



## **Parent-Player-Coach Expectations**

### **Purpose and Program Organization**

EYS exists in order to provide organized youth sports opportunities for Essex youth through a volunteer, parent/community member-led group who is interested in supporting the expansion of safe and supervised sporting activities. EYS provides a means to introduce and support basic athletic skills and teach concepts of teamwork, sportsmanship, honesty, and pride. We strive to stimulate community interest in youth sports while having fun and doing all of these things with the welfare of the youth first and foremost.

EYS provides 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade girls volleyball, 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls basketball, Pre-K-6<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls soccer and pre-K-8<sup>th</sup> grade T-ball, softball, and baseball programs for a minimal cost to families. We are able to do this by conducting various fundraisers throughout the year including concession stands at all home volleyball and basketball games. We continue to sell button and team pictures. We have received many grants and continue to seek grant opportunities to pay for any equipment needs that arise. All the fundraisers pay for equipment, uniforms, referees, umpires, and coaches. We would like to thank all the donors to our program including the City of Essex, United Fund, Essex Community Schools for use of facilities, and the many other individual donors. We want to especially thank the community and parents for supporting concessions and the other fundraisers.

The EYS goal is to continue to provide the fall and winter sports programs and the summer recreation program at a minimal cost, while still maintaining a quality program. To become a member of the board, individuals may contact City Hall in person or submit a letter of interest indicating their desire to be on the board. Or they may also attend the January city council meeting when all city board appointments are made. EYS meetings

are held monthly at City Hall and are open to the public. Agendas are posted twenty-four hours in advance at City Hall. EYS looks forward to working with the City of Essex, the community, and the parents to further their mission and promote the community in a positive and fun way.

## **General Rules for all EYS Activities**

### **Parent and Player Expectations**

#### Parent participation:

- Parents are expected to assist with fundraising and cleaning/maintenance of the facilities as needed.
- We have the privilege of working with the school and using their facilities, as a result we need to do our part to maintain cleanliness. Parents will be informed of times needed to assist in the cleaning.
- Fundraising: Parents are expected to help with fundraising activities as they arise. The goal of EYS is to provide a youth sports program at a very reasonable cost to parents of all income levels. As a result, we have fundraisers that assist us in this process. Most of the fundraising takes minimal effort on the part of the parent. Participation in fundraising efforts is one way you “pay” for the youth sports program.

#### Pick up and drop off at practices and games:

- Youth are to be picked up and dropped off in a timely manner.
- Youth who are to walk home are expected to do so and not “hang around” after practice. Youth who do hang around are not the responsibility of the coach.

#### Cleanliness of sports facilities:

- Each player is responsible for his/her own trash and must pick up after themselves. The coach may include a “trash pick up” as part of the practice if needed.

#### Profanity:

- There will be no profanity or trash talk used on or off the court or playing field. A player will be warned once. After one warning the player may be suspended from game play. Continued profanity or trash talk will result in dismissal from the team.

#### Team:

- Respect for coaches and teammates is expected. Every member is an important part of the team. There will be no credit or blame for wins or losses

directed toward individual team members. Wins and losses are taken as a team.

**Equipment:**

- Players are responsible for maintaining any equipment and uniforms used during EYS activities. Maintaining equipment includes not using equipment in a manner that is destructive to it. Coaches and other EYS representatives along with parents are expected to help the youth understand what proper use of equipment is and is not. Youth are expected to abide by the instructions given.

**Playing time:**

- Playing time for each child is to be rotated approximately equal within the scope of the game situation. Consideration will be made regarding play time if the game is a specific grade-level game such as a 6<sup>th</sup> grade tournament.

**Attendance:**

- Attendance is expected at practice to earn playing time.
- Youth who do not attend practice may have playing time decreased.

**Conduct:**

- Players who violate the Essex Community Schools good conduct policy will be penalized according to that policy.

The following expectations are included so you will know what to expect from your coach.

## **Summer Coaching Expectations**

***Coaches for the summer EYS programs are expected to do the following:***

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**Pre-K and Kindergarten:**

- Hold practices 2 times weekly and have a “game” each week as weather and facility availability allow. The season should begin on or about the last week in May and end the last week in June.
- Coaches are expected to communicate equipment needs and any concerns to the EYS board.
- All youth are to be given equal playing time while learning fundamentals of the game. Example: when they are “out” at first base, they go back to the bench rather than run the bases.
- All schedule changes must be coordinated with the EYS Athletic Director first.

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades:

- Hold practices 2 times weekly and have a “game” each week as weather and facility availability allow. The season should begin on or about the last week in May and end the last week in June.
- Coaches are expected to communicate equipment needs and any concerns to the EYS board.
- All youth are to be given equal playing time while learning fundamentals of the game.
- All schedule changes must be coordinated with the EYS Athletic Director first.

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades:

- Have 3-5 practices and/or a game each day of the week (excluding Sunday and holidays). The practice season should begin on or about the first week in May. (The first weeks practices may be 2 or 3 days per week until school is out.)
- The season will end with the last scheduled game.
- Coaches are expected to communicate equipment needs and any concerns to the EYS board.
- All youth are to be given equal playing time while developing fundamentals of the game.
- All schedule changes must be coordinated with the EYS Athletic Director first.

***Playing up an age level:***

- A coach may ask a youth member to “play up” to a different age group if needed to make adequate numbers. This is at the discretion of the coaches with the permission of the parents.
- It is recommended that youth members playing up are to be rotated.
- The coach is expected to enforce to the existing team that a youth member playing up or down is to be treated as a member of that team and not “left out” or degraded in any manner. Players exhibiting this negative behavior are to be disciplined.

