



Procedures and Regulations
Revised March 2015

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The following is a yearly calendar of upcoming important dates. This calendar changes from year to year.



Recreation Planning Tool For Parents 2014-2015

Bath County Parks and Recreation has created a parent friendly system. The below calendar is a tool for parents to use to make plans for future sports signup and participation. Dates are subject to change. We will follow the schedule as written unless an unforeseen issue arises and then the schedule will be changed to the very next possible date. **We will follow registration deadlines on registration forms. If you wish to coach any sport, please contact the Recreation Department. We are compiling a list of potential coaches.**

Football

August 13th - Equipment Handout. Coaches will be informed of time at Coaches meeting

August 19th - 1st eligible practice day.

No registrations will be accepted after August 19th unless they are new residents to Bath County.

August 25th - weigh-in at Bath County High School, 6:30 p.m.

August 25th - punt pass at Bath County High School, 6:00 p.m.

Games will start 1st week of September. The Super Bowl will be mid to end of October.

Cheerleading

August 19th - 1st eligible practice day.

No registrations will be accepted after August 19th unless they are new residents to Bath County.

Uniforms are issued at the coach's earliest convenience, usually during the 1st week of

practice.

Cheerleading will end with Football.

Girls Basketball

No registrations will be accepted after August 19th unless they are new residents to Bath County.

Coach's Meeting - August 19th at the Bath County Recreation Department. Uniforms will be given to coaches.

1st eligible practice date - August 19th. Games will start the week of September 8th.

Schedules will be issued once they are received from Alleghany Parks and Recreation if we are combined with them for the season.

Soccer

Coach's meeting and draft - August 20th at 5:30 p.m. at the Bath County Recreation Department uniforms will be issued to coaches.

No registrations will be accepted after August 18th unless they are new residents to Bath County.

1st eligible practice date is August 19th. Games will begin beginning of September.

Schedules will be issued once they are received them from the Alleghany Soccer Association

Rookie League Basketball

October 27th 5:30 P. M.: - Coaches meeting and draft at the Bath County Recreation Department, Uniforms and schedules will be issued.

No registrations will be accepted after October 27th unless they are new residents to Bath County.

1st eligible practice will be in November. 3rd Games start end of November.

Boys Basketball

Tryouts December 1st at 6 p.m. at Valley Elementary.

Parents Meeting December 1st at 6:00 p.m. at Valley Elementary.

Coach's meeting and draft - December 1st at 7 p.m. at Valley Elementary. Coaches will

receive uniforms and schedules.

No Registrations will be accepted after December 1st unless they are new residents to Bath County.

1st eligible practice day is December 8th. Games will start the first week of January.

Volleyball

Tryouts December 7th at 2 p.m. at Bath County High School.

Coaches meeting and draft - December 7th, 3 p.m. at Bath County High School. Uniforms and schedules will be given to coaches.

No registrations will be accepted after December 7th unless they are new residents to Bath County.

1st eligible practice day is December 15th. Games will start first week of January.

Queen of courts with Covington weekend of February 22nd.

Baseball and Softball

Tryouts Major league, Minor A and Girls softball - March 28th. Location will be dependent on facilities availability. Parents will be notified prior

Coaches meeting and draft - March 28th.

No registrations accepted after March 28th unless approved by little league board.

Practices will start the first week of April.

Uniforms will be issued to coaches at coaches meeting.

Schedules will be handed out when completed by the district scheduler.

All stars will be held end of June, 1st week of July (subject to change set by district).

Sr. Baseball and softball will start towards the middle of May depending when High School teams finish.

T-Ball and Coach Pitch

Coach's meeting will be held April 6th. Uniforms and schedules will be issued to coaches.

No Registrations will be accepted after April 6th unless they are new residents to Bath

County.

1st eligible practice day will be April 13th. Games will start week of May 4th.

Procedures Concerning Children Who Are County Residents and

Attend Out Of County Schools

- Every child who resides in Bath County is eligible to play sports in the county unless their privileges have been revoked by the Recreation Department.
- Coaches will be required to accommodate practice times that will allow such children to be at practices. Example: If the child cannot reach the gym practices by the time scheduled by the coach, practices must be rescheduled late enough to accommodate that child.
- Accommodations will be made to allow time for the child to get home from school, but we cannot accommodate if the child is staying after school for extracurricular activities.
- The child's parent is responsible for getting the child to and from practices.
- The coach's responsibility is to schedule practices that are feasible for every child to reach. This means practices are scheduled at a time that all children have had time to get off the school bus and back to the gym.
- If for any reason the coach is unable to practice at a time that all players can meet, the coach will notify the Parks and Recreation Director that there is a conflict and the Director will make a determination on the action that needs to be taken.

Recreation Programs offered in conjunction
With private parties or other non-profit organizations

- On occasion the Recreation Department offers classes or events in conjunction with private parties and non-profit organizations.
- The Recreation Department deals with these situations on an individual basis.
- Advertisements may be co-sponsored by the Recreation Department if this is a nonprofit event, but if the individual doing the event stands to make a profit, the Recreation Department will not pay for any advertising.
- If the event or class is held in conjunction with the Recreation Department it will be covered under our county insurance and therefore will not need personal coverage.
- The County reserves the right to charge for use of facilities if the event is used for profit.
- The County reserves the right to choose what events, parties and organizations the Recreation Department feels will benefit our community with recreation related programs and therefore it is not required to participate with any person, organization, or event that it does not wish to.
- No person, organization, or event will be turned down due to race, nationality, ethnic origin, age, sex or religious beliefs.

