

## Georgetown Parks and Recreation Youth Athletics

# Youth Basketball Parent Handbook

Welcome to Georgetown Parks and Recreation Youth Athletics! We are thrilled to have you be a part of our programs.

To make our Youth Athletics Leagues a success and our processes easy to understand, we have created this Handbook for your use. Please refer to this Handbook if questions arise, as this is the best resource for all parents, players and coaches.

If you have a question that is not addressed here we encourage you to ask your team's Coach, the On-site Supervisor or the Program Coordinator. Having accurate information is important to a successful season for everyone!



## Directory

### **Program Coordinator**

Riggin Anderson

[Riggin.Anderson@georgetown.org](mailto:Riggin.Anderson@georgetown.org)

512-930-6820

### **Program Supervisor**

J.J. Lillibridge

[jj.lillibridge@georgetown.org](mailto:jj.lillibridge@georgetown.org)

(512) 930-3594

### **Georgetown Recreation Center**

1003 N Austin Ave.

Georgetown, TX 78626

[parks.georgetown.org](http://parks.georgetown.org)

(512) 930-3596

Monday-Friday 5:30am-9:00pm

Saturday 9:00am-9:00pm

Sunday 12:00-6:00pm

## **Georgetown Parks and Recreation Mission Statement**

“To create an environment that provides opportunities for positive experiences and personal growth.”

Parents, volunteer-coaches, players, referees, Parks and Recreation employees all play a role. It is important that everyone involved understands the mission statement, and contributes to a supportive, positive environment.

## **Youth Athletics Philosophy**

All Georgetown Parks and Recreation Youth Athletic Leagues are designed for development, effort, participation, understanding of rules, and fun. Youth athletic programs will not keep official scores and standings throughout the season.

## **Parent Guidelines**

The Georgetown Parks and Recreation Department prides itself on offering quality athletic programs to players of all skill levels. In order to make sure you and your athlete get the most out of your time with Georgetown Youth Athletics, here are a few tips to help make this an enjoyable experience for everyone.

1. Let the Coaches coach; avoid instructing your child or other players from the sidelines.
2. Never get into a public confrontation with another parent, the officials or the coaches.
3. Please contact the Onsite Supervisor or the Program Coordinator immediately if conflict arises.
4. Get your kids to practices/games on time.
5. Cheer for the entire team, not just your child.
6. Win or lose, when the game ends set a good example for your child by thanking the officials, coaches, teammates and opposing teams for their efforts.

## **Coaching**

All Coaches in our Youth Athletic Leagues are volunteers, and these programs would not be possible without their help. Coaching is about so much more than the skills needed to play a sport - their energy, effort, support and generosity is what the kids notice and ultimately determines whether or not they have a positive experience.

Georgetown Parks and Recreation encourages all parents to consider coaching a Youth Athletic team. Experience in the sport is not necessary, but a great attitude is essential.

We sincerely thank you for all that you do!

## **End of Season Survey**

At the end of each youth athletics season we encourage all parents of participants to complete the survey that will be sent by email. The information received is diligently reviewed and used to make improvements to our program. Thank you for your feedback and we look forward to your responses and the impact they will have on our programs.

## **Refunds**

You may withdraw your child from a Youth Athletics League for any reason at least two weeks before the first game for a full refund. After that deadline, the Georgetown Parks and Recreation Department will keep \$30 as an Administrative Fee, while the rest of your child's original Registration Fee will be refunded according to how many weeks remain (prorated.)

## **About the Georgetown Recreation Center**

We are very proud of our facilities, and hope you enjoy them and visit us often! In order to keep everything in the best possible condition, we do not allow food or drinks in our gymnasiums. Players are permitted to keep water with them, in a bottle with a non-leaking top.

The Recreation Center offers many activities and programs, and everyone must have a valid membership or purchase a day visit in order to use the facility. Participation in youth athletics does not give access to the rest of the building.

The safety of all our clients is our top priority. Members will be using the facility while Youth Athletics Leagues are taking place in addition to participants in other programs, and the Recreation Center can become quite crowded. Please keep your children with you and under supervision at all times. Spectators are not permitted to watch from the track over Gym 1, but must remain in the gyms in the spectator seating.

