

**St. James Athletic Department**  
**2020-2021 Basketball Parent/Player Commitment Contract**

Dear Parents and Players,

Welcome to the St. James 2020-2021 CYO Basketball program. Congratulations to your child for making one of our teams here at St. James. Their hard work and commitment to their sport has shown that they deserve the chance to play in the St. James CYO program.

The CYO Basketball Program is a very competitive league with City Playoffs for all Varsity teams. We take our program at St. James very seriously and expect the same from our parents and players. The information below is to be read and understood by both the parents and players:

**Player Commitment/Eligibility:** By selecting to accept a roster position on a St. James team, you are committing to competing the entire season with St. James. Players are NOT allowed to participate on any AAU or other basketball programs such as Parks and Recreation Leagues, or Middle School during the CYO season, including during the playoffs. Violation of this rule will result in a player's immediate dismissal from the team and up to a one-year suspension of the entire player's family from CYO sports. This violation could also have an impact on the entire team leading up to the loss of all games the player participated in and a suspension or dismissal of the Coach.

**Playing Time:** Playing time is NOT guaranteed at the Varsity Level but is regulated at the JV level per the CYO "Increased Participation Rule". ***Playing time is a privilege and not a right.*** We encourage all coaches that it is usually in the best interest of the team for everyone to receive an "earned" amount of playing time. In other words, work hard with a good attitude and you will play. The amount of time any given athlete is on the court is the result of a complex determination, in that coach's opinion, of the athlete's overall attitude and ability, the athlete's potential, the team's needs at the moment, the team's needs in the future, as well as the overall effort demonstrated by the athlete through practices leading up to the game. Playing time may also be affected if your child has an unexcused absence from practice. An unexcused absence will affect a player's playing time during the games scheduled for that week. If a player has more than one unexcused absence in a practice week, the player will sit an entire game. Please understand that we do realize that children get sick, have schoolwork, and participate in other activities. A coach must be notified in advance of any absences.

**Concerns and Complaints:** At St. James, we fully encourage parent participation in most aspects of our program. However, the following policy is to protect everyone from himself or herself (both parents and coaches). St. James enforces a "**24 Hour Rule**" for any parent wishing to discuss issues or concerns with both Coaches and the Athletic Directors. Please understand that tournaments and game days are very stressful and an emotional time for everyone. It is very easy to over-react to any situation. Unless the matter absolutely requires immediate attention, refrain from voicing your concerns on a game day. Violations of this guideline will be dealt with most severely because this can result in the most emotional of confrontations. If you are not sure whether an issue requires immediate attention, ask the Athletic Director PRIOR to engaging with a coach. St. James, and the CYO, will not tolerate hostile, aggressive confrontation between a parent and any official, a parent and any coach, a parent and any athlete, an athlete and another athlete, or a parent and any other parent, regardless of whether the coach, athlete, or other parent is a member of St. James or not. Violation of this policy may result in the athlete being dismissed from the team and up to a family level suspension on all CYO sports.

**Parents/Spectator Conduct:** All spectators must conduct themselves within these guidelines:

- Keep POSITIVE at all times!
- Do NOT criticize players, coaches, or referees.
- Remember you and any guests you bring are representing St. James.

Any spectator who persists in inappropriate behaviors may be asked to leave the gym and could be suspended in attending future events.

**Volunteer Requirements:** In order to offer our children the opportunity to participate, our CYO Athletics Program depends 100% upon volunteers. In addition to Coaches and Team Managers, volunteers are needed for staffing admissions, scoreboard operator, official book scoring, cleaning the facility after the event, etc.. All parents will be required to volunteer during the season.