Facility Use Procedures

- Recreation facilities are available to the general public on a first come first serve basis. However the facilities can be reserved in which case the reservation takes precedence.
- Facilities are maintained under the direction of the Parks and Recreation Director. However the person or persons using facilities are expected to leave them in the same shape they found them. Failure to leave facilities in the same shape they were found can, at the discretion of the Parks and Recreation Director and/or the County Administrator, result in the loss of privilege to use facilities.
- Rules are posted on facilities and must be followed at all times. Failure to do so can result in the loss of the privilege to use Recreation Facilities. This decision is the responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Director and/or the County Administrator. However any Recreation staff member or County Law enforcement officer can order someone to leave the facilities until investigation by Director can be completed.
- Pool facilities can only be reserved for after hour parties not during regularly scheduled hours.
- Pool parties for county residents will cost \$ 20.00 for each guard paid directly to the guard (at a minimum there will be 2 guards required, more if the size of party dictates), \$35.00 fee paid to the County for use of the facility. If pool is reserved for a party one week notice is required to cancel. If cancellation is not made at least a week prior, the reserving party will still be responsible for all fees. If the party cancellation is due to weather the party can be rescheduled with no penalty. Non County residents can reserve pool for parties but the fee paid to the county for use of the facility will be increased to \$60.00, all other fees will remain the same.
- A \$20.00 deposit is required to reserve the picnic shelter that will be returned if facilities are left in the same shape that they were found (trash picked up, tables put back, and no damage to facility).
- At the discretion of the Parks and Recreation Director and/or County Administrator any organization using facilities can be required to have event insurance depending on nature of event.
- The County of Bath reserves the right to charge a fee for use of facilities if being used for profit of a business, individual, or a non-County related fund raising event.

Procedure for physical altercations

Involving children at recreation events

We have found out due to some recent events that we need to create a policy that clearly explains what will happen if children are fighting during Recreation events and games. Fighting and altercations which become physical in nature will be dealt with swiftly and in a consistent manner. Any child that starts an altercation and/or are becomes physically abusive towards another child during a sports activity or recreation event will immediately forfeit the right to participate in any recreation sponsored event for the remainder of that sport and the following sport for the 1st offense, 1 year for the second offense and permanent loss of privileges for a third offense from the date of the incident. If a child's suspension ends after a sport has started they will not be allowed to enter that sport late. This will be done in a fashion that there is no prejudice shown and will not be dealt with on a case to case basis. Coaches are responsible for informing all players and their parents of this rule. There will be no discussion on the punishment all cases will be handled in the exact same fashion. Coaches, Referees, or Recreation staff will ask all involved parties to leave facilities immediately and they will be notified in writing when they can return. The investigation and decision will be the responsibility of the Recreation Director and or his/her designee. If the director cannot determine which party or parties are guilty of starting the altercation, all parties involved will lose their privileges for the remainder of that sport and the following sport .Second and third offences will be dealt with as previously described in this document. We stress to all coaches and parents to explain to your team and your children the severity of the punishment for their actions. We do not wish to enforce this rule on any child, but cannot allow punching and cheap shots. Therefore there will be no hesitation to enforce this rule. Athletics build a competitive spirit and can easily turn in to an altercation: please pay close attention to your children and do not let situations escalate to this point.

Pool Procedures

- Pools will open the day after the last day of school and close the day school goes back into session.
- Pool hours will be Monday thru Saturday 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sunday 1p.m. - 6 p.m.
- Pool closing due to inclement weather will be at the discretion of recreation staff.
- Life guards will close pool for 30 minutes if thunder is heard and one hour if lightening is witnessed. If these acts of nature continue pools will be closed for the remaining day.
- Refunds for weather related closure will be given if the party requesting has been at pool less than one hour and will be in the form of another one day pass to the pool.
- Chemical levels will be checked at least three times daily, before opening, mid shift, and at closing. This is the responsibility of the lead guard who will report to the pool manager or the parks and recreation director if manager is not available.
- Pools and pool facilities will be cleaned on a daily basis under the direction of pool manager and Recreation staff.
- Life guards will be on stand at all times when there are patrons in the facility.
- One Life guard will be at the front desk at all times.
- Pool passes will be sold, individual \$30.00, Family \$60.00, a day pass Under 18 \$1.00, Adult \$3.00.
- Life guards are responsible for the safety and orderly control of the pool area and patrons. If an individual breaks a rule he or she will be warned one time and if behavior is not corrected will be asked to leave for the day. Two occurrences will lead to being banned for the rest of the pool season. No refund will be issued for these occurrences. Any arguing with Life guards will lead to an immediate ban from pool area.
- Absolutely no patrons allowed in pool office.
- All injuries are to be reported to Pool manager and recreation staff immediately.
- Any life guard that is participating in activities while on duty that are deemed to be inappropriate or compromise the safety of patrons will be relieved of duty and suspended until investigation by Recreation Director can be completed
- Appropriate and conservative swimwear required while at the pool.

Loss of privilege of use of Recreation
Programs and Facilities

- Recreation facilities are open to any County resident however; though situations may arise when we have to take that privilege away. This is not a matter that is taken lightly or done without just cause.
- The following issues are considered grounds for immediate loss of privileges. The privileges of using Recreation programs will be lost for one year for the first offense and for the second offense will be a lifetime ban subject to reevaluation by the Board of Supervisors after a 10 yr. period.
 - o Fighting
 - o Physical abuse
 - o Threatening another person/persons
 - o Alcohol or Drug related issues
- Verbal abuse will be given one verbal warning. The second offense will result in a one year loss of privileges. After initial loss of privilege the first offense will result in a lifetime ban subject to reevaluation by the Board of Supervisors after a 10 yr. Period. Verbal abuse that is deemed by Parks and Recreation staff to have affected the event that it takes place at will result in an immediate one year ban with no prior warning.
- Minor infractions of Recreation rules will be dealt with by first giving a verbal warning. If this warning is ignored the party or parties involved will receive a six week ban. The next infraction after privilege has been restored will result in a 1yr ban from recreation property and events.
- If these are reoccurring incidents with the same party or parties, they will result in a life time ban subject to reevaluation by the Board of Supervisors after a 10 yr. period.
- Loss of privileges to Recreation programs will be notified by Registered mail and/or a copy hand delivered by the Sheriff's Department.
- Recreation staff will only ask one time for someone to exit the premises; if failure to comply, the Sheriff's Department will be called and asked to remove them.
- At no time will race, nationality, ethnic origin, age, sex, or religious beliefs be considered when dealing with loss of privileges issues.

