



South West  
Activities  
Council



Providing year round sports  
programs for all school aged  
youth in the Southwest  
neighborhoods of  
Minneapolis.

# Minneapolis Park & Recreation

## Purpose of the Youth Sports League Programs

To provide positive recreation experiences, in the Youth Sports League Programs, which contribute to the individual's physical, social, emotional, cultural and educational growth and development. The Youth Sports League will provide the opportunity for participation without regard to physical condition, sex, race, creed, economic or social status of the individual. The individual's dignity and self-worth shall be of utmost importance.

*Note: No person shall be denied the right to participate if all Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board registrations requirements have been met.*

# Parent Responsibilities

## Games

- ◆ Kids appreciate their parents' enthusiastic support. Attend all games if possible. Let them know how much you enjoy their efforts.
- ◆ Please respect the efforts of the umpires and other officials. They are usually teenagers hired by SWAC and they are paid a nominal fee. They attend training sessions, but they are not professionals and they will make mistakes. They are not required to endure any abuse from parents or players.
- ◆ Games have been forfeited because of abusive parent or player behavior. The goal of the Youth Sports League is to provide positive recreational experiences for all players. We play for FUN! If you are intensely serious about your "future major leaguer's" development, SWAC probably is not the league for you. There are other organizations in which you can participate.
- ◆ HAVE FUN! These years go by too fast.

## About Playing Time

- ◆ The SWAC playing time policy states that every player should receive significant playing time in every game he/she attends. All coaches are aware of this policy. Please note that the policy says "significant", not "equal" playing time. There are many reasons why a coach may choose not to provide equal playing time: illness, lack of stamina, unexcused missed practices, player choice not to play certain positions. This will result in less game time. The coaches should meet with parents and players to discuss the playing time issue so that everyone is aware of it ahead of time. Remember, SWAC coaches do not carry stopwatches to check for equal time. If you have a concern, please see the coach, ideally immediately after the game in question.

# Coach Responsibilities

## Get NYSCA Certified

- ◆ This consists of two parts which may consist of a video or a hands on clinic:
  1. The general clinic covering the philosophy of coaching youth
  2. The clinic specific for the sport you are coaching
- ◆ SWAC will pick up the cost of your certification, \$20 per year, regardless of the number of sports you coach.

## Coaches Information Meeting

- ◆ Attend the Coaches Information Meeting sponsored by your league director. This covers the specific rules for your sport and specifics about becoming NYSCA certified.

## Get Ready, Get Set, Go!

- ◆ Attend the draw for selection of teams.
- ◆ Conduct a preseason parents meeting covering:
  1. MPRB and SWAC philosophy
  2. The rules and policies for Youth Sports
  3. Scheduled practice and game dates
  4. Specifics on the uniforms and equipment
  5. Transportation guidelines
  6. Sportsmanship
  7. Snacks
  8. Medical issues
- ◆ Check out equipment and First Aid kit from SWAC.
- ◆ Sign up for practice times and inform the parents.
- ◆ Have a great season - you're coaching a game for kids wanting to have fun, make new friends and learn new skills.
- ◆ Remember that you are a role model - don't forget to have fun yourself!
- ◆ Promptly return the equipment and First Aid kit at the end of the season.

# National Youth Sports Coaches Association

## Coaches' Code of Ethics

- ◆ I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.
- ◆ I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- ◆ I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.
- ◆ I will promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.
- ◆ I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- ◆ I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol. I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
- ◆ I will be knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and I will teach these rules to my players.
- ◆ I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.
- ◆ I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and the game is for children, not adults.

# Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board

## Spectator Code of Conduct for Youth Sports Events

Sportsmanship is about respect - respect for players, coaches, officials and other spectators. You can encourage and support fair play through your behavior.

- ◆ Respect means:
  1. No profanity, abusive language, or negative personal remarks.
  2. Let the officials do their job. Constant criticism is unnecessary and detracts from the game.
  3. Let the coaches do their job. They need and appreciate your support more than your criticism.
  4. Obey rules of the game site: no smoking, no alcoholic beverages, no drugs, no food in gyms, etc.
  5. Stay within the designated area for fans. Coming on the field or court is disruptive to the game and disrespectful to the participants.
  6. Physical confrontations or throwing objects onto the court or field are absolutely forbidden. These kinds of actions cause unsafe conditions and most likely are against the law.
  7. Treat the game for what it is - a game.
  8. If you are remembered as a role model, let it be a positive one.
  9. Protect the "rights" of young athletes, including the right to a safe game environment, the right to be treated with dignity, the right to have fun through sport, and the right to participate.
  
- ◆ Policy for Inappropriate Behavior: (Progressive Sanctions)
  1. Individual will be given a warning(s) for inappropriate behavior.
  2. Individual will be asked to leave the game.
  3. Individual will be banned from all Youth Sports events.
  4. Other sanctions as deemed necessary.

# SWAC

## Youth Sports League Schedule

### Fall Sports

*Watch for registration dates in July/August*

Soccer

Football

Volleyball

### Winter Sports

*Watch for registration dates in October/November*

Basketball

Hockey

Wrestling

### Spring Sports

*Watch for registration dates in March/April*

T-Ball

Softball

Baseball

Tennis

Badminton

Track

SWAC programs are  
administered in conjunction  
with the Minneapolis Park &  
Recreation Board



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3523 West 48th Street  
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