



Athletics Policies & Procedures

New Territory Parks & Recreation

Athletics Policies & Procedures

Registration

General

The Athletics Staff creates and handles all registrations for Adult and Youth Athletic Leagues. Once programs are open for registration, entries can be accepted by The Club via phone, in-person, or online at the New Territory Rec Desk website (<https://newterritory.recdesk.com/Community/Program>).

Registration can be paid via cash, credit card, or check (*the price differs per League, per registration period, and for Residents versus Non-residents*).

If persons want to register but do not have an account in the Rec Desk system, they will need to create an account on this website (<https://newterritory.recdesk.com/Community/member/signup>). Please create an account for yourself and for any additional persons you are wanting to register under your household (*this is more so for Youth Leagues since parents will be registering kids*).

If registration for a program has closed, is full, or you are wanting to change your registration, please contact the Athletic Coordinator at (281) 565-1070 or athleticcoordinator@newterritory.org. If a program is listed as closed or full, it does not mean that you will not be able to register, but that you will most likely be added to the *Wait List*. Persons who register late or after a season has begun will have limited options in choosing their preferred practice time, game time, and/or team.

Adult Leagues

Leagues currently offered include Adult Basketball (*18+ and 40+*) and Adult Softball (*Coed and Men's*). These Leagues are offered during the Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall. All participants in Adult Leagues must be at least 18-years old.

Registration for Adult Athletic Leagues is as a team (*i.e. the Team Captain will register for the entire team*). Once a team registers, the Team Captain cannot be changed to try and receive the lower registration price (*exceptions may include if the Team Captain is injured and cannot play, relocates, or is suspended from the League. Such a change would have to be approved by the Athletic Coordinator*).

Effective January 1st, 2023, a 50% deposit (*of the total League fee*) is required at the time of registration to hold your team's spot for the respective season you want to register for. Full registration payment is due before the second week of games for the respective season you wish to participate in (*if a team does not submit full payment by this deadline, they risk being removed from the League. Certain exceptions could apply*). There are no fees for the venue, parking, or officials.

If a team is removed from a League due to non-payment or suspension, their registration fees will ***not*** be refunded, and the persons on that team cannot participate in any future Adult Leagues at New Territory until their outstanding fees are paid and/or their suspension is over.

Participants are allowed to play in two separate Athletic Leagues during the same season (*i.e. Player A plays in the 18+ Basketball League and the Men's Softball League*), but this will require two separate registrations and payments.

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Youth Leagues

Leagues currently offered include Basketball, Soccer, and Volleyball. The Basketball and Volleyball Leagues are offered during the Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall. The Soccer League is offered during the Spring, Summer, and Fall. Each League is coed. All participants in Youth Leagues must be between ages 4-13.

As for age restrictions, the format follows the begin and end dates of each respective season (*i.e. Player A is 9 years old and playing in the 8-9 Winter Basketball League, which runs from 1/14/23 – 3/4/23. Their birthday is in April, which they will turn 10, and since it is after the conclusion of the season this is fine. If Player A's birthday is in February, and they would turn 10 during the season, they would have to play up in the 10-11 League*).

Registration for Youth Athletic Leagues is individually and must be done by parents or guardians of that child (*parents or guardians cannot register a child that is not theirs or a friend's child*). Fees are required at the time of registration. Early registration does not guarantee that you will receive your preferred practice or game time.

Each Youth League participant must be registered in the Rec Desk system in order to practice, play in games, and be on a team. If certain leagues have low registration numbers, different ages and genders may be combined.

Participants are allowed to play in two separate Athletic Leagues during the same season (*i.e. Player A plays in the 6-7 Fall Youth Basketball League and the 6-7 Fall Youth Soccer League*), but this will require two separate registrations and payments. Participants are allowed to play up in one age group (*i.e. Player A is 7-years old but wants to play up in the 8-9-year old division*), but this must be approved by the guardian or parent of the participant and the Athletic Coordinator. Participants cannot play down in age group (*i.e. Player A is 9-years old but wants to play down in the 6-7-year old division*).

Up to one friend request may be accommodated (*multiple will not be considered*) and must be mutual between the other party (*the other party must also be registered in the League*).

Coaching requests will not be considered. Coaches cannot simply hand-pick their team, as this could lead to unbalanced teams and learning for participants that are not selected.

