



Parks and Recreation Division

Youth Sports League Informational Handbook

(As approved by the Park Board on October 13, 2005)

Purpose of Handbook

The purpose of this handbook is to serve as a general reference for participants of organized youth sports leagues in Flower Mound. The handbook explains the expectations the Town has of its organized youth sports league providers and the role of the Town in facilitating organized youth sports leagues in Flower Mound. In addition, the handbook contains relevant information regarding each organized youth sports league provider that has an approved Youth Sports Facility Agreement with the Town.

Philosophy

The Town believes in the overall benefits of participation in organized youth sports leagues. Participation in sports plays a valuable role in the development of the youth of Flower Mound. Participation in youth recreational leagues, instructional programs, competitive leagues, and tournaments has proven to build self-esteem, promote teamwork, develop the body as well as the mind, and is an integral part of the maturation process, all which contributes to the overall quality of life in Flower Mound. To this end, the Town will strive to assist youth sports league providers in offering quality organized youth sports programs, facilities, and services while maintaining a safe, wholesome environment for children.

The Town embraces the philosophies set forth by the National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS) in its *Recommendations for Communities* publication developed through the National Summit on Raising Community Standards in Children's Sports. The publication represents what leaders in the parks and recreation field believe need to be adopted to help ensure that all participants, volunteers, and spectators have a safe and rewarding youth sports experience. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) have endorsed the recommendations. The Town

encourages its recognized youth sports league providers to incorporate these recommendations for its leagues.

Town Recognition of Youth Sports League Providers

The Town will recognize one organized youth sports league provider for the purpose of administering a particular sport to Flower Mound residents. In no instance will the Town recognize a youth sports league provider that is attempting to duplicate the service provided by another recognized youth sports league provider. Recognized youth sports league providers have approved Youth Sports Facility Agreements with the Town. Access to sports facilities will be made available to non-recognized youth sports league teams only after the recognized youth sports league provider teams/leagues are fully accommodated and subject to availability. This process is addressed in the Town's Sports Field Reservation/Allocation and Use Policy.

Any youth sports league activity not officially recognized by the Town must be approved by the Park, Arts and Library Services (PALS) Board and Town Council through a Youth Sports Facility Agreement. Selection of a youth sports league provider will be determined through the open Request for Proposal (RFP) process. This includes youth sports leagues that are covered under a Youth Sports Facility Agreement that has or soon will expire. When an agreement has expired or the Town is approached by a group requesting to administer a new youth sport league, the Town will solicit RFP's for that particular sport and select a youth sports league provider from the proposals received. The Town reserves the right to participate in the RFP process as an applicant for any sport.

Youth Sports League Provider Requirements

Each youth sports league provider must meet certain standardized minimum requirements in order to provide the youth sports league to the community. Requirements include:

- Each recognized youth sports league provider must operate as a non-profit (501(c)3) organization under the laws set forth for incorporation in the State of Texas.
- Each youth sports league provider must have published bylaws that provide for the election of board members and officers, as well as overall governance of the organization/association.

- At a minimum, each youth sports league provider must convene four board meetings annually.
- Recreation should be the primary focus of all youth sports league providers.
- Develop balanced teams within recreational leagues through the team selection process.
- It is considered beneficial to afford some higher-level of play within each youth sports league provider.
- Ensure adult supervision is present in an official capacity for every league or tournament game.
- Encourage staff, coaches, volunteers, and agents to conduct themselves as positive role models exemplifying proper sportsmanship, cooperation, and appropriate behavior. The youth sports league provider will validate the quality of adult leadership by requiring statewide criminal background checks of all head coaches, board members, and any other person acting in an official capacity with the youth sports league provider directly overseeing children. Background checks are valid for a one year period.
- Ensure all head coaches are certified for coaching youth by a national, state, or local accredited coaching certification program that is recognized by the Town. Examples of recognized/approved coaching certification programs include National Youth Sports Coaches Association (NYSCA), Kids Sports Network (KSN), and the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation (TAAF). Youth sports league providers may develop their own coaching certification program so long as it educates coaches regarding their responsibilities when working with children in youth sports and hold them accountable for inappropriate behavior.
- The Town reserves the right to exclude any individual or group from Town owned or leased facilities based on conduct which it determines in its discretion to be objectionable or contrary to Town interests.
- Be responsible for the collection and remittance to the Town of all participation/facility usage fees per Ordinance No. 87-02. The fee for residents shall be \$2/player/season. The fee for non-residents shall be \$14/player/season.

