



# **Banks County Parks & Recreation Athletics Manual**



## **Banks County Parks and Recreation**

"Parks, Programs, and People — Enhancing Life in Banks County."

### **Our Mission**

The mission of the Banks County Parks and Recreation Department is to deliver high-quality, accessible programs, services, and facilities that enhance the life for people of all ages and abilities, efficiently and safely. Building a healthy, connected community where every resident has opportunities to play, learn, and grow.

### **Core Values**

- Teamwork - Essential for success across staff, programs, families, and the community.
- Objectivity - Maintain a positive, fair approach to challenges and decision-making.
- Growth - Embrace change to expand opportunities and improve services.
- Imagination- Cultivate new ideas and creative enhancements for programs and services.
- Excellence- Meet participant expectations for quality and performance

### **Service Principles**

- Leisure activities that enhance skills, health, and self-esteem!
- Community Connection through inclusive parks, programs, and events!
- Collaborative networks linking the community through partnerships and shared services!
- Safe, welcoming spaces where participants feel respected and included!
- Fun activities and services for ALL to enjoy!



### **Registration**

It shall be policy that the Banks County Parks & Recreation Department shall not deny any youth the opportunity to participate in youth athletic activities based upon race, religion, national origin or sex. Registration will be advertised through the school system, BCPRD website and Facebook social media.

### **Sports Seasons**

Baseball/Softball- Spring and Fall

T ball- Spring

Soccer- Spring and Fall

Volleyball- Spring and Fall

Football/Flag Football/Cheer- Fall

Cross Country- Fall

Basketball- Winter

### **Sports Registration Fees**

Baseball/Softball- \$95.00

T ball- \$40.00

Volleyball- \$85.00

Soccer- \$80.00

Cross Country- \$85.00

Football- \$110.00

Flag Football- \$70.00

Cheerleading- \$100.00

Basketball- \$85.00

**Parent Info Email-** At the time of registration parents will be sent a parent information email. This email will include information such as evaluation dates/times, uniform sizing dates, when practices will start, and contact information for the recreation department.



**Late Registration-** At the end of each registration period, we will offer a period of Late Registration. An additional \$15.00 will be added to the regular registration fee during late registration. Once late registration is over and teams have been chosen we will not take any registrations. Anyone wishing to register after this point will be placed on a waiting list.

**Play Up/Down-** It shall be policy that no participant is allowed to play down in an age group regardless of experience, size, or playing ability. It is policy of BCPRD that participants will be allowed to play up one age group beginning at 7/8. Siblings are not eligible to jump up to age groups to play together. Example 7 year old could not go to 11/12 to play with sibling.

**Age Control Dates-** Age Control Dates are set by GRPA, and NGYFA and will be as follows:

Baseball/Softball/6u CP- June 30 of current year.

Tball- March 1<sup>st</sup>

Football/Cheer- August 1

Soccer- August 1

Basketball- September 1

Cross Country- December 31

Volleyball- September 1

**Request-** In the competitive leagues (leagues that keep score) request to be placed with certain other players and coaches cannot be guaranteed. Siblings that live in the same household and are in the same age group will be placed on the same team. Request for extended family are not guaranteed.

**Scholarships-** Scholarships for youth athletics are available and are granted on a case-by-case basis by the director. Parent or guardian requesting scholarship must fill out scholarship application request and if scholarship is approved by the Director will pay 20% of registration fee.

**Refunds-** Once uniforms have been ordered refunds will not be issued. Not being placed with a specific player or coach is not grounds for refund.



**Coaching-** Anyone wishing to coach at BCPRD as a head coach or assistant coach must fill out a coaching application and have a current background check on file. Background checks must be done for every sport.

**Recommended criteria for exclusion:** Any person should be disqualified and prohibited from serving as a volunteer if the person has been found guilty of the following crimes: Guilty means that a person was found guilty following a trial, entered a guilty plea, entered a no contest plea accompanied by a court finding of guilty, regardless of whether there was an adjudication of guilt or a withholding of guilt. This recommendation does not apply if criminal charges resulted in acquittal, Nolle Prose, or dismissal.

**Sex Offenses-** All sex offenses regardless of the amount of time since offense. Examples include: Child molestation, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sodomy, prostitution, solicitation, indecent exposure etc.

**Felonies-** All felony violence regardless of the amount of time since offense. Examples include murder, manslaughter, aggravated assault, kidnapping, robbery, aggravated burglary etc. All felony offenses other than violence or sex within the past 5 years. Examples include drug offenses, theft, embezzlement, fraud, child endangerment etc.

**Misdemeanors-**All misdemeanor violence offenses within the last 2 years. Examples include simple assault, battery, domestic violence, hit & run etc. All misdemeanor drug & alcohol offenses within the past 2 years or multiple offenses in the past 10 years. Examples include dui, simple drug possession, drunk and disorderly, public intoxication, possession of drug paraphernalia etc. Any other misdemeanor within the past 5 years that would be considered a potential danger to children or is directly related to the functions of the volunteer. Examples include contributing to the delinquency of a minor, providing alcohol to a minor.

