

We always strive ...

- To provide meaningful experiences for all participants through quality instruction, with an emphasis on good sportsmanship and equal play, along with teamwork, respect dedication and discipline.
- To provide an atmosphere where each child feels a sense of belonging and achievement regardless of ability.
- To recognize effort and improvement along with achievement in order to help improve self-esteem and foster a positive self-image.
- To provide guidelines to make each sport age-appropriate and to ensure proper fundamentals are developed and enthusiasm for the sport is fostered.
- To design each sport program to attract and retain every interested player and raise the level of play of each of these players as high as possible.
- To provide support and training for parents and other interested adults who take on the responsibility of providing—through sports—these positive lifestyle choices for their children.

Program philosophy

We offer youth sports programs to provide base youth, ages 5 to18, with opportunities to experience a wide variety of both team and individual sports in an age-appropriate and safe environment, to help participants develop desirable physical skills and to mature emotionally and socially.

• • • CONCEPTS & GOALS • • •

- a. Fun and enjoyment: To provide youth of all skill levels, ages 5-18, with opportunities for participation, fun and enjoyment
- b. Leisure skills: To provide opportunities for youth to develop lifetime leisure skills
- c. Physical Development: To assist youth with physical development by
1. Teaching fundamental and safe sport skills that are age-appropriate
 2. Providing opportunities to improve their physical conditioning
 3. Teaching sound health habits
 4. Providing safe playing areas, proper supplies and equipment
- d. Psychological development: To help youth develop psychologically
1. Fostering the development of self-worth and personal identity
 2. Providing opportunities to express and control emotions
 3. Creating a learning environment.
- e. Social development: Help youths develop socially by providing opportunities:
1. To have fun with others
 2. To learn independence and the importance of teamwork
 3. To learn cooperation and sportsmanship
 4. To develop leadership skills and initiative
 5. To learn how to compete—how to put winning or losing in perspective
- f. Concept of winning:
1. If winning is placed in a healthy perspective, participants can learn from both winning and losing.
 2. Winning is not the primary goal. Do not define success as winning.
 3. Losing a game or event is not a reflection on self-worth
 4. Success is related to effort and is found in striving for the best they can do.

POLICIES

Registration

Each child participating in youth sports at Seymour Johnson AFB must be registered, in person, by a parent or legal guardian. Registration forms may be completed at any time during a registration period. A birth certificate is required at registration time and a current physical is required before the first practice of the sport. Payment must be made at registration time .

Refunds

A full refund will only be given for PCS or medical reasons. There will be a \$5 surcharge during registration, \$10 surcharge after the first practice, and a \$15 surcharge once uniforms are purchased.

NO REFUNDS will be given after the first game. This may only be approved by the Youth Sports Coordinator or Youth Programs Director. Supporting documentation is required depending on the circumstances surrounding request.

Awards, end of season parties

Awards and end of season parties, hosted by the sports department, will be held the last week of the regular season. The Youth Sports Director will provide a Certificate of Participation for each child. There will be a Parents-Coaches Game where the coaches will get a chance to show the skills they have been teaching all season long.

Annual Sportsmanship Award

Nominations for the Annual Sportsmanship Award will be accepted for a period of 30 days after the end of each league sport. The selection of this annual award will be determined by the Youth Sports Advisory Council and additional selected members. Nominations will only be accepted on the forms supplied by the Youth Sports Director. Letters of appreciation and support may accompany the nominations. The winner will be announced on Aug. 15 of each year, 30 days after the end of the Youth Baseball Season.

Certifications

All youth sports coaches must be certified under the National Youth Sports Coaches Association (NYSCA), must be current in CPR & First Aid and are required to attend four hours of valuable training. A \$20 annual fee is paid for each active coach by Youth Programs. Installation records checks will be conducted on all coaches and volunteers.

How to get involved
Youth Sports cannot exist without the support and involvement of parents and community

members. If you would like to act as a coach, team parent, official, or other supporting member, please contact the Youth Sports Coordinator. We would love to include you in our program!

FYI
The Seymour Johnson AFB Youth Sports Policies and Procedures Handbook and all applicable Air Force publications are available to all coaches and parents in our program.