METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA
WINTER YOUTH RALLY
HOTEL & DISCIPLINE REGULATIONS

"If anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules." - II Timothy 2:5

In developing and implementing the Winter Youth Rally (WYR), the Metropolis of Atlanta strives to create a nurturing Christian environment which respects its participants' physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. Participants in the WYR program are ex- pected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the teachings of Orthodox Christianity. At times certain behavioral is- sues may arise among some participants that may disrupt the WYR community. For this reason, His Eminence Metropolitan Sevastianos has created the position of a "Hotel & Discipline Coordinator" (to be referred to as the HDC) for the Winter Youth Rally. The HDC will create and consult with a HDC Advisory Committee that will include, but not be limited to, the Metropolis of Atlanta the Metropolis Youth, Education and Hellenic Culture Coordinator (YEHCC) and 2 attending Clergy, to be named by the HDC). If an incidentoccurs in which any participant breaks WYR guidelines or exhibits unacceptable behavior, the matter will be referred to and han- dled with HDC, in consultation with the HDC Committee Members.

The Metropolis WYR Hotel and Discipline Regulations are formulated to provide a general spirit and attitude in which all Partici- pants are to realize and accept. Each situa- tion may not be identified within these Rules & Guidelines. Considering that the intent of these Rules & Guidelines is to facilitate prop- er Orthodox Christian conduct, play and at- titude, unspecified events or situations will be handled accordingly by HDC with con- sultation of the Metropolis of Atlanta Youth, Education & Hellenic Culture Coordinator. If deemed necessary, any Participant may be sent home immediately, at their own or par- ents' expense.

TERMS & DECLARATION 1

GOYAN: A 7th - 12th Grade student* baptized Orthodox Christian who is a participant in the GOYA ministry of the Church and is active in the full life of the Church (Sacraments, Sunday School, etc.) *Minimum age of 12 and in 7th Grade.

PARTICIPANT Any person present at the WYR, Hotel and its functions: GOYA Players, Non-Players, Coaches, Advisors, Chaper- ones, Priests, Parents, Siblings, Grandpar- ents, Relatives, Fans, etc.

LEAD ADVISOR: The Lead Advisor is assigned by the Parish Priest. The Lead Advisor must be 25 years old and will work as the liaison between the Metropolis and the local Parish before and during the Winter Youth Rally. The Metropolis will inform the Lead Advisor which GOYAns from the local parish have registered. The Lead Advisor will be responsible for all team registrations, team assignments, roommate assignments and confirming that the local parish follows the "GOYAN/Advisor" ratio set by the Metropo- lis at a 1:10 ratio. *Please Note: Priest are not Lead Advisors.

ADVISOR / CHAPERONE: Advisors must be 21 years old adult who are active in the life of their Parish. They are responsible for all GOYA entrusted to them for the duration of the WYR, including transportation to and from and during the WYR. They and will work with their parish Lead Advisor to ensure the safety and whereabouts of the GOY- Ans of their local Parish. All Advisors are required to stay at the hotel. *Please Note:Priest are not advisors.

COACH: (Bible Bowl, Basketball & Volleyball) A coach must at least 19 years old and will work with the local parish's Lead Advisor to ensure team is registered for the event and all players are registered to attend the Winter Youth Rally. If a coach is 21 years old, they can also be counted as an advisor/chaperone but must stay at the hotel. No Coaches/Assis- tant Coaches under 21 years old are allowed to stay in the hotel during the WYR.

PARISH: All Participants attending from a particular Parish.

DRUGS / ALCOHOL: For purposes of these rules, "drugs & alcohol" shall be defined as:

1. All dangerous controlled substances as so designated and prohibited by the state of GA.
2. All alcoholic beverages.
3. All tobacco/nicotine products, includ- ing electronic cigarettes. (GOYAns Only)
4. All chemicals which release toxic or non-toxic vapors.
5. Any prescription drug not prescribed for the Participant.
6. Any substance that is a "look-alike" to any of the above.
7. Any product that when misused may result in drug-like effects.

DECLARATION 1: The Metropolis prohibits the use, possession, concealment, or distribution of any drug or any drug-related paraphernalia and weapons as the term is defined by law. Alcohol use is not permitted by any Participant during the tournament weekend.

RULES: CONDUCT & DECLARATION 2

A: Hazing and bullying are unacceptable and grounds for immediate discipline. (GOYA Advisors and Coaches: Please review what actions are considered inappropriate with your GOYAns.)

