



Youth Sports Philosophy:

Welcome to the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department Youth Sports Program. The philosophy of the Riverside Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department is to instill a positive attitude, sportsmanship, basic fundamentals, confidence, and high moral standards. Youth Sports Programs develop the physical, psychological, and social aspects of youth. Our programs emphasize participation, fun, sportsmanship, and downplays a competitive approach to sports. Participants, parents, and coaches are expected to support this philosophy.

Athletes are our most popular heroes. At all levels of play they are admired, emulated, and followed by those who watch them. But in recent years, sport has been losing. Scandals, greed, and inappropriate behavior by athletes, fans, coaches, and parents are not an uncommon occurrence. Regrettably, much of this negative behavior is picked up by young people, despite the efforts of many others involved at all levels of sport who give the best of themselves to their sports and their communities.

The City of Riverside Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department recognizes and accepts the opportunity that sports provides for developing character and leadership potential and in making a difference in our community and world. The Youth Sports Code of Ethics provides guidelines for personal and leadership development. The Code reflects the desire to live a responsible life as an individual, as a member of a team, and as a member of society. Those who grow up with Youth Sports Ethics will be formed by a set of values that provide a foundation for life.

It is the goal of the Youth Sports Programs to encourage all participants, coaches and parents to:

- *Work hard at their sport.*
- *Demonstrate what it means to play fair.*
- *Win or lose with grace and dignity.*
- *Give something back to their communities.*

All safety precautions will be observed to ensure the well being of all participants. The Riverside Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department seeks to uphold the spirit of sportsmanship and full participation.

"One team. One goal. Winning more than the game."

This program is supported entirely by those who care about the character of sports leadership and who are committed to making this a better world for all people. We invite you to join us today!

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