General Sports Rules

Participants

- These rules apply to all sports excluding Little League Sanctioned Sports.
- General-All youth athletics participants are under the direct authority of Bath County Parks and Recreation and are subject to its directions and guidelines.
- Sportsmanship -All players shall conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times.
- No Tolerance- Players are subject to the No Tolerance Policy contained in these by laws.

Eligibility Guidelines

- Residency- Players on the youth athletic teams sanctioned by Bath County Parks and Recreation shall be Bath County residents unless otherwise approved by Bath County Parks and Recreation. The official address used to determine residency is the current address of the child's legal guardian at the time of registration.
- Non- Residents and Non -county residents who attend Bath County Public Schools may be eligible to participate with a county sanctioned team that serves the school the child attends if the team has space available and it does not conflict with requirements of the department.
- Middle School Participants- 6th And 7th Graders are allowed to participate in Youth Athletics. 8th Graders can only participate in teen League Basketball.

Coaches

- General- All coaches are under the direct authority of the Recreation department and are subject to its directions and guidelines.
- Applications -Anyone wishing to coach, in any league, must fill out a Coaching Application and Background Check form. All applications are subject to Recreation Department approval.
- Sportsmanship -All coaches shall conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. Coaches must encourage sportsmanship and safety above all else. The purpose of our leagues is to promote sportsmanship, build character, and teach the

fundamentals of each sport.

- No Tolerance- Coaches are subject to the No Tolerance Policy contained in these by- laws.
- Accountability- the Head Coach is responsible for the conduct of his/her players and assistants.
- Certification- All coaches must be certified by the National Youth Sports Coaches Association. NYSCA provides liability insurance coverage for coaches during that particular sports season. Coaches must be certified before practice begins. Any coach that is not living up to the Code of Ethics pledge will be suspended from the league, and his/her certification will be revoked by NYSCA. Contact the Recreation office to get certified.
- Disciplining of players- Coaches will be allowed to institute disciplinary action against their players, subject to NYSCA guidelines and Recreation Department guidelines.
- Meeting with Parents- Each year, the Head Coach must conduct a preseason meeting with the parents/guardians of the players. At this meeting, all expectations and/or team rules must be communicated to the parents.

Parents

- Transportation of children - Transportation to and from practices and games is the responsibility of the parent(s), not the coaches.
- Sportsmanship- All parents are expected to act in a sportsmanlike manner at all youth sporting events.
- No Tolerance-Parents are subject to the NO Tolerance Policy contained in these by-laws.
- Equipment Responsibility-All equipment will be returned to the Recreation Office following the child's last game, or the parents will be billed for the replacement value of all articles not returned. No child will be allowed further participation in our programs if these conditions are not met.
- Closed Practices - Practices may be closed by the recreation director after receiving and reviewing a request from the coach. If parents become a problem at practices, the coaches may request, to the Parks and Recreation department, parents to drop their children off and require them to return later to pick them up.

All Spectators

- General- All persons in attendance at any Parks and Recreation Youth League

activity are under the authority of the Recreation Department.

- Sportsmanship- All spectators are expected to act in a sportsmanlike manner at all Youth sporting events.
- No Tolerance - Spectators are expected to abide by the No Tolerance Policy contained in these by-laws.
- Food & Drinks in gym- School policies will apply.

Officials

- Coaches that Officiate - Youth League coaches may not be referees/officials in the same league & age division in which they coach unless approved by the Parks and Recreation director or his designee.

Injuries

- Physicals- Each child is encouraged to have a physical prior to participating in any Youth Athletics Program sponsored by the Recreation Department.
- Indemnification- Bath County, Alleghany County, the City of Covington, the Town of Clifton Forge, their officers, agents, and volunteers are not liable for any injury that may result from the negligence of persons conducting this program. Bath County recommends that participants secure adequate medical insurance to cover any injury that may arise from participation in Bath County's recreation programs.
- Coaching Safely- Coaches are instructed to coach in a manner that allows for the maximum amount of safety possible at all times.

Protests

- General- Only qualified personnel of the Recreation Department can make on- site decisions pertaining to the interpretation of the by-laws and eligibility.
- Judgment Calls- There shall be no protest concerning a judgment ruling of any official.
- Qualified Personnel Defined- Qualified personnel are those that work directly with the youth athletic programs, within the Recreation Office, on a full-time basis.

Cancellations and Postponements

- Authority to Cancel - The authority to postpone a scheduled youth league game or

reschedule a game that has been postponed rests solely in the hands of Bath County Parks and Recreation Department.

- Forfeits- Teams that fail to appear for scheduled games will have to forfeit the game.
- Cancellation Announcements-All cancellations will be made public by the Recreation Department Offices prior to 2:30 PM through announcements at the local schools. If public notification of cancellation is not made by that time, the decision to play will lie in the judgment of the site supervisor or the official at the game site.

Make-Up Games

- Re-scheduling Games- Recreation Staff will handle all scheduling of make-up games. Make-up games will be scheduled at the earliest, most feasible date.
- Postponing Make-Up Games- Teams will not be allowed to postpone any make-up games. Refusal to play a make-up game will result in a forfeit of that game.

