



Sports Fest Handbook

VIETNAMESE ALLIANCE YOUTH

Southern California | 2025

(All updates for this year are yellow highlighted)

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I. Introduction

A. OVERVIEW OF SPORTS FEST

Sports Fest is an annual gathering of the Vietnamese Alliance Youth (VAY) in Southern California that has taken place for almost five decades. It is a two-weekend event that includes various sports such as Men Basketball, Men and Women's Volleyball, Bible Jeopardy, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Tennis, Tug-O-War, Track-N-Fields, and Scripture Memorization. It also includes worship and teachings during the Opening Ceremony, Closing Ceremony, and Chapel Service.

B. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of Sports Fest is to provide occasions of celebration for the young people to live out the Great Commandment and Commission lifestyle on and off the athletic field. The main objectives of Sports Fest are *to strengthen the youth ministries of local churches, to equip local church fellowships to disciple its members in achieving the Great Commandment and Great Commission lifestyle, and to be a movement of Great Commission young people who are glorifying God by building Christ's church.*

C. HEART VALUES

We commit to the following values from the global sports ministry movement:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|----------------|
| 1. We Proclaim the Gospel | } | What we do |
| 2. We Make Disciples | | |
| 3. We Obey the Bible | | |
| 4. In and Through the Church | } | Where we do it |
| 5. In Sport and Play | | |
| 6. In Every City, Every Community | | |
| 7. We Work in Teams | } | How we do it |
| 8. We Live as Servants | | |
| 9. We Partner Together | | |

D. METHODOLOGY

All methods used by VAY-SM shall be consistent with Biblical principles and philosophies.

E. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Vietnamese Alliance Youth Sports Ministry (VAY-SM) is a ministry of the Southern California Region Vietnamese Alliance Youth (VAY). VAY is a ministry of the Vietnamese District of the Christian and Missionary Alliance (CMA). The Leadership of VAY-SM will sign the Statement of Faith of the Christian and Missionary Alliance and be appointed by and work under the VAY of the Southern California Region. VAY-SM works through and with the local churches and aims to strengthen the youth ministries of local churches.

Current members of the VAY-SM Senior Staff are:

- JOHN CHANH NHAN (Director of VAYSM) – nhanjohn@gmail.com
- PASTOR BUMBLE HO – pastorbumble@gmail.com
- HANH NGUYEN – duchanhnguyen@yahoo.com
- SEAN (KHANH) BUI – sean.bui@gmail.com
- LOC NGUYEN – readandpray@yahoo.com

The VAY-SM Senior Staff oversees the Planning Staff and the On-site Event Volunteers to coordinate Sports Fest with the Churches.

F. REQUIRED LEVELS OF INVOLVEMENT FROM THE CHURCHES

Three levels of involvement required from each participating church in Sports Fest are Church Senior Pastor, Church Representative, and Individual Participant.

1. Church Senior Pastor

The Senior Pastor of participating churches (or his designee for larger churches with separate EM) must be involved in all aspects of Sports Fest with respect to the following:

- 1) The Overall Commitment
 - a) Appointing and supervising Church Representative
 - b) Securing consensus and commitment of the church
 - c) Providing necessary resources
 - d) Providing spiritual leadership for the participating team(s)
- 2) The Administrative Process
 - a) Verifying the list of participants, especially in relating to church membership
 - b) Signing all official forms (i.e., registration, application etc.)
 - c) Being aware and informed of incidents, situations, and disciplinary actions
- 3) The Attendance
 - a) Being present during opening and/or closing ceremonies
 - b) Being present in (at least) one of two weekends of Sports Fest

2. Church Representatives

Church Representatives must be at least 18 and play an important role as liaisons between VAY-SM Staff and local churches. They are to help their church and participants to follow guidelines, instructions, policies, and procedures set forth by the VAY-SM Staff. Ideally, they should not be on Staff, especially if they come from big churches.

All participating Church Reps be involved in all aspects of the Sports Fest with respect to the following:

- 1) The Overall Commitment
 - a) Representing the interests of the church and its participants
 - b) Working closely with VAY-SM Staff
 - c) Being the spokesperson for the church's participants throughout Sports Fest
- 2) The Administrative Process
 - a) Being appointed, delegated and directed by the Senior Pastor or his pastoral designee
 - b) Verifying the list of athletes and coordinating pastoral signoff for them
 - c) Collecting and submitting church registration, insurance, athlete forms
 - d) Collecting and submitting all church fees and athlete fees
 - e) Keeping Senior Pastor, the church, and the athletes updated with all pertinent information relating to the Sports Fest
- 3) The Attendance
 - a) Attending at least 80% of the VAY-SM monthly meetings on time
 - b) Attending all weekends of Sports Fest

3. Individual Athletes/Participants

All athletes and participants must follow guidelines, instructions, policies, and procedures set forth by the VAY-SM. Athletes must wear sanctioned uniforms and footwear during matches.

4. Fans and Spectators

Spectators' cheering is encouraged, but excessive use of amplifying objects and instruments is not allowed. In addition, actions such as unsportsmanlike conduct toward other spectators, athletes, participants, referees, coaches and VAY-SM Staff and unauthorized videos and photography of others without their consent may result in removal of Sports Fest attendance.

G. EXPECTATIONS AND PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

Participating in Sports Fest means accepting and following all guidelines, instructions, policies, and procedures set forth by the VAY-SM. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action, including penalties, fines, and possible removal from all activities. Appeals of disciplinary decisions must be escalated through the appropriate chains of authority within our denomination.

II. Preparing for Sports Fest

A. VENUE, DATES, AND THEME

Sports Fest 2025 will tentatively¹ be on:

July 19, 20, 26 and 27, 2025 (Saturdays and Sundays) [or July 12, 13, 19 and 20
At TO BE DETERMINED – PLEASE PRAY FOR A VENUE].

The theme verse is from 1 Corinthians 9:25a “Every athlete exercises self-control in all things.”

B. COMPETITIVE AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Athletes from Churches will tentatively compete in the following Events:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ♦ Team Events: | ♦ Individual Events: |
| - Basketball (Men) | - Track and Field |
| - Volleyball (Men) | - Tennis, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Badminton |
| - Volleyball (Women) | - Scripture Memorization** |
| - Bible Challenge* (Mixed) | **from: [to be determined] |
| *from the 4 Gospels with the chronological order according Thomas & Gundry's
Harmony of the Gospel" (viewable on https://harmony-bible.com), plus Leviticus | |

Please refer to the end of the Handbook for the specific rules of each Competitive Event.

Sports Fest also host non-competitive community events for the churches such as Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Community Time, Potlucks, Chapel Services. Therefore, it is important that the churches would contribute to this annual gathering.

C. PREPARATION MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

All church reps are required to attend a monthly planning meeting. We will meet on these Saturdays (with Staff meeting at 10 AM and the Church Reps meeting at 11 AM):

- Mar. 15: Information Meeting
- Apr. 26: Church Registration's deadline
- May 17: Early Athlete Registration deadline, closing individual events sign-up
- June 28: No more late Athlete Registration deadline, except for team events
- July 12: Schedule Preview & Prayer

The meeting is at The District 2275 W Lincoln Ave, Anaheim, CA 92801. Participation in the preparation for Sports Fest will be counted toward the Sportsmanship Award.

¹ Since the School District's facility schedule won't finalize until the end of the school year, we don't know for sure until we have a contract. Therefore, please pray to secure a venue

D. CHURCH REGISTRATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The enrollment process starts with the Senior Pastor of each participating church sending the Church Representative(s) to the Information Meeting.

The initial Church's Registration is due (postmarked or hand-delivered at the monthly meeting) by set deadline in page 7, and must include:

- ❑ A completed Church Registration form at <https://vaysm.org> - the church will be asked to assess the level of Sports Ministry in its involvement:
 - Level 1 - Unorganized: The church participates in Sports Fest without any prior planning or organization. ("Sports Fest is next week, just show up and play anyway.")
 - Level 2 - Organized: The church participates in Sports Fest with proper planning and organization, including scheduling practice sessions. ("Sports Fest is in July, we need to practice.")
 - Level 3 - Intentional: The church participates in Sports Fest with the intention of using the event to strengthen the faith of weaker Christians. ("We use Sports Fest to help weak Christians become stronger.")
 - Level 4 - Missional: The church participates in Sports Fest with the intention of reaching out to pre-Christians and introducing them to the Christian faith. ("We use Sports Fest to help pre-Christians become Christians.")
 - Level 5 - Matured: The church is capable of organizing and executing its own sports ministry, using sports, play, and fitness as a means to proclaim the gospel and make disciples. ("Without Sports Fest, we can still proclaim the gospel and make disciples through sports, play, and fitness.")
 - Level 6 - Multiplied: This level reflects a church's commitment to not only successfully running its own comprehensive sports ministry but also expanding its impact by multiplying teams, disciples, and engagement in sports, play, and fitness beyond the local church membership. The focus on growth is evident through increased numbers of new teams, participants, converts, and sports ministry leaders.
- ❑ A copy of Church proof of insurance. The "Certificate of Insurance" must contain the following:
 - 'Certificate Holder' must read: *Vietnamese Alliance Youth, 2275 W. Lincoln Ave, Anaheim, CA 92801.*
 - Minimum Coverage must be: *\$1 million AND \$3 million aggregate.*
 - 'Insured' must be listed as Your Church
 - 'Description of Operations' must state '*for (name of church)'s participation in the VAY Sports Fest on July 12, 13, 19, 20, 26 and 27, 2025*'.
- ❑ Church Registration Fees. The fees must come from the church (personal check or payment on behalf won't be accepted). It should be *payable to Vietnamese District/VAY, noted as Sports Festival 2025*.

FEES (deadline are noted in page 7. All fees are non-transferable, nonrefundable and cannot be substituted)

- Church Registration fee for more than two (2) team events = \$500 (additional \$100 late fee will apply for late registration)
- Church Registration fee for one (1) team event or less = \$300 (additional \$100 late fee will apply for late registration)
- Since each church must have their own flag to designate their camp site, the flag fee is \$50.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Each church is responsible for the actions and well-being of its spectators and participants during Sports Fest, including but not limited to the loss of personal belongings, personal injuries, illness exposure, safety, and any damage to the facilities before, during, and after the event. Spectators and participants acknowledge that their involvement in individual or group activities associated with the VAY Sports Festival is voluntary, and the VAY Sports Ministry does not require their participation.
 - Each church is responsible for its own compliance to the AB 506 State requirements regarding child abuse prevention.
- Each church must also ensure the cleanliness of the facilities during Sports Fest. Intentional damage to facilities or equipment may result in additional financial penalties for the responsible church and team.

E. CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE'S QUICK GUIDE

First, we would like to thank you for being the Church Rep. This section was created to get you started as soon as you can.

1. What are Your Responsibilities?

- First, you must report regularly to your Pastor about how Sports Ministry is going on with the church throughout Sports Fest.
- You also must attend the VAY Sports Ministry every month, communicate with all the athletes from your church's team and be their liaison to VAY-SM. We simply can't communicate with everyone. You will be the first point of contact for them.
- You must also coordinate logistics with your local church about everything else for Sports Fest. For example, making sure everyone follows the facility requirements, or getting your church's coverage for the community potlucks, etc.
- Finally, take advantage of this responsibly to model discipleship and advancing in ministry leadership development.

