

MERGER APPLICATION FACT SHEET

Members of the Diocese of Cleveland CYO understand that at times there may be a need for two or more members to merge for the purpose of fielding an athletic team. The Diocese of Cleveland CYO considers a merger to be the last resort and should be used only when all other attempts by the members to field a team independently have been exhausted.

Before a Merger Application will be considered, the following criteria that must be met:

- The parties to the merger have attempted to field a team in the sport independently.
- No more than five (5) parish/schools/members/unified programs are part of the merger application.
- The one member deemed the sponsoring member is identified. This member will be listed on the competition schedule, uniforms and is responsible for administration of the team.
- The rationale for the merger application is communicated in detail as part of the application process.
- The Merger Application is to be submitted by the sponsoring member to the CYO Athletic Office, 7911 Detroit Ave., Cleveland, 44102, c/o Noelia Speringo or nsperingo@ccdocle.org for approval no later than the regular team entry deadline of the season.
- Athletes from all parties to the merger are required to participate on the approved merged team(s).
- The Merger Application is signed by the Member Administrator, Pastor or Administrator of each party involved and where applicable the member athletic directors involved. This is required because all of the parties to the merger are accepting a level of responsibility and liability for the overall team(s) involved.
- With CYO Athletic Administration approval, members may be added to the Merger Application until 10 days before the start of the season, provided the criteria of bylaw 8-1-2 have been met.

The diocese administration will review the following items as part of the approval process:

- Is the Merger Application complete with required signatures submitted. Incomplete Merger Applications will be denied. A new application could then be submitted in its entirety for approval.
- Was a description and rationale for the Merger Application which identifies the principles stated in bylaw 8-1-1 or other exception that should be given extraordinary consideration submitted.
- The number of parties to the application that have previously sponsored teams in the sport involved.
- The geographic proximity of the parties of the application for community building purposes.
- The merger is not sought to create nor will it create a competitive advantage.
- A CYO member is identified as the sponsoring member and assumes responsibility for the administration of the team and represents the name under which the team will be registered.
- The Merger Application is signed by the Member Administrator, Pastor or Administrator of each party involved and where applicable the member athletic directors involved.
- Is the request for a regular or standing merger.