



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

YOUTH SPORTS

YMCA OF GREATER TULSA SPORTS PROMISE:

We promise to provide athletes with the skills to play the game while demonstrating the YMCA core values in a volunteer driven environment that builds and strengthens community.

2017 YMCA OF GREATER TULSA YOUTH SPORTS PARENT GUIDE



Tandy YMCA HLC
tandy.ygametime.com
918.280.9622

Daily YMCA
daily.ygametime.com
918.369.9622

Owasso YMCA
owasso.ygametime.com
918.272.9622

Hutcherson YMCA
hutcherson.ygametime.com
918.382.9622

Dickenson YMCA
dickenson.ygametime.com
918.872.9622

MISSION: To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.





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Greetings Parents,

We would like to thank you for choosing to participate in the YMCA of Greater Tulsa Youth Sports Program. We believe you and your family will benefit from it because we have designed all activities with your family in mind. The YMCA has identified the character values we incorporate into of Honesty, Caring, Respect, and Responsibility as values we incorporate in all programs. We need your help to teach these identified values by displaying them whenever you and your family participate in the Youth Sports Program. Whether you are officiating, coaching, playing or a cheering parent, you have an opportunity to be a role model for someone else. Please use this opportunity and remember we are here to create an atmosphere where all children can participate, learn and have fun. In years to come we will have long forgotten win-loss records, bad official's calls and minor setbacks; however, we will remember the fun and the character that was developed in us and our children because we will see it in our everyday life.

At the Y, we exist to strengthen community. Together with people like you, we nurture the potential of kids, help people understand and improve their health, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. So join our cause and create meaningful change not just for you, but also for your community.

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Manny Voska
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GOALS FOR YOUTH SPORTS

- To support and strengthen the family unit
- To help children develop to their fullest potential
- To deliver programs in a positive YMCA environment of safety, support and care
- To help each child have fun
- To make "Everyone a Winner"



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YMCA Code of Sports Conduct

We believe that sports should offer competitive fun in a learning and healthy environment. We want all players, parents, coaches and referees to read and abide by these codes of conduct. It will make the games more enjoyable for all and help teach our sons and daughters that competition can take place in a friendly and fun atmosphere.

Parents

- I will cheer for my child and not yell at him or her
- I will not argue calls with the officials, neither during nor after the game
- I will respect the decision of the coaches, officials and program administrators in all matters
- I will not engage in any negative behavior towards the other team; their players, coaches or parents
- I will stress to my child, and demonstrate by my behavior, the importance of sportsmanship in all areas of play
- I will refrain from the use of alcohol and tobacco products when in a youth sports environment
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of all children ahead of a personal desire to win
- I will abide by all the rules and regulations of the YMCA

Officials

- I will remember that these games are for fun and development
- I will learn the rules of the game and know any age-appropriate modifications
- I will apply the rules of the game fairly and impartially
- I will not enter into negative discourse with neither player, coach, or parent from a team, nor during or after a game
- I will see that any disputes are handled calmly and by the proper procedures and proper authorities
- I will not tolerate any abusive behavior on the part of any participant, parent or coach
- I will place the safety of the participant above all else
- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support to all involved in youth sports
- I will abide by all the rules and regulations of the YMCA

Coaches

- I will remember that I am a youth sports coach and that this should be fun for the children, adults and all concerned
- I will be knowledgeable of the rules and the fundamentals of the game and do my best to teach them to my players
- I will do my best to teach the six pillars of character values (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, caring, fairness, citizenship) to my players, with my words and my actions
- I will not engage in negative discussions with any game official, parent or coach; neither during nor after the game
- I will not allow my team's parents to act in a way that demonstrates disrespect for the game officials or any member of the opposing team, their players, coaches or parents
- I will assure that my players and I recite the sports pledge before each game and shake hands with the opposing team after each game
- I will see that any disputes are handled calmly and by the proper procedures and proper authorities
- I will abide by all the rules and regulations of the YMCA
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win



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Inclement Weather and Reschedules

For the safety of you and your athlete, the YMCA has specific rules on inclement weather and cancellations. All outdoor practices and games are cancelled during lightning strikes or a tornado warning. The YMCA also has extreme temperature guidelines that can be accessed on the sports website.

For game reschedules, the YMCA strives to provide every team with their full number of games; however, we are only able to guarantee 2 game reschedules per season. The scheduling of any make-up games will be announced on the sports website. Scheduling make up games are at the discretion of the sports directors and the facilities' schedules.

Game Times, Practice Times and Locations

Game times can range between the times of 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. All games are played on Saturday unless stated otherwise. Game locations and directions can be found on the websites listed below.

Practices will be held between the times of 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. and will fall on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesday, Thursdays, Fridays, or Sundays. Practices are held at the YMCA location where the player was registered, unless communicated otherwise.

Sports Websites

For all sporting information, please visit our sports websites listed below. Here you will find every bit of information you need to know about schedules, teams, times, rules, game locations and important alerts. Be sure to sign up for text alerts for your child's leagues

Tandy Family YMCA Healthy Living Center tandy.ygametime.com

Owasso Family YMCA owasso.ygametime.com

W.L. Hutcherson Family YMCA hutcherson.ygametime.com

Daily Family YMCA daily.ygametime.com

R.C. Dickenson Family YMCA dickenson.ygametime.com

What Your Athlete Needs:

One of the most common questions we get is: what equipment is required to play at the Y?