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades:

- Have 3-5 practices and/or a game each day of the week (excluding Sunday and holidays). The practice season should begin on or about the first week in May. (The first 2 week’s practices may be 2 or 3 days per week until school is out.)
- The season will end with the last scheduled game.
- Coaches are expected to communicate equipment needs and any concerns to the EYS board.

- All youth are to be given equal playing time based on attitude, attendance, and effort while developing fundamentals of the game.
- All schedule changes must be coordinated with the EYS Athletic Director first.

***Playing up or down and age level:***

- A coach may ask a youth member to “play up” to a different age group if needed to make adequate team members. This is at the discretion of the coaches with the permission of the parents.
- If the option of playing a youth member up is not available, a coach may ask a youth member to “play down” to a different age group to make adequate team members. This is at the discretion of the coaches with the permission of the parents. Youth asked to do this are expected to participate in the different age group as a member of that team. No negative attitude will be tolerated. Negative behaviors will be disciplined.
- It is recommended that youth members playing up or down are to be rotated.
- The coach is expected to enforce to the existing team that a youth member playing up or down is to be treated as a member of that team and not “left out” or degraded in any manner. Players exhibiting this negative behavior are to be disciplined.

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades:

- Have 5 practices and/or a game during the week (excluding Sunday and holidays). The practice season should begin on or about the first week in May. (The first weeks practices may be 2 or 3 days per week until school is out.)
- The season will end with the last scheduled game.
- Coaches are expected to communicate equipment needs and any concerns to the EYS board.
- Playing time is at the discretion of the coach, based on practice attendance, attitude, and effort.
- All schedule changes must be coordinated with the EYS Athletic Director first.

***Playing down an age level:***

- A coach may ask a youth member to “play down” to a different age group if needed to make adequate team members. This is at the discretion of the coaches with the permission of the parents. Youth asked to do this are expected to participate in the different age group as a member of that team. No negative attitude will be tolerated. Negative behavior will be disciplined.

# EYS Summer Ball General Information

## **Pictures:**

Pre-K–8<sup>th</sup> grade team pictures and individual pictures will be taken at a practice to be announced before the first game. Watch for a note to come home announcing the time. Buttons and pictures will be delivered to your coach as soon as possible after that time. We will accept late orders, however, all orders must be prepaid. Coaches will have order forms if you would still like to order pictures. Return the forms to your coach with payment.

## **Head lice:**

As with all situations of sharing headgear equipment (team members must share batting helmets) we need to be aware of the risk of spreading head lice. We will be purchasing head lice pesticide spray and using it in all of the helmets. It is also a good idea to wear a hat while using the helmets. Parents may purchase their own helmet for their child if they prefer, but be rest assured that the spray will be used in all EYS helmets diligently if you choose to use ours. Purchasing helmets is certainly not required and the risk of contracting head lice when using the spray and hats is extremely low.

## **Transportation for games:**

Parents will be expected to transport their own children to games themselves. Players should arrive 30 minutes early to away games and 45 minutes to home games.

## **Uniforms:**

Uniforms will be distributed at one of the first practices, however, there are a few other pieces that are required. Each team member will need items as follows:

- T-ball – Provided: T-shirt  
Required: black shorts (if possible, but any shorts will work)  
Optional: hats, visors, rubber cleats
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> softball – Provided: uniform top  
Required: black shorts, solid red long socks,  
Optional: visor, batting gloves, rubber cleats, black or white racer back bra (no spaghetti straps)
- 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> softball – Provided: uniform top  
Required: black shorts, solid red long socks

- Optional: visor, batting gloves, rubber cleats, black or white racer back bra (no spaghetti straps)
- 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> softball – Provided: uniform top  
Required: black shorts/pants(depending on team vote), solid red long socks, black or white racer back bra (no spaghetti straps)  
Optional: visor, batting gloves, rubber cleats
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> –4<sup>th</sup> baseball – Provided: uniform top  
Required: black pants, solid black long socks, black (preferable) or other appropriate hat  
Optional: batting gloves, rubber cleats
  - 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> baseball – Provided: uniform top  
Required: black pants, solid red long socks, black (preferable) or other appropriate hat  
Optional: batting gloves, rubber cleats
  - 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> baseball – Provided: uniform top  
Required: black pants, solid red long socks, black hat  
Optional: batting gloves, rubber cleats

**There will be a \$50 fee for uniforms not returned after the season or for excessively damaged uniforms.**

**Uniform washing instructions:**

Wash in COLD water only with like colors and DO NOT dry in the dryer. Let them air dry only. Any heat wears and fades the fabric out faster. Please follow these instructions to help extend the life of the uniforms.

**Contact Information:**

Essex Youth Sports is under the direction of the City of Essex. Please direct all questions and correspondence to City Hall, your coach, or any EYS board member, not to the school. **Do not call the school as they will not have any information.** If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact your coach, any EYS board member listed below, or City Hall. EYS holds as needed (usually monthly), open meetings (agendas are posted at City Hall) and we welcome anyone to come share their concerns or ideas. We look forward to working with the players, coaches, parents, and community to show our Essex pride!

City Hall	712-379-3444
Alice Walters – Chairman	712-435-0557
Nick Maher - Vice Chairman	712-370-0448

Kaelly Scherff – Secretary/Treasurer	712-215-1543
Colby Kinney – Athletic Director	712-215-0247
Chris Walters – Equipment Manager	712-435-0556
Brittany Maher – Fundraising Coordinator	712-215-0444
Katy King – Concessions Director	712-789-2465

**Parent Signature**

**Date**

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