No Tolerance Policy

- General- The goal of the Bath County Parks and Recreation Department is to provide a fun, safe, positive and supportive atmosphere for the players, staff and spectators of Bath County's athletic events. The Recreation Department has taken a proactive, no tolerance stance towards any unsportsmanlike act or conduct. Any participant, coach, spectator or official may be disqualified from future participation in the county's athletic programs for any unsportsmanlike conduct and actions.
- Examples of Infractions- The below infractions are in no way a complete list of intolerable actions during a youth sporting events. The purpose is to show examples of infractions and their possible consequence. Bath County Recreation reserves the right to vary suspension length based on the severity of the action as well as the history of the individual.

One Game Suspension - Infractions that may warrant a one game suspension:

- Receiving a technical foul or flagrant foul during a game for unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Not complying with request of game personnel, official, scorekeeper, or site supervisor.

Multiple Game Suspensions - Infractions that may warrant a multiple game suspension:

- Using obscene language or displaying flagrant gestures or other unsportsmanlike

conduct.

- Ejection from the game for inappropriate conduct.
- Ejection of a participant from a game for rules violations (Two technical Fouls).
- Failure to provide Bath County, officials with the names of players, coaches or spectators involved in any infraction when requested to do so.
- Failure to play all participants their required playing time.
- Use of tobacco by a coach, participant, or game personnel during a scheduled game or practice.

Year Long Suspensions - Infractions that may warrant a yearlong suspension:

- Verbal threats or harassment made by a player, spectator, scorekeeper or official proceeding, during, or following a game.
- Providing false registration information about the participant which makes them eligible to participate in the County's program.
- Multiple suspensions

Lifetime Suspensions - Infractions that may warrant possible lifetime suspensions:

- Physical violence towards a player, coach, spectator, scorekeeper or official proceeding, during or following a game.
- Bringing a firearm or weapon into any County facility or park by someone who is not a law enforcement office.
- Reinstatement After Ejection- Also, please note that any person ejected or moved from Bath County events or facilities will not be allowed to participate in or spectator at any Departmental activity until given permission from authorized County personnel Again, our goal is to provide a safe, fun, and positive environment for all participants of Bath County's programs and to ensure that everyone is aware that there is no place for inappropriate conduct or actions at any of our events.

By-Laws for Youth League Basketball

Leagues

- Girls League- Girls must play in the Girls league with the exception of Rookie league or junior league if no team can be provided for them.
- Boys League- Boys must play in the Boys league with the exception of Rookie League.

Age

- Rookie League - Ages: 5-7 years old. Must turn 5 years old on or before October 1st, and may not turn 8 on or before October 1st.
- Junior League - Girls ages 8-10 years old. Boys grade 2-4. Must turn 8 years old on or before October 1st, and may not turn 10 on or before October 1st.
- Senior League - Ages 11-13 year's olds. Boy's grades 5-7 must turn 11 years old on or before October 1st, and may not turn 14 on or before October 1st.
- Teen League - Co-Ed ages 13-15. Must turn 13 on or before October 1st. May not turn 16 on or before October 1st.
- Age groups maybe combined if registrations do not allow for all leagues.

Drafts

- Bath County Parks and Recreation director and/or advisory board reserves the right to change age groups or modify them to reflect grades depending on numbers of participants and who we must combine with to have teams to play.
- Drafts Attendance- Coaches must be present at all basketball drafts. Players may be required to attend if the situation warrants their attendance.
- Draft Approval- the Recreation Department will have the final approval of each completed draft.

Practices

- Practices can be scheduled by contacting the Recreation Department.

Teams

- The responsibility of determining whether teams combine or divide rests with the Recreation Department. As a general rule, if a team has more than 12 players, they will be divided into two teams. The optimal team size is 7-8 players. Extenuating,

circumstances may affect the application of the aforementioned rule.

Games

- Official Rules - Games will be played in accordance with VHSL rules (as governed by the National Federation of State High School Associations), except when in conflict with these by-laws.
- Players to Start a Game- Team must have 4 players in order to begin a game.
- Coaches- There can be only 1 Head Coach and 2 assistant coaches on the bench.
- ALL coaches must be certified by NYSCA. The Head Coach is the only one allowed to stand in the coach's box. At no time should a coach block the view of the scorekeeper during the play of the game.
- Quarter Length-
Junior League: Five (5) minute quarters- two (2) minute overtime periods
Senior League: Six (6) minute quarters- three (3) minute overtime periods
- Quarter/Halftime/Game Breaks-
One (1) minute break between quarters.
Five (5) minute break between the halves.
Ten (10) minute break between games.
- Overtime Procedures- If the score remains tied after four quarters of play, all players will receive a three (3) minute break before the overtime period. The overtime period will be two (2) minutes in junior league and three (3) minutes in senior league. Each team will be given an additional 30 second time-out per overtime period played. This procedure will continue until there is a victor.
- Time-Outs in Overtime may be accumulated for successive periods, if not used in the prior Overtime period(s). Time Outs can be called by the player or the coach.
- Free Throws- Rookie League will shoot from the line closest to the basket.
Junior League will shoot on the line before the regular free throw line. Senior league will shoot from the regular foul line.
- 3 Point Shots- Rookie League and Junior League shots behind the 3 point line are only counted as 2 points.
- Full-Court Press- The full Court Press is applied in Senior League only.
During junior league play, the team that is losing can full court pressure the last minute of the first half and the last minute of the game.
- Lopsided Scores- If a team leads by 20 points in Senior League, 15 points Junior

League, and the leading team must change their game plan without embarrassing the opposing team, in order to keep the lead respectable. The leading team cannot press in the back-court. PENALTY: 1st offense for embarrassing an opponent- the coach will receive a warning letter. 2nd offence- the coach will be suspended a game.