For our basketball and volleyball leagues, every athlete needs to wear of closed toed court safe tennis shoes. In addition, all athletes need to wear a YMCA reversible black/white sleeveless sports jersey to their games as their outer layer.

For our soccer and futsal leagues, every athlete needs to wear shin guards. For our t-ball league, every athlete needs their own t-ball mitt. In addition, all athletes need to wear a YMCA reversible blue/white short sleeve sports jersey to their games as their outer layer.

On the game schedule, the team listed as Home will wear their jerseys on the white side and the Away team will wear them on the black or blue side. Other equipment such as a personal basketball are great to have; however, please don't feel the need to go out and purchase anything extra just to participate in the league. Jerseys can be purchased from the YMCA membership services desk.



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THE YMCA's NO TOLERANCE POSITION ON THE NATIONAL PROBLEM OF CHILD ABUSE

We make an active effort to prevent child abuse. These efforts include but are not limited to:

- A background check on all youth sports volunteers as well as all paid staff
- Allegations or suspicions of child abuse are taken seriously and are reported to the proper authorities
- Programs are structured and observed so that staff and volunteers are never the only adult present with children, with the possible exception of emergency conditions
- Paid staff are not to fraternize with children outside the programs, especially babysitting or inviting children to their home
- **The YMCA of Greater Tulsa wants all children to be safe. As a parent, you can help ensure the safety of your child by taking a few minutes every once in a while to ask your child four simple questions:**
- Is anyone touching you in a way that you don't like?
- Has anyone said anything to you that made you feel bad?
- Is anyone asking you to keep secrets?
- Is anyone scaring or threatening you?
- **If you have any concerns please call your YMCA sports director.**

YMCA YOUTH SPORTS PHILOSOPHY

YMCA youth sports are based on the concept that fair play is the very essence of competition. Everybody should have an equal opportunity to compete and a fair chance to participate.

Fair play implies respect for oneself, one's opponent and others involved in conducting the competition. Players, coaches, officials and spectators share a responsibility for fair play. Fair play sets the child above the game. The YMCA believes that its youth sports programs provide an excellent environment for developing sound spirit, mind and body. As these virtues grow, they will influence behavior in everyday life.

The YMCA also believes that its youth sports program will help families and individuals to grow personally, clarify values, improve relationships, appreciate diversity, develop leadership skills and have fun. It is for the development of such virtues that the YMCA promotes its youth sports programs. At the YMCA, "Everyone is a Winner."

The YMCA of Greater Tulsa Youth Sports Programs are committed to quality; therefore, we reserve the right to confront individuals that do not abide by all philosophies, principles and practices, rules and codes of conduct. These sanctions can range from verbal warnings to suspension from the program.

YMCA YOUTH SPORTS PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES

- Stress sportsmanship, fair play and teamwork
- Emphasize the values of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, caring, fairness and citizenship
- Keep winning in perspective – child first, sport second
- Enable all participants to play in every game
- Encourage family involvement
- Provide coaches and officials orientations
- Emphasize safety and age-appropriate development
- Utilize volunteer leadership
- Available to all segments of the community
- Welcome all participants regardless of race, sex, ethnicity or financial status
- Financial assistance is made available to all who qualify



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Volunteer Job Descriptions

As a parent in the YMCA Youth Sports program there are several ways that you can get involved in your athletes team such as Coach, Assistant Coach or several different Team Parent roles. This list isn't all-inclusive, and every parent is encouraged to get involved in their athlete's sports experience.

Coach – All of our YMCA coaches are program volunteers, and most often, they are a parent of an athlete on the team. The main duties of the coach are to organize and lead practices, lead and encourage the team during the game and provide a good role model to the athletes on the team. All coaches attend a coach's meeting and are provided with a coach's manual that includes practice outlines.

Assistant Coach – For volunteers who want to get involved in instruction but are unable to dedicate the time to head coach, the assistant coach spot is perfect. Assistant coaches help with practice and game organization and fill in when the coach is unable to attend.

Team Snack Scheduler – Every athlete loves a snack after their game. The team snack scheduler works out a weekly schedule for the parents to ensure that it's not a single family providing snacks each week. The team snack scheduler is also responsible for making sure the team cleans up after their snacks while at the YMCA.

Team Scorebook Keeper – In some YMCA sports such as basketball, a parent volunteer will either keep the scorebook or run the score clock. This is a great chance to get involved with the team as a whole by learning everyone's name quickly.

Team End of Season Planner– At the end of the season it's recommended that each team have an end-of-season get-together. The end of season planner lends a big hand in organizing and scheduling the team's events. Also, the end of season planner should pick up their team's awards from the YMCA the last week of practice.

Sports Ambassador – A league-wide volunteer opportunity is to be a YMCA Ambassador in the Sports program on a Saturday morning. Ambassadors are volunteers that assist the staff in answering questions, directing people where to go in the building and warmly greeting everyone that comes to our YMCA. Sports Ambassadors help in this capacity on Saturdays while our games are being played.