINATION AND ELECTION.** Nominations for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be accepted at the May meeting. Elections will be held at the July meeting.
- H. **REMOVAL.** The President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all Voting Representatives at any regular or special meeting.
- I. **VACANCIES.** Vacancies in the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer resulting from resignation or removal shall be considered by the Governing Board. The Governing Board may, at its option, conduct a special election to fill the vacancy or allow the vacancy to remain unfilled until the next regular election of officers.
- J. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.** The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall serve on the Executive Committee. This committee will be in force at all times. The purpose of the committee is to solve or resolve any emergency matters that occurs in between meetings. Examples would be discipline problems, scheduling problems, and any other matters deemed appropriate by the President. Any actions taken by this committee will be reported at the next regular meeting.
- V. **FINANCIAL STRUCTURE.** Procedures shall be established and observed to ensure the proper management of ICCL funds.
- A. **OPERATING ACCOUNT.** An operating account shall be established to receive and disburse ICCL operating funds. All operating receipts (e.g., team league fees, gate receipts and concession revenues, etc.) shall be deposited to the operating account.

All operating expenses (e.g., facility rental, officiating fees, supply costs, etc.) shall be disbursed from the operating account. The operating account shall be under the direct supervision and control of the Treasurer who shall present a report of operating account activity at each regular meeting of the ICCL Governing Board.

- B. **INVESTMENT ACCOUNT.** An investment account shall be established to invest surplus ICCL funds not needed to meet operating expenses. The investment account shall be under the direct supervision and control of the Treasurer who shall present a report of investment account activity at each regular meeting of the ICCL Governing Board. Each investment account transaction shall require the advance approval of the ICCL Governing Board.
- C. **LEAGUE FEES.** Prior to the May meeting of each year, the treasurer shall send a letter to the athletic association or other appropriate officials at each participating parish to request payment of any outstanding ICCL team fees. The notification letter shall clearly indicate the amount(s) payable, and for which sport(s). Also at this time host schools are to turn in any outstanding bills for hosting events to the Treasurer. The relevant Sports Director, prior to submission, shall approve these amounts. Failure to pay all past dues by the July meeting will result in the school not being allowed to participate during the following school year in all sports. **THIS INCLUDES PARTICIPATION IN ANY CONSOLIDATION. UPON PAYMENT OF ALL PAST DUE FEES, THE SCHOOL/PARISH WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY RE-INSTATED TO ITS STATUS AT THE TIME OF EXPULSION.** In the case of consolidations, the sponsoring team will be responsible. **CHANGED MAY 19, 2004**

VI. DIRECTORS OF ICCL SPONSORED SPORTS. The ICCL sponsors the following sports for boys and girls:

**BOYS: BOYS FOOTBALL, BOYS BASKETBALL, BOYS WRESTLING,
BOYS BASEBALL, BOYS SOCCER**

**GIRLS: GIRLS SOFTBALL, GIRLS BASKETBALL, GIRLS VOLLEYBALL,
GIRLS TRACK, GIRLS SOCCER**

Boys will be allowed to participate competitively in BOYS sports only. Girls will be allowed to participate competitively in GIRLS sports only. The Governing Board may add additional sports as it seems fit.

- A. **SPORTS DIRECTORS.** Each sport sanctioned by the ICCL shall be supervised by a Sports Director appointed by the President. The Sports Director may be responsible for, but not limited to, the following:
- establishing the rules of play for the sport including any special provisions adopted specifically for ICCL sanctioned games;
 - establishing a schedule for both regular season and tournament games;
 - arranging for appropriate venues for regular season and tournament games;
 - arranging for officials/referees for regular season and tournament games;
 - distributing and collecting of team rosters with validated birth dates by the school principal, or parish pastor, **signed parents athletic contracts, and coach's code of ethics;**
 - bring any rule changes to the Governing Board that were approved by a 2/3 vote of ALL COACHES;
 - arranging the collection of entry fees to the Treasurer;
 - approve any host school expenses, and communicate such with the Treasurer;
 - approve of any team consolidations under **ITEM X** set forth here and after.