**Pending cases-** It is recommended that anyone who has been charged for any of the disqualifying offenses or for cases pending in court should not be permitted to volunteer until the official adjudication of the case.

**Coaches Selection-** Coaches are selected once the # of teams in an age group have been determined. Previous coaching experience with the BCPRD will be taken into consideration but **does not** guarantee a team in any particular sport. Coaches are selected using the following criteria: coaching experience, experience working with children, knowledge of the sport, and willingness to adhere to BCPRD rules, policies and regulations.



### **Team Selection**

Player Evaluations- After registration the Athletic Coordinator or his/her designee will conduct a player evaluation. This enables coaches and BCPRD staff to see the participants in a variety of drills and scenarios based upon the sport they are playing. It allows coaches and BCPRD staff to rank players according to their skill level. BCPRD staff reserve the right to approve or determine proper placement for each child if deemed necessary. Player request and coach request cannot be guaranteed in competitive age groups. In the instructional age groups BCPRD Staff will assign players to teams.

**Draft Procedures-** The following procedure applies to all sports at BCPRD in which there are multiple teams in the league and score is kept. The purpose of this procedure is to provide a system in which teams are as evenly matched as possible by distributing players by talent level across all teams. Prior to the draft the Athletic Coordinator or his/her designee will determine the # of teams in the age group based off of the registered participants. Each team will have an adequate # of players based on the # required for each sport and in addition will have substitutes for each team. Approved head coaches will meet on a date and time designated by the Athletic Coordinator or his/her designee for the draft. Recommend holding drafts right after the player evaluation.

At the top of the draft board the number of teams will be listed. Example 4 teams

1      2      3      4      players will be ranked and placed under one of the numbers at the top of the draft board. The placement will follow a snake draft format where the order reverses itself at the end of each round allowing for the coach with the last placement in the round to have the first placement in the next round. Example 4 teams in a league the order will be 1234...4321...1234....4321 etc. until all players are listed on the draft board. See Example on next page. After all players have been placed on the draft board the coaches will draw a 1 2 3 or 4 out of a hat. The number they draw will be their team. Coaches will then trade for their kids. Trades will be a round pick for a round pick. Example T1 Coaches son is on T2 in the 3 round. T1 Coach must trade his 3<sup>rd</sup> round pick for his son. Trades must be for a player in the same round. Coaches are then allowed 1 trade. Coaches must agree to the trade and it must same round player for a same round player. Assistant Coaches are not guaranteed. It is recommended that if a Coach wants a specific Asst Coach that they use their trade for it. Player request and coach request cannot be guaranteed in competitive age groups.

32 KIDS 4 TEAMS 8 PER BLIND SNAKE DRAFT

ROUND	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
1	1	2	3	4
2	8	7	6	5
3	9	10	11	12
4	16	15	14	13
5	17	18	19	20
6	24	23	22	21
7	25	26	27	28
8	32	31	30	29



**Practice Schedules-** Practices will be scheduled by the Athletic Coordinator or his/her designee and will assign practices according to field availability and coach's schedule. Due to the volume of teams not all coach's request for days and times can be honored. Every effort will be made to honor as many of these request as we can. **All practices will be held at BCPRD unless otherwise scheduled at a different location by BCPRD staff.**

**Game Schedules-** Games will be scheduled by the Athletic Coordinator or his/her designee. In certain leagues we will be playing a traveling schedule depending of # of teams. As soon as those schedules are made available to BCPRD we will distribute to the coaches.

**Inclement Weather-** Under any circumstance participation safety is paramount. Strong consideration must also be given to the potential damage to the turf and the length of time for the field to recover.

**Rain-** Large areas of standing water on any part of the playing field is just cause for cancellation. During the course of field inspection any visible water or sound (squish) while walking is an indication that the field is unfit for play or practice. Footprints and the collection of water around them is an indication that the field should be closed.

**Snow or Winter Weather-** If the threat of winter weather is to be determined severe enough that the Banks County School System cancels school, or releases students early, then all activities at the BCPRD will be canceled as well.

**Heat-** Please see NGYFA rules regarding heat index.

**Lightning-** In the case of lightning BCPRD will monitor and when lightning enters the "Danger Zone" of 8 miles the game or practice will be halted and all participants should seek a safe place. Games/practices will not be restarted until thirty minutes after the last lightning strike per the Georgia High School Association rules. In the event of an extended delay games/practices may be canceled at the site.

**Make Up Games-** Every attempt to make up games will be made. However due to field limitations and season limitations games may not be made up in certain situations. This decision will be made by the Director or League scheduler.