

FAN BEHAVIOR POLICY

The Ventura Family YMCA is asking for your cooperation as a parent and/or spectator. We would like everyone involved:

- To enjoy youth sports
- To have fun
- To create a positive environment that is free of stress

MY PLEDGE TO GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

I will respect all gathered today at this game: officials, timekeepers and scorekeepers, coaches and fans, players and parents. I will cheer my team on and applaud all players' efforts. I will model good sportsmanship.

Specific Fan Guidelines:

- Praise your children during games and practices
- Keep comments positive
- Leave coaching to the coaches (You may be asking your child to do something the coach has told them not to do)
- Take any constructive comments regarding the game to the coach, who may approach the Sports Director at the end of the game
- Do not interrupt the game
- Be examples of good sportsmanship for our children to model
- Criticizing officials will not be allowed
- Negative behavior toward the opposing team will not be allowed
- Help us make this a positive and fun experience for everyone involved
- Remember that the game is for youth - not adults
- Place the emotional and physical wellbeing of your child ahead of personal desire to win
- Provide and display positive support, care, and encouragement for your child and other children in youth sports

Policy Enforcement:

- Individual may be given a warning for inappropriate behavior.
- Individual may be asked to leave the game(s) and may be asked not to return for other Youth Sports activities.
- Other sanctions as deemed necessary may be enforced.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Ventura Family YMCA Youth Basketball Parent Handbook Division 2 - 4

Parents & Guardians,

Welcome to the Ventura Family YMCA Youth Basketball League. Thank you for enrolling your children in youth sports at the Y. Here at the Y, our goal is to provide quality programs that provide a FUN environment where children are able to learn the fundamental skills of sports.

In order to accomplish this I ask that we always remember our role out on the court: Coaches Coach, Spectators(Parents) Cheer, Referees Officiate, and Players Play. This approach will ensure that our non-competitive league stays true to our mission stated in the Seven Pillars of YMCA Youth Sports.

Pillar One – Everyone Plays. We do not use tryouts to select the best players, nor do we cut kids from YMCA Youth Sports. Everyone who registers is assigned to a team. During the season everyone receives equal practice time and plays half of every game.

Pillar Two – Safety First. Although kids may get hurt playing sports, we do all we can to prevent injuries. We've modified each sport to make it safer and more enjoyable to play. Coaches make sure the equipment and facilities are safe, and they teach the sport as we've prescribed so that the skills taught are appropriate for athletes' developmental levels. And coaches constantly supervise their players and stop unsafe activities.

Pillar Three – Fair Play. Fair play is about playing by the rules and more. It's about coaches and players showing respect for all involved in YMCA Youth Sports. It's about coaches being role models of good sporting behavior and guiding their players to do the same.

Pillar Four – Positive Competition. We believe competition is a positive process when the pursuit of victory is kept in the right perspective. The right perspective is when adults make decisions that put the best interests of the players before winning the contest. Learning to compete is important for youngsters, and learning to cooperate in a competitive world is an essential lesson of life. Through YMCA Youth Sports we want to help kids learn these lessons.

Pillar Five – Family Involvement. YMCA Youth Sports encourages parents to be involved appropriately in their child's participation in our sports programs. In addition to being helpful as volunteer coaches, officials, and timekeepers, we encourage them to be at practices and games to support their child's participation.

Pillar Six – Sport for All. YMCA Youth Sports is an "inclusive" sports program. We offer programs to all youngsters regardless of their race, gender, religious creed, or ability. We ask our adult leaders to encourage and appreciate the diversity of children in our society and to encourage the kids and their parents to do the same. Fair play involves respect! Fair play requires a clear understanding of the rules by everyone involved.

Pillar Seven – Sport for Fun. Sports are naturally fun for most kids. Sometimes when adults become involved in children's sporting activities they over organize and dominate the activities to the point that it destroys kids' enjoyment of them.

The YMCA believes that character development, focusing on the values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility, is an essential element of its sports program. Remember, only a fraction of young people will play sports beyond high school, but the majority will become parents, employees, and citizens. By building their character, you'll give them and the rest of society a permanent gift.

- *Caring: To appreciate others and be sensitive to the well-being of others involved in the sports program*
- *Honesty: To have integrity, making sure that one's actions match one's values through participation in sports.*
- *Respect: To value the worth of every person, including oneself, one's teammates, opponents, and officials.*
- *Responsibility: To be accountable for one's behavior and obligations.*

I am sure you will all have a great and fun-filled season. My intent is to provide as much support as needed so I will provide as much support as needed so if there are any questions or concerns during the season please do not hesitate to reach out.

Best Regards,

Alex Diaz
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VENTURA FAMILY YMCA
YOUTH SPORTS
General Information

Team Practice schedules and Uniforms

Practice days/times will be determined by the volunteer coaches. Teams are required to have a minimum of 1 practice a week. Any schedule changes will be made by the Volunteer Coach and communicated to participants. Team jerseys will be handed out to all teams on the day of the first game. Sizes will be determined by what was indicated on the league registration form. If a form was not turned in or a size was not indicated, the Sports Director will determine the size.

Team Groupings/Assignments

You will find out team assignments at each divisions Jamboree. On that day, you will be meeting your coach and will be confirming your weekly practice day, time and location. The YMCA will try its best to accommodate "buddy" and coach requests; however, we will not allow more than one "buddy" or coach request per person and both parties must request each other.

Volunteerism

We have a great need for coaches, asst. coaches, and team parents. We need at least one coach/asst. coach, and team parent per team. We would like to have a coach and asst. coach for each team to ensure greater attention for the players. We are also in need of volunteers to help run the scoreboard and referee book. It will be the responsibility of that team to find parents to fulfill those duties. We appreciate any and all support and involvement.

Equipment

Team jerseys will be provided by the YMCA. All players need to wear their team jersey at every game and wear athletic shoes that will not mark up the court.

Basket Height & Ball Size

D2: 8.5 feet / 28.5"

D3: 10 feet / 28.5"

D4: 10 feet/ 29.5"

Scoring

The score will be kept in all of these divisions; however, YMCA reserves the right to shut off the scoreboard at any time so that emphasis is placed on learning and not winning. No team standings will be kept in any division.

Substitutions

Players will be substituted at the halfway point of each quarter. The game clock will pause briefly so substitutions can be made.

Press

Divisions 2 & 3 there is no press defense and players must remain behind the "10 foot" line indicated on each side of the court. Division 4 must remain behind half court. Division 4 is also allowed to press during the last 2 minutes of the match.

Length of Game

Divisions 2 & 3 will play four 8 minute quarters with a standard stopping clock. Division 4 will play four 10 minute quarters with a stopping clock. All teams will have 2 timeouts per half (these do not carry over from one half to the next).

Violations

Learning how to play the game is important. We also want to make sure we have a safe playing environment. Our YMCA staff and referees will be working with kids and explaining traveling and double dribble violations during the season. As the season progresses, the referees will be calling these violations as they see fit. Fouls will be called whenever they occur. Shooting fouls will be enforced as well as team fouls/shooting bonuses.