B: Unacceptable Conduct is prohibited by any Participant, as defined in "Terms," page 2-3. This includes, but is not limited to loss of temper, foul language, unsportsmanship like gestures, and un-Christian-like conduct. No "nicknames" with inappropriate meaning can be used.

C: Metropolis Representatives, in the presence of a Parish Priest or Chaperones, reserve the right to enter any room of any Participant where there is concern for their safety or the safety of others. In addition, bag searches of anyone who is suspected of possessing drugs, weapons, or any other non-sanctioned item, may be necessary under those circumstances. These searches can and will be conducted at random.

D: Any Participant causing damage, either personal or public property, will be held responsible and liable. Discipline may include immediate removal from WYR (Hotel and all venues being used) and possible indefinite suspension.

E: GOYAns are permitted to enter the room of GOYAns of the opposite sex only if the door is wide open and a Chaperone is present. (There must be a minimum of two females and two males.)

F: Single Participants (not married and/ or not related Participants) of the opposite sex may not share any hotel room. Individuals of the opposite sex, who are not married to each other will not be permitted in the same room without the door open. (This includes all Participants including Coaches and Chaperones.)

G: GOYAns of the opposite sex must not be assigned to adjoining rooms.

H: All Participants upon registering must agree to abide by the Online Social Networking and Blogging Policy provided by the Archdiocese.

I: Quiet Hours are a wind-down time and preparation for sleep from 11:30PM to 7:30 AM

J: Curfew is from 12:30 AM to 7:00 AM All GOY- Ans must be in his/her assigned room at this and during these hours. Junior Team Assistant Coach- es who are 19 or 20 years old are not permitted to stay at the Hotel during WYR. Curfew violation discipline may include game forfeiture, suspension, and immediate removal from WYR and/or all future WYR events.

K: All Participants may not bring inappropriate videos/adult entertainment and/ or access them while in the hotel room.

L: If the event falls on a Sunday, All Participants must attend Divine Liturgy at the Host Church. Moreover, they must attend the Divine Liturgy. Parishes and Teams not complying are subject to discipline ranging from forfeiture of the next game to suspension from the next WYR. Players not complying are subject to discipline ranging from suspension for the Sunday game to suspension from any future WYR. Discipline may also be applied to the next WYR.

DECLARATION 2: All incidents during WYR are considered in violation of Metropolis Rules are considered matters which must be brought to the Metropolis Youth Director. No matters are considered "in-house" to the Parish. Violation of this declaration may subject a Parish immediate removal from WYR and/or future WYR and Metropolis programs.

RULES: DRESS CODE

A: Our goal is to create a Christ-centered space where everyone feels comfortable, respected, and able to fully participate. Please keep the following in mind when choosing what to wear:

B**. General Guidelines** (for everyone) Choose clothing that allows you to move easily for games, worship, and service projects. Keep midsections and undergarments covered. Bathing suits should only be worn at water activities and not in public gathering areas.

C. Think "respectful and distraction-free". No clothing with logos that contain profane language, reference to drugs, alcohol, tobacco and violent or anti-Christian propaganda will be permitted. Any personalized clothing must not contain inappropriate wording, imagery or nicknames.

D. **For Female Participants** - Tops should have straps at least two fingers wide. Tube tops, halter tops, or strapless styles should be paired with a sweater/jacket. Skirts and shorts should be long enough to be comfortable for sitting, standing, and active play.

Semi-formal attire should follow the same principles: avoid very short, tight, or strapless dresses unless paired with a cover-up.

E. **For Male Participants** - Shirts should be worn in all public areas. Pants/shorts should fit at the waist. Swimwear should be modest.

F: The Clergy and WYR Representatives reserve the right to ask any Participant to change inappropriate clothing or may provide appropriate clothing to wear.

RULES: DISCIPLINE

A: Under the direction of our Hierarch, the HDC and Metropolis YEHCC will apply a ZERO TOLERANCE policy for any Participant who uses illegal drugs or alcohol anytime, at any location during the tournament weekend. This policy prohibits the use of tobacco products by all GOYAns. Violation of the above will be grounds for immediate and possible indefinite suspension.

B: Disciplinary actions will be taken immediately or within two weeks following the violation. All disciplinary action will be taken by the HDC and Metropolis Y.E.H.C.C. Appeals to disciplinary decisions may be submitted in writing to the Metropolis Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office within ten days of the disciplinary action.

C: All incidents which violate the Metropolis Rules & Guidelines must be reported to the WYR HDC, Metropolis Y.E.H.C.C., Athletic Committee Chairman or Metropolis Representatives present.

