



# St. Anne Catholic Church

## CYO Basketball Player Placement Strategy

*Provide every player the best opportunity for growth and inspire a continuing enjoyment of basketball*

We are held accountable to CYO East Diablo Basketball League rules and regulations. Some of those rules and procedures are outlined below, followed by what this means to your player and what to expect as your child moves up in grade.

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade levels hold evaluations for the purpose of creating balanced teams. There is no division in terms of competition at this age.

4<sup>th</sup> grade and each grade thereafter will have divided levels of competition. Kids grow both physically and mentally at different rates. The purpose of creating levels of competition is to ensure that each player is provided the best learning experience for their current level of play.

The CYO East Diablo League Athletic Directors meet to determine if there are enough teams to create more than one division. There are three possibilities:

**American Division:** There is always an American Division. This is the highest level of competition and every parish is responsible for fielding an American Division team (or A2, see next paragraph.)

**American II (A2) Division:** This is a mid-tier level of competition that may or may not be available for all grades, as it is directly dependent on the number of teams in the league. The purpose of the A2 division is to give smaller parishes, like St. Anne, an opportunity to be competitive. Smaller parishes have a smaller group of players and may not have enough players with the skillset best suited for the American Division.

**National Division:** When a parish has more than one team per grade, they have the option to field a National Division team which is a lower level of competition.

Our St. Anne Board has a coach selection process whereby we identify the American or A2 Coach. That coach will have first selection of players to field that team which is required to compete at the highest level. This means that teams from year to year, may or may not have the same players. Parents, coaches and players should be aware that especially during that 4<sup>th</sup> grade year, there will very likely be changes. We believe this is in the best interest of all the players. Here are a few reasons:

Scenario 1: Very skilled player plays on a less competitive team

- The player is not facing the competition that will help he/she improve their skillset
- The other players on the team will inherently receive less play time therefore also not getting the time on the court to improve their game

Scenario 2: A less skilled player plays on a more competitive team

- The player's play time is reduced
- He/she is over-matched affecting confidence and love of the game

There are a number of other variables we consider when creating rosters. The purpose of this document is to help parents and coaches understand what to expect season to season. If you are concerned about your player's placement, please contact your coach, myself or any board member. Our goal is to provide the best experience possible for every player.

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