

Youth Sports Program Policy:

Revision Original – 12/19/2015

1. **Purpose of Youth Sports Program:** The purpose of Bowman Parks and Recreation (BP&R) youth sport programs is to help develop skills, keep kids engaged, and to have fun. BP&R wants them to continue playing in the years ahead and by following a program which places the needs of the child (skills, equal playing time, fun) ahead of personal philosophies, BP&R will provide the next level with coachable athletes. Bowman Parks and Recreation endorses the National Alliance for Youth Sports programs and specifically shall use the National Youth Sports Coaches Association (NYSCA) standards.
2. **Scope:** The scope of the youth sport programs for Bowman Parks and Recreation includes, but is not limited to T-Ball, Baseball, Softball, Volleyball, Basketball, and Football for youth through the 6th grade.
3. **Definitions:**
 - a. Program Advisor – NYSCA Trained Clinician and a person with expertise in the specific sport will assist the Director of BP&R with designing youth sport programs to include the following: Coach hiring, training, and scheduling; preseason camp; end of season assessment (jamboree). This is a paid position under the Program Assistant position title and will be paid hourly. This position may or may not be used for all youth sports programs.
 - b. Head Coach & Assistant Coach – Each sport will have two paid coaches, one head and one assistant coach for each sport to coach a 7-8 week season spending approximately 10 hours per week. Boys Football, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, and Girls Volleyball for grades 4, 5 & 6 will have two coaches for all three grades. T-ball shall have one head coach and at least one assistant coach. Midget Baseball, Babe Ruth Baseball, and Girls Softball will have one head coach and one assistant coach. All head and assistant coaches shall be trained by the NYSCA and sign a coaches code of ethics.
4. **Process:**
 - a. The Director of BP&R may hire a Program Advisor to help develop a youth sports program. The Advisor shall be trained by the NYSCA as a coach and a clinician, shall sign and adhere to a Code of Ethics, and shall assist with designing the youth sports season with the Director of BP&R.
 - b. The season shall consist of:
 - i. Sport Registration & Season Design
 - ii. Coaches Hiring & Training
 - iii. Scheduling Practice – First two weeks 3-4 practices per week. Two per week during playing season.
 - iv. Preseason camp
 - v. Season: 7-8 week season focusing on practice and skill development with minimal games.
 - vi. Post season jamboree (skills assessment fun day with food at the end of the season).
 - c. The Program Advisor will attend practices intermittently, design the pre-season camp with the coaches, define the outcomes for each grade/age group, and shall design and implement the post season jamboree. The advisor will then evaluate the season to determine changes in the outcomes for each sport and grade/age group and adjust accordingly.
5. **References:**
 - a. National Youth Sports Coaches Association – nays.org