D: Inappropriate actions of an individual Participant may require disciplinary measures to be brought upon not only the individual but may also extend to a team or an entire Parish.

E: Participants who are in the presence of any type of "drug, use, possession, (see page 4) or action which violates Metropolis Rules & Guide- lines should report it to the WYR HDC, Metropolis Y.E.H.C.C., Athletic Committee Chairman or Metropolis Representatives or they will be subject to the same discipline.

F: Disciplinary action that may be taken on any infraction can include:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Suspension from all Athletic Activities as Individual or entire Team
3. Removal from any Activity
4. Removal from Hotel and WYR event
5. Indefinite Suspension from all future Metropolis Youth Event

RULES: MUSIC

Please keep in mind that we gather first as Orthodox Christians during the WYR. All music that is used in Hotel, Rooms, Transportation, pre-game warm-ups/ post-game, must be appropriate and void of profanity, drug, and sexual connotations. During the evening activities and dance, the DJ or Band will not be able to accept music or song re- quests from Participants. Music with inappropriate lyrics that has been edited (radio version/cleaned up) is not permitted. The Metropolis Youth Director will discuss specifics with each DJ. GOYAns, please remember that you are attending a Church sponsored event in all your actions on the dance floor. Advisors and Chaperones, it is your responsibility to make sure that the manner in which the GOYAns from your Parish choose to dance is appropriate.

**Important All music played in the hotel, gyms, parking lots, etc. must be "clean" songs with no vulgar or inappropriate lyrics. No music will be permitted in the hotel after quiet hours.*

RULES: CHAPERONES

A: Must be a Registered, Screened and Trained Youth Worker under the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese' Policies for the Safety of Youth and Children.

B: Must be responsible adults who are active in the life of their Parish and are at least 21 years old. Will be responsible for all the GOYAns entrusted to them for the duration of the WYR, including transportation to and from and during WYR. Must set the example for his/her GOYANs by refraining from un-sportsman-like and un-Christian-like conduct, including unacceptable language. No "code-cuss" words are to be used. Any unacceptable behavior of Advisors, Chaperons, Coaches will be immediately reported to the WYR HDC, Metropolis Y.E.H.C.C. Any misconduct from a Chaperone can (Page 6) result in the immediate forfeiture of games and possible immediate removal from WYR and/or removal from future WYR and Metropolis Programs.

C: Must Report any rule violations that could lead to individual Participant, Parish or team disciplinary action to the Metropolis Representatives at the tournament. Failure to do so can result in the removal of the Chaperone, Removal of an entire parish, forfeiture of any athletic games played or future.

D: Must complete Registration and have approval of their Parish Priest.

E: Will be responsible for a maximum often GOYAns and if necessary.

F: Must ensure that there are no more than four staying overnight in any hotel room.

G: Must never sleep in the same bed as a GOYAn, unless it is his own child or sibling.

H: Must never be alone with just one GOYAn.

I: Not permitted to change clothes in front of GOY-Ans. (Use the bathroom in the hotel room.)

J: Upon check-in and check-out times, Chaperones are to inspect GOYAns' rooms for missing items or damages. Damages should be reported immediately, especially when just checking in so as to not incur extra damage fees from the hotel.

K: Remain with assigned GOYAns during the entire time the Participants are away from home.

L: Not permitted to consume alcohol during the WYR.
M: Must check rooms at the 12:30 a.m. curfew to be sure all Participants are in their appropriate rooms.

N: Must attend all social events. Are not permitted to leave the social events.

RULES: YOUTH SAFETY

responsible for the whereabouts and safe ty of their GOYANs. The Local Parish Advisors are also responsible for making sure all GOYANs respect everyone and follow the rules of the Winter Youth Rally.

A: Only 8 people should be in an elevator at one time - This is for everyone's safety.

B: Use elevators and stairwells in groups of 3 or more and with an advisor present.

C: No boys in girls' rooms. No girls in boys' rooms.

E: No GOYAns in advisors' rooms.

F: No alcohol, tobacco products, drugs, Vapes or Juuls -Advisors will do room checks at any time. Please check all bag before arrival of the Winter Youth Rally.

G: Do not throw anything over the balcony.

H: After quiet hours/lights out, stay in your room unless there is an emergency.

I: Lost and found will be at the front lobby desk.

J: If you need to switch out your towels, bring the used towels to the lobby desk and they will give you new ones.