2. Communication Channels

VAY-SM made public announcement to the public will be made through its Facebook page at <https://Facebook.com/VAY-SM> - This would be where you want to check for

public schedule changes and announcements during Sports Fest week. We also recently have our https://instagram.com/vay_sm but it doesn't have a wide audience yet.

Besides these feeds, our website <https://vaysm.org> serves as an anchor for registration intake and the Handbook so you can point people there for more information.

You will be added to a mailing list which includes all the Church Reps and the Onsite Volunteers. When a member email to SportsFest-Volunteers@VAY.groups.io address, it will be broadcasted to everyone. You can go to the mailing list web interface at <https://vay.groups.io/g/SportsFest-Volunteers> and search for information. For example, a sample of what a Certificate of Insurance that your church must provide can be found here <https://vay.groups.io/g/SportsFest-Volunteers/message/139>. You can unsubscribe to the mailing list when Sports Fest is over.

You can also attempt to contact the Sports Fest Staff directly by emailing them. The planning staff contact information can be found on page 22. Some of them are quite inundated with emails so you may not get through the spam filter. Therefore, you should try to obtain their messenger or text message number as well.

Lastly, we also have a mass texting system to contact the athletes directly in case of emergency and special purposes.

3. Obtaining Church's Check and the Certificate of Insurance

In most churches, the Treasurer is the one who can help you with it besides the Pastor. If your church uses Church Casualty, go to <https://myccia.com/certificate-of-insurance> and follow the instruction with your church's account number. If your church returns from last year, check the box for "Certificate of Insurance Renewal" and upload last year's Certificate so that they can expedite the request like this:

Event Information
Please provide as much detail as possible. (The certificate of insurance will be issued in connection with the activity described below)
Updated Event Date(s) * ⓘ <input type="text" value="July 22, 23, 29 and 30, 2023"/>
Event Description * ⓘ <input type="text" value="For Redemption Point church's participation in the VAY Sports Fest on July 22, 23, 29, and 30, 2023"/>

Does the event have any new activities that have been changed from the prior year? *

☐ Yes ☒ No

Will any food for this event be catered or provided by outside food vendors?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is this event taking place at a camp or retreat center? *

☐ Yes ☒ No

Updated Description of All Event Activities * ⓘ

Sports Fest is an annual event organized by the Vietnamese Alliance Youth (VAY) that brings together hundreds of young people from all over Southern California. It is a time of celebration and a chance to live out the Great Commandment and Commission lifestyle on the athletic field. There are multiple sports competitions ranging from basketball, volleyball, and ping pong, to track and field, tug-o-war, and Bible Jeopardy. There is also a Scripture Memorization competition. In addition to the sports activities, there are Opening Ceremony, Closing Ceremony, and Chapel Hours with worship and teachings. Sports Fest has been a tradition for almost five decades and is a great opportunity for young people to build relationships and enjoy an exciting weekend of athletics and spiritual growth. ●

Number of Participants * Adult to Child Ratio * ⓘ

Certificate Holder Information

Certificate Holder Name *

This is the entity or individual asking you for evidence of insurance. It is not you or your organization.

Additional Instructions, Remarks or Comments

Attachments ⓘ

Drag files here or



Last year's Certificate

To obtain the church's check, be aware that many churches board also meets only once a month to approve financial request, so you may need to make the request as soon as you can.

4. Managing Registrations for the Church and the Athletes

a) Church's Signup at <https://bit.ly/vaysm-church-signup>

Church Rep Must Sign Up First so we can approve for them to have a Team on the system:



Church Application Form

IMPORTANT: Fill this out only if you are confident that your Senior Pastor will authorize you to be the Church's Representative for your Church Team.

Church Name *

Pastor Name *

Pastor Email *

Pastor Phone Number *

Your Name (as Church Rep) *
First Name Last Name

Your Email *

Your Mobile Phone *

Your Birthdate *
MM/DD/YYYY

What Level of Sports Ministry is your Church?

Level 1 - Unorganized: The church participates in Sports Fest without any prior planning or organization. ("Sports Fest is next week, just show up and play anyway.")

Level 2 - Organized: The church participates in Sports Fest with proper planning and organization, including scheduling practice sessions. ("Sports Fest is in July, we need to practice.")

Level 3 - Intentional: The church participates in Sports Fest with the intention of using the event to strengthen the faith of weaker Christians. ("We can use Sports Fest to help weak Christians become stronger.")

Level 4 - Missional: The church participates in Sports Fest with the intention of reaching out to pre-Christians and introducing them to the Christian faith. ("We can use Sports Fest to help pre-Christians become Christians.")

Level 5 - Matured: The church is capable of organizing and executing its own sports ministry, using sports, play, and fitness as a means to proclaim the gospel and make disciples. ("Without Sports Fest, we can still proclaim the gospel and make disciples through sports, play, and fitness.")

For more info, see <https://sportsfest.vayhub.us/the-6-levels-of-church-sports-ministry-unlocking-the-power/>

Your Church's Level of Sports Ministry *

☐ Level 1

☐ Level 2

☐ Level 3

☐ Level 4

☐ Level 5

Additional notes

Uploaded files for Church Insurance, etc.



Select File

Drop files here to upload 10 MB

Clear

Submit

b) Participant's Signup at <https://bit.ly/vaysm-signup>

Individual Application Form

Name *
Kobe Bryant

Important: The name should match a photo ID for verification if needed.

Gender *
☒ Male
☐ Female

Church Team *
RPC

Would the church pastor say that you belong to his church? *
☐ Yes
☒ No

How do you know about us
My best friend goes to RPC

Important: Valid mobile phone number and email for two-factor authentication.

Mobile Phone *
715-5551212

Email *
Kobe@lakers.com

My role is *
☒ Athlete/Participant
☐ Parents paying for minor Athlete/Participant
☐ Church's Representative
☐ Church Pastor, Leader, or Coach
☐ VAY SM Staff
☐ Fan and Supporter

Birthdate *
08/23/1978

Age verification (by the date of Sports Fest)
☐ I am over 18 but under 35
☐ I am under 18
☒ I am over 35

Primary Sport
Choose

- Basketball - Men Team
- Bible Challenge - Mixed Team
- Volleyball - Men Team
- Volleyball - Women Team
- Badminton

Please confirm your Primary Sport for now (and change later)
☐ Unselected/Other Events only
☒ Team Sport (Basketball Volleyball, Bible Challenges)
☐ Racquet Sport (Badminton, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Tennis)

Secondary Sport
Choose

- Badminton
- Tennis
- Table Tennis
- Pickleball
- Pickleball 35+

Secondary Sport
Pickleball 35+

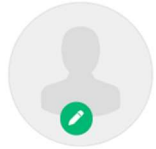
Please confirm your Secondary Sport for now (and change later)
☐ Unselected/Other Events only
☐ Team Sport (Basketball Volleyball, Bible Challenges)
☒ Racquet Sport (Badminton, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Tennis)

Secondary Racquet Sport Format
Mixed Double

Secondary Racquet Sport Partner (if applied)
Gigi Bryant

Other Events
☐ Scripture Memorization
☐ Track & Field
☐ Tug-of-war

Photo *



F. PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY, REGISTRATION AND AGREEMENTS

1. Athletes must be at least 13* and under 35 years of age at the beginning of Sports Fest. (*Exception have been made for participants in Scripture Memorization, Tug-O-War, and 35+Pickleball.)
2. All athletes are **required** to be signed-off by the church senior pastor (or a pastoral designator by his written authorization, or the Board Secretary for church with no Pastor).
3. Only church members may participate. A church member is defined as:
 - For Vietnamese Alliance Church (VAC), a church member is defined as either a member who has been attending regularly for at least three (3) months at the participating church PRIOR to signing up, or a member of another participating VAC church, in which no other youth of that church play for any other teams at Sports Fest besides your church.
 - For other denominations, please check with your senior pastor for specific definition of a church member/membership.
4. To encourage and improve outreach, pre-Christians will be allowed to participate if all the following conditions are met:
 - ☐ A limit of two (2) person maximum per Basketball and Volleyball team. There should never be more than six (6) per church (i.e., two from Basketball, four from Men and Women Volleyball).
 - ☐ A limit of one (1) person maximum in each Individual Event with partner (Double Badminton, Double Pickleball, Double Table Tennis, Double Tennis). This person must not compete solo since we want to build relationship for the Gospel. (One for Badminton, one for Pickleball, one for Table Tennis and so on).
 - ☐ The church must have a concrete outreach plan of activities designed in place to introduce a pre-Christian to God and to the local church community. (See sample spreadsheet here: <http://bit.ly/vaysm-sample-outreach-plan>).
 - ☐ The Senior Pastor of each church must approve and sign-off on the outreach plan for the participating pre-Christian.
 - ☐ All pre-Christian participants need to submit his or her registration by deadline *on page 7*.
 - ☐ Church Representatives will report the progress made on the outreach plan to his/her pastor and VAY-SM staff at each monthly meeting. We will discuss and pray for these pre-Christians by name at each meeting thereafter.

SECTIONS 2 - 4 IN GRAY ABOVE SHOULD BE REPLACED WITH THE FOLLOWING:

2. Church Membership and Participation

2.1 Standard Church Member Participation - The athlete must be confirmed as a church member by their pastor. Church membership is defined as:

- a) For Vietnamese Alliance Church (VAC): A church member is someone who has been attending regularly for at least three (3) months at the participating church (based on the District Bylaw) PRIOR to signing up.

b) For Vietnamese churches in other denominations: As defined by the senior pastor of the participating church.

2.2 Small Church Provision - For VIETNAMESE CHURCHES that cannot form their own team's events (ie. Basketball, Men & Women Volleyball, Bible Challenges):

a) Youth from these churches may join another participating Vietnamese church's team.

b) All youth from a single small church must join the same larger church's team.

c) These youth will be registered as members of the larger church for the purpose of Sports Fest.

d) The pastors of both the small church and the receiving church must approve this arrangement.

2.3 Non-Church-Member Participation - If the athlete is NOT confirmed as a church member by the participating church's pastor (ie. pre-Christians or members of another church), they may still be endorsed by the pastor to participate under the following conditions:

a) Limited Participation:

- A maximum of two (2) non-members per Basketball, Men Volleyball, Women Volleyball, and Bible Challenge teams. There must be NO MORE THAN TWO (2) SLOTS of non-members per team.
- A limit of one (1) non-member maximum in each Individual Event WITH A PARTNER (Double Badminton, Double Pickleball, Double Table Tennis, Double Tennis).

b) If the Non-Member is a Pre-Christian, the church needs to conduct Outreach by:

- The church must have a concrete Outreach Plan of activities designed to introduce the pre-Christian to God AND to the church community.
- The Senior Pastor of each church must approve and sign off on the Outreach Plan for the participating pre-Christian.
- Church Representatives will report the progress made on the Outreach Plan to their pastor and the VAY-SM staff at each monthly meeting. They will discuss and pray for these pre-Christians by name at each meeting thereafter.

c) Registration Requirements:

- All non-member participants need to submit their registration by the specified deadline (*see page 7*).
- The church must ensure compliance with all registration requirements for non-member participants.

