

2015 WCRD T-ball/Baseball/Softball Information

Welcome to the 2015 Wayne County Parks & Recreation Department (WCRD) Youth T-ball, Baseball, Softball and track program! The goal of this program is to promote health and physical fitness, good sportsmanship, learning of fundamentals, and to provide a fun and worthwhile leisure activity for participants, coaches, and parents. We hope that the following information will answer most of your questions. Visit us online at www.waynecountyrecreation.com for additional information!

1. **SKILLS EVALUATIONS:** Evaluations will be conducted for each league for the purpose of dividing teams as evenly as possible. It is critical that each participant attend the evaluation for their age division. Evaluations are conducted prior to the season starting each year. No evaluations for T-Ball or track participants.

Important Dates – Season will start on Monday, April 13th!
Games will be played on Saturday April 18th!

Baseball/Softball Evaluations

Monday March, 2nd Bill Morris Park

PeeWee Boys/Girls (7-8) – 5:30pm

Junior Boys/Girls (13-14) – 6:30pm

Tuesday March, 3rd Bill Morris Park

Mite Boys/Girls (9-10) – 5:30pm

Midget Boys/Girls (11-12) – 6:30pm

Boys will be on the old Midget Boys Field

Girls will be on the old Junior Girls Field

MANDATORY COACHES CLINIC

Thursday February, 26th @ 6:00pm

This is Mandatory for all HEAD coaches & strongly recommended for assistants.

Will be held at Cracker Williams!

T-Ball Equipment/Roster Issue

Thursday March, 12th @ The Babes Mighty Mite Complex - 6:00 p.m.

2. **UNIFORMS:** WCRD provides a team jersey and hat for each participant. Participants are required to wear team uniforms to all games. Team jerseys and hats will be issued by the coach prior to opening day. Please contact your team coach regarding uniforms. **Replacements:** Costs are as follows: Shirt--\$15.00 Hats--\$7.00
3. **INFO:** To stay up to date with important season info including **RAINOUTS** be sure to:



4. **TROPHIES:** Will be awarded to the top two teams in each league except Training League(s). **No score is kept in the Training League (ages 4-8). This league is for training only. Trophies are only provided for leagues that have 3 or more teams.**
5. **PRACTICES AND GAMES:** Practices are not to exceed 2 hours in length. Games will be played on weekday evenings and some Saturdays, starting in early April. The program will end in mid-July. Game schedules will be issued to the team by the coach prior to the start of the season and also available online at www.waynecountyrecreation.com. The coach will call to let you know when the first practice will be held. Coaches are responsible for the scheduling of team practices, **most practice times will be on a rotation basis with the head coach scheduling practices as available.** WCRD does not set or cancel any team practices! **Unexcused absence(s) from practice may result in sitting out the following game(s).**
6. **SPORTSMANSHIP:** Players, coaches, and spectators will be required to demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times. Taunting or yelling at opposing players, teams, or the officials will not be allowed. **Those that violate this rule may lose their privilege to participate in this program.**

7. **ALL STARS:** All Star teams will be formed to participate in Georgia Recreation & Parks Association competition after the local program ends. Age divisions for All Stars are 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, and 15-17. All Stars will be selected by a vote of the league coaches.

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The Wayne County Parks & Recreation Department desires to provide a positive-based environment in which children have the opportunity to learn and grow. We emphasize ethics, good sportsmanship, teamwork, moral values, and fellowship with others while teaching fundamental skills. All kids deserve to have fun in a safe and caring environment. Let us pledge to do everything we can to make this possible for all children. Please remember that this is a recreational league! In order to provide such an environment, we maintain certain rules to foster this philosophy.

- Coaches and referees have the authority to ask parents or spectators who do not display conduct in keeping with the Recreation Department philosophy's to leave the field area. Please feel free to ask your coach for copies of "WCRD's Rules for Youth Recreation."
- There will be no try-outs or cuts.
- Emphasis is placed on participation, not winning!

WCRD is a drug-free and alcohol-free zone. None of these are allowed on county property at any time. Cursing will not be tolerated! Even though games are played at various fields, these rules still apply!

WCRD Parents' Code of Conduct

1. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other sports events.
2. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of any personal desire to win.
3. I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
4. I will provide support for coaches and officials working with my child to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all.
5. I will demand a drug and alcohol-free sports environment for my child and agree to assist by refraining from their use at all youth sports events.
6. I will remember that the game is for children and not for adults.
7. I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.
8. I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
9. I will promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by assisting with coaching, being a respectful fan, providing transportation or whatever I am capable of doing.
10. I will do everything in my power to help WCRD implement these standards for youth sports and enforce them.

WCRD Players' Code of Conduct

1. I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials, and parents at every game and practice.
2. I will attend every practice and game that is reasonably possible and notify my coach if unable to attend.
3. I will expect to receive a fair amount of playing time.
4. I will do my very best to listen and learn from my coaches.
5. I will treat my coaches with respect and expect to be treated with respect.
6. I deserve to have fun during my sports experience and will alert my parents or my coach if it stops being fun.
7. I deserve to play in an environment free of alcohol, drugs, and profanity and will report the use of any of the above to my parents, coach, or league officials.

