



## Youth Athletic Policy Manual

[www.mtholly.us](http://www.mtholly.us)

704-951-3005, 704-951-3006

### Program Purpose

The purpose of the Mount Holly Parks & Recreation youth athletic program is to provide a safe and organized athletic program to our citizens.

### Program Objectives

The program objectives are:

- for the children to have fun
- for the children to develop teamwork, and sportsmanship skills
- for the children to learn sport specific skills

### Organization Responsibilities

- 1.01- The Mount Holly Parks & Recreation Department shall be responsible for the overall promotion, organization, and supervising of league activities.
- 1.02- MHPR will also review complaints, suggestions, and other concerns relating to the program.
- 1.03- MHPR also reserves the right to rule on all matters that are not listed in this manual, or in league rules or regulations.

## Coaches

2.01- Head coaches will be required to fill out an application, and sign a coach's code of conduct. A background check will be conducted on coaches. Coaches will be selected on need, past experience, and overall attitude. Coaching a youth team is a privilege and not a right of a citizen.

2.02- Coaches will select practice times that are convenient to them.

2.03- Coaches must uphold the coaches' code of conduct throughout the whole season, or may not be asked to coach again. Parks & Recreation shall have the authority to suspend any coach whose conduct is considered detrimental to the best interest of Mount Holly Parks & Recreation.

2.04- Head coaches automatically have their child/children on their team. They are also allowed to pick 1 assistant coach and have their child/ children on their team.

## Players & Player Selection

3.01- Players are grouped into different age groups in all programs, the majority of programs are co-ed. The only exceptions to co-ed are girls volleyball, 9-10 & 11-12 boys basketball, and 9-13 girls basketball.

3.02- Siblings that are eligible to be in the same age group will be placed on the same team as long as they notify the Mount Holly Parks & Recreation department before the end of registration.

3.03- Eligible children may play up into an older age group by one year. For instance a 6 year old basketball player can play up into the 7-8 league. The parent or guardian will need to let MHPR know in writing on the registration form that they want their child to move up. Once they move up they will not be able to move back down during the season. A child must be eligible for the program to do this, for instance a 3 year old may not move up into 4 year old soccer, because they are not eligible for the program.

3.04- Players can only play on one team per program. A 10 year old girl can not play in both the 9-10 soccer and 11-13 soccer at the same time. However they will be eligible to play in two different programs at the same time. The 10 year old girl can play in 9-10 soccer and 8-11 girls' volleyball.

3.05-A blind draft (players picked out of a hat blindly) will be done in the following groups/programs : 5-6 tee-ball, 7-8 machine pitch, girls volleyball, 4 year old soccer, 5-6 & 7-8 fall soccer, indoor soccer, and 5-6 & 7-8 basketball. The players will be separated into different ages and sexes to try and equalize the teams.

3.06- A skills assessment and live draft will be done for the following groups/ programs: 9-10 & 11-13 soccer, and 9-10 boys, 11-12 boys, and 9-13 girls' basketball.

3.07- In leagues where live drafts are held the coaches child/children and assistant coaches child/children will count as picks. For instance; if a head coach has 2 children and an assistant coach has one child that will be that teams first three picks. If a coach has one child then he will have to pick up to three to even out the amount. Once all teams have the same amount of players on their teams, then all teams will be able to select from the pool. The order of the draft shall be 1,2, 3,4 then the next round 4,3,2,1.

3.08- In leagues where live drafts are held; players that do not show up for the skills assessment, will be put into a blind draw after the live draft.

3.09- All leagues will have minimum playing requirements for all players.

3.10- Players will not be placed on teams based on parental requests.

### Teams

4.01- Team names are chosen by the coaches at the coaches meeting. Team names must not have any negative connotation to them, and final approval will be made by the Parks & Recreation department.

## Uniforms

5.01- Uniforms are included as part of the registration fee. Different sports require different kinds of uniforms.

## Games

6.01- Teams are scheduled for between 8-10 games during most seasons. Post- season tournaments are scheduled in the following groups: 9-10 & 11-13 spring soccer, 9-10 & 11-13 fall soccer, and 9-10 boys, 11-12 boys, 9-13 girls' basketball.

6.02- Most games will be played in Mount Holly, but there are certain leagues where we may partner with another town for games.

6.03- In case of inclement weather, the game/practice cancellation hotline number is  
704-951-3035.

6.04- In leagues where post-season tournaments are played; the following tiebreakers should be used in determining seeding in case of a tie:

a- head-head competition

b- if still tied after head-head competition , then point differential in head-head competition

c- if still tied; then the team with the lowest number of points, goals allowed in head-head would advance

d- if still tied then the team with the lowest number of points, goals allowed over the entire season would advance

e- if still tied then the team with the highest number of points, goals scored over the entire season would advance

f- if still tied, then a coin flip would determine the final seeding.

## Trophies

7.01 – Participation trophies are given to children in the sports, when it is stated on the registration form that they will receive one.

## Sponsors

8.01 The Mount Holly Parks & Recreation department has sponsors, which sponsor the whole league. The sponsor provides funds for MHPR to use at its discretion, while MHPR provides the sponsor's logo on the back of player's uniforms, and also a banner put up at the facility of use. Sponsors do not have a say in how the program is run.

## Sports offered

9.01- Mount Holly Parks & Recreation currently offers the following sports:

### **Spring Sports:**

Tee-ball, ages 5-6 as of January 1 of current year.

Machine Pitch baseball, ages 7-8 as of January 1 of current year.

Spring Soccer, ages 9-10 and 11-13 as of October 15 of current school year.

Girls Volleyball, ages 9-11, and 12-15 as of April 1 of current year.

### **Fall Sports:**

Fall Soccer, ages 4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, and 11-13 as of October 15 of upcoming school year

### **Winter Sports:**

Indoor Soccer, ages 8-10, and 11-13, as of October 15 of current school year

Youth Basketball, ages 5-6 co-ed, 7-8 co-ed, 9-10 boys, 11-12 boys, and 9-13 girls

### All-star & travel teams

10.01 – At this time, Mount Holly Parks & Recreation does not offer all-star or travel teams.

### Refunds

11.01- Participation fees will be 100% refunded if requested before team uniforms have been ordered. If uniforms have been ordered, and before the team's first game then the refund is the amount of the participation fee less the cost of the uniform.

### Fees

12.01-The fees associated with the programs are established with the City Council setting the fee schedule for the year. They are broken down into two rates, a city limit resident rate, and a non-resident.

Currently the fees are

Tee-ball & Machine Pitch Baseball- \$45 for city limit residents, and \$65 for non-residents

Spring & Fall Soccer- \$45 for city limit residents and \$65 for non-residents

Girls Volleyball- \$25 for city limit residents, and \$45 for non-residents

Indoor Soccer- \$25 for city limit residents, and \$45 for non-residents

Basketball- \$45 for city limit residents, and \$65 for non-residents

12.02- Late fees are taken when registration has ended but before uniforms have been ordered. The late fee for girls volleyball and indoor soccer is \$20, while the other sports the late fee is \$30.

*This manual was approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission on October 25, 2011.*