3. All athletes, whether church members, small church participants, or non-members, must be signed off by the church senior pastor (or a pastoral designator by his written authorization, or the Board Secretary for churches with no Pastor)

a) The eligibility of all participants will be verified through a two-step process:

- Participants will answer the question: "If we asked your church pastor whether or not you are his church member, what would he say?" during registration.
- Pastors will provide a follow-up confirmation "Yes" or "No" for each participant from their church, and vouch for them to represent the church on the team or not.

b) Should there be any more verifications needed for members, we will notify the pastors and selected participants. The following additional documentation may be requested for an independent review board appointed by the VAY-SM Senior Staff:

- Proof of church attendance (e.g., membership record, dated photos, church attendance log, etc.)
- Statement from a church board leader (other than the pastor) confirming involvement
- Brief description **from the participant** about their roles or activities in the church.

c) All requests for verifications must be done in writing with proper representation and/or authorization (ie. by the VAY-SM Staff or Church Representatives) with the consultations of all pastors involved and follow strict confidentiality.

SUMMARY - Decision flow chart for Pastors Approvals:

- Question 1: Do you vouch for this participant to represent your church at Sports Fest? (See section 2.1 on membership; section 3 contains some criteria for verification if needed.)
(Yes = Criterion met; No = Reject.).
- Question 2: Is the participant confirmed as YOUR church member or approved via an inter-church agreement (section 2.2) with another Vietnamese church?
(Yes = Criterion met; No = Participant will be treated as a non-member, so further criteria apply.)
- Question 3: [For “ringers” only] Is there an available non-member slot on the team for this participant (see section 2.3)?
(Yes = Criterion met; No = Reject due to exceeding the non-member limit.)
- Question 4: [For “Christian ringers” only] If the participant is a non-member, is the participant a Christian?
(Yes = Criterion met and no Outreach Plan is required; No = The participant is a pre-Christian, so additional criteria apply.)
- Question 5: [For “non-Christian ringers” only] Does your church have an approved Outreach Plan (section 2.3.b) to introduce the pre-Christian to God and to the church community?
(Yes = Criterion met; No = Reject due to missing Outreach Plan.)

4. Each athlete can register up to two (2) events; a Primary and a Secondary (not counting Track and Field and Scripture Memorization) at <https://vaysm.org> with valid birthdate and photo for ID - An unlimited number of athletes are allowed in Team Events but not in Individual Events, and therefore the Church Rep will need to ensure compliance.

5. **FEES** (due by deadline on page 7. All fees are non-transferable, nonrefundable, and cannot be substituted)

- Athlete Fee: \$30 for each person, not event. (*Except kid's Memorization)
- Late Athlete Fee: \$60 (See the deadlines on page 7 for the exact information)

6. All athletes' fees from the church must be collected by the Church Rep and give to VAY-SM staff at the meetings as one transaction. We can't process payment individually.

7. LIABILITY RELEASE AND DISCLAIMER – The online registration will require the participant to electronically sign this statement:

"I, [Participant name], declare that the above information is true. In consideration of my participation in the Vietnamese Alliance Youth - Christian Sports Festival ("Organization"), I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, agree to assume all risks of loss, damage, or injury to my person or property resulting from my participation in this event. I hereby release and agree to indemnify the Organization, its members, officers, employees, agents, representatives, successors, and staff from any and all liabilities, claims, losses, and expenses, however they may be caused, including by negligence, and whether directly or indirectly arising from my participation in this event. I also agree to cover any costs and attorney's fees associated with these liabilities, claims, losses, and expenses. I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and will fully comply with the rules and regulations set forth by the Organization."

9. MEDICAL RELEASE & DISCLAIMER – The online registration will require the participant to electronically sign this statement:

"I, [Participant name], will be a participant in one or more activities/events in connection with the Vietnamese Alliance Youth - Christian Sports Festival.

1. I understand that the Vietnamese Alliance Youth - Christian Sports Festival ("the Organization") does not require me to participate in these activities/events and that I will engage in such activities/events voluntarily.

2. I acknowledge that there are inherent dangers in all recreational sports activities, including severe injury or death. Notwithstanding these dangers, I choose to engage in the activities/events. I will familiarize myself with all precautions that can be taken to prevent injury to myself and others.

3. I understand that the Organization, its committee, and staff are not responsible for serving as guardians of my safety. While they may provide some helpful instructions during one or more of the activities/events, they are not responsible for sufficiently instructing me on how to perform the activities/events safely, including operating any equipment or taking necessary precautions to prevent injury. I confirm that I am in sufficient physical condition and competent enough to protect myself from injury and know of no reasons why I would be incapable of performing the activities/events in a safe and competent manner.

4. I understand that although the Organization and its committee and staff are organizing these activities/events, they are not responsible for any personal injury, property damage, or other loss that I or any third parties may suffer as a result of those activities. Accordingly, in consideration of the Organization's part in organizing such activities/events, I hereby forever release, discharge, indemnify, and hold harmless the Organization, its committee, staff, employees, and representatives from any and all claims by me, my family, estate, executors, heirs, or assigns or third parties arising from my participation in such activities/events or my travel to and from such activities/events and event locations. I understand that any injuries or losses suffered by me will not be covered or compensated by the Organization's insurance policy, and any associated medical expenses and other losses will be my sole responsibility.

5. In the event that I require medical attention or treatment during the Vietnamese Alliance Youth - Christian Sports Festival, I hereby consent to receive such attention or treatment from the Medical Team, consisting of volunteers who may include medical students, pre-med students, nurses, and at least one physician. I understand that the Medical Team will provide first aid and is not intended to provide comprehensive medical treatment. I agree to release, discharge, indemnify, and hold harmless the Organization, its committee, staff, employees, and representatives, as well as the Medical Team and its individual members, from any and all claims, liabilities, losses, and expenses arising from or related to the medical attention or treatment I receive during the event.

I also confirm that I have read, understand, and will fully comply with the rules and regulations of the Vietnamese Alliance Youth - Christian Sports Festival."

10. If the athlete is under 18, the parents/guardian will sign the release. In addition, participants with major medical condition(s), allergies to food and/or medication must refrain from participating in activities and/or events inappropriate for them.
11. **PHOTO ID** - A photo ID is required for all participants as proof of age in the event a challenge was made regarding an athlete's eligibility at the event. A headshot photo must be uploaded to be used as electronic ID badge for Sports Fest for registration verification.
12. **ELECTRONIC APPROVAL PROCESS** - After the athlete registers online, the Church Rep(s) will be notified to review the information and make any correction needed. He/she will then send the registration to the Pastor (and the parents/guardians if under 18) for review and electronic signature.
13. **RELEASE OF IMAGE AND MEDIA RIGHTS AGREEMENT** - By participating in Sports Fest, participants grant the event organizers, staff, and volunteers the right to use their image, likeness, voice, and statements in any photographs, video recordings, audio recordings, or written testimonials taken or made during the event. This permission extends to all forms of media, including print, digital, and social media, and may be used for promotional, educational, or other purposes deemed appropriate by the event organizers. Participants acknowledge that they will not receive any compensation for the use of their image, likeness, voice, or statements, and they waive any rights, claims, or interests they may have in the resulting media content.
14. Christian athletes may be called upon to read Scripture or to pray at the huddle before the start of every game. Pre-Christian athletes will be exempted.

G. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Each event will award a First, Second or Third place trophy, medal, or certificate to the top teams or individuals in according to their respective standing.

SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Sportsmanship refers to the positive attitude and conduct expected of all Sports Fest participants, including honesty, courtesy, respect, fair play, and grace in both winning and losing situations. It embodies the virtues of honor, respect, self-control, persistence, and fairness in relationships with oneself and others.

On the other hand, Sports Ministry goes beyond just promoting sportsmanship. It aims to achieve broader goals such as strengthening youth ministries of local churches, equipping church for discipleship, and fostering a movement of young people who glorify God by building God's church. Sports Ministry utilizes sports events like Sports Fest to create an

environment where young people can live out the Great Commandment and Commission lifestyle on the athletic field while also growing spiritually and fostering the community.

Therefore, the VAY-SM will review, evaluate, and award this honorary award, which displays the highest level of recognition achieved by a participating church, based on the criteria belowⁱ. The award will be formally presented by VAY-SM Staff to the awarded Church's Congregation after the conclusion of Sports Fest as schedule permits.

A- The Performance of Church Youth Group

- 1- Church Reps Attendance at Meetings
- 2- Teamwork
 - ☐ Team spirit
 - ☐ Uniform
- 3- Church Support
 - ☐ Pastors present
 - ☐ Church members present
- 4- Attendance at All Events
 - ☐ Opening Ceremony
 - ☐ Closing Ceremony
- 5- Adhere to All VAY-SM Policies, Guidelines, and Procedures
 - ☐ Meet all deadlines
 - ☐ Follow all facility and safety information
- 6- Campsite Cleanliness
 - ☐ Trash disposed
 - ☐ No items left behind at the end of the night
 - ☐ Tidiness
- 7- Sports Competition
 - ☐ Character
 - ☐ Respectful of refs/officials
 - ☐ Good sportsmanship to opponents
 - ☐ Respectful fans/spectators

B- The "Above and Beyond" aspect is deliberated among the VAY-SM Senior Staff on:

- Going above and beyond what is expected in the Handbook
- Exemplary efforts of showing community, care, and sportsmanship

OR

- Organizational and Spiritual Capability: Evaluate the integration of scriptural values in the youth group's organization and activities, focusing on how these values guide the youth group's development and engagement.
- Effective and Balanced Leadership: Consider the church leadership's ability to demonstrate balance, wisdom, and competency, fostering an environment where youth are mentored and encouraged to grow spiritually and personally.
- Faith Community Contribution: Assess the youth group's efforts to go beyond mere participation, looking at how they embody Christian fellowship, exhibit sportsmanship, and contribute positively to the wider community.
- Innovation and Initiative: Recognize creative and proactive initiatives that demonstrate the youth group's commitment to making a significant impact, both within the Sports Fest and in their broader community engagements.
- Growth-Oriented Vision: Evaluate the youth group's strategic planning for future development, including the cultivation of emerging leaders and the expansion of their ministry's reach.
- Unity and Collaboration: Highlight the church's efforts to promote unity among

participating churches and to foster collaborative projects that enhance the collective impact of the Sports Ministry regionally.

H. TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are developing future leaders in VAY and the church by offering the following:

1. Pathways to Greater Involvement

Church Reps to Staff: In every monthly Church Rep's meeting, we explore the integration of faith in life (using sport as a slice of life). This will provide leadership development and mentorship opportunities for Church Reps to become part of the VAY Sports Ministry staff, working on event planning, coordination, and communication.

Staff to Senior Staff Members: Encourage experienced staff members to take on greater responsibility by joining the Senior Staff, overseeing strategic planning, and making key decisions for the Sports Fest and other sports ministry initiatives.

2. Online Trainings

We partner with the global sport movement to provide sports ministry training at <https://multiplicationschool.com> and resources at <https://readyssetgo.world> – For example, after 20 minutes <https://multiplicationschool.com/p/whole-life-coaching-introduction> training, a coach will be able to use a Game Skill (sport drill) to teach a Life Skill and lead to a Bible Truth. Here are a few examples:

- Basketball: <https://bit.ly/wlifecoach-bball>
- Volleyball: <https://bit.ly/wlifecoach-vball>
- Badminton: <https://bit.ly/wlifecoach-badminton>
- Table Tennis: <https://bit.ly/wlifecoach-pingpong>
- Tennis: <https://bit.ly/wlifecoach-tennis>

3. Post-Event Training

For 25 years, the North American Sport Movement has been training leaders in the foundations of sport, play, and fitness ministry. This year's **ReadySetGO Conference** will be on [OLD INFO] **Oct. 16-18, 2024, at Carlsbad** from, with the follow rates:

- \$125 Early Bird. (Team discount is \$100/person)
- \$175 General Admission
- \$225 Late Registration

Sign up at <https://northamericansportmovement.com/ready-set-go-conference>

Partial scholarship will be available, please contact Pastor Bumble for more information.