## **Additional Parking**

Other clients will be using the Recreation Center while Youth Athletics Leagues are taking place, and the parking lots can become quite crowded. Additional parking can be found throughout San Gabriel Park: along Chamber Way, in the grass lot between the San Gabriel Football Field and the old arena, along Morrow Street, behind the Show Barn and behind the Community Center.

Parking is never permitted on Austin Avenue or FM 971.

## **Snacks and Celebrations**

Snack time after the game and end-of-season celebrations are great opportunities for your families engage socially and build friendships. Weather permitting, please use the outdoor pavilion and courtyard for group celebrations or snack times. This will help alleviate congestion in the facility as other programs and games continue to take place. If the weather is poor or the outdoor areas are already in use, teams may be permitted to gather in the Teen/Senior Center.

## **Youth Basketball Rules**

### **UNIFORMS**

- Players must wear team shirt and close-toed athletic shoes with non-marking soles.
- No earrings (new piercings must be covered), necklaces, or any other type of jewelry allowed for participants during game play.

### **GAME PLAY**

- No fast break points allowed if a participant has reached the 25 ft. line without a defender. Violation will result in possession of ball taken out of bounds.
- No pressing in the backcourt, but it will be allowed in second half of games if game is within 10 pts, for games in the 10-14 age divisions.
- The 10-second rule to cross the half court line applies for each division.
- Coaches from both teams will need to gather with officials before start of each game to discuss questions or concerns.

Age Division	Ball Size	Game Duration	Goal Height
4 to 5 Years (Coed)	25.5 inches	8-minute quarters	8 feet
6 to 7 Years (Coed)	25.5 inches	8-minute quarters	8 feet
8 to 9 Years (Girls/Boys)	27.5 inches	10-minute quarters	9 feet
10 to 11 Years (Boys/Girls)	28.5/27.5 inches*	10-minute quarters	10 feet
12 to 14 Years (Boys/Girls)	29.5/28.5 inches*	10-minute quarters	10 feet

\*The bigger size will be used by the boys and the smaller used by the girls to stay aligned with competitive sizing.

### **SUBSTITUTIONS**

- Substitutions will take place at the start of each quarter and the midpoint of each quarter, unless a player is injured.
- If there are an insufficient number of subs, players can play an entire quarter.

### **DEFENSE**

- Teams must play man-to-man with no zone defenses.
- 4 to 5 Years and 6 to 7 Years divisions will use wrist bands as a learning tool to reinforce man-to-man defense.

### **CLOCK**

- The clock will be a running clock for each division but will be stopped in the last minute of the game for the 10 to 11 and 12 to 14 aged divisions. If a team is within 10 pts, the clock will stop for all injuries, timeouts, and dead balls.

### **LANE VIOLATIONS / 3 SECONDS RULE**

- A player shall not remain in the opponents' key for more than three seconds while that player's team is in control of a live ball in the frontcourt and the game clock is running.
- The Lane Violation / 3 Second Rule will apply for games in the 10 to 11 Years and 12 to 14 Years divisions only.

### **TIME OUTS**

- Each division will have two 30-second timeouts per half.
- Timeouts will not carry over from one half to the other.
- A team must have possession of the ball to request a time out.

### **HALFTIME**

- There will be a 3-minute halftime break for every division.

### **OVERTIME**

- 4 to 5 Years, 6 to 7 Years and 8 to 9 Years divisions' games will end after 4 quarters, with no overtime allowed.
- One 2-minute overtime period will be played if game is tied after regulation play for games in the 10 to 11 Years and 12 to 14 Years divisions only.

## **Youth Athletic League FAQ's (All Sports)**

### **Q: Can my child play with a particular coach?**

A: We do not allow coach requests. The registered child of a volunteer coach will be placed on the parent's team. This is an effort to prevent stacked teams, and also helps participants receive instruction from a variety of coaches and make new friends each season.

### **Q: Can my child play with his/her friends?**

A: Player requests are accepted, and we do our best to accommodate your wishes. However, we cannot guarantee specific team placements. Friend requests must be reciprocal: two children from different households that would like to play together must request one another at the time of registration.

All siblings can be placed on the same team, provided they are in the same age grouping. Please indicate this request during the registration process.

### **Q: What does coaching entail?**

A: Coaches are volunteers, typically parents with a child playing in the league. Occasionally, an older sibling, grandparent or family friend may volunteer as well. Coaches must be able to commit to the entire season.

Each team will have one or two coaches, depending on how many adults volunteer. If there are two, it is up to them to decide how to divide duties and responsibilities.