- B. **COACHES MEETING.** Prior to the official opening of the sport season, the Sport Director shall organize and conduct a meeting of the coaches of all teams participating in that sport. At that meeting, the Sport Director shall communicate all essential information concerning the upcoming season, and shall advise all coaches of the rules adopted for ICCL games. The President and or the Vice President should be notified of the meeting, and is entitled to attend.
 - C. **IHSAA RULES.** In all cases, ICCL games shall be governed by the rules of play approved by the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) for that sport, with such special provisions adopted specifically for ICCL games. Special provisions adopted specifically for ICCL games shall be provided to each coach in writing before the start of regular season games.
- VII. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.** ICCL player eligibility requirements shall apply to all ICCL sanctioned sports in addition to any rules, which apply to a specific sport (e.g., weight/size limits, etc.).
- A. **ENROLLMENT.** The player shall be enrolled in the elementary school, or the CCD program of the participating parish, sponsoring the team of which the player is a member. If a consolidated team, the player shall be so enrolled in any one of the sponsoring parishes.
 - B. **AGE LIMIT.** The player shall not have attained the age of fifteen years on or before June 1 for Varsity sports, and thirteen for B-Team sports. A player who reaches the age of fifteen years for varsity sports, and thirteen for b-team sports on or before June 1, shall not be eligible to participate in that ICCL sanctioned sport during the ensuing school year. A player through his or her league Voting Representative may petition the league to waive this rule, based upon hardship.
 - C. **SCHOOL CHANGES.** If a player changes from one participating school to another during the school year, the player shall be immediately eligible to play on teams sponsored by the new school, provided that the player's parent or legal guardian simultaneously registers as a member of the new school.
 - D. **SAME SPORT.** The player shall not have previously played or be concurrently playing the same sport on a non-ICCL school team during the same school year. A player who is a member of a non-ICCL school team shall not be eligible to play the same sport on an ICCL sanctioned team, during the same school year.
 - E. **CONSENT.** The player's parent or legal guardian shall give his/her consent allowing the player to participate in a specified sport.
 - F. **STANDARDS.** The player shall comply at all times with disciplinary, academic, and attendance standards of his/her school. A player shall become ineligible for ICCL sanctioned play upon notice from the school/parish that he/she does not satisfy disciplinary, academic, and attendance standards; eligibility shall be immediately restored upon notice from the school/parish in which the player is then enrolled that all deficiencies have been corrected. The ICCL will not intervene on internal policies of its members.
 - G. **PLAYER AND COACHES CONDUCT.** Players and Coaches shall observe Christian standards of proper conduct during all ICCL sanctioned competitive play. Players or Coaches ejected from an ICCL game for any reason shall be brought to the

attention of the ICCL Sport Director for possible disciplinary action. The ICCL will follow IHSAA rules in all ejection cases.

- H. **CCD.** When participation in a school is insufficient under the rules governing a particular sport, to meet the minimum roster requirements of that sport, the school may request permission to allow its CCD students to participate on that team. It must be made available to all CCD students, and not select CCD students. The request must be made to the Governing Board in writing, where a vote will be taken.
- I. **SCHOOL GRADE REQUIREMENTS.** To participate in a Varsity Sport, each athlete must be enrolled in the 7th or 8th grade of the sponsoring or consolidating school(s). The Sports Director and the Governing Board prior to the season must approve the participation of 5th and or 6th grade students at the Varsity level. In no case shall a Varsity team have more than one half (1/2) of its participants enrolled in the 5th and or 6th grades. If a school sponsors two teams, no more than one quarter (1/4) of the participants may be enrolled in 5th and or 6th grades.

To participate in a B-Team sport, each athlete must be enrolled in the 5th or 6th grade of the sponsoring or consolidating school(s). No 7th or 8th grade student, regardless of age, may participate on a B-Team squad. The Sports Director and the Governing Board must approve the participation of 4th grade students on the B-Team level. In no case shall a B-Team squad have more than one half (1/2) of its participants enrolled in the 4th grade. If a school sponsors two teams, no more than one quarter (1/4) of the participants may be enrolled in the 4th grade. No 3rd grade student may participate in any ICCL sport.

