



**Catholic Youth Activities Organization
Board Meeting
August 28, 2024**

Agenda

6:30pm	Opening Prayer & Introductions	
6:40pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- CYAO Guideline Review- Team Season & Financial Report Review- Discussion- Future Meeting	
7:30pm	Closing Prayer & Adjourn	

2024-2025 CYAO Board Members

Rick Ahrens, Athletic Director
Colby Schutt, Booster Club President
Mike Weiss, St. Wenceslaus Representative
Eva Fujan, St. John Representative
Erin Todd, Cavalry Softball
Matt Coakley, Cavalry Softball
Rick Stava, Cavalry Wrestling
Jeff Codr, Cavalry Wrestling
Chad Palensky, Cavalry Basketball
Eric Baumert, Cavalry Basketball
Whitney Swanson, Cavalry Volleyball
Hillary Ahrens, Cavalry Volleyball
Marv Wiese, Cavalry Robotics
Rick Stava, Cavalry Robotics
Fr. Steve Mills
Fr. Matt Vandewalle

Next Meeting – August 27, 2025

Notes – 2024 Board Meeting

1. Fr. Mills – Started with a Prayer
2. Review of CYAO
3. **Volleyball** – Volleyball held a tournament last year, hosted at Neumann, St. W., & Civic Center which was successful. They plan to have one again this year on October 5. They have a balance of \$9700 in their account. 100 student participants last year, about 90 this year. They will have 15 Coaches. Fees will remain the same as last year - \$60 for 2nd grade, \$160 3th-6th, and \$100 for Jr. High.
4. **Softball** – Balance of \$29,147 at the end of the fiscal year in June 2024. The earnings from their softball tournament were \$13K, down from last year \$17.5K. They believe this is because they had one team that cancelled at the last minute and they offered senior discount. 58 students participated last year. They are adding a 16-18U team, participants should be about 65 this year. Fees will remain the same, \$250 for 16U, 14U, 12U, \$150 for 8U. Expenses will increase this year as they are planning for new uniforms for the new team and they made a donation to the high school team. All income is focused on the annual softball tournament, if there is a rain out then they would have no income, so they like to keep a certain amount in their account to cover the next season, if they need it. Softball donated to Neumann Weight room renovation.
Basketball – 81 student participants last year, down from 90 from previous year. Their ending balance was \$26K in June of 2023 and \$31,058 in 2024. Switched leagues for better competition, better refs, and no admission fees for parents at UBT. Gate Fees vs. Should all clubs consider increasing team fees for tournaments and eliminating admission fees at the gate? Experience has shown it takes less volunteers and the club earns about the same money. Parents/family members like it better. Jackson & Aspen Simons hosted a skills camp last year and will do it again this year. They plan to do a three-year rotation for uniforms/equipment – in 2022 they bought new uniforms and equipment, will do again in three years. They also donated \$11,780 to St. Wenceslaus for upgrades to gym and \$1,500 to St. John's. When they end up with too many students for one team but not enough for two teams, they try to do "flex" teams. Fees will be the same at \$240 for students to participate on a team and the Academies, or \$40 for students who only participate in the Academies.
5. **Wrestling** – Balance at the end of the year was \$9000, they had 65 student wrestlers participating last year, the fees were \$100 for under 3rd grade, \$150 for all older students. This year 2nd grade was large so they moved some to the 3rd grade team. They donated \$5500 to Neumann for the weight room renovation last year. Last year they had 14 students who qualified for state, 3 were district champions. They pay one coach for his expertise - Coach Eric Coufal. This year they may order new singlets as the current ones are 5 years old. 7th/8th grade is in wrestling at Neumann, but Cavalry also offers other options for them. They host a wrestling tournament in late January, the day before the Neumann invite. There may be a conflict with the date since the Basketball Conference Tournament may conflict with their wrestling tournament, since the first-round games will be home games.
6. **Robotics** – Team participants: 5 middle school teams (5th-8th grade), with 14 participants, mostly Neumann, 4 from public. High School – 4 teams, 1 Public/3 Neumann, 16 participants – 30 total participants. \$300 fee for VEX Metal, \$200 for Vex IQ, same as last year. Wahoo Public is offering Robotics in Jr. High, may offer a quarter class at Neumann using Vex IQ. Balance \$12K. 4H club feeds into Robotics as a class, utilizing the Lego based robotics program in the K-4 grades. Kick off is September for this year.
7. **Discussion** – Planned meeting for next year, determined there were no additional topics and/or issues to discuss.
8. **Closing Prayer** – Fr. Mills closed the meeting with a prayer.

