



The City of Grove City Parks & Recreation Department

3226 Kingston Ave., Grove City, Ohio 43123
614-277-3050



Richard L. "Ike" Stage
Mayor

Fall Youth Baseball Frequently Asked Questions

Where will my child play?

All baseball games are played at the complex at Windsor Park, 4408 Broadway/4330 Dudley Ave. Parking is accessible from the north from Bonnie, Dudley or Moore avenues; west from Babbert Way via Broadway; and south on Ventura Boulevard. **Be respectful when parking; do not block driveways, park on private property or apartment complexes.**

How do I know if a game is canceled?

Cancellation information is recorded on the Weather Update/Information Line. **Call 614-277-3060 then press 4-1** for Windsor Park's status. The message is updated at 4 p.m. on weekdays when conditions are questionable, 7 a.m. on weekends. The decision is made based on the current field conditions. Weather can change rapidly and storms often arise after this time, so check again before your game time if there is a question. Additional sources of information include [Twitter.com/GroveCityOhio](https://twitter.com/GroveCityOhio) and [Facebook.com/GroveCityOhio](https://facebook.com/GroveCityOhio).

How are players assigned to teams? Do you honor participant requests?

It is the philosophy of the City of Grove City Parks and Recreation Department to treat all persons fairly and equally, including offering equal recreational baseball experiences for all leagues and teams. There is no fall coaches' draft: players not automatically assigned are placed on teams by the Grove City Parks and Recreation Department. There is a maximum of three situations when players may be automatically assigned to a team: (1) head coach's child, (2) two assistant coaches' children and (3) the respective sponsor's child. No other participant requests are honored. **Please fill out the registration form completely including interscholastic participation and school name as this information is used to balance teams and preserve eligibility for players also on school teams.**

What is the Code of Conduct?

All participants, coaches, parents and spectators at Grove City Parks and Recreation programs are subject to comply with codes of conduct fostering the physical, social and emotional development of players and respect for all players, coaches, officials and spectators. Violations include use of abusive/profane language; mistreatment of Parks and Recreation equipment or property; taunting, humiliating or inciting confrontation with players, coaches, umpires/officials or spectators; and drug or alcohol possession or intoxication.

Any person violating the code of conduct while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a sports event is subject to disciplinary action. The basic outline of discipline is: first offense: verbal warning; second offense: one-game suspension and third offense: season-long suspension. Other actions may be taken based on severity of the violation up to a permanent ban on association with Parks and Recreation programs.

Zero Tolerance Policy: Grove City Parks and Recreation has a zero tolerance policy for fighting, unauthorized entering of the field of play and other threatening behavior. Any player, coach, parent or other spectator who violates this policy is subject to immediate expulsion and a year suspension from Parks and Recreation sporting events.

Is it possible to exchange uniforms for a different size?

Uniforms are ordered immediately following registration. Due to the timely nature of uniform ordering, exchanges cannot be honored, (i.e. no team changes). **Please double check the size order to be correct (sample clothing is available at signups).** Uniforms consist of a uniform shirt with a sponsor name on the back and cap; pants are not provided in the fall. If the customer orders the wrong size, a new jersey can be ordered at the cost to the customer. If unsure, order a larger size.

Which league will my child play in?

Age based on 8/31/2016 if born 9/1/2005 or later; 4/30/2016 if born 8/31/2005 or earlier.

- Age 5: T-Ball
- Age 6: Minor 6
- Age 7-8: Minor 7-8
- Age 9-10: Minor 9-10
- Age 11-12: Major
- Age 13-14: Junior
- Age 15-17: Big League

How do I know what team I am on?

Coaches call all team members shortly after the coaches' meeting on Wednesday, July 13.

When will teams get their pictures taken?

Players receive photo packets from their coaches with details on Picture Day, Saturday, Aug. 29 on Windsor Field 1.

When does the season start and end?

