

DeSoto Parks and Recreation

PARENTS MANUAL



City of DeSoto
Parks and Recreation Department
211 E. Pleasant Run Road
DeSoto, Texas 75115
Phone: 972-230-9655
www.quickscores.com/desoto

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the DeSoto Parks and Recreation Department Youth Basketball League. We sincerely hope that you will find your participation in our league to be rewarding and, most of all, a positive experience for all of the kids.

Youth sports programs present a unique opportunity for adults to help shape life-long skills and attitudes about sports. We all remember coaches that stand out as good teachers, supportive friends, and positive role models. On the other hand, most of us can think of a few that fell short in these areas.

This manual was created to help ensure that our young people remember our program as a positive experience in their life. We want them to have fun as we continue to reinforce such values as teamwork, sportsmanship, fitness, cooperation, and respect. While we recognize that competition is a key component of sports, our programs are designed to be about much more than winning a game, making an all-star team, or having an undefeated season.

We thank you for giving your time and energy to help make the DeSoto Parks and Recreation Youth Basketball League a success. The success of the program depends on the commitment of parents, coaches, officials and others to cooperate in creating a positive experience for each player. This manual creates the framework for that commitment.

Please note that we want to hear back from you about things we can do to improve the program. Your input is very valuable to the continued success of this program. We want to make sure that you have as much information as possible to assist you in making this a fun and meaningful experience for the participants and for you.

MISSION

To enrich the quality of life in DeSoto, provide World Class customer service, premier parks and dynamic recreational experiences.

PHILOSOPHY

This is local recreational basketball league for ages 4 through 14. Our goal is to teach basketball fundamentals, rules and skills. We emphasize on sportsmanship, team play and clean/fair competition. Age is determined on September 1 of the current school year.

PARENT SECTION

Reminder

Children who participate in youth sports can experience life-long positive benefits. The DeSoto Parks and Recreation Department offers youth sports to help promote these positive gains for its youth. Your role as the parent is critical to the success of the program.

Please remember that these programs are offered for kids, and not the adults.

Playing Time

Each player will play a minimum amount of each game as specified in the league rules. Substitutions may be called for the sole purpose of meeting the minimum play rule. There are exceptions to this rule. At the discretion of the coach and approval by the Athletics Manager, your child may not be allowed to participate if he/she has not been attending practices, is ill and/or contagious, has displayed a poor attitude, etc.

Parents/Spectators Policy

Spectators are a vital part of the youth sports program. We highly encourage parent and spectator support, however, NEGATIVE comments will not be tolerated. Spectators may be asked to leave the play area for verbal abuse towards the players, coaches, or officials. Continued abuse will result in possible suspension from attending any other games. All parents are required to sign a Parent's Pledge.

VOLUNTEER COACHES

All coaches are VOLUNTEERS who take time to instruct your child. Without their efforts, sports programs would not be possible. Staff will do our best to find knowledgeable, caring, responsible adults with the time and commitment level to provide the best experience for the team.

Background checks

All volunteers must fill out a complete a criminal background checks. Links are available online at www.quickscores.com/desoto. If you know of a possible volunteer or would like to volunteer yourself please contact the DeSoto Parks and Recreation Department at 972-230-4288.

What if there is no coach

The DeSoto Parks and Recreation Department makes every effort to find coaches for teams. In the event that a coach cannot be found for a team by the first scheduled practice, a staff member will run the first practice with the parents. If a coach is not found at this time or parents are not willing to work together to coach the team, the team will be disbanded and participants will be placed on other teams or refunded fee.

Concerns with coaches

If during the season you begin to have concerns regarding your coach, please do not hesitate to call the Athletics Manager at 972-230-4288 to let us know. We do appreciate your feedback on coaches and will use your feedback to help coaches create the best experience possible for all participants.

LEAGUE EVALUATIONS

League evaluations will be conducted the last two weeks of that sports season. A link will be sent to parents and coaches via email. It is extremely important that we receive feedback from the league in order to make improvements for the upcoming seasons.

Survey questions will deal with quality issues such as: general league organization, facilities, coaching, staffing, officials, customer service, registration, communication, etc.

Parents' Pledge

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports by following this Parents' Code of Sports Ethics Pledge:

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
- I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.