Notes – 2023 Board Meeting

1. Fr. Mills started the evening with a prayer.
2. Wrestling – Dan Hoss reported that fees will stay the same this year for wrestling, they have 50-60 participants each year. Practice 2 nights a week and will have a tournament again this season the Friday night before Neumann’s tournament. The season lasts from the week after Thanksgiving to March. They are under pressure to allow girls wrestling but will follow the Diocesan guidelines, Fr. Jirovsky has been aware of this issue. CYAO Board Members – Dan Hoss & one other - TBD
3. Volleyball – April Hoss reported that they have 101 girls out in 2nd through 8th grade with 21 coaches. Fees are the same as last year, they will be running a tournament this year and may try a 4X4 league this year for teams in the area. The teams would be from towns around the area and Cavalry players could participate as well as other players from the area. They made a significant donation to St. Wenceslaus renovation, to Neumann and to St. John’s. The volleyball season lasts from August through October. CYAO Board Members – April Hoss & Karla Lechtenberg
4. Basketball – Chad Palensky reported that they had 90 participants last year, the fee was \$200, which was the same as the previous year. Their season starts after volleyball (late October) and goes to March. They work with Wrestling to avoid overlapping during the season. Only two boys participated in basketball and wrestling. There was a mix up and they charged \$250, but reimbursed parents for the overage. They also made a significant donation to the St. Wenceslaus gym renovation. CYAO Board Members – Eric Baumert & Jessica Schutt
5. Softball – Bryan Stuhr reported that they had 50 students on 4 teams this summer, from 8-U up to 14-U. Fees will remain the same as last year. Their season goes from March to end of July, they hosted a tournament in the summer and had 38 teams participate. They purchased new uniforms this year. They may host the Burger Bash every other year, as they make enough at the tournament to cover their costs. CYAO Board Members – Laura Choutka & Jon Brabec
6. Robotics – The robotics teams have 45 kids, 15 in High School, 30 in Middle School, and for students in K-4 they can join the Lego League. The Coop partnership with Wahoo Public is going well, they have provided funds, coaches and helped with grants. They have had other students from towns around Wahoo want to participate, but have decided it isn’t possible at this time, due to insurance, coaching, costs, etc. They practice at the fair grounds and their season goes April to April, but kids participate as much or as little as they want. Tournaments go from August to February. CYAO Board Members – Marv Wiese & Rick Stava
7. Issue Discussion – Overlapping seasons was on the agenda and it has caused some concerns this year, between volleyball and softball. Softball was planning on having some optional practices and possibly signing up for two tournaments, in October, which overlaps with Cavalry Volleyball. Their rationale was that they wanted to offer something in the fall for players that wanted to participate and were trying to schedule around dates that would conflict with volleyball, dance and all other in-season sports. Volleyball stated that this has caused an issue with girls feeling like they “need” to participate in both, so they aren’t left out and one of the softball tournaments conflicted with a volleyball tournament.
8. Issue Resolution – After the discussion it was decided that having optional practices, open gyms or academies that overlap seasons was acceptable to all members of the board. But tournaments that overlap seasons should be avoided in all instances, so that students can participate in each sport during that specific season, fully. Clubs can work together to determine “end of seasons” for scheduling purposes, as some of the tournament dates are fluid and are determined by the hosting organizations.
9. Fr. Jirovsky closed the meeting with a prayer.