

GREATER DES MOINES CATHOLIC FOOTBALL LEAGUE

BILL OF RIGHTS

FOR

PLAYERS-PARENTS-COACHES- SPECTATORS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Welcome to the 2005 Greater Des Moines Catholic Football League season! Whatever your involvement is with the Greater Des Moines Catholic Football League, you have certain rights that you should expect. However, with those rights are also inherent responsibilities. It is my hope that by reviewing some of these rights, both real and perceived, there will be a better understanding of what the league is all about, and why the League has continued to flourish and grow since its inception in 1964.

1. This is a Catholic football league. Players, parents, coaches, spectators and Board Members should expect that anyone associated with the league will act in a Catholic Christian manner. If you are offended seeing players and coaches kneeling in prayer before or after a game this may not be the right league for you.
2. AS A PLAYER, you have the right to learn to play the game of football and have fun doing it. You have the right to be respected as an individual by your coaches and teammates. You have the right to be proud of your hard work and accomplishments

You have the responsibility to give 100 % effort in your practices and games. You have the responsibility to be respectful of your coaches and teammates. You have the responsibility to practice good sportsmanship at all times.

3. AS A PARENT, you have the right to be a part of your son's journey in the sport of football. You have the right to enjoy watching your son be a part of a team, to watch him grow and mature.

You have the responsibility to make sure your son is playing football because he wants to, not because you want to relive your youth, and fulfill your unaccomplished dreams. You have the responsibility to make sure you do not criticize your son for his inability to perform like a professional football player. These are only kids—it's supposed to be fun. You have the responsibility to refrain from criticizing coaches and other players for losing the game. IT'S ONLY A GAME!!!! You have the responsibility to provide supervision for all of your children attending the games. Children should not be allowed to climb fences or under the stands for safety reasons..

4. AS A COACH, you have the right to expect 100% effort from every player. You have the right to ask parents to accommodate your practice schedule as long as it complies with league guidelines. You have the right to expect appropriate behavior from players and parents at practices and during games. As a volunteer coach it is not your responsibility to be a disciplinarian for issues not related to practices and games or to be a free childcare provider.

You have the responsibility to make sure you are coaching for all of the right reasons. You should not be coaching in an effort to make yourself look good or to improve your own son's chances of getting that college scholarship, or even the multi-million dollar pro-football contract. You have the responsibility to coach by example—this is a Catholic league. Your language and actions should reflect the beliefs we profess. . You have the responsibility to be prepared for every practice and game.

5. AS A SPECTATOR, you have the right to cheer for your favorite player and his team. You have the right to be a good citizen and role model for all of the other players and young children in the stands and around the field.

You have the responsibility to refrain from criticizing other players, coaches or teams. You have the responsibility to use appropriate language and behavior. You have the responsibility to respect the Dowling Catholic High School campus by observing the posted signs (no parking, no smoking, speed limits, etc.)and keeping the grounds clean. .

6. AS A BOARD MEMBER, you have volunteered to work to provide the best possible football league for young men to experience the game of football. You have the responsibility to provide an environment for all players that is free of special agendas, ego trips, and “win at all cost” philosophies. You have the privilege to donate countless hundreds of hours for meetings, equipment handouts, buildings and grounds improvements, game day responsibilities, and other League related matters.

You have the right to feel a sense of pride knowing that you are helping young men to grow, mature and learn the game of football through participating in the Greater Des Moines Catholic Football League, just as some board member in years past volunteered his time to give you those same opportunities.

This is a great league and with everyone's help this can be the best season ever!

Jim Holman
President
Greater Des Moines Catholic Football League