

ORYA REC-SPORT PROGRAM POLICIES

Basic Philosophy

Recreation Sports Programs (REC-SPORT): Play is the primary goal of REC-SPORT Programs. Physical activity and exposure to the sport via low key practice and game environment are the focus. Instruction in sports is given in a stress-free environment. REC-SPORT Programs typically run 1-2 sessions per week at local facilities with occasional travel to neighboring towns. As outlined in the constitution, ORYA provides recreational programs as a developmental medium for area youth. All decisions about team operations must stem from the objectives of physical, social, psychological, and moral development.

ORYA REC-SPORT PROGRAM ORGANIZATION

Each Sport will have a Sport/Program Specific Set of Policies which will further refine the overriding policies listed herein. The Executive Director will provide the Sport Specific Set of Policies to the Program Coordinator for distribution to coaches, parents, players, and other interested parties. The Sport Specific Set of Policies will contain specific policies pertinent to that sport as well as any adaptations of playing rules, and may also include rules for players' behavior, descriptions of positions, schedules, maps, rosters, or other pertinent information. No policies may be contrary to general ORYA policies as outlined herein.

Volunteer Program Coordinator(s): Under the direction of the ORYA Executive Director and in cooperation with the ORYA Recreation Coordinator, each REC-SPORT Program will be administered in large part by a Volunteer Program Coordinator. The Volunteer Program Coordinator is expected to understand the ORYA policies. The Volunteer Program Coordinator will oversee the coordination, use and care of facilities and equipment used by the program. In the event that a volunteer coordinator is unavailable or unable to perform the required administrative and operational duties, the Executive Director may appoint the Recreation Director to fulfill the requirements or, if volunteer support cannot be obtained, may recommend, and with Board approval, the program be cancelled.

Codes of Ethics - Standard ORYA CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY is to be followed.

As a requirement for registration all coaches, players and parents, are expected to abide by the ORYA code of conduct and may be required to acknowledge their intent by signature.

PARTICIPATION

Opportunity to Participate / Playing Time / Rotation of Positions

Each child of a REC-SPORT team will receive an equal opportunity to participation at practices and at all games. Game play time, and rotation guidelines will be adhered to for ALL Game play including Tournaments and Championship Play.

- Game play time will be distributed equally among all players present. No player will receive significantly less or more game play time than others. Playing time could vary slightly from game to game, but coaches will attempt to balance play time throughout the season. Exceptions: 1) in the case of a child exhibiting poor sportsmanship the coach has the right to limit the player's game playing time. 2) if, in the coaches opinion, a situation might pose a safety issue for a child, the child's playing time may be limited. In such cases where a player's time is reduced, the coach is obligated to discuss the reasons with the affected player and his/her parents.
- Starting line-ups and playing line-ups will also be adjusted such that no players are singled out, and that players get an opportunity to play with a variety of teammates.
- Position Rotation: Players will be given ample opportunity to play different positions during the course of the season. In keeping with a recreational philosophy, coaches should strive to rotate players through different positions & situations during the course of the season. A player's potential for development should not be

limited. When implementing a rotation system, coaches should allow players to develop position- specific skills and confidence in practice before games. Issues of safety, expense (e.g. hockey goalie), and players desire may prevent rotation of all players through all positions, but coaches should rotate as much as possible. Skill should not be a factor in deciding if a player should be allowed to try any given position in game play.

FIELDING OF TEAMS

Team Selections / Rosters / Tryouts

Coordinators are encouraged to develop a system using a skill assessment, evaluation, tryout, draft, or other means to distribute talent equally and fairly across all teams. Coordinators should involve coaches in this process and should outline the overall assessment and distributions system in their program manual to insure consistency from year to year. As well, for REC-SPORT programs, the input of parent's requests for coaches or friends should be considered as long as a fair balance can be maintained. The ORYA Executive Director will make the final decision on roster and team placements.

Playing at a Different Age Level

ORYA reserves the right to assign players to a division or team outside of their age bracket for any reason. A parent may request that a child be placed outside of their age bracket, but will not be guaranteed such placement.

Space Limited Programs:

In the event that a program is unable to accommodate all players interested, enrollment will be given on a first come first serve basis with preference given to children who reside in the district (per the Policy for Participation by Non-Residents).

COACHING APPOINTMENT & DEVELOPMENT

Quality coaching will be a goal for all teams. Based on recommendations of the Volunteer Program Coordinator, the ORYA Recreation Coordinator and previous parent/player feedback, coaches will be appointed by the Executive Director. Efforts will be made to obtain coaches who understand and support the primary philosophy of the REC-SPORTS programs.

Coaches will be given, encouraged and in some cases, required to attend opportunities for ongoing education and may be required to obtain (at ORYA cost) licensing from appropriate leagues/associations.

Coaches will have to meet all guidelines of standard ORYA volunteers including background check.

Seasonal review/evaluation will be made of all coaches.

Every team coach will be encouraged to have an assistant coach, manager or parent liaison to assist coach in abiding by all policies of ORYA.

PARENTS, TEAM & ORYA RELATIONS

Parent Responsibilities:

Volunteering - Parents are urged to participate in ORYA operations, and the volunteer nature of the ORYA makes parent involvement necessary. Parents should expect to be asked to help with field or facility maintenance, team communication, snacks, supervision of practices and games, and transportation to name but a few areas.

Parents are expected to work with the ORYA in fostering responsibility and commitment among the players. This includes:

- communicating with coaches about absences from practice or competition. (Parents are encouraged to have the player make such calls, but they should follow up.)
- adhering to team rules
- traveling safely to practices and competition

- abiding by the Code of Conduct
- respecting and caring for the facilities and equipment used by ORYA programs

Parent Liaisons

Each coach is encouraged to enlist the support of parents to serve as liaisons for each team. Liaisons may be used to communicate grievances to coaches and may also assist in managing telephone trees, snack schedules, car pools or other areas designated by coaches or coordinators. Liaisons should familiarize themselves with the ORYA Policies and assist coaches in adhering to all policies.

Grievance Procedure – Standard ORYA Policy for Grievance Resolution is to be followed.

Code of Conduct – Standard ORYA Policy on Code of Conduct will apply.

Transportation - Standard ORYA Policy for Transportation will apply.

Sport Medicine/ Policy on Substance Use/Abuse - Standard ORYA Policy on Substance Use/Abuse will apply.

FIELDS, FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

As stated in the general program policy, the ORYA Executive Director shall have sole authority to schedule and close facilities. Such closures may result in cancellation of games and/or practices. Coaches, parents and players are not allowed to overrule any decision regarding the use of facilities that is made by the ORYA Executive Director.

The Volunteer Program Coordinator will oversee the coordination, use and care of facilities and equipment used by the program or will enlist an appointee. Coaches and Parents are expected to assist with proper use and care of facilities.

FINANCES, FUNDRAISING, CAPITAL EQUIPMENT REQUESTS

The ORYA Policy for Fundraising and Capital Requests must be adhered to by all REC-SPORT Programs.