4. Onsite Volunteers

We offer training and support for participants (both spectators and athletes) interested in volunteering during Sports Fest in various roles such as referees, scorekeepers, AV technicians, nurses, security, or media content producers, etc.

REFEREES

Referees are responsible for fairly enforcing and following set rules and regulations at all times. All referees must be at least 18 years of age and possess superior knowledge of the game and its rules and regulations. Referees do not have to be registered participants from any of the participating churches. Referees must register with each respective sport's coordinators

MEDICAL TEAM

The Medical Team is a group of dedicated volunteers of medical students, pre-med students, nurses, and at least one physician. All volunteers, regardless of their professional status, must provide proof of license and/or certification and a state-issued ID.

The primary function of the Medical Team is to provide first aid, which entails responding to emergency situations by calling for help, assisting in keeping someone alive, reducing pain, and minimizing the consequences of injury or sudden illness until professional medical help arrives (as defined by the American Red Cross). The Medical Team is NOT intended to provide comprehensive medical treatment, as there is no medical malpractice insurance associated with the Sports Fest Medical Team.

The Medical Team does not support the medical transport of patients to hospitals. Instead, such transport is coordinated through standard EMS agencies as part of the 911 system.

Regarding non-prescription medications, these drugs should only be dispensed by individuals trained in administering non-prescription medications, as they require appropriate medical supervision. Participants should be responsible for carrying and dispensing their own prescribed or over-the-counter medications.

The Medical Team schedule will be organized using alternating 3-4 hour shifts for the volunteers. During each shift, there will be one doctor OR one nurse on-call and present on the campus. Each shift will also have at least TWO volunteers working at the First Aid tables and assisting the nurse or doctor when needed.

A detailed schedule with names, hours, and contact numbers will be prepared in early July. If volunteers have preferences regarding dates and times, they should email Becky Ly at beckyly74@yahoo.com. A scheduling sheet will be made accessible to the medical volunteers.

Medical volunteers will wear First Aid t-shirts to be easily identifiable. They should have a personal cell phone readily available. Walkie-talkies will be provided to those working a shift for efficient communication.

CONTACT TO VOLUNTEER

Please contact our staff for more information to volunteer.

I. PLANNING STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Senior Staff:

- John Chanh Nhan (Director of VAYSM, Church Rep. Liaison) – nhanjohn@gmail.com
- Pastor Bumble Ho (Pastoral Advisor) – pastorbumble@gmail.com
- Hanh Nguyen (Bible Challenge, Administration, Treasurer) – duchanhnguyen@yahoo.com
- Sean (Khanh) Bui (Bible Challenge Lead) – sean.bui@gmail.com
- Loc Nguyen (Scheduling; Photography, Video) – readandpray@yahoo.com

Planning Staff:

*Lead

- Kim Chi Bui (Volleyball) – kbui1996@gmail.com
- Matthew Chea (Staff care; Badminton; Volleyball) – khunnarithchea@yahoo.com
- *Thanh Dang (Table Tennis) - xuanthanhi8@gmail.com
- Richard Dinh (School Liaison) – richarddinh10@gmail.com
- *Andrew Do (Badminton Lead; Media) – andrewvd@gmail.com
- ~~Timmy Ho (Volleyball) – timmyho@gmail.com~~
- Phuoc La (Transportation) - phuocla97@gmail.com
- David Leav (Staff care; Badminton; volleyball) – leavdavid@gmail.com
- *Becky Ly (Medical Team) – beckyly74@yahoo.com
- Nhieu Ly (Medical Team) – nhieuly@yahoo.com
- Ethan Nguyen (Photography, video, media) - thienog1995@gmail.com
- *Matthew Nguyen (Basketball Lead, Community) - matthewlan1995@yahoo.com
- *Ruth Nguyen (Tennis) – ruthnguyen7@gmail.com
- *Stephani Le Nguyen (Volleyball Lead) - stephanilenguyen@yahoo.com
- *Teddy Nguyen (Pickleball) - theodore.tp.nguyen@gmail.com
- Jeremiah Phan (Registration, Support, Scripture Memorization) – jeremiah.phan@gmail.com
- Khoi Quach (Track and Field Lead, Basketball) - kquach4706@gmail.com
- *Minh Ngoc Vi (Scripture Memorization Lead) – vmn7296@yahoo.com
- Michael Vo (Volleyball) – michaelvlh1992@gmail.com

J. FACILITY AND SAFETY INFORMATION

To keep a safe environment and to earn the privilege to use the facility again in the future, everyone needs to do their parts:

1. Church Camp Site

- Each church will be flagged for an area to set up its EZ-Up, tables, materials, etc.
- This is the designated areas for eating or drinking
- No soupy food (like Phở, Noodle, etc.) should be served to keep the concrete clean
- Church is expected to keep their area clean
- No driving on campus is allowed

2. Parking

- Parking is available without charge, first come, first serve
- Do not park in restricted area (i.e., red, yellow, coned, or taped zones)
- Do not park for more than 15' at the church's equipment unloading gate
- Park at your own risk. Do not leave valuables in the car

3. Notice

- No food or drink in the gyms
- No pets and/or animals allowed unless they are state legalized service animals with proper identification
- No scooter, skateboard, bicycle on campus
- No drones on campus unless authorized by VAY Senior Staff
- No loitering after hours of operation
- Any parking violations must be immediately brought up to the attention of any member of the VAY-SM Senior Staff
- VAY-SM organization will not be liable for any issued violation and/or loss or stolen properties

4. Safety

- Medical personnel are stationed in the hallway between the Big and Small Gym. Contact them in case of a medical emergency. Provide accurate information about the location and condition of the person in need. Do not attempt to move injured individuals unless they are in immediate danger. Or call 911 if needed.
- Familiarize yourself with the location of the nearest emergency exit in each area you visit during the event. In the event of an evacuation, remain calm and proceed to the nearest exit. Do not use elevators during emergencies. In case of a fire, activate the nearest fire alarm and call 911. If it is safe to do so, use a fire extinguisher to put out small fires. Do not attempt to extinguish fires that are beyond your control. Evacuate the building immediately and move to a designated assembly area away from the building.
- Everyone should keep an eye on small children, don't leave them alone
- Ensure the safety and well-being of all minors participating in our activities by adhering to a 'two-adult rule,' requiring that no fewer than two screened and trained adults be present during all activities involving minors, and all interactions must occur in public, observable, and interruptible settings.

- Report any safety concerns or suspicious behaviors to the staff immediately

III. Sports Fest Rules and Regulations

A. GENERAL RULES AND CONDUCT

1. Scheduling

Schedules are based on the availability and capacity of the tournament facilities. The Senior Staff and coordinators will do their best to ensure fairness to all participating churches and teams. Schedules will be closely analyzed and evaluated to minimize back-to-back games, conflicts, and/or make accommodations that will contribute to the success of Sports Fest. No guarantees will be made.

Schedule will be posted on <https://facebook.com/VAY-SM> no later than 48 hours prior to event date. All changes and adjustments closed on set date at the discretion of the VAYSM Senior Staff prior to event date. No guarantees, changes or adjustments will be granted or made thereafter.

2. Forfeiture

Forfeitures are determined by Senior Staff and/or respective sport/event coordinator(s). Forfeiture(s) are determined as:

- Participant(s), who is ineligible to participate because he/she failed to register for that event, used another participant's ID and/or used any other methods of falsifying identification and qualification.
- Participant(s) or team who are no-shows or shows up late for a scheduled game (length of time are specified in this handbook under the Rules and Regulations section of each respective sport/event)
*Exceptions will NOT be made for personal events such as, but not limited to, weddings, funerals, flights, church or youth camps, exams, etc.
- Participant(s) or team who failed to adhere to the policies, guidelines, and procedures set forth by the VAY-SM Senior.

3. Grounds for Disqualifications

VAY-SM Coordinators and its Senior Staff have full discretion to render disqualifications and/or forfeitures on the following ground(s) with or without an explanation:

- Cheating
- Falsifying information
- Fighting
- Unsportsmanlike Conduct
- Violations of VAY-SM Handbook rules and regulations*

*VAYSM reserves the right to modify any and all information, regulations, and formats at any time with or without prior notice.

4. Pre-Game and Post-Game Procedures

- Roster will be checked, and athletes will be verified.
- Start and end each match with a scripture and prayer huddle together.
- Athletes may be called upon to read scripture and to pray.

5. Christian Conduct and Expectations

As a Christian sports event, we encourage all participants, volunteers, and attendees to uphold positive and inclusive behaviors that align with our faith and values. We kindly ask everyone to:

- Treat others with respect, kindness, and compassion.
- Refrain from using profanity or offensive language.
- Abstain from smoking or using addictive substance on premises.
- Maintain a positive and supportive atmosphere for all participants, regardless of their skill level or background.
- Resolve conflicts and disagreements peacefully and with understanding.
- Be mindful of the event's purpose and focus on fellowship, sportsmanship, and celebrating our shared faith.

By adhering to these guidelines, we can ensure a welcoming and uplifting environment for everyone involved in Sports Fest.

6. Fundraising And Solicitation Policy

Participating churches and businesses are not allowed to raise funds or operate during Sports Fest without prior notice and consent from VAY-SM Senior Staff. All request(s) must be submitted before the beginning of Sports Fest. Approval(s) are on a case-by-case basis.