- Official Book- The score entered into the book is the only official score. Any disputes concerning the score should be addressed to the referee or qualified Recreation Personnel that night.
- Playing Time Requirement- Each child is required to play two minutes (2) per quarter. If the coach is having a problem with a child not coming to practice, then play time requirements shall be discussed with Parks and Recreation and a final determination will be made. If a child becomes ill or injured Officials must be notified that the child will not meet there play time requirements for this reason.
- Schedule- All games will be played in accordance with league schedule, except when postponed by Bath County Parks & Recreation.
- Game Balls- Balls will be provided by the Recreation Department.
 - Girls Ball Sizes- Senior League : Intermediate size (28.5"), Junior league the same
 - Boys Ball Sizes- Senior League: Official Size (29.5"), Junior League (28.5")
 - Rookie League- Rookie size
- Jewelry- There shall be NO jewelry worn by players during warm-ups and /or games. Hard objects worn in the hair are considered jewelry and are thus not allowed.

Equipment

- Footwear- Only soft soled shoes will be considered legal footwear.
- Game Jerseys- Jerseys are for the league contest only! Exceptions: Jersey may be worn on game day to school or to the high school games. Do not wear to practice. Players must wear jerseys provided by the Recreation Department.
- Coaches Responsibility- Coaches are responsible for all articles of equipment distributed to his/her team and its members that are not accounted for. This includes all jerseys and basketballs.
- Parents Responsibility- All equipment will be returned to the Recreation Department following the child's last game, or the parents will be billed for the replacement value of all articles not returned. No child will be allowed further participation in our programs if these conditions are not met.

Officials

- General- There will be two (2) officials assigned per game (when available).
- No Refusal Policy- No coach or team has the right to refuse to play under any designated official.
- Communicating with Officials-Only the head coach can talk to a referee.

All- Stars

- Will be picked by a combination vote of coaches, referees, and Parks and Recreation Staff.
- Coaching for All-Star team will be chosen by the recreation director and advisory committee. Coaches will not be chosen by their win or loss records.

By-Laws for Cheerleading

- B League- Ages: 8-10 year old- Must turn 8 years old on or before October 1st, and May not turn 11 on or before October 1st.
- A League - Ages: 11-13 year olds- Must turn 11 years old on or before October 1st and may not turn 14 on or before October 1st.

By Laws for Youth League Football

Age

- C League- Ages: 7-8 years old. Must turn 7 years old on or before October 1st, and may not turn 9 on or before October 1st.
- B League -Ages: 9-10 years old. Must turn 9 years old on or before October 1st, and may not turn 11 on or before October 1st.
- A League -Ages: 11-13 years old. Must turn 11 years old on or before October 1st, and may not turn 14 on or before October 1st.

Weight Limit

- C League- A player in excess of 85 pounds (1 stripe on helmet) may not advance the ball. A player in excess of 100 pounds (2 strips on helmet) must play on the offensive and defensive lines from tackle to tackle (i.e. cannot play end).
- B League- A player in excess of 105 pounds (1 stripe on helmet) may not advance the ball. A player in excess of 140 pounds (2 stripes on helmet) must play on the offensive and defensive lines from tackle to tackle (i.e. cannot play end).
- A League- A player in excess of 140 pounds (1 stripe on helmet) may not advance the ball. A player in excess of 175 pounds (2 stripes on helmet) must play on the offensive and defensive lines from tackle to tackle (i.e. cannot play end).
- Position- All backs, wide receivers and tight-ends must be under the weight limit to advance the ball No one over the weight limit (orange stripe on helmet) can line up in positions of running back, quarterback or receivers (wide receivers, wing backs, flankers, etc.).
- Tight-End Exception: A player with one-stripe may line up at tight-end. This Player may go downfield on running plays in order to block. However, one striped tight-ends may not go downfield on passing plays. Additionally, if they touch thrown balls, they will be penalized for an illegal touch. Tight-ends with no Stripes can be involved in the passing game.
- Two Strips: A player with two-strips may not play TE, and may not defensively align themselves off of a TE. They must play from tackle to tackle, on both sides.
- Penalty for any misalignment: personal foul - 15 yards penalty.
- Weigh-Ins- There will be one central weigh-ins, for all players, conducted by the Recreation Department. Shirt, shorts, and socks must be worn on the scale. If a player does not weigh- in at the scheduled time, they will have to sit out the first game of the season.

Conditioning and Initial Practice

- Each child must have 3 days of conditioning (helmet only) before practicing in full equipment.
- Each practice may be a maximum of 1 ½ hours long.
- Each team may have up to 4 events per week. A game, practice, or scrimmage will count as an event. Only 3 events may be full pad practices. Typical pre-season practice after 3 conditioning days will be 3 days of full pads, 1 day helmet only.

Teams

- The responsibility of determining whether teams combine or divide rests with the Recreation Department. As a general rule, if a team is larger than 34 players, they will be divided into two teams. Extenuating circumstances may affect the application of the aforementioned rule.

Games

- Official Rules- Games will be played in accordance with VHSL rules (as governed by the National Federation of State High School Associations), except when in conflict with these by-laws.
- Coaches- There can only be 1 Head Coach and 5 Assistant coaches on the sideline per game. You may have more assistants at practice, but only 5 are allowed on the field during a game. However, ALL assistants must be certified by NYSCA. Inc. League, 3 coaches from each team will be allowed on the field in either the offensive or defensive backfields. Coaches are not allowed to interfere with the play of the game and can give verbal instruction only (penalty=15 yd.).
- Quarter Length- A League: Eight (8) minute quarters. B League: Seven (7) minute quarters. C League: No quarters; two (30) thirty minute halves. The clock will run continuously and will only stop for injuries and time-outs.
- Halftime/Game Breaks- Each team will be allowed ten (10) minutes between halves, and fifteen (15) minutes between games.
- Scoring- Score will be maintained in A & B League. No score will be kept in C league.