K: All Winter Youth Rally participants need to wear their Lanyard at all times. This is your ticket into the door and your ticket to get food.

L: If you See Something, Say Something!

The Local Parish Advisors need to know where their GOYANS are at all times. The Local Parish Advisors should accompany them to all activities and are

*Important: ALL Advisors are responsible for protecting our youth!

Registration Includes

Accommodations: 3-night stay at the Marriott Northeast/Emory Area Hotel*

- **Goyans:** Assigned by gender, 4 (or 3) to a room by their local lead advisor.
- **Adults:** Assigned by gender (unless married); guaranteed their own bed, though room-sharing may be required.

Meals Provided:

- **Day 1:** Dinner
- **Day 2:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
- **Day 3:** Breakfast & Dinner
- **Day 4:** Breakfast

Event Access: Full access to all WYR activities throughout the event.

Please Note: *Space may be limited due to event growth. See Notice.*

Lead Advisor Oversight

As a Lead Advisor, you serve as the central operational link between your local parish, the Metropolis, and event leadership. Your primary focus is ensuring smooth logistics, safety, and clear communication across all your local participants.

Registration

- Confirm all attendees (adults, youth, and team) complete required registration forms before the deadline. Registration list will be available on Mondays, or when requested.
- Verify background checks, youth protection training, and code-of-conduct waivers for every adult chaperone and coaches.
- Maintain a master roster containing participant emergency contact details, dietary restrictions, and medical needs.

Housing & Room Assignments

- Draft rooming assignments following all Metropolis youth protection guidelines
- Submit final room assignments to event organizers and distribute room keys or assignments upon arrival.

Metropolis Liaison

- Relay schedule updates, policy changes, and announcements from the Metropolis event committee directly to your parish group.
- Serve as the primary point of contact during check-in, emergency situations, and daily briefing meetings.
- During WYR Lead Advisors are expected to attend the Lead Advisor's Meetings.

Lead Advisor Important Dates

- 11/1 – Individual Early Bird Prices Ends
- 11/8 – Team Registration Ends
- 11/30 – Individual Registration Ends
- 12/11 – Room Assignments Due
- 12/20 – Youth Safety Certification Due

Lead Advisor Notice:

Waitlist Policy & Registration Guidance

Due to the rapid growth of our event, policies and housing guidelines are subject to updates to ensure the safety, capacity management, and smooth operation of all participating parishes. Managing room allocations for a sold-out hotel requires clear expectations early in the process. **Please note:** This may or may not be an issue for WYR 2026.

Room Allocation

Due to the high demand and physical room limits at our host hotel, total registration capacity will be capped. Last year, our event hosted nearly 600 youth, reaching full hotel capacity. To maintain youth safety standards and comply with housing policies, room assignments must follow precise ratios and rooming limits

When maximum hotel occupancy is reached, subsequent registrations will automatically move to the WYR Waitlist.

Why Space is Capped

- **Youth Protection & Ratios:** All rooming assignments must strictly adhere to Metropolis Youth Protection guidelines regarding adult-to-youth ratios and age groupings.
- **Fire Code & Facility Limits:** Hotel occupancy rules determine the maximum number of individuals allowed per room and on each floor.
- **Balanced Grouping:** Rooms are allocated based on combined parish counts, gender divisions, and chaperone requirements.

How the Waitlist Works

- **Priority Processing:** Waitlist positions are evaluated in consultation with the Lead Advisor, taking into account full parish submissions and room availability.
- **Batch Allocation:** As rooms become available through cancellations or inventory adjustments, lead advisors will be notified directly.
- **Confirmation Window:** Once notified of an open spot, the parish has 48 hours to confirm registration and clear the space before it is offered to the next group on the waitlist.

VOLLEYBALL RULES

1: Only registered GOYANS from the Metropolis of Atlanta may be Included in these WYR Games.

2: All games will start at Center Court with the Lords Prayer.

3: Matches will start promptly and play will begin at the specific start time assigned to each match. Captains will be called 15 minutes before first match and warm-ups start at 10 minutes before.

4: Referee and 2-line judges will be assigned for each match.

5: Warm-ups will be 2 minutes per team and 1 minutes shared for serving.

6: Line-up sheets will be provided and must be submitted to the referee at least 2 minutes before the match.

7: Substitutions will be unlimited after check-in with the referee and will be by position, i.e. players can only play in one position in the rotation.

8: The very first matches of only the first day of tournament play is given a grace period of 10 minutes. Any matches subsequent thereafter, on the first or second day of tournament play IF YOU ARE LATE IS CONSIDERED A FORFEIT given your specific time allotted.

