COURAGE
A Roman Catholic Apostolate

Encounter Christ. Discover Yourself. Grow in Holiness.



Sports Camp XXI



Thursday evening May 27th – Sunday afternoon May 30th 2021

Philadelphia, PA

Sports Camp is a dynamic men's weekend of athletics, fellowship, and prayer designed for members of Courage and other men who experience same-sex attractions and desire to develop and live the virtue of chastity, regardless of past sports experience or ability.

To learn more about Courage please visit:
www.couragerc.org

Why should I go to Sports Camp?

For any man, building healthy friendships that promote growth in virtue is vital, but can be a challenge in the modern world.

Sports Camp is an experiential event where men wrestling with same-sex attractions and potentially recovering from psychological wounds (sports wound, peer wound, father wound, etc.) are able to build chaste masculine friendships with others who are on a similar journey in an affirming and morally-positive environment.

- For many men, childhood memories of competitive sports can be filled with anxiety and shame and Sports Camp is a place to confront those painful and disappointing experiences.

- For some men Sports Camp is a place to experience something incredibly valuable that they missed out on as a kid.

- For other men, Sports Camp allows them to share their athletic gifts and leadership abilities in a place where true sportsmanship and genuine fellowship are valued over a 'win-at-all costs' mentality and self-glorification.

For all men, regardless of their athletic ability or background, **Sports Camp is THE place** to truly experience the great gift of authentic male bonding and growth as a man that uniquely comes from participation in team sports.

Build skills & become a team player

Learn the jargon, have fun at drills, and play some of today's most popular sports in a highly supportive environment, with the encouragement of veteran players and the guidance of expert coaches.

Every man is welcome regardless of age, experience or fitness level. Everyone is assigned to a team, everyone plays, and everyone shares a memorable experience of fellowship and comradery.

For the body AND the soul . . .

Sports Camp is also a boot camp for spiritual warfare where you can develop virtue and build genuine masculine spirituality:

- Love your adversaries / competitors even if they beat you at a game.
- Forgive your brothers / teammates if things don't go as you hoped.
- Support one another with authentic encouragement.
- Witness healthy fraternal correction from coaches, team captains and teammates.
- Celebrate success and overcome setbacks with genuine humility.

In other words, **Sports Camp challenges you to be the best version of yourself!**

The spiritual experience is fully incorporated throughout the weekend. Courage chaplains offer daily Mass, hear confessions, and lead men in prayer including the Holy Rosary and Eucharistic Adoration. Some Courage priests even join the teams and play alongside participants on the field!

Who is Sports Camp For?

- Men who love sports, men who hate or fear sports and men who don't care about sports.
- Those that avoid conflict at all costs and those that are overly competitive.
- Guys in peak physical condition or out of shape.
- Naturally athletic or completely uncoordinated.
- Just out of college or well past retirement.
- For committed Catholics, those struggling to deepen their faith, or non-Catholics who desire to benefit from the experience in fellowship.
- For those who thrive in a group setting or introverts who are intimidated when socializing with peers.

SPORTS CAMP CODE OF ETHICS

As a participant, I agree to honor the Five Goals of Courage and the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church with respect to homosexuality. I will also encourage and help fellow participants to honor these principles during the event and in any continuing contact afterward. I further agree:

- To encourage my fellow participants at all times.
- To join in all team activities, including meetings, prayer times, and social gatherings.
- To participate in all training sessions and play every sport to the best of my ability, to not opt out of practice or a sport I don't like.
- To demonstrate good sportsmanship on and off the field.
- To practice modesty in my attire, speech, and actions.
- To refrain from the use of drugs or alcohol on the property at any time during the weekend.
- To respect the confidentiality of my fellow participants, to not share the names or contact information of anyone I meet during Sports Camp outside the group, to not take any pictures or post any form of social media updates relating to the event at any time. (We do not use last names - only last initials.)
- To practice the virtue of chastity at all times.

How can I support Sports Camp?

Prayer: for the continued success of Sports Camp and all participants, especially men who greatly hesitate to confront their fears or push themselves out of their comfort zone, and for men who struggle with loneliness or temptation after the positive experience of the weekend.

Service: Participants can offer to assist with Mass, opening day hospitality and closing day clean up. Sports Camp veterans serve as buddies to rookies. Catholic participants are encouraged to invite and accompany non-Catholics to Mass and spiritual activities. Ask us how you can help.

Promotion: Help us spread the word by copying this brochure for each member of your local Courage chapter. Non-Courage members may be invited on a one on one personal basis by past participants or active Courage / EnCourage members and chaplains. To discuss inviting non-Courage participants who you think would benefit from Sports Camp please e-mail us at: **cmacsportscamp@gmail.com.**

Financial Support: Donations help us cover the costs of Sports Camp and also fund scholarships that enable men who might not otherwise be able to participate in the weekend. To donate please visit the Sports Camp page on the Courage website: www.couragerc.org Your contribution is tax deductible, will make a difference in the lives of those who attend this event and will ***help ensure Sports Camp continues year after year!***

What do I need to bring?

All sports equipment necessary is provided. You can bring your own baseball glove, but one will be provided if you don't. Bring your sneakers (no cleats please), comfortable gym clothes, personal toiletries (including anything you need to be outdoors in the sun) and something dressier for Sunday Mass. Most importantly bring a willing heart for a life changing experience!

Cost, Registration & Accommodations

Early Bird - Before April 16: **$ 410**
April 16 to May 15: **$ 450**

Cost includes: single room for three nights (all rooms are private and have their own bathrooms with towels and linens provided), all meals, snacks, games, equipment, team t-shirt, coaching and an abundance of inspiration.

To register for Sports Camp e-mail: **cmacsportscamp@gmail.com** and you will be sent a link for on-line registration and payment. *New participants will be contacted by phone to discuss the weekend prior to registration.*

Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns – we're here to help!

Scholarships may be available. Ask for information on eligibility and how to apply for a scholarship when you e-mail for the registration link. ***We want you to come!*** Don't let money be the obstacle that prevents you.

Registration Deadline is May 15, 2021

Are you ready to play?