Teams will have their first practices during the week of Aug. 8. Practices are scheduled Monday through Saturday on various nights. Practice schedules are given to coaches at the meeting and are not available during registration. First games of the season are played on Opening Day, Saturday, Aug. 20. The season ends in mid-October (dependent upon weather).

***Rain-out practices will not be made up.**

What days will my child play on?

Teams play two days per week with one weekday game and one Saturday game. Game days are subject to change depending on the number of teams in each league.

- T-ball: Monday/Wednesday/Friday/Saturday
- Minors 6: Tuesday/Thursday/Friday/Saturday
- Minors 7-8: Monday/Wednesday/Friday/Saturday
- Minors 9-10: Monday/Wednesday/Saturday
- Majors: Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday
- Juniors: Monday/Saturday
- Big: Monday/Saturday

What size bat should I buy for my child?

Please adhere to the following guidelines when purchasing a bat for your child to ensure the safety of our participants. Bats for T-ball through Major leagues must be labeled "Little League® Approved." and bats must not exceed a barrel size of 2¼ inches. Junior/Big League players must use a bat with no more than a 3-ounce drop (-3) or a bat approved for Minor or Major league use. The drop is the difference between the number of inches in bat length and the number of ounces of bat weight, i.e. a bat 33-inches long and weighing 30 ounces has a drop equal to (-3).

VOLUNTEER COACHES

Mandatory Coaches' Meeting

The mandatory coaches' meeting for all leagues is **Wednesday, July 13 at 6 p.m. in City Hall.** Only head coaches may attend the meeting due to facility space.

What am I required to do as a coach?

To participate as a coach in our program, complete a volunteer coach application available at GroveCityOhio.gov or in the Grove City Parks and Recreation office. Background checks are performed on all coaching applicants. Anyone on the field during a game or practice must complete this process. Once approved, head coaches must take online training for coaches through NYSCA before the coaches' meeting at:

www.nays.org/Coaches/Nysca_Online.cfm

Coaches in all sports are required by state law to also complete the National Federation of State High School Associations Concussion in Sports training (free).

What is NYSCA?

The National Youth Sports Coaches Association (NYSCA) helps volunteers understand the psychology of coaching children, giving coaches practical skills to help all participants have fun and maximize skills. It provides continuing education, support and valuable resources to develop coaching skills and enhance relationships with parents, officials and children involved in youth sports.

Do coaches have to be NYSCA certified?

Yes! All head coaches in the Grove City Youth Baseball Program are required to be certified through the NYSCA. NYSCA provides volunteer coaches a website,

www.nays.org/nyscaonlineclinics, where they can get certified from home. The initial certification fee is \$25. The Grove City Parks and Recreation Department will issue a credit in that amount to coaches as reimbursement. *Bring in a receipt or membership card to receive credit.*

How often do I have to renew my certification?

Grove City Parks and Recreation will cover the annual \$20 fee for each head coach who requires a new or renewed certification. Coaches who **have never been** certified must complete the clinic that outlines philosophies about youth sports. **Important:** Current head coaches who receive a renewal notice in the mail from the NYSCA must bring it into the Parks and Recreation Department for processing. Assistant coaches also are required to participate in the NYSCA program, but are not required to become official members unless they want to pay their own membership fees.

What are the benefits of NYSCA membership

Volunteer youth sport coaches who undertake NYSCA training are eligible for NYSCA Honor Roll, a privilege extended to coaches meeting the Coaches Code of Ethics. **Initial Membership benefits** include: \$1,000,000 excess liability insurance, Youth Sports Journal magazine and Introduction to Youth Sports, membership card and discounts for selected hotels, car rentals, theme parks and products. **Continuing Membership benefits** include increased insurance protection: \$2,000,000 excess liability insurance; and \$250,000 excess accident/medical insurance (\$50 deductible) for injuries sustained while coaching.

Information: 614-277-3050 • Parks.GroveCityOhio.gov

For daily weather updates: Sports Hotline: 614-277-3060 • GroveCityOhio.gov

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