



**Catholic Teachers'
Athletic Association**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Updated September 2024

The Catholic Teachers' Athletic Association - CTAA

The Catholic Teachers' Athletic Association is a volunteer organization supported by the London District Catholic School Board (LDCSB) and led by volunteer teacher Co-Chairs. The CTAA runs Interschool Athletic leagues for Intermediate Boys and Girls Volleyball and Basketball, Junior Boys and Girls Basketball, and Intermediate Co-Ed Soccer.

Any questions regarding interschool athletics should be directed to the CTAA Co-Chairs (Lisa Santandrea and Sarah Irvine) by emailing ctaasports@ldcsb.ca.

ARTICLE 1. Philosophy, Objectives, Expectations

1.1. To provide an opportunity of healthy interschool competition to complement the Health and Physical Education curriculum as well as the intramural and sports programming provided by the LDCSB Recreation Program.

1.2. To aid in developing a sense of responsibility, belonging, and respect for oneself, one's team, and one's school.

1.3. To establish an atmosphere where coaches and student athletes can develop an understanding and appreciation for fair play and sportsmanship.

1.4. To provide a school team experience for those who otherwise may not have the opportunity.

1.5. To facilitate leagues for students who welcome a competitive team atmosphere.

Expectations for Student Athletes:

1. Show respect for teammates, opponents, officials, and coaches.
2. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
3. Exhibit fair play, sportsmanship, and proper conduct on and off the court/playing field.
4. Respect all equipment and use it safely and appropriately.
5. Win with character, lose with dignity.

Expectations for Coaches:

1. Provide a healthy and positive environment and experience for your student

- athletes.
2. Promote and model respectful and responsible behaviour and good sportsmanship.
 3. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
 4. Teach, inform, and ensure your students are aware of and following the rules of the sport (following CTAA posted rules).
 5. Win with character, lose with dignity.

Expectations for Spectators:

1. Please do not yell at the referees or scorekeepers. They are offering their time to help in the growth and development of the game/sport. Please treat them in the way which you would want yourself to be treated. If you have difficulty controlling your frustrations, please go for a walk outside of the gym. The self-control you demonstrate sets a terrific example for your child and their teammates.
2. Cheer for great plays, even if they are from the other team. We all want our team to win, but there are times when great plays are made by the other team. Please take a moment to acknowledge them. In doing so, you are setting a wonderful example of appreciation and enjoyment of the moment.
3. Please try not to instruct your child during the game. Please try not to give instruction to your child as this can create more confusion. Your child wants to please you, but this is a time when s/he should be trying to listen to his/her coaches and teammates. Perhaps you can offer your thoughts and tips at home.
4. Please be patient with the mistakes made by your child. We all make mistakes, and it's especially difficult to make them in front of so many people. Please be patient and realize that your child will make many mistakes as s/he learns the game. In making mistakes, s/he will turn these experiences into learning opportunities. Your example of tolerance and patience is so important.

ARTICLE 2. Membership

2.1 Membership of the CTAA shall be all elementary schools operated by the London District Catholic School Board, and other elementary schools located in the geographic area which apply and are admitted into the CTAA.

2.2 The CTAA includes 6 or 7 divisions (depending on the number of teams registered), which are separated geographically across London, Middlesex, Elgin, and Oxford counties.

2.3 New Membership requests made by non-LDCSB schools shall be considered and decided upon by the CTAA Co-Chairs.

2.4 A non-LDCSB school admitted to the CTAA assumes the obligation to abide by all regulations held in this document.

2.5 All schools shall declare their intention to participate in Volleyball, Basketball (Junior and Intermediate), and Soccer by the Registration Date.

There are currently 7 divisions for Basketball and Volleyball: South, Southwest, Oxford, North, West, Central, and East.

Article 3. Governance

3.1 Responsibilities of CTAA Volunteer Co-Chairs:

- Oversee all matters pertaining to the management of CTAA Interschool Athletics, this includes but is not limited to finances, social media, website management, organization of sport seasons, and communication with CTAA representatives/ principals and/or coaches.
- Oversee the operation of all CTAA events regarding their adherence to the guidelines in this manual.
- Attend to all matters pertaining to the interpretation of rules and regulations and make decisions regarding any protests or suggested rule changes.