- Mercy Rule - the Mercy Rule will be in effect in A & B League games in order to keep the margin on the scoreboard respectable to both teams. If at any time, a team is leading by 24 points or more, the mercy rule will take effect. The trailing team will take possession on the 10 yard line going in, 1st and goal. If the trailing team fails to score, or if the differential remains in excess of 24, the leading team will begin its possession(s), at the 10 yard line going out, 1st and 10. If the trailing team is able to reduce the margin under 24, normal play resumes.
- Time- Outs- In A & B Leagues, each team is allowed three (3) timeouts per half. In C League, each team is allowed one (1) timeout per half
- Kicking/Punting- Kicking and Punting is allowed in both A and B League. No kicking game in C League.
- C League: Each team begins each possession, 1st & 10 from the 30 yard line going in. Offensive turnovers (i.e. Fumbles) not recovered by the offensive team will be spotted at the previous line of scrimmage. Turnovers may not be advanced by the defense.
- B League: On any kick or punt, the defense cannot rush the kick, but are allowed to raise their arms. No fakes are allowed during punting or attempting field goals/PAT. On kickoffs, the kicking team may attempt an onside kick, but the ball must travel 10 yards before being touched by the kicking team. The weight limit does not apply to kickers/punters since they may not advance the ball.
 - Points after Touchdown (PAT): The offensive team can score one (1) point after touchdown if they successfully advance the ball from the three yard line into the end zone. The offensive team can elect to kick the PAT, and if successful, will score two (2) points.
 - Field Goals: The offensive team may kick a field goal on any down. If Successful, the kicking team will score three (3) points.
 - Punting: A punt can be attempted on any down. The punter must get the punt off in a reasonable amount of time (as deemed by the referee). There may be no rush by the defense, no coverage by the kicking team, and no return from the receiving team. The receiving team may fair-catch a punt. The whistle will be blown and the ball spotted where it comes to rest or where it goes out of bounds
- A League: FG/PAT and kickoffs in A league are the same as in B league. However punting in A league will be live. Thus, blocks returns and fakes are allowed in A League.
- Playing Time requirement- Every child will play two successive plays per quarter. Players will be inserted or removed at the coach's discretion. Inc. League, the goal is to divide the playing time as equally as possible.

- Schedule-All games will be played in accordance with the league schedule, except when postponed by Bath County or Alleghany Parks and Recreation Department.
- Game Balls- C League: Pee Wee Size. B League: Junior Size. A League: Youth Size.
- C League Defensive Alignment- A maximum of: five (5) defensive linemen. Linebackers must remain 3 yards off the line of scrimmage until the ball is snapped (penalty= 5yd.) No defensive lineman may align themselves on the center.

Equipment

Issuing Equipment- There will be designated days and times for which football equipment will be issued. Each team will be given a day to pick up their equipment, and this will rotate from year to year.

- Footwear- Only tennis shoes, basketball shoes, rubber cleats, or plastic cleats will be considered legal footwear.
- Helmet- Each child shall be required to wear a helmet that is specified "NOC-SAE". No stickers shall be adhered to the helmets. Failure to comply with this request may result in the parent's purchase of the helmet in question.
- Game Jerseys- Jerseys are for league contests ONLY! Exceptions: jersey may be worn on game day to school or to high school games. Do not wear to practice. Players must wear jerseys provided by the Recreation Department.
- Coach's Responsibility- Coaches are responsible for all articles of equipment distributed to his/her team and its members that are not accounted for.
- Parent's Responsibility- All equipment will be returned to the Recreation Office following the child's last game, or the parents will be billed for the replacement value of all articles not returned. No child will be allowed further participation in our programs if these conditions are not met.

Officials

- General- There will be four (4) officials assigned per game (when available) in A & B League. Two (2) officials will be assigned for C League games.
- No Refusal Policy- No coach or team has the right to refuse to play under any designated official.
- Communicating with Officials- Only the Head Coach can talk to a referee.

- Chain Crew- Crews will be assigned for A & B League games. In C League, the home team is responsible for finding parents to hold the chains each game.

Super Bowl

- There will be no trophies given for regular season 1st and 2nd place. However, there will be awards given in the Super Bowl for football players and cheerleaders. The #1 team in each division will be given choice of side (home or visitor), regardless of the site, at the Super Bowl.

Selection of Coaches and Volunteers

- Coaches and volunteers will be selected according to knowledge of the sport, prior coaching experience, and ability to work with the parents and children. At no time during the selection process will ethnic background, sex, or religious beliefs be considered. Criminal history will be a factor and any volunteer coach must agree to a criminal background check. Background checks will be done by Bath County Sheriff's office. The Sheriff will base his decision on the list of attached barrier crimes (Reference 19.2-392.02) as defined by the State of Virginia. The Sheriff will supply Bath County Parks and Recreation with written notification that a person is eligible to coach or volunteer or cannot. At no time will the reason for the Sheriff's decision be released to the Parks and Recreation Staff.
- Any coach or volunteer who refuses to sign a form of release for a background check will automatically be disqualified.
- Background checks will be updated yearly unless a more frequent review is deemed necessary by Parks and Recreation Department.
- Coaches will be required to take any training deemed necessary the Parks and Recreation Director to benefit and conduct safe and educational youth programs.
- The Advisory Committee will review Coaches applications after the Recreation director approves all applicants. In the event there are multiple applicants the Advisory Committee will rank them. If the situation arises that there are only enough qualified applicants to coach existing teams the Director of Parks and Recreation will appoint the Coaches. If the most qualified denies the appointment or has to step down it will be given to the next ranked candidate. All candidates if possible will be allowed to coach as an assistant coach or in some other role pertaining to the team.
- No Coach will be considered if he/she has a history of abusive behavior toward officials, other coaches', parents, or children.
- The Recreation Department reserves the right to revoke any coach's position as it deems or if the coach is convicted of any of the barrier crimes during the season.