8. I will encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity because it's important to me.
9. I will do my very best in school.
10. I will remember that sports are opportunity to learn and have fun.

Important Information

- Animals are not allowed on WCRD's fields. Dogs can be especially frightening to some small children and their waste is unsanitary.
- The play areas at WCRD are for young children. Parent-supervised, appropriate age children are welcome to use the equipment during practices and games. Older siblings should be advised to stay out of the play area and off the equipment.
- Please park vehicles in marked spaces when available.
- **No steel cleats** are allowed in any facility.
- Please help keep YOUR fields clean- Be sure to clean up after you're self and team.

FIELD USAGE FOR GAMES AND PRACTICES

WCRD has been provided the use of fields at Hall Richardson, Rayonier, and the two behind Arthur Williams Middle School. Please remember that all rules regarding conduct apply for games and practices at these fields. Also, please remember to pick up trash and generally clean up after yourselves at ALL FIELDS!

POLICIES

Refund Policy for Youth Recreation:

- Requests for credit/refunds must be in writing and must be requested no later than April 1st.
- There will be a \$5.00 processing fee for all refunds.
- If a coach cannot be found for your child's team and every effort has been made by the Recreation Department to do so, you will receive a full refund.

Team Assignments:

WCRD MUST HAVE IN WRITING ANY SPECIAL REQUEST. **HOWEVER, NO SPECIAL REQUEST IS EVER GUARANTEED.**

A large part of the successfulness that WCRD programs offer is made possible through VOLUNTEER coaches and team parents. They are individuals who take their personal time to instruct and help your child. Without their efforts, this program would not be possible. **Please** take the time to thank them for giving of their time and energy!

WE NEED YOU!

Coaches are always needed! If you are interested, please contact WCRD as soon as possible. **THE ONLY WAY WE CAN GUARANTEE THAT YOUR CHILD WILL HAVE A COACH THIS SEASON IS IF YOU VOLUNTEER TO COACH YOUR CHILD'S TEAM.** We will help train. You have the opportunity to volunteer your services to your coach. Even if you are not a "pro", you can volunteer. It is imperative to have at least two adults participating with each team (team parent and assistant coach).

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR PROGRAM, PLEASE CONTACT THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT AT 427-5915.

Recreation for a Stronger America!!!



A Fact Sheet for PARENTS

WHAT IS A CONCUSSION?

A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury. Concussions are caused by a bump or blow to the head. Even a “ding,” “getting your bell rung,” or what seems to be a mild bump or blow to the head can be serious.

You can't see a concussion. Signs and symptoms of concussion can show up right after the injury or may not appear or be noticed until days or weeks after the injury. If your child reports any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms yourself, seek medical attention right away.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF A CONCUSSION?

Signs Observed by Parents or Guardians

If your child has experienced a bump or blow to the head during a game or practice, look for any of the following signs and symptoms of a concussion:

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about assignment or position
- Forgets an instruction
- Is unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moves clumsily
- Answers questions slowly
- Loses consciousness (even briefly)
- Shows mood, behavior, or personality changes

Symptoms Reported by Athlete

- Headache or “pressure” in head
- Nausea or vomiting
- Balance problems or dizziness
- Double or blurry vision
- Sensitivity to light
- Sensitivity to noise
- Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy
- Concentration or memory problems
- Confusion
- Just “not feeling right” or “feeling down”

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD PREVENT A CONCUSSION OR OTHER SERIOUS BRAIN INJURY?

- Ensure that they follow their coach's rules for safety and the rules of the sport.
- Encourage them to practice good sportsmanship at all times.
- Make sure they wear the right protective equipment for their activity. Protective equipment should fit properly and be well maintained.
- Wearing a helmet is a must to reduce the risk of a serious brain injury or skull fracture.
 - However, helmets are not designed to prevent concussions. There is no “concussion-proof” helmet. So, even with a helmet, it is important for kids and teens to avoid hits to the head.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU THINK YOUR CHILD HAS A CONCUSSION?

1. SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION RIGHT AWAY.

A health care professional will be able to decide how serious the concussion is and when it is safe for your child to return to regular activities, including sports.

2. KEEP YOUR CHILD OUT OF PLAY.

Concussions take time to heal. Don't let your child return to play the day of the injury and until a health care professional says it's OK. Children who return to play too soon—while the brain is still healing—risk a greater chance of having a repeat concussion. Repeat or later concussions can be very serious. They can cause permanent brain damage, affecting your child for a lifetime.

3. TELL YOUR CHILD'S COACH ABOUT ANY PREVIOUS CONCUSSION.

Coaches should know if your child had a previous concussion. Your child's coach may not know about a concussion your child received in another sport or activity unless you tell the coach.

It's better to miss one game than the whole season.

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/Concussion.