7. Equipment

All equipment belonging to VAY-SM may not be taken or borrowed by anyone. *No exceptions will be made unless authorized by the VAY Senior Staff*

B. SPORTS-SPECIFIC RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. BADMINTON

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. Rules that apply to the VAY-SM Sports Festival in Badminton are based loosely on the *U.S. Badminton Association* standards and regulations
 - 1.1.1. VAY Senior Staff and Coordinator has discretion to modify appropriate changes fitting for this tournament at any time with or without prior notice
- 1.2. Players must supply their own racquet
- 1.3. Shuttles will be provided
- 1.4. Up to two (2) Doubles team per church (any combination of men's, women's or mixed)
- 1.5. Doubles is considered as one (1) participating event

2. GENERAL RULE

- 2.1. Start matches by flipping shuttle up in the air to determine which team will serve first
- 2.2. Team that does not serve first will choose side of the court
- 2.3. Team that loses the first game will start the next game
- 2.4. Two (2) minutes warm-up and two (2) minutes rest period between games
- 2.5. Ten (10) minutes grace period, after match is first called, before forfeiture will apply
 - 2.5.1. Exceptions will be made by the coordinator on a case-by-case basis only
- 2.6. Serves that touch the net and lands inside the service box are fair
- 2.7. Net shots that go over are good during rally
- 2.8. Shuttles that hit objects above (i.e., basketball courts) may be replayed once
- 2.9. Rally Scoring: each serve earns a point either for the serving team or opposing team
 - 2.9.1. Team serving must call the score out loud before each serve
- 2.10. Rally Point Scoring System:
 - 2.10.1. One server per side

- 2.10.2. Side that wins a rally adds a point to its score and becomes the new serving side
 - 2.10.3. Players on the serving side do not change respective service courts until they win a point
- 2.11. Discrepancies must be reported to the coordinator during the match not after the completion of the match
- 3. PRELIMINARY FORMAT
 - 3.1. Match in the preliminary round (round-robin) consists of two (2) games with each game played to twenty-one (21) points; no setting
 - 3.2. Each win of a game earns the team one (1) point
 - 3.3. Points earned are used to determine which four (4) teams will advance into the Playoffs
 - 3.4. In case of a tie, points earned in each game will be used to determine which team will advance into the Playoffs.
- 4. PLAY-OFFS FORMAT
 - 4.1. Matches are best of three (3) games with each game played to twenty-one (21) points
 - 4.2. Top four (4) teams will enter into Play-offs round
 - 4.3. First (1st) seeded team will play Fourth (4th) seeded team
 - 4.4. Second (2nd) seeded team will play Third (3rd) seeded team
 - 4.5. Top Two (2) teams will play for First and Second Place. Remaining Two (2) teams will play for Third (3rd) place
- 5. COORDINATORS
 - *Andrew Do
 - Stephani Nguyen

2. BASKETBALL

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. Rules that apply to the VAY-SM Sports Festival in Basketball are based on the NCAA standards and regulations
 - 1.1.1. VAY Senior Staff and Coordinator has discretion to modify appropriate changes fitting for this tournament
- 1.2. Each team must have at least five (5) players to start the game or will be forfeited
- 1.3. Officials will receive pre-printed team rosters with names of all eligible players
- 1.4. Only the coach and/or captain can speak to the referees
- 1.5. Each player must have a number on his uniform
- 1.6. Each game will have up to three (3) referees, one scorekeeper, and one timekeeper
- 1.7. Each game is forty (40) minutes long, consisting of two halves of twenty (20) minutes each
- 1.8. Championship game is forty (40) minutes long, consisting of two halves of twenty (20) minutes each
- 1.9. There will be no over time during the preliminary rounds
 - 1.9.1. No exceptions will be made for tied scores

2. GENERAL RULE

- 2.1. Substitute cannot enter or leave the game without the approval of the referee.
 - 2.1.1. First (1st) violation is a warning
 - 2.1.2. Second (2nd) violation is a technical foul with opposing team awarded one (1) free throw
- 2.2. Substitutions are unlimited
- 2.3. Teams are given five (5) minutes to warm-up before the game and five (5) minutes during half-time
- 2.4. Each team is allowed two (2) time outs per game
- 2.5. Time-outs are thirty (30) seconds each
- 2.6. Three (3) seconds and ten (10) second rules will be enforced
- 2.7. The game clock will run continuously throughout the game
- 2.8. The game clock will stop on technical foul, official time outs, during half-time and every blown whistle during the last two minutes of the

game; game clock run continues if point difference is ten (10) points or greater.

- 2.9. There is a five (5) foul limit per player, per game
- 2.10. Each team is allowed a total of six (5) fouls each half. After which will become one (1) and one (1) free throw shooting.
- 2.11. There is a limit of three (3) technical fouls per person for the entire basketball tournament
 - 2.11.1. First (1st) technical foul is one (1) free throw
 - 2.11.2. Second (2nd) technical foul is two (2) free throws plus possession for the opposing team
- 2.12. Third (3rd) technical foul will result in suspension of the player for the rest of the basketball tournament
- 2.13. Teams have the option of advancing the ball at half court after a time out. The game clock will be stopped during the time out
- 2.14. Only players on the court and/or coaches can call a timeout
- 2.15. Plays stops when whistle are blown
- 2.16. Players (in game and on the bench) and spectators may be penalized for unsportsmanlike behavior at any time, which may result in a one (1) free throw technical foul
- 2.17. The use of profanity will result in a technical foul without any warning
- 2.18. Fighting is an automatic technical foul without any warning and will result in the forfeiture of the entire team from the rest of the basketball tournament
- 2.19. No free throws on offensive foul
- 2.20. Mercy Rule (new for 2024): If a team is leading by 40+ points at any point after the first half, the game will stop. The losing team has the option of either forfeiting or ending the game after an additional 5 minutes of game time or however much time is left, whichever is less.

3. PLAY-OFFS FORMAT

- 3.1. Team rankings will be determined by team W-L record from preliminary matches
- 3.2. Team (s) with a higher W-L record will have a lower seed number (higher ranking)
- 3.3. Tie Breaker – In an event of a tie W-L records between multiple teams, ranking is determined by the following methods:

- 3.3.1. Head-to-Head – if teams played head-to-head during preliminary rounds, then the winning team (winning both games) will be higher ranked.
- 3.3.2. Difficulty of Schedule* – the team that played opponents with a higher W-L ratio will be ranked higher
 - 3.3.2.1. The sum of all opponents W-L records will determine the difficulty of a team's schedule
 - 3.3.2.2. The higher the sum of all opponents W-L record, the greater their difficulty of schedule will be
 - 3.3.2.3. The team with a greater difficulty of schedule will be ranked higher
- 3.3.3. Point Differential – team(s) total point W-L differential (from all preliminary round matches) will be counted. The team that allowed fewer points to their opponents would be higher ranked, but no more than 40-point differential will be counted for any single game.
- 3.3.4. Coin Toss – a correct-call (heads or tails) on a coin-flip will determine the higher ranked team.
- 4. PLAYOFFS OVERTIME RULES (For playoff matches only)
 - 4.1. If the score is tied at the end of a game, a 3-minute overtime period will be played. The rules of the game clock will be the same (see sections 2.7 and 2.8). The winner at the end of the overtime period will advance to the next round.
 - 4.2. If the game is tied at the end of overtime, the next period will be SUDDEN DEATH.
 - 4.2.1. The FIRST team to make a field goal WINS
 - 4.2.2. If a free throw(s) are made by the first team (Team A) who obtains possession of the ball, the opposing team (Team B) still has only ONE possession (NO REBOUNDS) to score a field goal.
 - 4.2.3. If free throws are also made by Team B, then team A gets another chance to score. After this, THE NEXT POINT WINS (after the second field goal or free throw by any team, the game is OVER).

**Difficulty of Schedule = a measurement of the difficulty of a team's schedule that is based on the win-loss records of their opponents. Because teams do not play identical schedules, difficulty of schedule helps to differentiate between teams with identical records. If two teams end the preliminary round with a tie and did not play each other, difficulty of schedule often will be used to determine who had the better performance. Teams that play a large number of teams that have recorded a large number of wins would be considered to have a greater difficulty of schedule. The team that played a tougher slate of games will win the tiebreaker.*

COORDINATORS

*Matthew Nguyen

Khoi Quach

3. BASKETBALL THREE POINT CO-ED SHOOTING CONTEST

This event will not be held in 2024

1. General Information and rule
 - 1.1. Rules that apply to the VAY-SM Sports Festival in Basketball are based on the NCAA standards and regulations
 - 1.1.1. VAY Senior Staff and Coordinator has discretion to modify appropriate changes fitting for this tournament
 - 1.2. Each shooter must be a member of the church
 - 1.2.1. Up to two (2) shooters per church
 - 1.2.2. Shooters are responsible to provide two (2) rebounders when it is your turn to shoot.
 - 1.3. Each shooter will have 120 seconds to attempt to make as many three-point goals as possible from five positions behind the three-point line.
 - 1.4. Shooters begin shooting from one corner of the court, and alternate from each of the five (5) positions (corner, wing, top of the key) after each shot until the timer is up.
 - 1.5. Each shooter may begin at either corner of the court
 - 1.6. The designated shooting spots along the three-point arc will be marked with an X.
 - 1.7. The shooter will stand on the X when shooting
 - 1.8. The clock will start on the shooter's first release
 - 1.9. Each shot made is worth one (1) point.
 - 1.10. A shooter must have both feet behind the three-point line when he/she releases the ball in order to count.
 - 1.11. A shooter's total score is determined by adding the total points he/she receives for all successful baskets made from behind the three-point line.
2. Play-offs and final Format
 - 2.1. In the qualifying round, each player has a chance to score as many points as possible in 120 seconds
 - 2.2. The eight players with the top scores advance to the playoffs
 - 2.3. Playoffs is played in the same way as the qualifying round, but players shoot according to the ascending order of his/her first-round scores

- 2.4. The four players with the top scores from the playoffs advance to the final round
- 2.5. The final round is played in the same way as the qualifying round, but players shoot according to the ascending order of his/her playoff scores
- 2.6. Finalists (1st, 2nd, 3rd place) will be determined by the most three-point scores in the final round
- 3. TIE-BREAKER
 - 3.1. The following tie-breaking procedure will be followed when determining the finalist:
 - 3.1.1. Extra rounds of 60 seconds
- 4. COORDINATORS
 - *Matthew Nguyen
 - Khoi Quach

4. BIBLE CHALLENGE

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. Rules that apply to the VAY-SM Sports Festival in Bible Challenge are based on the Christian and Missionary Alliance of the Vietnamese District (CMA) organization standards
 - 1.1.1. Biblical version used will come from the English Standard Version (ESV 2016) and Revised Vietnamese Version (Ban Hieu Dinh 2010).
 - 1.1.2. VAY Senior Staff and Coordinator has discretion to modify appropriate changes fitting for this tournament
- 1.2. Ordained Pastors and/or Ministers and their spouses are not allowed to participate
 - 1.2.1. Seminary students are permitted to participate
- 1.3. The game is in a Jeopardy type format which includes: Jeopardy (25 questions), Double Jeopardy (25 questions), and Final Jeopardy (1 question)
- 1.4. Double Jeopardy will only be played in the Semi and Final rounds
- 1.5. Questions are based from selected books in the Bible and assigned by the VAY-SM Senior
- 1.6. Questions are divided into various categories and has a valued based on the level of difficulty
- 1.7. A team may have more than five (5) participants; however, only five (5) participants/alternates may play (at a time) per match.
 - 1.7.1. In each match a team must have three (3) participants to play, and no more than two (2) alternates per match
 - 1.7.2. No additional substitutions will be allowed during the match
- 1.8. Each team must have at least three (3) registered players present to start the match
- 1.9. Each game consists of three (3) teams
- 1.10. Each team plays three (3) games in the first round
- 1.11. All games will finish within the scheduled time slot
- 1.12. The Bible Challenge host will preside over the game and will make the primary decision
- 1.13. The host may stop the game at any time to consult with the judges

