



FAST BREAK

CTK CYO MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 5, 2018

Pastor: Father Joseph Davanzo
Executive Director: John Newman
Assistant Director: Dennis Briordy
Executive Assistant: Michelle Mardiney

Director's Message

It's hard to believe that at this time two years ago Father Joe came to me and asked for help in restoring and reinventing the CTK CYO program. The daunting task presented to me was to restart an entire program that had just been abandoned by the prior administration and to get it up and running within a few weeks. Fortunately for CTK, Dennis Briordy and Michelle Mardiney volunteered their services and with their help we were able to jumpstart the program and get it going in the right direction again.

In the beginning it was not easy as we faced deadlines and tasks that all three of us were not all that familiar with as new administrators. Some early mistakes were made due to the unfamiliar regulations of the Nassau-Suffolk CYO but with their understanding and cooperation we were able to make things work that first year.

It was a terrific first year 2016-17 as we were able to field eight girls travel teams and seven boys travel teams. We introduced for the first time the ability for all players no matter what level of skill to be able to participate in a travel basketball program. Our 5th grade girls team won the league championship and our 5th grade boys team lost in the final championship game. We also had the highly competitive Boys Sunday Night High School League which filled the gym and provided a lot of memorable moments. For the first time we also introduced Tyro Spring basketball for boys. This was all part of our plan to offer more programs to players that wish to continue playing all year round. In year one we also filled the gym during the summer as we had both boys and girls teams participate in the CYO Summer League Program. The CTK CYO Program now had momentum and the vision of the directors was one of expansion for the following year.

step forward for the Program as once again our vision for expansion would be met with the creation of the Girls Volleyball Program. For years the volleyball net sat dormant in a store room off to the side of the gym. Donna Newman the Varsity girls and boys coach at St. Anthony's High School volunteered to start a program at CTK since no one had taken the initiative in the past. The program was offered and the response was overwhelming! We fielded six teams in our first year in which two of them made serious playoff runs. The plan for 2018-19 is to expand to nine teams because of the success of the program.

The 2017-18 basketball season returned all our teams from the previous year and we added Coach Gillon's 4th grade girls team to the program. It was a great year as our 6th grade girls team lost in the championship final and our 6th grade boys team avenged the loss from the previous year and won their division championship. The Sunday Night Boys High School League was a huge success and held its first All Star Game at the completion of the season. Our Boys Spring Tyro team went undefeated in winning the non-scholastic division this past spring. This summer we not only had girls and boys basketball but also our first summer volleyball team.

Our Individual Instruction Program which started last year has been a huge success. There are now 38 boys and girls that have attended the program since its inception. Players are coming from as far as Levitown and Massapequa to attend the workouts. We have individualized programs for K-12th players that are looking to improve their game. We have even offered small group workouts for all grades that have been attended by our participants. Once again this was part of our vision to offer more varied programs for those looking for something more challenging.

We have also added some new experienced coaches to our girls program the last two years. Christie Abbate the

longtime associate head coach at Iona College has operated a weeklong summer camp at the CTK Gym in which many of our girls have attended and flourished under her tutelage. In addition Jill Kraft the head coach of Commack High School's JV girls team is now coaching our 8th grade girls team. This is part of the CTK CYO's vision of providing the best opportunity for our participants to reach their full potential.

I want to thank Father Joe, Sal Contino, Anne Amico, Dennis Briordy, Michelle Mardiney, Donna Newman and all the coaches and assistant coaches that have given time to make our CTK CYO program one of the best youth sports program in the area.

It is the goal of the CTK CYO to continue to provide the best opportunity for girls and boys to participate in basketball and volleyball programs throughout the year. We welcome all area residents to join us or to rejoin us as we continue to expand. We are currently in the process of raising money for a basketball shooting machine which can then be used for the benefit of everyone in our program. Anyone interested in becoming a part of CTK can contact John Newman at theace5120@aol.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING



Girls Volleyball

This summer for the first time CTK participated in the Nassau-Suffolk CYO Girls Volleyball league. Coach Jen Curran placed a combined 7th/8th grade squad in the 8th grade division. The team played a rigorous schedule against older more experienced teams but managed to hold their own each match. The experience that they had as a group can only help them this coming season when they compete in their regular division.

Last season CTK fielded six teams in the Nassau-Suffolk CYO Volleyball league. We would like to expand the program to nine teams this year. The 6th grade division has

openings for new teams if anyone would like to join. Contact Donna Newman at donvolley@aol.com for information about the program and how to place a team in the league.