Refunds

Refunds may be given in the event of relocation, for medical reasons, if a program is cancelled by The Club Staff, or prior to the season before games have begun. No refund will be given for 1) the inability to attend a scheduled practice or game due to scheduling conflicts and/or 2) if a player or a team is ejected from a game or a league due to unsportsmanlike conduct. The Parks and Recreation Director will have the authority to make final decisions on refund requests.

**An account credit of \$35 may be given to the Volunteer Head Coach (after the completion of the season), for being an Adult League champion (\$75), and/or if weather prevents games from being played or rescheduled.*

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Coaches

Each coach for a Youth League team is a volunteer. Coaches are mainly parents of participating children and sometimes high school students. No experience is required to be a coach. Each coach will receive the rule book prior to the season for their respective sport. To be eligible to coach, you must be at least 17-years old.

The Head Coach for each team will receive a \$35 credit on their account at the end of their respective season. To volunteer as a coach, two forms must be completed, signed, and submitted to the Athletic Coordinator. This also includes the *Coaches Code of Conduct*. If a coach breaks the *Code of Conduct*, they risk being removed as coach of the team, the \$35 credit revoked, and/or suspension.

Regarding requests from coaches about practice days and times, please send those to the Athletic Coordinator. Coaches will typically have the option to choose their practice day and time, unless it interferes with previously scheduled events. It is recommended that coaches and parents communicate with each other via the “*MOJO Sports App*” ([Get the App! | MOJO Sports](#)), for their respective team. Each coach and parent should download the free app to make communication more effective. Each coach will have a specific code to send out to the parents of their respective team. This app also provides drills and informational tools to help coaches prepare for practice drills and game plans.

Adult Athletic League teams do not have a coach or receive a coaching credit, but instead have a Team Captain that is designated by the team.

Equipment

General

Appropriate closed-toed athletic shoes must be worn at all times during practices and games. Participants are not allowed to compete in socks, sandals, crocs, boots, barefoot, etc. Each participant must also wear appropriate athletic clothing during practices and games (*jeans, khakis, hats, or anything alike are not allowed. Sweats and long sleeves are permitted*).

Adult Leagues

For Softball games, teams are required to provide their own balls, bats, lineup cards, and jerseys. These items will not be provided by New Territory Parks & Rec. Cleats are recommended during games (*no metal spikes*), but closed-toed athletic shoes are also allowed.

For Basketball games, teams are required to provide their own jerseys. It is recommended to bring your own balls to games to shoot around. New Territory Parks & Rec will provide a “game ball.” It is also recommended to wear a mouth guard, but not required. Closed-toed athletic shoes must be worn (*basketball shoes recommended*).

Youth Leagues

For Basketball and Volleyball practices and games, it is recommended that participants bring their own balls. New Territory Parks & Rec will provide a “game ball” for each of these League games. Closed-toed athletic shoes are required. A mouth guard is recommended for Basketball, but not required. Elbow and knee pads are recommended for Volleyball, but not required.

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For Soccer, shin guards are required for all ages and must be covered by socks. Participants are required to bring their own balls to practices and games (*the game ball will be selected from the coaches and be a participant's ball*). Closed-toed athletic shoes are required. Cleats are recommended but not required (*no metal spikes*). Ball size 3 is used by ages 4-7; ball size 4 is used by ages 8-11; ball size 5 is used by ages 12-13.

Rosters

Adult Leagues

For the 18+ and 40+ Basketball Leagues, each team's roster may consist of a maximum of 12 player's. In order to play and be secured on the team roster, each participant must sign the waiver (*before the first game*) and the team roster (*before the 4th game*) to be eligible to play for that season.

Participant's do not technically have to play prior to the 4th game of the season to be on the roster; they just need to sign the roster. Participant's can be on more than one roster, but it is up to them and that Team Captain to agree to that. If a team is wanting to add more player's to the roster than allowed, the Team Captain will have to make the decision on who stays on the roster in order to meet the number requirement. During this scenario, it is not guaranteed that the schedule will align so that a player can play on multiple teams.

For the Coed and Men's Softball Leagues, each team's roster may consist of a maximum of 18 player's. In order to play and be secured on the team roster, each participant must sign the waiver (*before the first game*) and the team roster (*before the 4th game*) to be eligible to play for that season.