VIII. VERIFICATION. The eligibility of each player participating in ICCL-sanctioned competitive play shall be determined and verified according to the following:

- Prior to the start of the regular season, the team coach shall deliver to the appropriate ICCL Sport Director a complete team roster indicating the name, date of birth, school, and grade level of each team member. The school principal/Parish Pastor shall prepare and sign the team roster.
- The team coach shall provide in writing the appropriate ICCL Sport Director with the name, date of birth, school, and grade level of any player joining the team later in the season signed by the principal/Parish Pastor.
- It shall be the responsibility of the team coach to ensure that all team members meet eligibility requirements established by the ICCL and the participating parish throughout the course of the season; and that players are not permitted to participate in ICCL sanctioned competitive play whenever they do not fully comply with such eligibility requirements.

IX. PROTESTS. Protests shall be accepted for consideration only on the basis of player eligibility. Protests will not be accepted or considered with the respect to timing, officiating, scoring application or interpretation of the rules of play, or any other aspect of a game sanctioned by the ICCL.

- A protest concerning player eligibility shall be submitted to the President, and the Sport Director in writing within one week (seven calendar days) following the game in question. Protests submitted by anyone other than the coach or the ICCL Representative of a team that actually participated in the game in question shall not be accepted. If, upon review, the President and Sport Director determine that

an ineligible player did participate in the game in question, the offending team shall forfeit the game and the protesting team shall be declared the winner.

X. **TEAM CONSOLIDATION.** When enrollment in the elementary school and/or CCD program of a participating parish is insufficient to field a complete team in a particular sport, the school may combine with one or more participating schools to form a consolidated team for that sport.

- The Sport director shall be notified of any team consolidation for that sport at the pre-season meeting of the coaches. The Sport Director shall have the authority to approve team consolidations for that sport with the consent of the other coaches at the meeting. All consolidations will be reported to the President, who will then announce them at the next regular meeting. If a majority of the coach's object to a proposed consolidation, the Sport Director shall refer the matter to the ICCL Governing Board for final resolution.
- A team consolidation shall remain in effect for one sport season, and shall be subject to annual review and approval by the Sport Director.

XI. **AMENDMENT.** Amendments to this Constitution shall require approval by the ICCL Governing Board in accordance with the procedures given below.

- A proposal to amend the Constitution may be presented at any regular meeting of the Governing Board. If a motion to amend the Constitution is properly entered with second and approved by a majority of Governing Board members present, the Secretary shall be required to distribute the proposed amendment in writing to each Governing Board member within thirty days thereafter.
- At the next following regular meeting of the Governing Board, the proposed amendment shall receive final consideration. Approval of an amendment shall require the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the Governing Board members present at the meeting.

XII. **ADMINISTRATIVE.** The following are additional policies to be followed.

- **START TIMES.** Per a directive from Bishop D'Arcy dated January 18th, 1999, an athletic event may not begin prior to 1:00 p.m. on Sundays. This includes all levels of athletics in the entire Fort Wayne/South Bend Diocese.
- **RE-SCHEDULED GAMES.** If a member school/parish is forced to change a scheduled athletic event for educational or religious purposes, the Sport Director will be contacted first. Every effort will be made to re-schedule the event. No forfeit will be awarded to the opposing team.
- **SANCTIONED PLAY.** The term "ICCL Sanctioned" shall encompass ALL sporting events that include member school/parishes. Any invitational tournaments will be subject to all ICCL rules and regulations.
- **HOLY DAYS/HOLIDAYS.** No games shall be scheduled on the following Holy Days/Holidays;
 1. New Years Day or New Years Eve
 2. Ash Wednesday
 3. Holy Thursday
 4. Good Friday
 5. Easter Sunday
 6. Ascension Thursday

- 7. Thanksgiving
- 8. Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- 9. Christmas Day or Christmas Eve