9: Uniforms are recommended with numbers front and back, but refs will work with you. Liberos must wear contrasting uniforms. Liberos may serve.

10: All servers must serve from behind the end line No "step in" will be allowed.

ADDITIONAL COED RULES

1: Lineups and serving order must alternate male and female.

2: Liberos may only replace same gender players.

3: When the ball is played more than once by a team, a female player must make at least one of the contacts. (A touch on the block does not count.)

4: For Co-ed, a team MUST always have two boys on the court. There cannot be more than 3 boys on the court at the same time. If a team only has two boys on its roster, they might consider adding boys, as a backup, should an injury occur.

Competition will be conducted under the "Domestic Competition Regulations 2011-2013" (DCR) of the USAV unless noted. A copy of the DCR can be ordered, read or downloaded at:

http://usavolleyball.org/resources/officials-rules/domestic-competition-regulations

If you enter www.usavolleyball.org and go to the "resources" tab and then "officials and rules" it will get you there. If it's easier, there is also a link to rules comparisons of USAV /NCAA/high school rules.
In the DCR in Rule 7, 20.1.2 and 20.2.1 it states that:

All participants must behave respectfully and courteously in the spirit of FAIR PLAY, not only toward the referees, but also toward other officials, the opponents, teammates, and spectators. It also states that participants must accept the referees' decisions with sportsmanlike conduct, without disputing them.

BASKETBALL RULES

1: Only GOYANS from the Metropolis of Atlanta may be Included in these WYR Games.

2: All games will start at Center Court with a Prayer.

3: All games will consist of 4 - 7-minute quarters, with stop clock on every whistle.

4: Each team will be allowed 5 timeouts per game. 3 Full (60 Seconds) and 2 (30 Seconds) timeouts.

5: In the event of a tied score at the end of regulation, the game will go to a 3-minute Overtime period. The clock will stop on every whistle. Each team will be awarded an additional timeout in the overtime period. All unused timeouts can be carried over to the Overtime period. Team fouls are reset.

6: PERSONAL FOULS - 5 per player at which time the player is disqualified from the game. Any TECHNICAL FOUL counts as a personal foul, towards the Five. Any player who receives a TECH- NICAL FOUL must sit on the bench for the length of one quarter (7 minutes). *Note: If there is less than 7 minutes left in the game, the remaining time rolls over into the start of the overtime peri- od, or the next game.

7: Any player disqualified for misconduct and or the assessment of 2 TECHNICAL FOULS, will be suspended for the remainder of the game and for the next game.

8: ANY COACH that receives a direct technical foul MUST sit on the bench for the rest of the game.
9: Any coach that receives 2 direct technical fouls will be disqualified and must remove himself /herself from the facility. The coach will be suspended from the next game.

10: On the 5th team foul, a bonus of 2 FREE THROW SHOTS will be awarded. In addition, any technical foul assessed to an individual player will count towards the team foul count, as well as a personal foul. Team foul counts reset each quarter.

11: If a team commits a technical foul, then the opponent team will be awarded 2 free throws, and the ball, out of bounds (Opposite the scorer's table). Team fouls **reset to zero** at the end of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarters. **Overtime:** Team fouls committed during the 4th quarter carry over into any overtime period.

12: A player is penalized for flopping if they simulate being fouled or make exaggerated movements when there is no illegal contact. The team receives a warning first, and then a technical foul for any additional instances.

13: A grace period of 10 minutes will be allowed to a team at each facility, ONLY for the first game of the day, for each facility. However, should a game go into OT, or 2 OT, we will allow that team a grace period from gym to gym, should it occur during any game thereafter. (10 Minutes of travel time would be added for each overtime played)

14: Any team arriving after their starting game time (with the exception of rule# 12), will have to forfeit.

15: No players may be switched or substituted after the rosters have been submitted to the WYR Exec- utive Committee, without consent of Winter Youth Rally Executive Committee. (The final roster for each Team/ Community must be approved and signed off by the Coach at The Coaches Meeting).

16: Any issues during the actual competition must be addressed to the WYR Executive Committee.

17: There will be a 20-point mercy rule for all games. If a team has a 20-point lead they can no longer press or trap on defense, and we will play with a running clock (except on timeouts).

18: Point differential will be used to break any ties while seeding following group play, however we will cap the amount of points a team can earn towards this amount at 15 per game (the 2nd tie- breaker will be fewest points allowed).