



**YOUTH SPORTS
PARENT PACKET
YMCA OF CATAWBA VALLEY**

KEY CONTACTS

Hickory Foundation YMCA
Luke Sigmon, Sports & Camp Director
828-324-2858 | lukes@ymcacv.org

Adrian L. Shuford YMCA
Abbey Tarr, Sports & Camp Director
828-464-6130 | abbeyt@ymcacv.org

YMCA of Catawba Valley Sports Weather Hotline: 828-838-1507

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

Our goal is to give each child the opportunity to develop to their fullest potential mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Self-confidence and leadership are developed while nurturing the Y's core values of respect, responsibility, caring and honesty.

SPONSORSHIPS

Youth Sports is a great way for a company to get involved in a local community program. Sponsorships help keep program costs to the community as low as possible. They ensure that as many youth as possible have the opportunity to participate in our sports programs. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in sponsoring our program, please contact us as soon as possible.

Available Sponsorships

- \$250: Business name on back of uniform
- \$500: Business name on back of uniform and banner on the field

PARENT EXPECTATIONS

Communication

- Program Directors use email for general communication throughout the season. We encourage you to check your email and spam folder frequently. Coaches will also be relaying information to you - please check with your coach on their preferred method of communication.
- If you are not hearing from your coach or cannot get in touch with your coach, please let the Program Director know.

Practice and Game Day Expectations

- Parents are encouraged to stay at practices. However, if you must leave you must return in a timely manner to pick up your child.
- On game day, one sideline is for the spectators and the other is for the teams. No one is allowed on the baselines of the fields/courts other than YMCA officials and staff
- YMCA sports staff and officials have the authority to ask parents, coaches or spectators who do not display conduct in keeping with the Y philosophy to leave the practice or game area.
- If you have a problem with a coach, another spectator, or an official, please do not communicate with them directly - contact the Program Director or other sports staff. Please keep in mind that officials are human and will make wrong calls at times. We ask that you do not engage with them but talk with a sports staff instead.

GENERAL SEASON INFORMATION

Weather Policy

The Sports Hotline will be updated in the event of inclement weather. A message will be left by 4:30pm on weekdays and 8:30am on weekends. If there is NO new message, practices/games are on as scheduled. Practices and games will be rescheduled if time permits. The Sports Hotline number is 828-838-1507.

Picture Day

The Y typically hires an outside photography business for our picture day. A schedule will be released at least a week prior to Picture Day. It is very important that all players arrive at the scheduled picture time. Pictures for kids and coaches is encouraged but not mandatory.

Trophies / Medals

The Y will provide medals for each participant. In the tournament divisions (ages 7+), the winning team will receive trophies instead of medals. We will give them to the coach who will, in turn, distribute them to the players however he/she chooses.

Snacks

Snacks are not required, nor are they forbidden. However, we do ask that if you choose to do snacks that each child's allergies are accounted for. We suggest parents taking turns providing snacks.

Trash

This is a great time to teach our children the importance of caring for our environment. If a team consistently leaves trash on the field/court, their snack privileges will be revoked. Please inform a Y staff member if a trash can is full.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Do you honor special requests?

The YMCA Sports Department strives to meet the needs of each participant, however, we greatly prioritize the fairness of skill level across each team. If you have a special request it must be written on the registration form or emailed to the Program Director to be considered. The only request that is guaranteed is siblings playing in the same division to be on the same team. Any other special requests that come in will be considered after looking at the skill level of the team. Any requests after team placements are sent out will not be honored. *All requests will be considered but are not guaranteed!*

2. What equipment does my child need to participate?

The Y will provide each participant a uniform to be worn on game days. General athletic attire is to be worn at practices. Please see below for the items needed for each sport. The Y will provide the rest of the equipment:

Outdoor Soccer: Cleats and shin guards

Volleyball: Knee pads (personal ball if desired)

T-ball: Cleats and glove (personal helmet and bat if desired)

Flag Football: Cleats and mouth guard

Basketball: Tennis shoes (personal ball and mouth guard if desired)

Indoor Soccer: Tennis shoes and shin guards

3. Where will the practices/games be held?

Practices will be held at the YMCA branch you register for. Practices are held once a week starting at 5:30pm. Games will be at the Hickory Foundation YMCA and/or the Shuford YMCA.

4. What and when is skills day?

Skills day is for ages 7+ where we evaluate the skill level of each player to better inform us in making equal teams. It is imperative that as many children as possible attend so that we can maximize the enjoyment for all involved. You can expect to hear from the program director if skills day is necessary for your child's division.

5. When will I hear about team placements?

You can expect to hear from your child's coach a week after the registration deadline. If you do not receive any communication by then, please contact the Program Director.

6. When will I hear about the game schedule and what day of the week are games?

The game schedule will be released during the second week of practices. Games are mostly on Saturdays but there will be occasional weeknight games.

7. Will there be any game schedule changes throughout the season?

Once the game schedule is released, the only factor that will change a game is inclement weather. The rescheduled game might be placed on a weeknight.

8. Will there be a post season tournament?

There is a single-elimination, postseason tournament for ages 7+ only. The tournaments are scheduled after the end of the regular season games and the schedule will be released 1-2 days prior to the tournament beginning. Please expect weeknight games the week of the tournament.

9. Can my child still register after the deadline has past?

Contact the program director to see if there is availability. There is a late registration fee of \$10.