- Coaches will not be selected on merit.
- Any Coach under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be asked to leave the facility immediately and will be replaced.
- Any Coach using abusive language or gestures towards anyone while on duty will be replaced.
- A Coaching application will be required to allow Parks and Recreation Staff and the Advisory Committee to judge applicants fairly and accurately.
- Coaches will be required to read and sign a copy of Recreation Procedures.

Youth Volleyball League Rules

- Regulation court size is 60'x30'. The entire court will be used for play. The court size may be adjusted, if needed.
- The service line will be moved into the court up to 5' for the younger players. All types of serves are allowed. (ex. Overhand, underhand & side-arm). If the server is serving from inside the court, she cannot serve over-handed. If a serve touches the net it remains in play. If a serve goes out of bounds, a side-out will be awarded to the opposing team.
- Regulation net height for girls is 7'4.
- The league will only use official youth league volleyball. It is the official size but is 25% lighter.
- All girls are required to provide their own knee pads for practice and games. If the girls do not have knee pads and appropriate footwear, they are not allowed to play in the game or practice. Team t-shirts will be provided from the recreation department for games and must be returned at the end of the season unless otherwise noted. Uniform contracts will be issued and signed by each girl's parents upon receipt of the t-shirt.
- A match will consist of the best 2 out of 3 games. The first two games or the first team to score 25 points with a 2 point lead. The third game is the first team to score 15 points with a two point lead.
- If lack of 6 players, then the team must play the number present. If there are less than 4 players present for the first game, the team must forfeit that game. A 10 minute reprieve will be allowed before the second game and match are forfeit. NO game will begin more than 15 minutes before the scheduled time.
- The entire roster will be rotated into the games so everyone participates. This is an instructional league and it is important that all players are allowed the opportunity to play all positions and learn the fundamentals, as well as master the basic skills.
- Players are required to attend practices as well as games. If a girl cannot attend a practice, it is a parent's responsibility to notify the coach concerning why she will not be there. If a player has 3 unexcused absences, she may be removed from the team roster. Parents are required to bring their children to and pick their children up from practices and games on time.
- VHSL rules will be followed except where adjustments have been made by the recreation department. Referees will be provided.
- Coaches and players are expected to conduct themselves in a very sportsmanlike manner. We encourage each team to cheer one another on. This league is not about winning or losing. So have FUN, FUN, and FUN!!!!!!!!!!

Adult Mixed League Softball Rules

- 7 innings or a one hour time limit per game regardless of the number of innings played. Should time limit expire and home team is losing, they will be allowed to bat.
- Five male and female players must be in the lineup at all times. Six and six if A.H. used. Any five male and any five female players must play defense. NOTE: must have a minimum of 8 players to begin game of which you will be allowed to field 4 men and 4 women. At no time will you be allowed to play 5 men and 4 women or vice-versa. The league will be conducted so that there are an even number of men and women playing at any given time.
- The 12 inch softball will be used for men and the 11 inch softball will be used for the women.
- Male and female players must alternate in the batting order.
- When a male batter receives a base on balls or intentional walk, he will be awarded first and second base with the next female batter having the option to walk or bat. NOTE: If the next female chooses to walk, it is not considered an intentional walk for the purpose of making an appeal.
- HOME RUN RULE: Each team will be permitted to hit 4 outside the park home runs. 2 male home runs and 2 female home runs. Inside the park home runs do not count towards home run limit. If home run rule exceeds 2 male, 2 female then home run counts as an out.
- In an effort to attract families and the community to games the following will be enforced concerning alcohol, abusive language, littering and vandalism.
 - FIRST OFFENSE: Verbal warning
 - SECOND OFFENSE: Verbal warning, ejection from entire park area, name reported to Recreation Department
 - THIRD OFFENSE: Suspension from league for one (1) year
- This is your league and it is your responsibility to see that rules and regulations are followed for both league and tournament play.
- Please have a competent scorekeeper who can write legibly. In order to receive proper media coverage, you must do a very good job of score keeping.
- All team members are to hustle on and off the field. Umpires will be encouraged to speed up the pace of the game.

- Fifteen (15) run rules will be in effect after 5 innings.
- Please pay the umpire prior to starting game. \$20.00 per game to be divided among the teams competing. For double headers the price will be \$20.00 per game.
- Count will be 3 balls and 2 strikes.
- 20 Roster Limit and no one under (18) years of age.

Women's League/Mixed Volleyball Rules

League Description

- This league is a recreational adult league designed for teams with an interest in enjoying fun competition amongst like minded adults. Unsportsmanlike conduct toward officials or other players will not be tolerated. Violations are subject to suspensions from the league and or game forfeiture at the discretion of the League Coordinator. The conduct of fans and children is the direct responsibility of the team and players. Eating, drinking and smoking are not allowed in the gym, locker rooms, restrooms or lobby.

Player Eligibility and Age Rules

- All participants must be 18 years older to participate.
- All participants must complete a BCPR sports waiver before playing.
- All players should have a picture ID with them at matches.
- A picture ID must be presented to a referee or park district representative if player's eligibility is questioned. Failure to do so will result in the player not being allowed to participate in that match. An eligibility check may be requested at any time prior to the end of the match. However, we encourage teams to make eligibility checks prior to the start of the game if an ineligible player is suspected. If a player is determined to be ineligible they will not be allowed to play in that match.

