E-145

P-CDOP

# EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

All extracurricular activities and programs must be consistent with the mission, goals and objectives of the school. Guidelines for the effective administration and functioning of such activities and programs shall be developed by the administrator of each school or by the administrator in conjunction with administrators of other schools whose students participate in the same programs.

Reviewed 7/2018, 6/2020, 7/2021, 7/2022

 E-145

 OCS-AR

**EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

1. Membership in IESA (Illinois Elementary School Association) or IHSA (Illinois High School Association) is not voluntary. The Office of Catholic Schools requires all diocesan elementary and secondary schools to be members of IESA or IHSA for interscholastic activities and to be governed by the association’s Constitutions and By-Laws.
2. The Office of Catholic Schools will apply IESA by-laws for all interscholastic activities in which the schools engage in matters of dispute and accountability.
3. Coaches of the interscholastic activities at diocesan schools, unless they are a teaching member of the faculty at the schools, **are required to complete the IESA/IHSA on-line coaches’ training education course**. This requirement includes coaches that are voluntary or paid. The diocesan school will incur the cost of this on-line training.
4. All diocesan elementary and secondary schools will **appoint an athletic director or co-athletic directors** for the school who will serve as a liaison between the diocesan school and the Office of Catholic Schools in matters of communication for the school’s interscholastic activity.
5. At the discretion of the high school administration, students who are home schooled may participate in extracurricular sports, provided they comply with all provisions for home school students in the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) by-laws. Schools with home school athletes must clear each student’s eligibility with the IHSA prior to their participation in interscholastic events.
6. Athletic directors and coaches shall comply with all requirements of the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act—Senate Bill 7, as outlined at the following sites:
* IESA: <https://www.iesa.org/activities/concussion.asp>
* IHSA: <https://www.ihsa.org/documents/sportsMedicine/Concussion%20Protocols.pdf>

In addition, athletic directors and coaches should complete the following courses:

* Catholic Coaching Essentials: <https://coacheducation.humankinetics.com/collections/252>
* Directing Youth Sports: <https://coacheducation.humankinetics.com/collections/252>
1. The Office of Catholic Schools shall require diocesan elementary and secondary schools to adhere to the following:
* Maintain personnel files for each coach of an interscholastic activity offered by the school.
* Require coaches to complete the diocesan Safe Environment Program, CANTS background check, fingerprinting (employee) or Selection.com criminal history check (volunteer), bloodborne pathogens training, CPR training (head coaches, preferred), drug screening (for paid employees), and annually signing the diocesan Witness Statement.
* Begin each interscholastic activity with prayer.
* Schedule no practices, games, or other activities or events including tournaments or open gyms on Sundays, Ash Wednesday, Holy Days of Obligation (January 1, August 15, November 1, December 8, December 25), or the Sacred Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Saturday). Any exception requires the prior approval of the Superintendent of Schools and shall be limited to participation in state championship tournament series events.
* Schedule a practice no longer than 2.0 hours in length.
* Head coaches and athletic directors are required to attend mandatory workshops as scheduled by the Office of Catholic Schools. Assistant coaches are encouraged to attend.
* Abide by all concussion protocols established by the Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA): [www.iesa.org/activities/concussion.asp](http://www.iesa.org/activities/concussion.asp) and/or the Illinois High School Association (IHSA): [www.ihsa.org/documents/sportsMedicine/Concussion%20Protocols.pdf](http://www.ihsa.org/documents/sportsMedicine/Concussion%20Protocols.pdf)
1. If school has been closed due to inclement weather, all extracurricular activities, including practices, games, meetings, and/or events, shall also be canceled.

Revised 6/2020

Reviewed 7/2021, 7/2022