Participant's do not technically have to play prior to the 4th game of the season to be on the roster; they just need to sign the roster. Participant's can be on more than one roster, but it is up to them and that Team Captain to agree to that. If a team is wanting to add more player's to the roster than allowed, the Team Captain will have to make the decision on who stays on the roster in order to meet the number requirement. During this scenario, it is not guaranteed that the schedule will align so that a player can play on multiple teams.

Youth Leagues

No team will consist of more than 10 player's (*an exception could be if a team in a certain League folds, and the participants on that team are moved to another team in that same League*). Coaches cannot move player's to different teams. Any changes or requests to move to a different team must come from the parent and must be approved by the Athletic Coordinator.

Leagues and Schedules

Adult Leagues

These Leagues do not have practices, only games. If a team wants to request a practice time, they must complete a facility reservation and pay a fee (*fees differ per venue, if lights are needed, etc.*). The Coed

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and Men's Softball Leagues will be played at the Softball Field at the Sports Complex (5350 New Territory Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479) and consist of up to 10-regular season games (*weekly doubleheaders*), followed by a single elimination playoff tournament. Each team automatically qualifies for the first round of the playoff tournament, barring the inability to make a scheduled game, not making the League payment, or by not adhering to the *Code of Conduct*.

The 18+ and 40+ Basketball Leagues will be played at The Club (1200 Walker School Rd, Sugar Land, TX 77479) and consist of up to 8-regular season games, followed by a single elimination playoff tournament. Each team automatically qualifies for the first round of the playoff tournament, barring the inability to make a scheduled game, not making the League payment, or by not adhering to the *Code of Conduct*.

Adult League teams are developed as entries are received. The game days and times can vary based on the amount of teams. Certain League games could be during the week and the weekend. If an odd number of teams sign up, this could create a bye each week for a different team. The game schedules will be posted online at (<https://newterritory.recdesk.com/Community/League>) and sent to the Team Captains prior to the start of each season via email. Any changes will be communicated directly to the Team Captains via email.

Youth Leagues

These Leagues are developed with the intent to create teams of equal age, playing ability, and numbers. They consist of one weekday practice and one weekend game per week and per team (*certain circumstances could involve teams practicing or playing multiple times during a week due to re-scheduling, weather, maintenance, etc.*).

Practices are offered Monday through Friday during the season with all games played on Saturday's (*exceptions could be if a game is rescheduled*). A team must stick to their respective practice time, game time, and location (*any reschedules or requests for changes must be approved by the Athletic Coordinator*).

Each season will consist of up to 8-games. Basketball and Volleyball practices and games are at The Club (1200 Walker School Rd, Sugar Land, TX 77479). Soccer practices and games are at the Sports Complex (5350 New Territory Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479) barring any scheduling conflicts or maintenance projects. If Soccer practices and games are relocated, they will be at The Club Soccer Field (1200 Walker School Rd, Sugar Land, TX 77479).

The practice schedules and team rosters will be emailed to the team coaches and parents. The game schedules will be posted online at (<https://newterritory.recdesk.com/Community/League>) and sent to the team coaches and parents prior to each season via email. Any changes will be communicated directly to the team coaches and parents via email. It is recommended that coaches and parents communicate with each other via the "MOJO Sports App" ([Get the App! | MOJO Sports](#)), for their respective team. Each coach and parent should download the free app to make communication more effective. Each coach will have a specific code to send out to the parents of their respective team.

Participants are allowed to play in two separate Athletic Leagues during the same season (*i.e. Player A plays in the 6-7 Fall Youth Basketball League and the 6-7 Fall Youth Soccer League*); however, based on

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practice and game times for each team in each league, this does not guarantee that the times will be different for those teams, which could result in missing certain team practices and games.

League Rules

Prior to the season, the rulebook for the respective leagues will be emailed to the Head Coach or Team Captain of each team and all parents. The rules will not change during the season, but certain accommodations may be made or can be recommended regarding player and spectator safety.

Each Youth League participant must wear a New Territory jersey (*grey or maroon*) for each game (*not required for practice*). If a participant does not have a set of jerseys (*both grey and maroon are required*), a set can be purchased and picked up at The Club before the first scheduled game (*Cotton jerseys are \$20 and Dri-fit jerseys are \$35*).

Adult League teams do not have to wear New Territory jerseys (*i.e. unless a Basketball team does not meet the jersey requirements, then they will have the option to change them or rent jerseys for \$10/team from The Club*).