- 1.13.1. However, only the judges have the authority to overrule the decision if there are discrepancies
- 1.14. The Staff will try to resolve any discrepancies regarding points awarded during the game
- 1.15. Only team captain may approach the host to address concerns about the any discrepancies during the game
 - 1.15.1. However, if the challenge is overruled by the judges, the team will be penalized an additional 100 points
 - 1.15.2. A maximum of two (2) challenges per match.
 - 1.15.3. A challenge is only permitted within thirty (30) seconds of the concluding question.
 - 1.15.4. Challenge time limit of thirty (30) seconds will start after the answer is revealed.
- 1.16. The result of the game will not be changed once the game is over
- 1.17. The VAY-SM Senior Staff will make the final decision in an event of a dispute
- 1.18. All recordings of questions and answers are prohibited for participants, coaches, and spectators. This also applies to written notes, or electronic devices including but not limited to the use of video, audio, still-pictures, etc.
- 1.19. No loose-leaf notes permitted during the match.
- 2. GENERAL RULE
 - 2.1. Spectators can cheer between questions and breaks but not during the game
 - 2.2. Spectators and participants' cellular phones must be turned off or placed in silent mode
 - 2.3. A verbal warning by the Bible Challenge host and Staff will be given to players and/or spectators causing disruptions during the game
 - 2.4. Players and/or spectators will be asked to leave the game (or room) after two (2) verbal warnings
 - 2.4.1. No substitution will be allowed for the excused player(s)
 - 2.5. Discussion between teams and their alternates are not allowed at any time during the game
 - 2.6. Answers do not need to be phrased in the form of a question
 - 2.7. Each question (in English and Vietnamese) is displayed on the screen for thirty (30) seconds

- 2.8. Points will not be deducted from the team that selected the question if no buzzer is heard within thirty (30) seconds
- 2.9. The first team to buzz in has ten (10) seconds to answer the question
 - 2.9.1. If no answer is given within the ten (10) seconds allotted or the team answers incorrectly, the other two (2) teams have the remaining time allotted to answer the question
- 2.10. For games consisting of only two (2) teams, game format remains the same.
- 2.11. Each team can only buzz in once for each question
 - 2.11.1. Once buzzed in, the team members (except the alternates) can consult with each other before giving the answer
- 2.12. Team members can help complete the answer (in case of a multiple-answer question)
 - 2.12.1. However, once the answer is given, other team members cannot correct the answer with a different answer
- 2.13. Incorrect or incomplete answer(s) will result in point deduction at any time
- 2.14. Points accumulated will be posted on the monitor during the game and will be announced by the Bible Challenge host before every Daily Double question and Final Jeopardy question
- 2.15. Each team will receive points according to the value of the question selected if answered correctly
- 2.16. Incorrect answer, incomplete answer, or inability to come up with an answer within ten (10) seconds time allotted will result in point deduction according to the value of the selected question
- 2.17. Points may be awarded (at discretion of the judges) but will not be deducted for answer(s) that is different from the posted answer if it is supported by sufficient biblical references
- 3. PLAY-OFFS FORMAT
 - 3.1. Nine (9) teams with the highest total points will advance to the Playoffs
 - 3.2. Play-offs eligibility and seeding will be based on the total points earned in the preliminary games. It will not be based on the number of games won
 - 3.3. Three (3) teams with the highest total points from the Playoffs will advance to the Final

- 3.4. This format is subject to change depending on the numbers of participating teams
- 4. COORDINATOR
 - *Sean Khanh Bui
 - Hanh Nguyen

5. PICKLEBALL (new in 2024)

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. Rules that apply to the VAY-SM Sports Festival in Pickleball are based on the ***Pro Pickleball Association*** standards and regulations.
 - 1.1.1. VAY Senior Staff and Coordinator has discretion to modify appropriate changes fitting for this tournament
- 1.2. Number of participants-/teams allowed per church:
 - 1.2.1. Up to three (3) Doubles teams (any combination of men's, women's or mixed)
- 1.3. Participants must provide their own paddles.
- 1.4. Pickleball balls will be provided.
- 1.5. Participant(s)/team that do not show up for scheduled match or show up 15 minutes after scheduled time will result in forfeiture.
- 1.6. Participants must report match result and scores to Coordinator(s) after each match.

2. GENERAL RULE

- 2.1. Five (5) minutes warm-up and two (2) minutes rest period between games
- 2.2. Server must call out game score at the beginning of each service
- 2.3. A coin toss determines the serving order and starting sides
 - 2.3.1. The winner may choose to serve, receive, select a side, or defer the choice
 - 2.3.2. Players switch sides and service after each game
- 2.4. Matches are overseen by its participants
- 2.5. All calls are to be made out loud by each player or team
- 2.6. Consult with Coordinator(s) for any unresolved disputes that may arise during the match
- 2.7. Participant(s)/team may request line judge(s), assigned by Coordinator(s), to oversee the match and mediate any dispute if necessary.

3. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- 3.1. Preliminary rounds will consist of 4-5 (depend on the number of participants) round-robin style matches
- 3.2. Preliminary rounds draws/brackets will be determined randomly by the Coordinator(s).

- 3.3. Participant(s)/team ranking/seeding resulted from previous year(s) do not determine draws/brackets
- 3.4. Preliminary rounds matches are one (1) set to fifteen (15)
 - 3.4.1. There will be a time cutoff of thirty (30) minutes. If sets are not completed in that time duration, then scores will be recorded as is.
 - 3.4.2. Tiebreakers at fourteen-fourteen (14-14) will be sudden death, first to fifteen (15)
- 3.5. Top sixteen (16) seeds will advance to playoffs
- 3.6. Playoffs brackets will be as follows:
 - 3.6.1. Top bracket: No. 1 vs No. 16, No. 8 vs No. 9, No. 4 vs No. 13, No. 5 vs No. 12
 - 3.6.2. Bottom bracket: No. 2 vs No. 15, No.7 vs No. 10, No. 3 vs No. 14, No. 6 vs No. 11
- 3.7. Playoffs matches are best of three (3) sets
 - 3.7.1. Sets up to eleven (11) with win by two (2), 3rd set REGULAR rally scoring to eleven (11)
- 3.8. Winners advance to next round (Quarterfinals, Semifinal and/or Final)
- 3.9. Semifinalists that did not advance to the Final will play for 3rd place
- 3.10. Finals Match will be played best of five (5) sets
- 3.11. Sets up to eleven (11) with win by two (2), 5th set REGULAR rally scoring to eleven (11)
- 4. RANKING
 - 4.1. Ranking will be determined by match Win-Lost (W-L) record from Preliminary rounds
 - 4.1.1. Preliminary round “bye” is equivalent to a match win with a set score of 11-0.
 - 4.2. If there is a tie in match W-L record, then game W-L differential percentage record will be counted
 - 4.3. Participant/team with higher game W-L differential percentage record will be ranked higher
 - 4.4. Coordinator(s) will determine participant/team ranking accordingly when there is a tie in game W-L differential percentage record
- 5. COORDINATORS

*Teddy Nguyen & Ruth Nguyen

6. TABLE TENNIS (Ping Pong)

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. Rules that apply to the VAY-SM Sports Festival in Table Tennis (Ping Pong) are based on the Table Tennis Association regulations. However, the VAY-SM Table Tennis Coordinator has the right to modify appropriate changes fitting for this tournament without prior notice.
- 1.2. Each church can participate in the following:
 - 1.2.1. Up to three (3) men's singles
 - 1.2.2. Up to three (3) women's singles
- 1.3. Singles is considered as one (1) participating event.
- 1.4. Players must check-in ten (10) minutes before scheduled game.
- 1.5. Matches will be scheduled by "lot time".
- 1.6. Must bring your own standard regulation paddle with ITTF approved rubber.
- 1.7. Coordinator(s) reserve the right to examine the paddles at any time and if there are any discrepancies.

2. GENERAL RULE

- 2.1. Player who guesses the ball in the Coordinator or Referee's hand correctly will determine who serves first. The opposing player (or team) will choose side.
- 2.2. The score begins on 0-0.
- 2.3. At the start of service, the ball shall be stationary, resting freely on the flat, open palm of the server's free hand, behind the end line and above the level of the playing surface.
- 2.4. As the ball is falling the server shall strike it so that it touches first his court and then, after passing over or around the net assembly, touches directly the receiver's court
- 2.5. A Let – The rally shall be a Let:
 - 2.5.1. if in service the ball, in passing over the net assembly, touches it, provided the service is otherwise good or the ball is obstructed by the receiver;
 - 2.5.2. if the service is delivered when the receiving player is not ready, provided that the receiver attempts to strike the ball;
 - 2.5.3. if failure to make a good service or a good return or otherwise to comply with the Laws is due to a disturbance outside the control of the player;

- 2.5.4. if play is interrupted by the umpire or assistant umpire.
- 2.6. A Let must be replayed with no change to the score.
- 2.7. There are no limits on how many Let service the server can serve in a row.
- 2.8. Each player gets to serve for two (2) points in a row, and then the other player has to serve.
- 2.9. Either server or receiver scores a point if:
 - 2.9.1. Server fails to make a good serve, such as the ball lands outside the table; the ball does not hit the paddle while it drops down, the ball does not pass over the net or is served to the wrong side (only applicable to Doubles' game);
 - 2.9.2. Receiver fails to make a good return;
 - 2.9.3. Player touches the table with a free hand while the ball is in play;
 - 2.9.4. Player moves the table while the ball is in play;
 - 2.9.5. Player touches the net with any body parts while the ball is in play;
 - 2.9.6. Player hits the ball twice successively;
 - 2.9.7. Player allows the ball to bounce twice successively; or,
 - 2.9.8. Player hits the ball with a part of the paddle that is deemed unacceptable.
- 2.10. When the game score reaches ten (10) all, each player will alternate serving once.
- 2.11. Both players will only serve one (1) serve each until the game reach the score of ten (10) all.
- 2.12. Ends (or side) are changed in the final deciding game of a match when the first play (or Doubles' team) reach five (5) points.
- 3. FORMAT
 - 3.1. Rally scoring up to 21 points.
 - 3.2. Each game is capped at 21 points.
 - 3.3. First player (or team) to reach twenty-one (21) points wins the game.
 - 3.4. Matches are best of five (5) games.
 - 3.5. Preliminary round "bye" is equivalent to a match win with three (3) 11-9-point games.
- 4. COORDINATOR
 - *Thanh Dang

7. SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. Rules that apply to the VAY-SM Sports Festival in Scripture Memorization are based on the Christian and Missionary Alliance of the Vietnamese District (CMA) organization standards
- 1.2. Biblical version used will come from the English Standard Version (ESV2016) or Revised Vietnamese Version (Ban Hieu Dinh)
- 1.3. Four (4) biblical passages reflecting the theme of the Sports Festival will be assigned and distributed for memorization in advance
- 1.4. Two (2) passages will be randomly selected in front of the judges to be recited by each participant
- 1.5. Participants must be between the ages of 10-34 years of age (under 35). There will only be 1 bracket.
- 1.6. Registration fee is \$20, if Scripture Memorization is the ONLY event participated by the contestant.
- 1.7. Schedule and location will be announced
- 1.8. No electronic recording of any kind will be allowed, including videotaping
- 1.9. Only one (1) supporter (family member or friend) may be present in the room unless not permitted by the Staff and/or participant.
- 1.10. VAY Senior Staff and Coordinator reserved the right to modify appropriate changes as fitting in this tournament

2. GENERAL RULE

- 2.1. Each participant will randomly draw two (2) passages and have five (5) minutes to complete the recitation of the passage drawn (no exception) in front of a panel of three (3) judges.
- 2.2. Each participant will not be allowed to ask the judges for a starting word during the five (5) minutes of recitation
- 2.3. Each judge will use a separate judging sheet for each participant and will mark her/her scores independently. Participant's final score will be an average of all three (3) judges' scores.
- 2.4. Ranking will be determined first by the final Accuracy scores. Participant with the least deductions will be ranked highest. In the event of a tie, the Articulation scores will be evaluated. Participant with the highest Articulation score will be ranked highest.