3.2 CTAA Representative Meeting and Finances

- It is the responsibility of each school entering the leagues to send a representative to the CTAA Representatives Meeting held in September.
- Once the schedules are generated, **late registrations will not be accepted.**
- The entry fee **per team** is \$40 for Intermediate Volleyball and \$40 for Intermediate Basketball. The fee is \$120 for the Co-Ed Soccer tournament and there is no fee for Junior Basketball. All LDCSB schools will have their school account debited and all non-LDCSB schools must send a cheque made payable to *London District Catholic School Board* with a memo that states *CTAA registration payment*. All payments need to be made by October 1 in order to participate in the season.
- Fees collected by the CTAA are used to pay for awards, equipment upgrades, officials, medics, etc. Carded officials are provided by the CTAA for the Finals for Intermediate Volleyball and Basketball, as well as the entire Co-ed Soccer Tournament.
- Individual schools are responsible for arranging for their own officials during the regular season and early playoff rounds. Expenses incurred for this are the

responsibility of the school.

3.3 Amendments

- Any rule or regulation adjustment or amendment requests can be brought to the attention of the CTAA during the Representatives Meeting or emailed to ctaasports@ldcsb.ca.
- Any rule additions or amendments to this document or for any particular sport will be discussed by the CTAA and reported on (via email) to all CTAA coaches. The CTAA may consult sport specific coaches when determining new rule changes.
- Rule changes for specific sports will not commence during the middle of a season (except under extreme circumstances). New rules decided upon will commence the following season.

ARTICLE 4. Supervision and Coaching Responsibilities

4.1 Supervision

- Student athletes must be in direct supervision at all times. This includes during practices and games (home and away).
- Coaches must not leave players unattended after practices and games. An Ontario Certified Teacher (OCT) coach must remain at school until all players have safely left the school premises (this includes both home and away games).
- Inform the CTAA if any players have been left unsupervised at your school for league games or tournaments. The principal of the school will then be notified.
- Each school/OCT coach is responsible for the supervision and behaviour of its own spectators.
- Teams coached by a community member/volunteer must have an OCT Coach Liaison on the bench for all games and in the gymnasium for all practices. A coach liaison is defined as a teacher, principal, or vice-principal with a current certification from the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT) and under contract by the school/school board.

4.3 Coaching Responsibilities

- Check the CTAA website for schedules and updates.
- Be aware of, follow, and promote the CTAA Rules and Regulations.
- Distribute, collect, file, and maintain the necessary forms prior to the first tryout. These forms can be found on the CTAA Website www.ctaasports.ca.
- Coaches must report scores to the CTAA website immediately following games (for Intermediate Basketball and Volleyball).
- Post and monitor the Expectations for Spectators.

- Inspect equipment and facilities to ensure they meet regulations and are safe for use – report those that are not safe to the school principal and CTAA (if necessary).
- Implement and enforce Ophea's Safety Standards related to the wearing of jewelry (e.g. jewelry is not permitted).
- Teach, inform, and ensure your students are aware of the rules of the sport (following CTAA Rules).
- Teach, inform, and ensure your student athletes are following all appropriate safety measures for practice and play.
- Follow the Ophea Safety Standards for [Coaches Responsibilities](#)

ARTICLE 5. Student Eligibility and Junior Leagues

5.1 Student Eligibility

- CTAA Intermediate Volleyball, Basketball, and Co-Ed Soccer are intended for Intermediate-aged students (Grades 7-8). A Grade 6 student is permitted to play on the team as long as they do not take the place of any Grade 7 or 8 student.
- To be eligible to play, athletes must be a full-time student at a CTAA member school.
- Students who are suspended from or absent from school cannot participate in CTAA games on the same day(s) they are away. For example, if a student is home sick all day Tuesday, they cannot show up and play in a CTAA game after school that same Tuesday.
- CTAA Volleyball and Basketball does not permit co-ed teams to participate in league play. The CTAA provides both male and female leagues for Volleyball and Basketball.

5.2 Junior Leagues

- The CTAA runs the Junior Basketball league for students in Grades 4-6. Students in Grade 3 are not permitted to play.
- There are no scores/standings kept and no playoffs.
- The focus of the Junior league is on development and fun.

ARTICLE 6. CTAA Rules and Regulations

6.1 Reporting Scores (For Intermediate Basketball and Volleyball Only)

- It is the responsibility of the coaches to enter their result on the CTAA website

within 24 hours of the completion of a regular season game. Playoff games require the score to be entered on the website within 12 hours of the game's completion.

6.2 Schedules

- Regular season and playoff schedules will be posted to the CTAA website. It is the responsibility of the coach to check the website regularly.
- If a regular season game needs to be rescheduled, coaches must mutually agree to an alternate date. Once a new date has been agreed upon, they must let the CTAA know so the schedule can be updated. Semi-Final and Final games cannot be rescheduled.

