Parent Orientation Class



Certifications





- Recreation Staff
 - 9 Professional Staff members have college degrees
 - NYSCA Clinician certification
- Coaches
 - Coaches Applications
 - NYSCA Certification Clinics
 - Background Checks
- Parents
 - Parent Orientation Class









Cartersville Parks and Recreation Department Support Groups

- Cartersville Cobias
- Cartersville Little League
- Cartersville Tennis Association
- Cartersville Twisters Gymnastics
- Southern Soccer Academy
- Cartersville Youth Football

Youth Athletic Mission Statement

To provide quality "recreational" athletic programs for the youth of our community where participation, instruction, sportsmanship and teamwork are achieved in a safe and enjoyable environment.

How Mission Statement is Accomplished

The Cartersville Parks and Recreation Department, volunteer coaches and parents are working together to provide the best youth programs for our community. To accomplish this, we must all remember:

- 1) Games are for the kids, not the adults
- 2) Good sportsmanship is key
- 3) Fun first, winning second
- 4) Remain positive at all times
- 5) Assist in making memorable/pleasurable experiences
- 6) Remain in spectator area during practice/games

Components of Successful Youth Programs

- Municipal Administration
- Recreation Board
- CPRD and Support Groups
- Recreation Staff
- Volunteers
- Participants
- Parents
- Sponsors





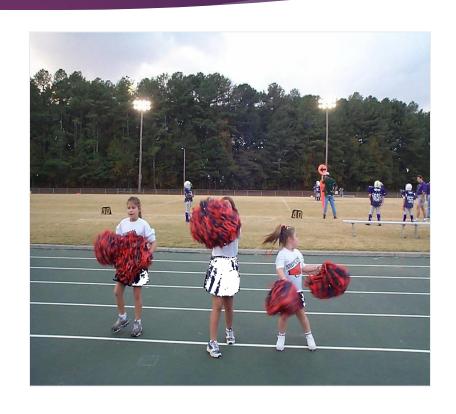
Facts About Youth Sports (from the National Alliance for Youth Sports-NAYS)

- 25 Million youth participate nationwide
- Kids begin playing at a younger age
- Increased # of violent incidents
- 70% drop-out rate by age 13
- 72% of youth would rather play on a losing team than sit the bench of a winning team
- Nearly 70% of parents experienced improvement in their relationship with their child as a result of the parent-child program in sports



Why Sports?

- Athletes' Perspective
 - ► Fun
 - ▶ Be Active
 - ▶ Develop Skills
 - ▶ Make friends
 - ▶ Team concept
 - ► Attention Mom/Dad
 - ▶ I like Sports
 - ▶ I like my coach



Why Sports?

- Parents' Perspective
 - Child to be physically active
 - Spend time with child
 - Develop athletic talent
 - Have fun
 - ▶ Build confidence
 - Participate in community activity
 - Learn about themselves
 - ▶ Teaches: Teamwork, Discipline and Respect



How Sports Affect Children

(NAYS-Sporting Kids Magazine)

- Raise a child's selfesteem
- Learn life skills
- Enhance school performance
- Less likely to use alcohol/drugs
- Positive body image
- Learn responsibility

- Learn to set goals
- Happy healthier lifestyle
- Increase energy/metabolism
- Increase attention span
- Lower teen pregnancy rate

Obvious Benefits of Sports

- ▶ Fun for everyone
- Enhance physical well-being and development
- Develop athletic skills
- ► Teaches teamwork
- Creates memories



Underlying Benefits of Sports

- Increase self-esteem
- Less likely to use alcohol/drugs
- Higher achiever in education
- ► Life Skills
 - ▶ Character
 - Respect
 - Goal setting
 - ▶ Honesty/integrity
 - Persistence
 - Commitment



VIOLENCE



Violent Altercations in Youth Sp<mark>orts</mark> (source-NAYS)

- Thomas Junta convicted of manslaughter for beating a father of four to death after a hockey game in Reading, Mass.
- Father sentenced to 3 years in prison for pointing a pistol at his 6 year old son's baseball coach
- Father was charged with assault and battery after allegedly pushing a coach into a steel door in the locker room
- Spring baseball season for 3rd-4th grade boys was cancelled due to bad parent behavior
- A Pop Warner football game ended in a brawl involving more than 100 parents, coaches and players.
- 16 parents in Newnan, GA were arrested for their involvement in a fight after a 5-6 year old baseball game.

Parental Roles in Sport

What Can I

- Always put child(ren) and FUN first and foremost
- Always remain positive towards
 - Your Child
 - His/Her teammates
 - ▶ His/Her coach
 - Other parents
- Talk and Listen to your child
- Practice with your child at home
- Get involved with the team
 - Trade team photographs
 - Bring refreshments
 - Organize carpools
 - Help with team communication



Ways to Have Sports Fun With Your Child

- Access kids by using their interest
- Try a sports quiz
- Set goals for non-competitive game
- Be a leader in the stands
- Keep a journal together
- Watch professional games together
- Use sports to teach non-sports skills

Tips to Reduce Child's Stress Level

- Assure child that mistakes are OKAY
- Be honest with child about expectations
- Practice what you preach
- Make sure your child has realistic goals

Parents Code of Ethics

- I will depend on the Cartersville Parks and Recreation Department to provide quality programs for my child where participation, instruction, sportsmanship and teamwork are achieved in a safe and enjoyable environment.
- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sporting event.
- I will remember that the game is for fun and winning should never be placed ahead of the emotional and physical well being of my child.
- I will cheer for my team in a positive manner and refrain from being negative toward the opposing team, the officials, coaches or recreation personnel.
- I will support coaches and officials working with my child in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and will refrain from their use at all youth events.
- I will remember that the game is for the youth and not the adults.
- I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.
- I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
- I will help my child enjoy all the youth athletic activities by doing whatever I can to help the team have a positive, pleasurable and memorable sports experience.
- I will remain in the spectator area during the contest and cooperate with all recreation personnel throughout my child's involvement in any recreation program, activity or event.

Just a Little Boy

HE STANDS AT THE PLATE
WITH HEART POUNDING FAST
THE BASES ARE LOADED;
THE DIE HAS BEEN CAST

MOM OR DAD CANNOT HELP HIM
HE STANDS ALL ALONE
A HIT AT THIS MOMENT
WOULD SEND THE TEAM HOME

the Ball meets the plate; he swings and he misses there's a groan from the crowd with some boos and some hisses

A THOUGHTLESS VOICE CRIES: "STRIKE OUT YOU BUM!"
TEARS FILL HIS EYES; THE GAME IS NO LONGER FUN

SO OPEN YOUR HEART AND GIVE HIM A BREAK FOR IT'S MOMENTS LIKE THIS A MAN YOU CAN MAKE

KEEP THIS IN MIND WHEN YOU HEAR SOMEONE FORGET HE'S JUST LITTLE BOY AND NOT A MAN YET

By:

Chaplain Bob Fox