- 2.4.1. Accuracy:
 - 2.4.1.1. Passage recited word for word from the exact English or Vietnamese version distributed by VAY-SM
 - 2.4.1.2. One (1) point deduction per error defined as
 - 2.4.1.2.1. An incorrect word
 - 2.4.1.2.2. An additional word
 - 2.4.1.2.3. An omitted word
 - 2.4.1.2.4. A repeated word
- 2.4.2. Articulation: Ten (10) points maximum
 - 2.4.2.1. Factors considered for articulation points are:
 - 2.4.2.1.1. Fluency: words paused at the appropriate punctuations and spoken at a right pace
 - 2.4.2.1.2. Clarity: words pronounced distinctly and clearly
 - 2.4.2.1.3. Projection (volume) and inflection (tone expression)
 - 2.4.2.2. Points are awarded from 1 – 10:
 - 2.4.2.2.1. One (1) – Two (2) = Poor
 - 2.4.2.2.2. Three (3) – Five (5) = Fair
 - 2.4.2.2.3. Six (6) – Eight (8) = Good
 - 2.4.2.2.4. Nine (9) – Ten (10) = Excellent
- 2.5. Participant will be disqualified if he or she is unable to finish the passage recitation within the time allotted
- 2.6. In the event of a tie after the sequential ranking of Accuracy and Articulation, participants are to recite one of the remaining passages selected by the judges until a winner emerged.
 - 2.6.1. In the event of a tie after all the remaining passages have been read, recitation in front of an audience may be required.
- 2.7. Final three (3) participants will recite their passages during Scripture Memorization Final to determine the top three (3) finishers. Time and location of the Final will be announced.
- 2.8. Top three (3) participants will be awarded with trophy or medal for 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place, respectively.
- 2.9. All remaining participants will be awarded with Certificate of Participation.
- 3. COORDINATOR
 - *Minh Ngoc Vi & Jeremiah Phan

8. TENNIS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. Rules that apply to the VAY-SM Sports Festival in Tennis are based on the ***US Tennis Association*** standards and regulations
 - 1.1.1. VAY Senior Staff and Coordinator have discretion to modify appropriate changes fitting for this tournament
- 1.2. Number of participants/teams allowed per church:
 - 1.2.1. Up to three (3) Men's Singles
 - 1.2.2. Up to three (3) Women's Singles
 - 1.2.3. Up to two (2) Doubles teams (any combination of men's, women's or mixed)
- 1.3. Singles and Doubles will be counted as two (2) separate events
 - 1.3.1. Singles Tennis will be counted as one (1) Sports Fest event
 - 1.3.2. Doubles will be counted as one (1) Sports Fest event
 - 1.3.3. Individual may participate in Singles plus (+) Doubles Tennis
 - 1.3.4. Individual may participate in Singles **OR** Doubles Tennis plus (+) one (1) other event
- 1.4. Participants should bring at least two (2) rackets to each match
- 1.5. Game balls will be provided
- 1.6. Participant(s)/team do not show up for scheduled match or show up 15 minutes after scheduled time will result in forfeiture.
- 1.7. Participants must report match result and scores to Coordinator(s) after each match

2. GENERAL RULE

- 2.1. There will be a maximum of ten (10) minutes warm up before each match
- 2.2. Server must call out game score at the beginning of each service and set score at the beginning of each game
- 2.3. Matches are overseen by its participants
- 2.4. All calls are to be made out loud by each player or team
- 2.5. Consult with Coordinator(s) for any unresolved disputes that may arise during the match

- 2.6. Participant(s)/team may request line judge(s), assigned by Coordinator(s), to oversee the match and mediate any dispute if necessary
3. TOURNAMENT FORMAT*
 - 3.1. Preliminary rounds will consist of 2-3 (depend on the number of participants) round-robin style matches
 - 3.2. Preliminary rounds draws/brackets will be determined randomly by the Coordinator(s).
 - 3.3. Participant(s)/team ranking/seeding resulted from previous year(s) do not determine draws/brackets
 - 3.4. Preliminary rounds matches are one (1) set
 - 3.5. Top eight (8) seeds will advance to playoffs
 - 3.6. Playoffs brackets will be as follows:
 - 3.6.1. Top bracket: No. 1 vs No. 8 and No. 4 vs No. 5
 - 3.6.2. Bottom bracket: No. 2 vs No. 7 and No. 3 vs No. 6
 - 3.7. Playoffs matches are best of three (3) sets
 - 3.7.1. Third (3rd) set will an eleven (11) points tie-breaker game (First to 11 points, win by 2 points)
 - 3.8. Winners advance to next round (Semifinal and/or Final)
 - 3.9. Semifinalists that did not advance to the Final will play for 3rd place
4. RANKING
 - 4.1. Ranking will be determined by match Win-Lost (W-L) record from Preliminary rounds
 - 4.1.1. Preliminary round “bye” is equivalent to a match win with a set score of 6-4.
 - 4.2. If there is a tie in match W-L record, then game W-L differential percentage record will be counted
 - 4.3. Participant/team with higher game W-L differential percentage record will be ranked higher
 - 4.4. Coordinator(s) will determine participant/team ranking accordingly when there is a tie in game W-L differential percentage record
5. COORDINATOR

*Ruth Nguyen

9. TRACK AND FIELD

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. Rules that apply to the VAY-SM Sports Festival for Track and Field are based on the U.S. Track and Field standards and regulations
 - 1.1.1. VAY Senior Staff and Coordinator has discretion to modify appropriate changes fitting for this tournament
- 1.2. Intentional cause of bodily harm to other participants will result in immediate disqualification
- 1.3. Only one false start allowed per race
- 1.4. Runner(s) who false start again will be disqualified
- 1.5. Runner(s) can participate in as many events as he/she chooses, but there are a limited number of entrants per church in each event
- 1.6. Each event will have a pre-determined number of participants:
 - 1.6.1. Men 1 mile – up to 5 participants per church
 - 1.6.2. Men 100 meter – 2 participants per church
 - 1.6.3. Men 4x100 m relay – 5 participants per church (includes 1 alternate)
 - 1.6.4. Men Tug of War* – 5 participants per church
 - 1.6.4.1. *Non-registered participants are allowed, regardless of age; however, each participant must be included on his/her church medical release waiver. Absolutely no exceptions! Violation of this regulation will result in forfeiture.
 - 1.6.5. Women Half-Mile – up to 5 participants per church
 - 1.6.6. Women 100 meter – 2 per church
 - 1.6.7. Women 4x100 m relay – 5 per church (includes 1 alternate)
 - 1.6.8. Women Tug of War* – 7 participants per church
 - 1.6.8.1. *non-registered participants are allowed, regardless of age; however, each participant must be included on his/her church medical release waiver. Absolutely no exceptions! Violation of this regulation will result in forfeiture.
- 1.7. Each church must sign up for each event by the first weekend
 - 1.7.1. All participants must have a valid badge to participate

- 1.7.2. Participants will receive a wristband indicating the event(s), (e.g., 100 m, relay, etc.) at check in.
2. GENERAL RULE
 - 2.1. For men's one mile and women's half mile, runner(s) must remain on the track during the race
 - 2.1.1. Crossing the track boundaries will result in disqualification.
 - 2.2. For 100 meter and 4x100 relay, runners must remain within their lane assignment.
 - 2.2.1. Runners crossing into the adjacent lane will be disqualified.
 - 2.2.2. The baton is to be handed off between runners, not tossed or thrown, within the allotted area.
 - 2.2.3. Passing the baton outside the allotted area or dropping the baton will result in disqualification.
 - 2.3. 3.1 There will be two (2) elimination heats and one (1) final heat for 100 m and 4x100 m events

[Number of heats is subject to change depending on the number of registered runners]
3. FORMAT – Order of Events (*order is subject to change without advance notice*)
 - 3.1. Men 100 m (heat 1)
 - 3.2. Men 100 m (heat 2)
 - 3.3. Women 100 m (heat 1)
 - 3.4. Women 100 m (heat 2)
 - 3.5. Men 100 m (final)
 - 3.6. Women 100 m (final)
 - 3.7. Men One Mile
 - 3.8. Women Half-Mile
 - 3.9. Men 4x100 m relay (heat 1)
 - 3.10. Men 4x100 m relay (heat 2)
 - 3.11. Women 4x100 m relay (heat 1)
 - 3.12. Women 4x100 m relay (heat 2)
 - 3.13. Men 4x100 m relay (final)
 - 3.14. Women 4x100 m relay (final)
4. COORDINATOR

*Khoi Quach

10. VOLLEYBALL

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. Rules that apply to the VAY-SM Sports Festival in Volleyball are based on the USA Volleyball (USAV) standards and regulations
 - 1.1.1. VAY Senior Staff and Coordinator has discretion to modify appropriate changes fitting for this tournament
- 1.2. Each team must have six (6) players to start the game
- 1.3. A team that is short players after five (5) minutes passed scheduled game time will lose first game
 - 1.3.1. After ten (10) minutes, entire match will be forfeited
- 1.4. Each participant must wear matching sanctioned uniform (with unique number)
- 1.5. Team roster and line-up forms must be submitted to the referee before the start of the game
- 1.6. Adding player(s) to the roster after the game has already started would result in a side out and point to the opposing team
- 1.7. Use of a Libero is not permitted
- 1.8. Each team is required to designate at least one knowledgeable linesman (line person) per game. Prefer a player or former player.
 - 1.8.1. Linesman (line person) for the team should stand on the opposite side of the court and opposite corner of the opponent's linesman (line person)

2. GENERAL RULE

- 2.1. A match consists of two (2) rally scoring games up to twenty-five (25) points
- 2.2. Each game is capped at 25 points
- 2.3. The referee will toss a coin five (5) minutes before the match
 - 2.3.1. The team captain with the correct Head or Tail call will choose Side or Serve
- 2.4. One-for-One (1-1) substitution:
 - 2.4.1. Player A substitute for Player B,
 - 2.4.2. Player B substitutes for Player A,
 - 2.4.3. Neither A or B can substitute for any other players
 - 2.4.4. No other player C can substitute for players A or B
 - 2.4.5. Substitutions are unlimited

- 2.5. Each team is allowed one (1) time out per game
- 2.6. Each time out is thirty (30) seconds
- 2.7. Only coaches or team captains may request time out
- 2.8. Break time between games is five (5) minutes
- 2.9. In an event of an injury during a rally, the referee should do the following:
 - 2.9.1. Whistle the play dead,
 - 2.9.2. Call a referee time out,
 - 2.9.3. Allow a suitable substitution (as long as the team maintains the same rotation)
 - 2.9.4. Call replay
- 2.10. In an event of an on-court injury, the team with the injured player must use their time out
- 2.11. Any additional injury time out will be called by the referee
- 2.12. A team intentionally trying to delay a game will result in a side out and point to the opposing team
- 2.13. A team is allowed one (1) serve before the whistle per game
 - 2.13.1. First violation will be replayed. Second violation is a side out and point to the opposing team
- 2.14. Server has five (5) seconds to serve the ball after the whistle is blown
- 2.15. A serve cannot be blocked or hit
- 2.16. Blocking does not count as a third (3rd) contact
- 2.17. Only front row players are allowed to block
- 2.18. Play is considered dead (or dead ball) when:
 - 2.18.1. The ball hits the sidewall or back wall.
 - 2.18.2. The ball breaks the vertical plane of the net and hits any suspending objects (i.e. ceiling, speaker, light, backboard, etc.); The ball hits the ceiling and/or any suspending objects and bounces back on the same side (without breaking the vertical plane of the net) is fair.
 - 2.18.3. A player contacting the ball while touching and/or crossing over the designated sideline onto the adjacent court. The designated sideline boundaries are typically set/announced to both teams by the referee(s) at the beginning of each match.
- 2.19. Server may step on the service line only on a jump serve due to minimal gym space;

