



Mecklenburg County
Park and Recreation
The Natural Place
To Be...

Community & Recreation Center Services Division
Sports and Fitness Section - Youth
Youth Basketball Information Summary

MECKLENBURG COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION

Mission: to enrich the lives of our citizens through the stewardship of the County's natural resources and the efficient and responsive provision of quality leisure opportunities, experiences, and partnerships.

YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The three main goals for our youth sports programs are:

1. Safety
2. Fun
3. Participant development based on:

Everyone Plays: Provide opportunities to learn skills and improve conditioning by minimizing roster sizes and ensuring players play at least half of every game. **Balanced Teams:** Build teams that are evenly balanced on age and experience. **Positive Coaching:** Train and encourage coaches to help develop a child's sense of self-worth.

Sportsmanship: Create a safe, fair, fun and positive environment based on mutual respect.

Child Centered: Focus on fundamental development - **NO SCORE WILL BE KEPT FOR AGES 5-8.**

AGE DIVISIONS (Age as of Jan 1, 2019)

Start Smart: Ages 3-5 (Parent Participation Required)

Girls: 10-12

Coed: 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16.

REGISTRATION PERIOD

Start Smart: Varies per site

Girls: Oct 1 - Oct 31 (limited). Register at Southview Recreation Center, Sugaw Creek Recreation Center, Albemarle Road Recreation Center, or Wallace Pruitt Recreation Center.

Coed: Oct 1 - Oct 31 (limited)

Required at time of registration:

- Complete Registration Form/Waiver (available at any Recreation Center or at www.parkandrec.com)
- **(If registering on-line, registration form and waiver must be completed and photo submitted before participation is permitted)**
- Provide proof of age (copy of participant Birth Certificate)

Length of Season: Minimum of 8 games. Ages 9-14 participate in a pre-season tournament & league play. Ages 9-16 also participate in a single elimination, post-season tournament for teams that qualify.

Uniform package: Included with fee - 1 jersey, 1 pair shorts

Equipment Needed: Mouthpiece (optional), athletic shoes with no black plastic bottoms (prevention of scuff marks on floors)

Cost: Fees vary among age divisions

\$45 – Start Smart

\$65 – Ages 7-16

\$55 – Ages 5-6

\$10 Late registration fee as of Nov 1

\$450 – Team Fee (Does not include uniform and practice space)

May pay by cash, check, money order, Visa or Master Card (*checks and money orders must be made payable to M CPRD)

Registration: Visit any recreation center and register on site, or visit us on-line at www.parkandrec.com.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & RESOURCES

Website: www.parkandrec.com

Athletics Division: 980.314.1116

Youth Sports In-clement Weather Hotline: 704.432.3834

For more information email:

YouthSports@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov

VOLUNTEER YOUTH SPORTS COACHES

Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department Youth Sports Leagues rely heavily on the support of volunteer coaches. Anyone who may be interested in volunteering as a head or assistant coach should contact their preferred recreation center to begin the application process. Any parent choosing to be a volunteer head coach will receive 1 fee waiver at the time of registration (limit 1) for any family member participating. All coaches will undergo a background screening process.

Teams may not be formed without a designated head coach.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How are leagues organized? Leagues are organized based on the number of teams registered within an age division in a region (North, Central, & South). Teams from each of the centers in a region will play together for the regular season. Co-ed league teams are required to participate in a pre-season tournament (ages 9-14), which will determine playing sites and dictate league development. The girl's division will play an eight-week regular season. Recreation centers that do not have sufficient registration to form teams will contact parents and participants offering to relocate them to the nearest center with viable registration numbers.

When and where will my child practice? The coaches will contact all parents regarding practice days and times. The time and weekday will be chosen by the volunteer coach assigned to your child's team and your recreation center. Due to coaches volunteering their time to help the children of our community, we like to accommodate their needs and work with their schedules and availability. Practices are typically held on weekday afternoons/evenings, typically at the site or center at which you registered to participate with.

When and where are games played? Games are typically played on Saturdays and will consistently occur at a selected age and skill appropriate facility within the recreation region in which you have registered; however, due to growing participation numbers additional game days may be needed. Participants ages 5-6 may play on Friday evenings and Saturday's. The girl's division will play games at Tom Sykes Recreation Center. Game schedules will be distributed once registration has completed and practices are underway.

Can I make requests? Any and all requests should be presented directly to Recreation Center staff at time of registration so that they may try and coordinate them properly. Requests are welcome but not guaranteed.

Where can I find the nearest Recreation Center to me? Visit www.parkandrec.com and under left banner, click on "Recreation Centers". You can click on a map of our centers and also click on a specific center's link to find out contact and facility information. You can also email YouthSports@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department encourages and promotes inclusive leisure experiences in all of our programs, activities and sports. Inclusive leisure experiences encourage and enhance opportunities for people of varying abilities to participate and interact in life's activities together with dignity. It also provides an environment that promotes and fosters physical, social and psychological inclusion of people with diverse experiences and skill levels. Inclusion enhances individuals' potential for full and active participation in leisure activities and experiences.