All coaches are expected to display positive behavior and promote our overall philosophy (page 4.) In order to provide the safest environment for our participants and their families, all volunteer coaches are required to submit a background check. The authorization form will be provided when you register your child and at the Coaches Meeting. Coaches will receive a free team shirt on the day of the first game.

### **Q: When will my child receive his/her team shirt and participation award?**

A: Coaches will receive both shirts and awards from the On-site Supervisor and will distribute them to their teams. T-shirts are handed out on the Saturday of the first game. Awards will be presented on the next-to-last Saturday.

### **Q: When are games and what time will they be scheduled?**

A: All games are on Saturdays. Game times typically range from 8:00 am to mid-afternoon. The actual time will depend upon several things: the sport, where it is played, and the total number of participants registered.

Games will last 45–60 minutes, depending on the sport and the age of players in a particular league. For example, a 5 year old's game will be shorter than a 12 year old's.

### **Q: What days are practices?**

A: Weekly practices are optional and will not affect a child's playing time. Each team is allowed one scheduled practice per week, and the day and time will be the same for the entire season.

Coaches will choose from the available practice times and days at the Coaches Meeting and will share this information with their teams. All practices will be visible on your child's team schedule on Teamsideline.

## **Youth Athletic League FAQ's (continued)**

### **Q: Where can I park?**

A: Parking is available on both the north and south sides of the Recreation Center. Additional parking is available behind the Recreation Center. From Morrow Drive, you may legally park between the football field and arena, at the Show Barn and at the Community Center, as well as throughout San Gabriel Park.

Parking is never permitted on Austin Avenue, FM 971 or River Haven Drive.

### **Q: If games or practices are cancelled due to inclement weather, will we make up any of those days?**

A: In the event of a cancellation, an email will be sent to all participants, we also encourage all families to sign up for the Athletics Text Message Sign Up for up to date alerts regarding program cancellations and field closures.

The first two games that are cancelled due to weather will be made up. Practices will not be rescheduled.

### **Q: Who can I talk to if I have a question during a Saturday game or practice?**

A: The On-site Supervisor or Program Coordinator will be present each Saturday. Please find contact information in the Directory on page 3.



## Welcome to TeamSideline.com

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### Welcome

Your Team now has a great tool to help organize your Team and make the Season more fun for Staff, Parents and Players. This is a Quick Guide to tell you how to access your TeamSideline Team Site.

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### Why Use A Team Site?

<b>1</b>	<b>Online Team Parent</b> A TeamSideline Team Site is like having an Online Team Parent. Your Team Site is a vital link to the League because Practices, Schedules and Rosters can be automatically populated into each Team Site. This means everyone on each Team knows who is on the Team as well as when and where Practices and Games. Team Staff can create additional Events (Picture Day, Team Meetings, and Celebrations) that have automatic Reminder Emails sent with Attendance Polls making it much easier to manage the team and communications.
<b>2</b>	<b>Communications</b> Email distribution lists are automatically created so Roster members can easily send Communications to any or all roster members. Using Team Site communications enables all Team communications to be consolidated and accessible online anytime anywhere.
<b>3</b>	<b>Family &amp; Friends</b> Each team member can invite family members to join the site, so now all family members with access to the internet can easily get information like game times and directions.

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### Security

TeamSideline is a secure site. This means all Team data such as phone numbers and email addresses are secure and private to Team members and can only be edited by Team Staff. (Family & Friends cannot view Team personal data such as phone numbers and email addresses.)

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### 5 Easy Steps To Be Up and Running For The Entire Season

<b>1</b>	When Team Sites are created by the League, all Roster members will receive an email inviting them to sign in to the Team Site they are associated to.
<b>2</b>	Click the link in the email to sign in to your League Site. When you sign in, your team(s) will appear on the left side of the page. Click the Team link.
<b>3</b>	After the Team link is clicked, then if you have used a Team Site then you will automatically go to your Team Site. If you have never used a TeamSideline Team Site with your email address then you will be sent a Validation Email -- click the Validation link in the email to sign in.
<b>4</b>	Staff members can add Team Events, add announcements, add links, team and player pictures and bios to personalize the Site.
<b>5</b>	All Roster members can see a consolidated Calendar with all of their Practices, Games and other Team Events, invite Family & Friends to see the Site, and send communications to individual staff members or the entire team.