- 2.19.1. Otherwise, servers may not step on the service line during a serve. Doing so will result in a side out and point to the opposing team
- 2.20. Hitting the ball below the waist is legal
- 2.21. Only team captains may communicate with game officials
- 2.22. Men and Women may not play on the opposite gender's team
- 2.23. All players are permitted to penetrate under the net into the opponent's court provided that less than half of the penetrating foot, or feet, remain touching the center line
- 2.24. A player's contact with the net will be called as interference (for safety)
- 2.25. Each church is required to provide one line judge for preliminary and playoff matches
- 2.26. Players may be penalized for poor sportsmanship before, during, and after games
- 2.27. Use of profanity will result in a side out or point awarded to the opposing team
- 2.28. Harassment of the game referee(s) will result in a side out or point given to the opposing team
- 2.29. Game(s) will be suspended until the matter is resolved for an unruly behavior from spectator(s) and/or player(s) interfering with the progress of the game
- 2.30. Teams are held responsible for controlling their home and supporting crowd
- 2.31. Violations may include but are not limit to: profanity, unruly behaviors, interference with the progress of the game, harassment of the game referee, etc.:
 - 2.31.1. A yellow card will be given for the first violation – this will serve as the first warning
 - 2.31.2. An orange card will be issued for the second violation – this will result in a side out and point to the opposing team.
 - 2.31.3. A red card will be given for the third violation – this will result in a side out and point to the opposing team and the player's ejection.
- 3. PLAY-OFFS FORMAT
 - 3.1. Play-offs matches consist of two (2) rally scoring games up to twenty-five (25) points caps

- 3.1.1. In event of a tie, a rally scoring game up to 15 points caps will be played
- 3.2. Team rankings will be determined by team W-L record from preliminary matches
 - 3.2.1. Preliminary round “bye” is equivalent to a match win with two (2) 25-24-point games.
- 3.3. Team (s) with a higher W-L record will have a lower seed number (higher ranking)
- 3.4. Tie Breaker – In an event of a tie W-L records between multiple teams, ranking is determined by the following methods:
 - 3.4.1. Head-to-Head – if teams played head-to-head during preliminary rounds, then the winning team (winning both games) will be higher ranked.
 - 3.4.1.1. If teams tie with one (1) win each, then the total point W-L differential (of the head-to-head match only) will be counted. The team that allowed fewer points to their opponents would be higher ranked.
 - 3.4.2. Difficulty of Schedule* – the team that played opponents with a higher W-L ratio will be ranked higher
 - 3.4.2.1. The sum of all opponents W-L records will determine the difficulty of a team’s schedule
 - 3.4.2.2. The higher the sum of all opponents W-L record, the greater their difficulty of schedule will be
 - 3.4.2.3. The team with a greater difficulty of schedule will be ranked higher
- 3.5. Point Differential – team(s) total point W-L differential (from all preliminary round matches) will be counted. The team that allowed fewer points to their opponents would be higher ranked.
- 3.6. Coin Toss – a correct-call (heads or tails) on a coin-flip will determine the higher ranked team.

**Difficulty of Schedule = a measurement of the difficulty of a team’s schedule that is based on the win-loss records of their opponents. Because teams do not play identical schedules, difficulty of schedule helps to differentiate between teams with identical records. If two teams end the preliminary round with a tie and did not play each other, difficulty of schedule often will be used to determine who had the better performance. Teams that play a large*

number of teams that have recorded a large number of wins would be considered to have a greater difficulty of schedule. The team that played a tougher slate of games will win the tiebreaker.

4. COORDINATORS

*Stephani Nguyen

Kim Chi Bui

Timmy Ho

Michael Vo

IV. Post-Sports Fest

A. EVALUATION AND FEEDBACK

1. For Participating Churches and Participants:

- **Reflective Self-Evaluation:** Encourage individual participants and teams to engage in reflective self-evaluation. Ask them to consider not just their performance but also their growth, the effort they put in, how they embodied their values, and where they saw God at work in their experience.
- **Group Debrief Sessions:** Organize post-event debrief sessions within churches or teams. These sessions can focus on shared experiences, spiritual insights gained, moments where character was tested or shone, and instances of personal or team growth.
- **Feedback on Values and Character Development:** Specifically, ask participants to provide feedback on how the event facilitated their growth in values and character, aligned with the biblical definition of success. This could include aspects like sportsmanship, teamwork, resilience, and faith integration.
- **Suggestions for Spiritual Components:** Invite feedback on the spiritual components of the Sports Fest, such as pre-game prayers, devotionals, or reflection times, and how these could be enhanced or better integrated into future events.

2. For VAY Sports Ministry

- **Collecting the Feedback:** All feedback will need to be submitted using the survey form by the end of Sports Fest so that the organizers can review and discuss them.
- **Evaluation, Analysis and Action Plan:** Beyond reviewing participant feedback, we evaluate the event based on predefined goals and outcomes, especially those related to character development, spiritual growth, and community building. We should analyze the feedback to identify trends, areas for improvement, and standout successes, then develop an action plan for addressing feedback, making clear how participant insights will inform next year's planning.
- **Integration of Scriptural and Theological Reflection:** We must consider how the feedback and outcomes align with broader scriptural and theological goals, then reflect on how the event furthers the mission of the church and engages participants in living out their faith through sports, play, and fitness.

B. CELEBRATING SUCCESSES

John Wooden, the legendary UCLA basketball coach, offered a profound and timeless definition of success that transcends sports and speaks to personal and spiritual growth. According to Wooden, success is:

"Peace of mind, which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you made the effort to become the best of which you are capable."

This definition shifts the focus from external outcomes, like winning or losing, to the effort, attitude, and personal growth of the individual. Here are a few key elements drawn from Wooden's philosophy that can illuminate how to celebrate success in the context of Sports Ministry, especially when faced with loss:

- 1. Effort Over Outcome:**

Wooden's definition emphasizes the importance of the effort put forth to reach one's potential. Celebrating success means recognizing and honoring the hard work, dedication, and perseverance players exhibit, regardless of the game's outcome. It's about valuing the process and the journey as much as, if not more than, the end result.

- 2. Personal and Team Growth:**

Success is also measured by the personal growth of each player and the team as a whole. This includes improvements in skills, but more importantly, developments in character, teamwork, leadership, and resilience. Celebrating these aspects of growth fosters a culture where success is seen as multidimensional and deeply personal.

- 3. Moral and Spiritual Development:**

In the context of Sports Ministry, Wooden's definition of success aligns with the idea that sports are a venue for spiritual and moral development. Celebrating success involves acknowledging how players and teams demonstrate Christian values such as humility, compassion, and integrity. It's about how well they reflect Christ's character in both victory and defeat.

- 4. Peace of Mind:**

Ultimately, Wooden equates success with peace of mind, knowing you've done your best. This internal sense of satisfaction and contentment is perhaps the highest form of success. Encouraging athletes to seek this peace of mind through their efforts, faith, and attitudes towards competition can be deeply rewarding and fulfilling, offering a sense of success that worldly achievements cannot match.

- 5. Redefining Winning:**

By Wooden's standards, "winning" is redefined. It's not about the scoreboard but about striving to reach one's highest potential, individually and collectively, within the framework of one's values and beliefs. This perspective allows for a broader, more inclusive celebration of success, one that every participant can achieve.

6. Application in Sports Ministry:

Incorporating Wooden's definition of success into Sports Ministry provides a rich, values-driven framework for guiding athletes. It encourages a holistic approach to competition, where the emphasis is on personal integrity, effort, and the pursuit of excellence grounded in faith. Celebrating success becomes an opportunity to affirm these values, recognizing all participants for their commitment to becoming the best versions of themselves, in line with God's purpose for their lives.

This approach aligns with the Christian view of life as a journey towards becoming more Christ-like, where every effort, no matter how small or seemingly inconsequential, is significant and worthy of celebration. It's a powerful reminder that in God's eyes, success is about faithfulness, effort, and growth, not just worldly achievements.

C. PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Imagine if our churches could use sports, play, and fitness effectively as a means to help people be saturated by the Gospel. We can multiply disciple-making teams in the world of sport, play, and fitness across VAY. We can make a lasting difference in society by sharing the Gospel through sports and related activities, connecting with individuals and communities, crossing cultural barriers, and engaging people with the Gospel in a context that is relevant to their interests and lifestyles.

To do so effectively, we need to:

- Develop a Community of Like-Minded Leaders
- Equip and Train them on Sports Ministry
- Utilize Sports for Evangelism and Discipleship
- Leverage Sports Events and Personalities for Outreach
- Multiplying Teams of Disciple-Makers for Gospel Saturation

D. MID WINTER CLASSIC

The first step of this future is the VAY Sports Ministry's Mid-Winter Classic, a one-Saturday Sports Day in January at Orange church for Fun and Fellowship for community building.

E. CONCLUSION

By embracing the principles laid out in this handbook, we are not merely organizing sports events; we are nurturing a movement where faith and fitness intersect to reveal God's kingdom here on Earth. Let us move forward with purpose, passion, and prayer, ready to witness the extraordinary ways God will use our collective efforts in sports to draw hearts closer to Him. Together, let's make the VAY Sports Ministry a "light on the lampstand" that shines far beyond the courts and fields, into the lives of all who come to play, watch, and fellowship.

Register here on our website: VAYSM.ORG



END NOTES

ⁱ The old Sportsmanship Award criteria are:

A- The Performance of Church Youth Group

- 1- Personal appearance, attitude, conduct and care for others
- 2- Teamwork
 - a. Team spirit and harmony
 - b. Proper and decent uniform
 - c. Standard church sanctioned uniform
- 3- Church support
 - a. Senior pastor's attendance and care at events
 - b. Church support and care for the church team and for the whole event
- 4- Attendance at all events, include preparation meetings, chapel hours, etc.
- 5- Adhere to VAY-SM policies, guidelines and procedures
- 6- Campsite cleanliness
- 7- Sports competition
 - a. Reflecting Core Christian Ethical Values
 - b. Exhibiting good character and professional attitude and conduct
 - c. Contributing to the welfare of the community

B- The Deliberation of VAY-SM Staff will consist of the following aspects:

- 1- The process of maturing in each local church's youth group
 - a. Organizational aspect – reflection of scriptural values
 - b. Competency of the leadership – balance and wisdom
 - c. Spiritual formation of the group
- 2- The potential development of the local church youth group in the future which will:
 - a. Encourage and promote further growth
 - b. Guide and direct its development
- 3- The balanced growth of Sports Ministry for all churches in the region which will:
 - a. Maintain the representative character of the work of sports ministry
 - b. Secure the cooperation and the complementariness of all participating churches
 - c. Promote appreciation and care of each other churches
 - d. Contribute to the total fellowship, welfare, and church growth for the whole region