Each participant in an Adult and Youth League is required to complete a waiver upon registration or prior to the first practice or game. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

Jewelry (*earrings, nose rings, rings, necklaces, watches, bracelets, etc.*) is not allowed and must be removed for each practice and game (*i.e. exceptions include religious items, medical items, and glasses or goggles*). It is recommended that coaches give reminders of this rule during their team's practice. During games, the New Territory Staff and Officials will remind player's of this rule.

If the jewelry is unable to be removed, participants are required to provide material to cover/secure the item with athletic tape, a band aid, or another method. This will be enforced as a safety rule. (*In some cases, this could also result in a Technical Foul against the team making the infraction*).

Weather Policy

If an athletic league practice or game is cancelled due to weather, teams will have the option of making it up via a reschedule. For that to happen, both teams would have to agree to the new date, time, and location and would require approval from the Athletic Coordinator.

If an athletic practice or game is delayed due to weather, the following will apply:

- 1) If the game has reached a certain point, it will either be delayed or called as final. The Athletic Staff will attempt to reschedule games and complete them, but depending on availability of a court or field and time of the season, the game may be called at the following points:
 - a. Soccer – Half time
 - b. Softball – Completion of 3rd inning
 - c. Basketball – Halftime
 - d. Volleyball – Completion of 2nd set

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- 2) If a game is rescheduled, it will be resumed and completed from the point where it originally left off.
- 3) Players that were not present at the original game are eligible to participate in the resumed or makeup game (*i.e. certain roster rules apply for Adult Athletic Leagues*).
- 4) It is not guaranteed that a game will resume with the same officials as in the original game.

If games are unable to be rescheduled due to continued weather issues or scheduling conflicts, a credit may be applied to your account.

Alcohol

The consumption or possession of alcohol in any form (*sealed or open*) is not allowed at any event, practice, or game.

Any persons ignoring this rule or found to be consuming or under the influence of alcohol could be removed from the property and risk further disciplinary action.

Music

Any music played by spectators during Youth or Adult League games must be done via headphones, through their respective devices. No out loud music is allowed by player's or spectators.

For Adult League games, teams can play music in their respective team's bench or dugout. The volume must be at a reasonable level so that communication can be heard between official's, player's, and staff.

All music must be clean/non-explicit.

Conduct/Sportsmanship

The Athletics Staff reserves the right to change any team name or logo that is deemed inappropriate or offensive. Teams that choose to wear uniforms and logos must keep designs in good taste; uniforms displaying inappropriate material will not be allowed. The Athletics Staff will determine inappropriate material.

Any player or spectator that is ejected from a contest or event will be removed from the venue immediately. Ejection from a contest could result in a minimum one game suspension, which could be extended pending the outcome of the review process by the Athletics Staff. Any player or spectator ejected from multiple contests or events could be suspended for the remainder of that season, pending the review process by the Athletics Staff. If a person is involved in a physical altercation with another player, spectator, official, or staff member, they are subject to being suspended from any program or facility within The Club for at least one year or permanently.

If a person initiates or retaliates in a physical way (*striking or attempting to strike, pushing, spitting, or shoving another person, official, or staff member*), that person is subject to a minimum one-year ban from The Club programs and facilities and could also face a lifetime ban from all athletics programs and events.

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If a person verbally threatens, taunts, or provokes another person, that person will be subject to a minimum one-year ban from The Club programs and facilities and could also face a lifetime ban from all athletics programs and events.

The team captain will be responsible for the actions of their team and will be used as a mediator for their team during their respective season.

Contact Information

The Club

- Phone: (281) 565-1070
- Email:
 - Athletic Coordinator – athleticcoordinator@newterritory.org
- Website: <https://newterritory.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pageId=30392>
- Address: 1200 Walker School Road, Sugar Land, TX 77479

The Sports Complex

- Phone: (281) 565-1070
- Email:
 - Athletic Coordinator – athleticcoordinator@newterritory.org
- Website: <https://newterritory.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pageId=30392>
- Address: 5350 New Territory Blvd. Sugar Land TX 77479

Facility Rentals

- Phone: (281) 565-1070
- Email:
 - Athletic Coordinator – athleticcoordinator@newterritory.org
 - Recreation Manager – recreationmanager@newterritory.org
- Website: <https://newterritory.recdesk.com/Community/Facility>