

To: All CYO Athletic Directors and Sports Coordinators

From: Edward J. Tinder, Executive Director

Re: ***CYO Concussion Education Initiative and Policy***

Date: June 19, 2012

Beginning this Fall, we will be introducing the CYO Concussion Education Initiative and Policy. The new concussion education initiative will be unique as it will address the nature and risks of concussions in all CYO athletic programs to all coaches, parents and athletes. As a parish athletic director or sports coordinator we want to make you aware of the program so that you can answer any questions you may receive.

The Catholic Youth Organization has partnered with St. Vincent Sports Performance and the Athlete's Concussion Alliance to provide the tools and information regarding the CYO Concussion Education Initiative and Policy. Attached, please find the material that all CYO coaches, parents and participants will be receiving from the CYO Office. It is very important that these groups are educated in the signs and symptoms of a concussion and how to proceed if a child has sustained or is suspected of sustaining a concussion.

We are all learning more about the potential long term health implications related to concussions during a lifetime and CYO wants to ensure that coaches, parents and athletes have all the necessary concussion information before each athletic season. It is extremely important that coaches, parents and athletes know how to proceed should a concussion be suspected so as to not cause a more serious brain injury. Coaches and parents will receive the information regarding the CYO Concussion Education Initiative and Policy on the CYO website and athletes will receive the educational information in a handout from their coaches.

It is extremely important that parish athletic directors, sports coordinators, coaches, parents and athletes are all on the same page regarding the serious nature of concussions and how to proceed should an athlete sustain a concussion.

Therefore, we thank you for taking the time to familiarize yourself with the CYO Concussion Education Initiative and Policy. By working together we can better assure the health of all athletes so that each can experience the joys and benefits of athletics in the most healthy environment possible.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the CYO Office at 632-9311.