

Pulaski Youth Organization (PYO)

Overview and Philosophies

Open to all families in the Pulaski School District

What is the PYO? The PYO was formed to give the youth an avenue to compete at a tournament level with other tournament teams throughout Wisconsin. Goals of the PYO are to help develop athletic skills, encourage a competitive team concept, foster good sportsmanship and help youth have fun at the tournament level. The PYO sponsors teams for baseball, softball and basketball. The PYO will sponsor as many teams for which there are coaches and players.

Who can play? All youth in the Pulaski School District are eligible to try out for any PYO team in the appropriate age brackets. Youth will be chosen for various teams based on their age, athletic abilities and attitude. These youth will comprise competitive teams and will compete with other selected teams throughout the area. Team positions are limited, therefore, not all youth who try out will make a first team, but it is the goal of the PYO to sponsor as many teams for which there are players and coaches. Youth who make the second or third team will also compete in area tournaments and will further develop their athletic skills and abilities! The goal of the PYO is to include all youth who want to participate in competitive tournaments: therefore, parents will be asked to help coach the second or third teams as necessary so that all youth may have the opportunity to play.

Tournaments: Tournaments and tournament dates are selected by the teams' coaches. It is the responsibility of all parents and youth participating on a PYO team to attend practices and tournaments. Practicing as a team is an essential part of this competitive format. Unexcused absences could result in loss of playing time. It is the responsibility of the player or parents/guardian of that player to make sure that practices are attended or to notify the coach of any planned absences.

PYO Expenses and Income: The PYO spends between \$500-\$800 for every team in a season for expenses such as tournament entry fees, uniforms and equipment. Additionally, the PYO members contribute time, labor and materials for park improvements at Memorial Park in Pulaski, improvements or donations to athletic programs in the school district and also provide scholarship monies for athletes. Funding for the PYO youth teams is primarily through concession stand proceeds raised during PYO events combined with a one-time family membership fee of \$10.00. As concession stand proceeds are the main source of the PYO funding, all PYO parents are expected to work the concession stand during the PYO events and tournaments.

PYO Members and Board: The PYO is governed by a board of volunteers who hold elected positions. Nominations for these positions are held during February of each year and elections are held during the March meeting. PYO meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month. Please see the PYO website for exact times and meeting locations. Each family in the Pulaski School District is welcome and encouraged to join the PYO! It takes many volunteers to create quality programs for our youth!!

For further information, please contact the current Pulaski Youth Organization President.