



YMCA

Youth Sports

Parent's Guidelines and Handbook

The mission of the YMCA of El Paso is to put Christian Principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all. We do this by incorporating the values of Honesty, Caring, Respect, Responsibility, and Faith into all of our programs.

YMCA Sports Program Pledge

Win or lose, I pledge before God to do my best, to be a team player, to respect my teammates, opponents, and officials, and to improve myself in Spirit, Mind, and Body.

Web address: www.elpasoymca.org

Welcome to YMCA Youth Sports!

Your son or daughter is entering the most unique—and the best—sports program offered in America. In fact, we've named the program YMCA Youth Sports because we're confident it's the best designed sports program for young people ages 3 to 16 available anywhere.

Our objective for YMCA Youth Sports is to help young athletes not only become better players but also better people. We recognize that not every athlete can be on the winning team, but every kid can be a winner in YMCA Youth Sports. That's why our motto for the program is Building Winners for Life.

YMCA Youth Sports is currently designed for many sports—t-ball, basketball, indoor and outdoor soccer, flag football, and volleyball.

YMCA Youth Sport Sports is a progressive sports program that combines the traditional philosophy of YMCA youth sports programs with new concepts and values. The objectives of YMCA sports: learning the tactics and skills of the game, the rules and traditions of the sport, important fitness concepts, and character development.

What Makes YMCA Youth Sports So Special?

YMCA Youth Sports goes beyond teaching tactics and skills by weaving in simple but important fitness and character development concepts in every practice and game. YMCA Youth Sports focuses not only on skill development, but on the overall development of the youngster in areas that are important not just for the season but for a lifetime.

Tips for Becoming a Good Youth Sports Parent

- * Always treat others (coaches, parents, officials and players) the same way you would want your child to be treated. Set the example by showing respect, dignity, and sportsmanship at all times. Make only positive, encouraging comments.
- * Be responsible; Get your kids to practice and games on time. Make sure they have their uniform and sneakers and that they have had something to eat and drink. Let the coach know if your child will be missing a game or practice.
- * Focus on fun and participation rather than winning and losing.
- * Motivate through confidence by trying to identify a positive from every game and practice. Making mistakes is part of the learning process so don't criticize and try to avoid too much postgame analysis.
- * Act your age; youth sports are for kids. If you find yourself becoming too emotionally involved, take a step back and relax. Remember that your childhood is over. Give the young players a chance to enjoy theirs.
- * Be seen, not heard; nothing is better for a young player than having parents watch them play. However, nothing is worse for a player than to have a parent boo, taunt, or scream at officials, players or coaches.
- * Respect the officials. Even if you don't agree with a call, accept it, and move on. It's not your job to officiate the game. Officials will give a warning and then ask parents to leave the facility.
- * If you must talk to the coach, do it in private after the game or practice. Better yet, wait until the next day when the heat of the moment has passed. Never create a scene in front of the team.
- * Get interested in your child's sport and learn the rules.
- * Participate in team activities and volunteer to help.

YMCA PARENT'S CODE OF CONDUCT

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will support the implementation of the YMCA's character development values: caring, honesty, respect, responsibility and faith.
- I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
 - I am aware that if I disrespect staff of the YMCA, coaches, other guest of the Y, or any youth sports participant. I may receive a warning from the YMCA staff or asked to leave the facility immediately.
- I will remember that the game is for youth – not for adults.
- I will do the very best to make the youth sports experience fun for my child.
- I will help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by doing whatever I can, such as being a respectful fan or assisting with coaching.
- I will teach my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
- I will remember all coaches are volunteers, dedicating many hours to help children. I will treat them with respect. If I have suggestions or wish to discuss my child's progress with them, I will do so before or after practice or a game.
- I will try to have my child on time to practices and games.

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports by following this Parents' Code of Conduct.

