

## Clark County Family YMCA Parent Information Sheet

### “Everyone Plays, Everyone Wins”

Thank you for registering your child with the Clark County Family YMCA. The season ahead should provide your child with opportunity to build friendships, encourage lifetime involvement in sports and in physical exercise, and most importantly, have fun. The following information contains the YMCA philosophies and goals for this league as well as other information that will make the season run more smoothly for all involved.

### YMCA Philosophy

The YMCA approach to Youth Sports is different than many leagues. Our programs provide a positive approach to youth sports, emphasizing values and building self-esteem. Some examples follow:

**Equal Participation:** There are no try-outs or cuts in YMCA sports. Everyone is a valuable member of the team and players share playing time equally. The most skilled and the least skilled players are given equal attention.

**Keep Winning in Perspective:** Winning **MUST** be kept in perspective. Trying to win is a legitimate goal, but it is not the primary objective of YMCA sports.

**Fair Play:** Taking responsibilities for one’s own behavior. Play by the rules and encourage others to do the same.

**Respect:** The YMCA expects all participants, coaches, officials, and spectators to respect one another, their teammates, and themselves.

**Involve the Entire Family:** Families and friends are encouraged to attend games and cheer on ALL participants involved in the action.

### Parent Involvement

- ? *Volunteer to coach your child’s team. The majority of our coaches are parents of one of the players. If you do not have the time to commit, or if you feel uncomfortable coaching a team, volunteer as an assistant coach and work with others to coach your child’s team.*
- ? *Volunteer as a team parent and organize a system for providing post-game snacks, phone trees, team pictures, end-of-season parties, etc*
- ? *Attend as many practices and games as possible.*
- ? *Spend time practicing skills with your child and supporting them by praising and encouraging efforts.*
- ? *Show respect for the coaches, referees, opposing team, and spectators will set a positive example.*
- ? *Keep the YMCA informed with problems by documenting incidents and mailing or emailing them to our office.*

## Facility Use

We are guests of the Vancouver and Evergreen School Districts. Our continued use of their schools is contingent upon each of us honoring the school district rules. We encourage parents to help coaches and school staff by monitoring the gyms and restrooms during YMCA use. The School Districts reserve the right to cancel YMCA practices and games at any time due to school events, inclement weather, building maintenance, or lack of a school monitor. The YMCA will notify the coaches ASAP of any cancellations and the coaches will then contact parents and players. There may be an occasion when very little or no notice is received before the cancellation. **These events are NOT of the YMCA's control.** We do apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

## League Information

The YMCA is the largest not-for-profit community service agency in the USA. It is the policy of the Clark County Family YMCA to provide services to all those who need them regardless of their ability to pay established fees. League fees are determined to a large extent by school gym rental costs, team shirts, printing costs of all forms/ packets, equipment purchases, referee salaries, and office salaries. Financial assistance is available to all who qualify.

When building teams we make our best effort to honor roster requests but this is not always possible.

## Please help the YMCA...

- ? Drop off and pick up your child promptly from practices and games. Our coaches are volunteering to teach youth sports, not to provide childcare.
- ? Realizing that it is a difficult and thankless job, show respect and support for our referees and require the same from your child. The only way we can improve the quality of officiating is to retain referees, and it is difficult to keep them unless they are being supported by coaches, parents, and players.
- ? After the game, please exit any facilities before handing out food and drinks. No food or drinks, including water bottles, allowed in the gymnasium!

We want your child to have the best possible experience. Give us feedback! Email us with any concerns, problems, or suggestions. Thank you for your involvement with the Clark County Family YMCA! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Youth Sports Director at 360-258-3834.

Sincerely,

Josh Speer  
Youth Sports Director  
360-258-3834