

## **Muni Youth Sports – Frequently Asked Questions**

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Saint Paul Parks and Recreation is committed to providing quality athletic programming for youth of all ages and abilities. The foundation of our program is to encourage participation in physical activity, promote the development of athletic skills, and provide a safe and a fun experience. Below is a list of frequently asked questions about our youth sports leagues.

### **Practice and Games**

- 1. How many days per week will my child practice?**  
On average, teams will practice 1-2 times per week.
- 2. How many games will my child play?**  
On average, the team will play 1-2 times per week for 7-8 weeks per season.
- 3. Where and when will my child practice and play games?**  
Practices will take place at your Recreation Center or at a nearby field or court. Practices are typically held during the week in the evening. The majority of games will be played in Saint Paul on Saturday mornings between 9am and 5pm. Weeknight games will be scheduled between 6pm and 8:30 pm.
- 4. How will I receive information about practices and games?**  
Information about practices and games will come from your Recreation Center and coach. Game schedules are generally available 2 weeks before the first game online at either [www.teamsideline.com/sites/stpaul/home](http://www.teamsideline.com/sites/stpaul/home) or on the webpage for that sport at [stpaul.gov/youthsports](http://stpaul.gov/youthsports).
- 5. How will I know if a practice or game is cancelled?**  
Practice cancellation information will be provided by your Recreation Center or coach. For updates on game cancellations call our weather hotline at 651-558-2118.
- 6. Will I need to purchase equipment or uniforms in order for my child to participate?**  
Your Recreation Center will provide your child's uniform and some equipment depending on the sport. We do not provide personal items like footwear, shin guards, or gloves. Please check with your Recreation Center prior to registration.

### **Coaching**

- 1. Who is my child's coach?**  
Youth sports teams are coached by volunteers. Coaches are certified by SPPR. All coaches are required to pass a background check, complete concussion training, and adhere to the SPPR code of conduct. If you are interested in coaching your child's team, please contact your recreation center.

## **Expectations for Spectators**

1. Youth sports programs play an important role in promoting the physical, social and emotional development of children. It is essential for parents and coaches to encourage youth athletes to embrace the values of good sportsmanship. Moreover, adults involved in youth sports events should be models of good sportsmanship and should lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect and self-control.
  
2. **By registering your child in SPPR youth sports you agree to the following:**
  - Kids are #1
  - Fun and development are more important than winning
  - Inappropriate language is not tolerated
  - Let the coaches do the coaching
  - Let the officials do the officiating
  - Fans cheer positively (no public displays of anger)
  - Respect the officials and the opposing team's players, coaches, and fans
  - Accept winning or losing with dignity
  - Keep the facility & ground clean
  - No tobacco, alcohol, or e-cigarettes at recreation facilities
  - Be a positive role model
  
3. **If a spectator exhibits behavior that is inappropriate or unsportsmanlike, a staff person will hand the spectator a sportsmanship card that reads:**

"We appreciate your attendance at this youth athletic event. Our participants need your positive support and encouragement. Abusive or unsportsmanlike behavior towards players, coaches, officials and fans will not be tolerated. If your behavior continues, we will stop the game until you leave the premise."

If behavior continues, staff will stop the game until the person leaves the premises.

## **Registration Rules and Eligibility Requirements**

- Registrations are taken over the phone or in person at the [recreation centers](#), or [online](#).
- Participants must provide a copy of a birth certificate or proof-of-age document at the time of registration.
- All participants who are not residents of Saint Paul will be required to pay the [non-resident fee](#).
- All participants must comply with all other requirements such as age guidelines.
- Participants may register on the sports team which aligns with their gender identity. Participants who do not identify as male or female may register on the sports team of their choice.
- Fee is due at the time of registration.
- Late registrations may be charged a late fee.

- Registering for a sport at a center does not guarantee a child will play at that center. When a center does not have enough players to make a team, every effort is made to place players at the closest center with a team. Also, due to limited field space and/or gym space there are times when teams must travel to another site to practice.
- Call your local [recreation center](#) for more information.

### **Fee Assistance**

Fee assistance may be available. Visit the [fee assistance web page](#) for more information.

### **Buddy Request Policy**

Youth have an opportunity to play with a friend, if requested. Each participant may request one friend as a “buddy”. The buddy requested must also request you in order for the buddy request to be considered a match. All other requests (e.g. multiple buddies, buddy chains) will not be granted. Siblings are always buddied unless a specific request not to do so is made. Learn more about the [Buddy Request Policy](#).

### **Refund Policy**

All refunds are subject to a \$10 administration charge unless the program is canceled or filled. No refunds granted after the first season game has begun.

### **Registration Dates**

Register [online](#) or [contact](#) your local recreation center. Late registrations may be accepted if space allows.

Spring Sports	January 1-31
Summer Sports	March 1-31
Fall Sports	June 1-30
Winter Sports	September 1-30

### **Early Bird Registration Discounts**

The early bird gets the discount! Register [online](#) during one of the first five days registration is open and you automatically receive a discount. The earlier you register, the bigger the discount. So act fast - these discounts are only good for the first five days of each registration period.

Day 1 = 25% off  
Day 2 = 20% off  
Days 3 - 5 = 10% off

**Example:** Register for Basketball on September 1 and get 25% off the program fee. Register for Basketball on September 3 and get 10% off.

### **Policy for Playing on Multiple Teams**

- Players participating in the Saint Paul Parks and Recreation's youth sports programs may be eligible to play on more than one team in a particular sport if the following guidelines are met:
- Players may not play on more than one team within the same age group in SPPR leagues.
- Players may play on more than one SPPR league team if they are in a different age group, and if the person is eligible by age in both. He or she must also meet the following criteria:
  1. Players may play up one division if there are not enough players in the older division to field a team in that division and those players would not have the opportunity to play without the younger players moving up.
  2. Permission must be granted to a Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Staff and the Parent of the player.
- A player, in the opinion of the Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Staff, Coaches, and Parent/s, has the skills and physical ability to compete in the older division and will not displace a player that is in the appropriate division.
- If a player plays in more than one age group, they can only play in one age group during the playoff tournament.