- I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
- I will remember that the game is for youth not for adults.
- I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.
- I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
- I promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by doing whatever I can, such as being a respectable fan, assisting with coaching, or providing transportation.
- I will read the NAYS National Standards for Youth Sports and do what I can to help all youth sports organizations implement and enforce them.

PLAYER SECTION

Reminder

By participating in youth sports you have the opportunity to not only learn fundamental sports skills, but also life lessons. Appropriate behaviors and choices are important to the success of your growth. Please remember that these programs are offered to develop your skills, practice good sportsmanship, and to have fun.

Players' Pledge

I hereby pledge to be positive about my youth sports experience and accept responsibility for my participation by following this Players' Code of Ethics:

- I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials and parents at every game and practice by demonstrating good sportsmanship.
- I will attend every practice and game that I can, and will notify my coaches if I cannot.
- Except when a different rule applies, as in the case of a travel team, I will expect to receive a fair and equal amount of playing time.
- I will do my very best to listen and learn from my coaches.
- I will treat my coaches, other players, officials and fans with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities and I will expect to be treated accordingly.
- I deserve to have fun during my sports experience and will alert parents or coaches if it stops being fun.
- I deserve to play in an environment that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and expect adults to refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
- I will encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity because it's important to me.
- I will do my very best in school.
- I will remember that sports are an opportunity to learn and have fun.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Where can I register for the basketball league?

A. Registrations are accepted at the DeSoto Recreation Center during hours of operation.

Recreation Center Hours of Operation

Monday - Thursday	5:00 am – 10:00 pm
Friday	5:00 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday	6:45 am – 6:00 pm
Sunday	1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Q. How much is registration?

A. Registration Fees:

Early Bird Registration (October 23 – November 19)

\$75 per player	DeSoto/Glenn Heights Residents
\$95 per player	Non-Residents

Regular Registration (November 20 – December 30)

\$85 per player	DeSoto/Glenn Heights Residents
\$105 per player	Non-Residents

Q. When do practices start?

A. Practices will start November 27

Q. When will I be contacted regarding my child(s) practice?

A. Your child will be assigned to a team and contacted by a coach once the practice time and day has been selected.

Q. What if I have registered and a coach has not contacted me?

A. If you have not heard from your coach please contact Steve Moore at 972-230-4288

Q. What days are practices?

A. Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday

Q. What times are practices?

A. 6:15pm-7:15pm, 7:15pm-8:15pm, 8:15pm-9:15pm

Q. Where do practices take place?

A. DeSoto Recreation Center, Cockrell Hill Elementary, Moates Elementary, Northside Elementary, Ruby Young Elementary, the Meadows, and Woodridge.

Q. When is the first game?

A. Saturday, January 13, 2018

Q. What days are games?

A. Saturdays

Q. What times are games played?

A. Games are played from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Time will depend on age division.

Q. Where will games be played?

A. Games will be played at DeSoto Recreation Center, DeSoto West, and DeSoto East. However, some games may be played in Cedar Hill or Duncanville if City decides to interlock in order to have enough teams in a division.

IMPORTANT DATESEarly Bird Registration

- October 23 – November 19

Regular Registration

- November 20 – December 30

Orientation

- November 9, 2017
- December - TBD

Practices Begin

- November 27, 2017

Season Begins

- January 13, 2018

Regular Season Ends

- February 17, 2018

End of Season Tournaments

- February 24, 2018

School Breaks

- November 20, 2017 – November 24, 2017
- December 25, 2017 – December 29, 2017
- January 1, 2018 – January 5, 2018
- January 15, 2018
- February 15, 2018
- February 19, 2018

FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility	Address
Northside Elementary	525 Ray Avenue, DeSoto, Texas 75115
Ruby Young Elementary	707 Young Blvd, DeSoto, Texas 75115
Woodridge Elementary	1001 Woodridge Drive, DeSoto, Texas 75115
The Meadows Elementary	1016 The Meadows Pkwy, DeSoto, Texas 75115
Cockrell Hill Elementary	425 S. Cockrell Hill Rd., DeSoto, Texas 75115
Moates Elementary School	1500 Heritage Blvd, Glenn Heights, Texas 75154
DeSoto West Middle School	800 N. Westmoreland Rd., DeSoto, Texas 75115
DeSoto East Middle School	601 Belt Line Rd., DeSoto, Texas 75115
DeSoto Recreation Center	211 E. Pleasant Run Rd., DeSoto, Texas 75115