



Youth Sports Parent & Coach Guidelines

Purpose of Our Programs

The mission of Geneva Parks & Recreation is to provide a positive, safe, and fun environment where every child has the opportunity to learn, grow, and develop through sports and recreation. Our focus is not on winning games but on teaching life lessons, building confidence, and helping young athletes enjoy the process of being part of a team.

Core Values

- **Character Over Winning:** Success is measured not by the scoreboard, but by how players grow in sportsmanship, teamwork, and self-confidence.
- **Every Child Matters:** All children—regardless of skill level—deserve encouragement, respect, and playing time. Every player will be given the opportunity to participate, improve, and feel valued.
- **Positive Teaching:** Coaches and parents are role models. Instruction should build up players, not tear them down. Encouragement fosters growth.
- **Not About Showcasing:** Youth sports are not the time to spotlight one athlete but a chance for all players to learn, play, and contribute.

Behavior Expectations

- **Respectful Conduct:** Coaches, parents, and players must treat referees, opponents, and teammates with respect at all times. Poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated.
- **Positive Sidelines:** Parents should cheer for all players, not just their own child, and avoid negative comments.
- **Team Environment:** Coaches must foster unity and ensure each player feels like an important part of the team.

Safety First

- **Top Priority:** The health and safety of every child come before the outcome of any game or practice.
- **First Aid Awareness:** We strongly recommend that all coaches be familiar with basic first aid and emergency procedures. Coaches should know how to respond in the event of injury or other urgent situations.
- **Preparedness:** A first aid kit and emergency contact list should always be available during practices and games.

Our Goal

At Geneva Parks & Recreation, our youth sports programs are about more than athletics. They are about **teaching values, developing skills, and creating lifelong memories** in a safe and supportive environment. By working together, parents and coaches ensure that every child experiences the joy of recreation and leaves the season feeling stronger, more confident, and excited to play again.