Grievance/Dispute Resolution within Youth Sports League Providers

Oversight of and compliance with approved Youth Sports Facility Agreements is the responsibility of the Town's Athletics Supervisor. The Town does not arbitrate grievances/disputes that may occur within Youth Sports League Providers. Requirements of Youth Sports League Providers related to grievance/dispute resolution include:

- Develop a code of conduct with an enforcement plan and communicate requirements to coaches, parents, participants, and spectators. All coaches,

parents, and participants must sign a copy of the youth sports league provider's Code of Conduct.

- Each youth sports league provider shall have a formal published grievance/dispute resolution process in place whereby complaints and concerns can be properly heard and addressed.
- Both the Code of Conduct and the grievance process shall conform to National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS) standards as a minimum (or equivalent).
- Disputes within a youth sports league provider should be settled by the provider's grievance/dispute resolution process, not the Town.
- Disciplinary matters concerning players, spectators, officials, etc., will be in accordance to the youth sports league provider's established policies and procedures and not subject to review by the Town.

Recognized Youth Sports League Providers

Youth Baseball and Softball



The Flower Mound Youth Sports Association (FMYSA) has been operating youth baseball and softball leagues and tournaments since 1990 utilizing Town owned and/or leased sports facilities.

Contact Information

League Line:	972.955.7328
Rainout Line:	972.738.9898
Fax Line:	972.874.5265
Email Address:	fmya.admin@verizon.net
Mailing Address:	3634 Long Prairie, Suite 108-164 Flower Mound, TX 75022
League Website:	www.fmya.com
Tournament Website:	www.bakersfieldpark.com
Select Website:	www.ntibaseball.org

Seasons:

Currently, two seasons are played for the recreational leagues:

- Spring – March through May (League registration begins in December)
- Fall – August through October (League registration begins in July)

Select baseball for boys and softball for girls are played year-round.

Youth Soccer

The Greater Lewisville Area Soccer Association (GLASA) has been serving the soccer community in the Lewisville, Highland Village, and Flower Mound areas since 1980. GLASA began playing their league soccer games in Flower Mound in 1999 utilizing Town owned sports facilities.

Contact Information

League Line: 972-221-4623
Rainout Line: 972.738.9700
Fax Line: 972-221-4619
Email Address: glasareg@verizon.net
Office Address: 1565 West Main Street, Suite 140
Lewisville, TX 75067
Office Hours: Mondays – Wednesdays 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Thursdays 3:30 - 8 p.m.
Fridays 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
League Website: www.glasasoccer.org
Sanctioning Body Website : www.ntxsoccer.org

Seasons:

Currently, two seasons are played for the recreational leagues:

- Spring – February through May (League registration begins in December)
- Fall – August through November (League registration begins in June)

Youth Basketball



The Cross Timbers Sports has been operating youth basketball leagues in Flower Mound since 2010 utilizing leased school gymnasiums through the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Joint Use of Property between the Town and the Lewisville Independent School District (LISD).

Contact Information

League Line: 972.539.9622
Email Address: jevans@ymcadallas.org
League Website: www.crosstimbersymca.org

Seasons:

One seasons is played during the LISD school year for recreational and competitive leagues:

- Winter/Spring – November through March (League registration begins in October)

Recreational and Select basketball for boys and girls are played during each season.

Youth Volleyball



The Cross Timbers Sports has been operating youth volleyball leagues in Flower Mound since 2010 utilizing leased school gymnasiums through the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Joint Use of Property between the Town and the Lewisville Independent School District (LISD).

Contact Information

League Line: 972.539.9622

Email Address: jevans@ymcadallas.org
League Website: www.crosstimbersymca.org

Seasons:

Two seasons are played during the LISD school year for recreational leagues:

- Fall – October through December (League registration begins in September)
- Winter/Spring – January through March (League registration begins in December)

Recreation and Select volleyball for girls is offered during each season.

Youth Lacrosse



The Flower Mound Lacrosse Association (FMLA) is the Town’s newest youth sports provider. The FMLA began playing league games at Gerault Park in the winter/spring of 2011. The FMLA offers lacrosse programming for boys in first grade through 8th grade, and girls in 4th grade through 8th grade.

Contact Information

League Website: www.flowermoundlacrosse.org

Seasons:

Currently one season is played for the recreational league:

- Spring-February through May (League registration begins in November each year)

Town of Flower Mound Staff Contact

For more information regarding youth sports leagues, contact the Town’s Athletics Supervisor at 972.874.6271 or visit www.flower-mound.com.