- **ADDING A SECOND TEAM.** If a member school/parish wants to add a second team in the league, the respective coach should present the information to the Sport Director. If the Sports Director deems the player numbers to be sufficient for an additional team, the Sports Director will advise the President.
- **COLORS TEAMS.** The Colors Division in Varsity Sports, and the “B” Division in “B-Team” sports were created for the overflow of younger athletes that would not get the opportunity to play at the upper division. Generally, if only one team is entered it must play at the Varsity level for 7th & 8th grades, or the “A” division level for 5th & 6th grades.
- **CANCELLATION OF GAMES.** Generally if the Diocesan offices close schools for the day, or cancel all Diocesan events for that day, then all athletic events for that day will also be cancelled. The President shall also have the discretion to cancel events due to other circumstances. Local media will be used to relay pertinent information. The President may consult with other members of the Executive Board if necessary.
- **ICCL ATHLETES PRAYER.** God our Father, help us to put forth our best effort, to represent our school with class, to respect our opponents, and to grow as disciples of your Son, Jesus. Keep us safe from injury and harm through the intercession of Our Lady, the mother of your Son and our mother, too. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen. Saint Sebastian, pray for us! **This prayer shall be read prior to ALL ICCL athletic events. It will be the responsibility of the home or host team to administer this policy.**
- **JEWELRY.** No Jewelry will be worn during any ICCL athletic event.

SPORTS SCHEDULES

FOOTBALL	Start Date:	August 6 th , conditioning practice begins.
	Championship Game:	Last Sunday in October
	Diocesan Championship:	First Sunday in November
SOFTBALL	Start Date:	August 6 th
	Championship Game:	On or about October 15 th
SOCCER	Start Date:	August 6 th
	Championship Game:	On or about October 24 th .
VOLLEYBALL	Start Date:	October 8 th
	Varsity Championship :	On or about January 15 th .
	B-Team Championship:	Before Christmas break.
BOYS' BASKETBALL	Start Date:	November 1 st .
	Varsity Championship:	First week in March.
	B-Team Championship:	On or about February 15 th .
WRESTLING	Start Date:	December 1 st
	Championship Match:	End of March.

GIRLS'	Varsity Start Date:	January 9 th .
BASKETBALL	B-team Start Date:	December 26 th .
	Varsity Championship:	On or about April 5 th .
	B-Team Championship:	On or about March 17 th .
BASEBALL	Start Date:	March 15 th .
	Championship Game:	After Memorial Day, depending on the weather.
TRACK	Start Date:	March 15 th .
	Championship Meet:	City Meet is held weekend before Memorial Day.

2008 guidelines to the ICCL Constitution

1. **Minimum number of players on a team.** It has become apparent that we need to establish a minimum number for certain sports. I don't think the ICCL can continue to have basketball team's show with 5 players or volleyball with 6 players. Here is what I propose:

Softball-12 players

Basketball-10 players

JV Soccer-14 players

Baseball-12 players

Varsity Soccer-17 players

Volleyball-10 players

2. **Fourth grade participation.** A school should only be allowed to use fourth graders to fill **one team, and not multiple teams.** And at no time can that team be made up of over 50% fourth graders.
3. **CCD Students.** A school may only use CCD student to help fill **one team.** If a school has more than one team, CCD students may not be used.
4. **Sixth grade participation on varsity sports.** At no time may a sixth grader play on any colors teams.
5. **ICCL Prayer.** The ICCL prayer will be read before every ICCL event.
6. **Jewelry.** No jewelry is allowed to be worn during any athletic event. Applying tape over the jewelry is also not allowed. If a medical reason is given, and is certified by a note from the physician, an exception may be made.
7. **Snow days.** If school is canceled due to snow, or other weather/safety issues, there will be no **practice** or games allowed for that day.
8. **One Varsity Team per school.** There will only be one varsity team allowed to be entered in any varsity division. Any additional teams will be entered into the colors division.

Do you have any other suggestions? Write them down, and come to the meeting for discussion.