6.3 Referees

- The Home team provides an adult referee and scorekeepers.
- If the referee is a high school student, there must be an adult available to support if needed.
- A coach should not be the referee and coach at the same time. **Exception:** should a situation arise where a competent referee is not available, a coach may referee as long as it is agreed upon by the opposing coach. If an opposing coach agrees to this, they may not later protest the result of the game.
- Carded officials/referees are used for the Intermediate Basketball and Volleyball Finals and are booked by the CTAA. Schools may try booking a carded official for any of their regular season and/or first and second round playoff games (at their own expense) but this is not a requirement.

6.4 Rule Infractions

Definition: For the purposes of this document, a "Rule Infraction" is when a Team, Coach, Player, Parent, or Spectator violates any of the Objectives, Philosophy, Expectations, and/or General Rules of the CTAA. (Referees will/should handle the "laws of the game" during games).

If a Rule Infraction occurs the following steps should/will be taken to resolve the problem:

1. Attempt to resolve the situation immediately by speaking to the opposing coach about the infraction – stop the game if necessary to address the issue.
2. Contact the Principal of your school, who should contact the Principal of the opposing school to notify them of the issue/rule infraction (cc the CTAA on any

email correspondence – the CTAA may issue a warning and/or remind the opposing school of the rule).

3. Upon receiving a second complaint about a particular team, coach, school, etc. The CTAA will contact the coach/principal involved to resolve the issue and if necessary issue a final warning.
4. If a third complaint is made (and verified), the CTAA will discuss the situation and will likely suspend the team from playoff competition. The CTAA will also discuss and decide if the team involved will be suspended from league play and/or playoff play the following year/season.

6.5 Protests

- The outcome of a regular season game cannot be protested. Follow the protocol in Article 6.4 Rule Infractions if there is an issue with your game.
- If you are concerned about the safety of the facilities, age/competency of a referee, size of ball being used, etc., make your concerns known to all coaches and officials involved and try to rectify the problem before the game begins. If you have concerns regarding the safety of your players, then do not continue the game and notify the CTAA of the problem. Once a game has been completed, there is no protesting afterwards if the reasons for the protest were preventable before the game began.
- If during a playoff game something occurs during the course of the game that would warrant a protest, the protesting coach must make their concerns and intentions known during the game to the opposing coach and officials and must make every effort to rectify the problem during the game. If at the conclusion of the game, a coach still wants to protest the result they must notify the CTAA within 2 hours of the conclusion of the game. The CTAA will then gather information from all parties involved and make a decision as to whether or not a game will be replayed or a result will be overturned. *Note* a “bad call” from a referee is part of sports and is not a valid reason for a protest.

6.6 Playoffs

- All teams make the playoffs for Intermediate Basketball and Volleyball. There are no playoffs for Junior Basketball.
- Volleyball and Basketball Playoffs are divided into 3 divisions (A, B, and C), which are determined by regular season standings.
- Determination of division will depend upon the total number of teams entered in the league for a particular season, however, the top 16 teams will play in “A”, the next 16 will play in “B” and the remaining teams will play in “C” division.

- Ties in the regular season standings are broken first by head-to-head results (if applicable), and then by coin toss.
- All schools must assume that they may be required to travel for a playoff game and be prepared for this.
- Playoff dates are set and cannot be changed (unless under exceptional circumstances).

6.7 Gym Suitability for Playoffs

- Based on OSBIE/Ophea Safety Standards, certain school gymnasiums are not suitable for playoff games. If a school on the below list has earned a home playoff game, they are responsible for finding an alternate site, or shall play the game at their opponent's gym.

Schools that cannot host playoff games

School	Sport(s) that school cannot host
Assumption (Aylmer)	Volleyball, Basketball
Montessori - no gymnasium	Volleyball, Basketball
Our Lady Immaculate (Strathroy)	Volleyball
Sacred Heart (Parkhill)	Volleyball, Basketball
St. Charles (Glencoe)	Volleyball, Basketball
St. David (Dorchester)	Volleyball, Basketball
St. Patrick (Lucan)	Volleyball, Basketball
The Oxford School	Volleyball, Basketball

6.8 Withdrawing from a League

- In the event that a team drops out of a CTAA league after registering, and a schedule has already been posted, that school's eligibility for future league play is in jeopardy. The CTAA will decide future eligibility.
- Teams who are unable to field a team for the Semi-Final and Final dates should not participate in the playoffs. These schools must notify the CTAA immediately by emailing ctaa sports@ldcsb.ca so that playoff schedules can be adjusted.