Boys Divisions

Grades 6 thru 8- This year CTK will be fielding a 6th grade team coached by Brian McConaghy, two 7th grade teams coached by Mike Tuffy and Marc Rosenoff and two 8th grade teams coached by Chris Gitz and Jason Newfield. Coach Rosenoff's team will be looking to defend their title in the "A" division and the other teams will be challenging for a playoff spot in their divisions. The season will begin the week of 11/11 and home games will be played on weekends at the CTK Gym.

Tyro division (grades 9 and 10)- CTK will be fielding one team in the highly competitive Fall Tyro division. The team will be coached by John Newman and members of the team are:

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| Sean Barry | Kieran Bradley |
| Antonio Figuero | James Haupt |
| Zach Lagrasta | Gavin Newman |
| RJ Orlowski | Aidan Norotsky |
| Anthony Sicurelli | Andrew Shovelson |

The season will begin Friday September 14th and the regular season ends on October 28th. This is a great way to prepare for the upcoming interscholastic season.

For the first time CTK CYO will be offering all those players that don't participate in interscholastic basketball the opportunity to play competitive travel basketball in the Nassau-Suffolk CYO winter league. There are two divisions offered: Tyro for grades 9 and 10 and Senior for grades 11 and 12. The league begins in January 2019 and finishes at the end of March. Registration for this league will open on 11/12 and we will field as many teams as we have coaches for those teams. Anyone interested in coaching this division should contact John Newman at theace5120@aol.com as soon as possible.



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Girls Divisions

Winter season 2018-19- This year CTK will be fielding the following teams in the girls divisions:

5th grade-Coach Jill Gillon

6th grade-Coach Mike Orlando

7th grade-Coach John Newman

7th grade- Coach Anthony Davidson

7th grade- Coach Chris Kraft

8th grade-Coach Jill Kraft

8th grade-Coach Carmine DiDomenico

Tyro-Coach Mike Orlando

The Tyro league season will begin on September 14th with the regular season ending on October 28th. For the grades 5 thru 8 the season begins on October 12th and finishes on January 6th. It should be another exciting winter of competitive girls basketball and all are welcome to come down to the CTK Gym and watch. The schedules for all the teams can be found on the cyons.org website.



K-1 Clinic/Developmental League

The K-1 Clinic- Registration is now underway for this years clinic. The clinic will be held on Sundays beginning 11/11/18. It will be held at the CTK Gym from 12 noon-1pm on the following dates: 11/11, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 1/6/19, 1/13, 1/20, 2/3, 2/10. Make sure to register early as space will be limited.

The Grade 2-3 Developmental Program- Registration is now open for the Developmental Program. This program is open to both girls and boys and if we have enough enrollment they will be split up by grade and gender. The program will be held on Friday evenings at Indian Hollow School from 745-845pm beginning 11/9. You can register on the ctkcyo.net website.

Individual Instruction

Coach Newman has been holding individual and small group workouts @ CTK for the past several months. Participants (boys and girls) currently range from 1st graders to 11th graders. Each session is approximately one hour in length consisting of fundamental drills involving ball handling, shooting, dribbling, one on one moves, agility and conditioning. Anyone interested in improving their game is urged to contact Coach Newman @ theace5120@aol.com to set up a session.



Coach John Newman will be conducting individual and small group instructional workouts for boys and girls during the months of September and October. This an excellent way to work on improving your game and to get in some extra work during your current season. These workouts will be open to CTK players and non-CTK participants. Contact Coach Newman @ theace5120@aol.com for further information if you are interested.

Congratulations to Travis Newman and Antonio Figueroa on being named Most Valuable Player at the All American Basketball Camp this past summer. Travis received the award during Session I and Antonio received the award at Session II. The All American Basketball Camp celebrated its 50th anniversary this year with another outstanding summer attendance with over 500 attendees. Coach Gus Alfieri, a CTK parishoner, has directed the camp since its inception in 1968. The camp has had many legendary basketball figures like, Lou Carnesecca, John Kresse, Rollie Masimino, Hubie Brown, Ralph Willard, Jim Valvano, Al Lobalbo, Bobby Knight, Mike Krzyzewski, Jim Lynam, Rick Barry, Julius Erving, John Warren and many of the great Long Island high school coaches lecture at the camp over those years. In the past two years Brooklyn Nets Coach Ken Atkinson has come to the camp, which he attended 35 years ago, to lecture and demonstrate to the campers. If you are interested in attending the camp or for more information you can contact Coach Gus Alfieri at aalf@optonline.net

Pictured below are (l: to r) Gus Alfieri, Antonio Figueroa, Spencer Malloy, Travis Newman, Coach Newman