Recreation Fees

- The registration fee for Mixed League Volleyball is \$45.00 per team and must be paid in full by the first schedule practice.
- Each team is required to pay \$8.00 per game to the referees before the game begins.
- Both teams are responsible for paying the referee for forfeited games.

Teams & Rosters

- Completed roster must be submitted to the Bath County Parks and recreation by the date determined by the athletics staff.
- All rosters must be signed by the participants before they can play in any games.
- Teams may have up to 10 players on their roster and no one under the age of 18.
- New rosters must be submitted for each season. Rosters may not be carried over.

- Everyone on the roster who is present at the game must rotate into each game played.
- Two roster changes will be allowed. The last day for roster changes will be one week after the first game.
- Each player on the roster must play at least half of the regular season games in order to be eligible for tie breakers at the season end.
- If a player had not attended any game by the half way point in the season, they will be removed from the roster and ineligible to participate for the remainder of the season.

Schedules

- Game schedule will be created and maintained by the BCPR staff.
- All scheduling will be created and maintained by the BCPR staff. If you would like a game rescheduled due to any circumstance this must be done in conjunction with the BCPR staff.

Game/Match format

- All matches will consist of 3 games.
- Each game will consist of 25 points with a two-point lead necessary for the win. The third game will consist of 15 points with a two point lead necessary for the win.
- Each team will play a match. Where the team winning two of the three possible matches win.

Playing Rules

- All players must sign in on the game line up before each match.
- It is imperative that for each match the players be present and ready to begin as soon as the previous match has finished. The next will begin 5 minutes after the previous match has ended, or at the regular starting time, whichever comes first. No match will start more than 15 minutes ahead of scheduled time. And only will start early if both teams agree that their players are present.
- If there is an injury during the game, you may continue with four players.
- The official roster is in effect for all games, no replacements.
- Balls may be hit with a cupped hand, closed fist, heel of the palm, side of the hand,

tips of the fingers, or with two hands joined together.

- Balls may not be hit with open palm area so that it constitutes a slap or with two hands not joined striking the ball which will constitute a double hit.
- The opposing team can only contact the ball on the opponent's side of the net if;
 - The opponents have contacted the ball 3 times.
 - The ball, in the official's judgment has been projected across the net.
 - On the serve.
- Additional Mixed League Rules Only
 - Anytime a ball is struck more than once on a volley on the same side, a female must make one of those hits.
 - If at least 4 of the official roster are not present for the scheduled match, there will be a forfeit. The 4 members must be in ratio of three to one, or two to two, three being women.
 - Players must alternate positions according to gender "rotation" must be done in the server's position.

Tournament & Season standings:

- The regular season standings will be determined by games won during the season. In the event of a tie:
 - For the first place tie a one game play-off will be held.
 - For ties other than first place, head to head records during the regular season will be compared. If that does not determine the winner, points allowed in the games with the tied teams will be calculated, with the team allowing the fewest points to be awarded the higher place. If that does not break the tie, points scored will be used.
- Tournaments will be held after the regular season standings. And will consist of a double elimination structure.
- Players must participate in at least half the season games, to be eligible to play in the tournament.

Balls hitting the ceiling

- If, during a volley, a team hits a ball into the ceiling on their side, having not used all of their three hits they may play the ball off of the ceiling. If, however during a volley a team hits the ball into the ceiling on their opponents side, the ball is considered out-of-bounds, with a point or side out awarded to the other team. If a team hits the ball into the ceiling and still has remaining hits, they are able to play the ball. If the ball hits the same area twice in a row and goes over the net, it is considered out of bounds.

Parking

- We would like to ask that all participants and spectators park either in the elementary school parking lot or the Parks and Recreation parking lot. When people park up near the school gym it creates conflict with the bus drivers returning from afterschool activities as well as medical staff in the case of emergency. The only exception is for someone who is handicapped; in which they are allowed to park in the designated area at the gym. We don't want to in anyway cause you to not participate in our events but we don't own the facilities and we must respect and abide by their rules and regulations. Anyone who does not park in the designated area; your car will be towed. Parks and Recreation will not be responsible for any towing fees acquired to owners of vehicles.

Children in the gym

- We understand that many parents must bring children with them to gyms in order for them to participate in our programs, but please understand that your children must stay in the gym on the bleachers with you or whomever you have brought with you to supervise them at all times. If they go to the restroom they must be accompanied by an adult. Parents are responsible for supervising their children. We don't own the facilities and it's imperative that we respect the property of the school in order to continue to have recreation programs. Recreation and school equipment are off limits to children at all times. Parks and Recreation will not be held accountable for damaged property or injuries due to negligence on the parent's behalf.

**Bath County Procedure for Use of Recreation Equipment by
individuals and Non Profits**

Bath County parks and recreation will not rent and/or loan any recreation equipment to a private individual other than sports equipment that has been issued to play a Recreational sport.

Equipment means mowers, tractors, bounce houses, etc.

Non Profit organizations will be allowed to use bounce houses at no expense with a signed letter stating they understand they are responsible for any accidents are damage to the bounce houses. Nonprofits are responsible for cleaning and returning bounce house in the same shape they were received in. The bounce houses must be manned with adult staff by all non-profits while in their possession. The County of Bath is not responsible for any injuries are accidents caused by use of the bounce houses. Bounce houses will be loaned out on a first come first serve basis and must be requested 2 weeks in advance. Bath County Parks and Recreation has priority use of bounce houses followed by Bath County schools then all other non-profits on a first come first serve basis. Bounce houses will be delivered and picked up by Bath County Recreation Department Monday thru Friday during normal work hours. Bounce houses will not be used at any time during poor weather conditions such as rain or snow unless being used indoors. If bounce houses get wet they must be dried and cleaned prior to folding up.

Resolving Questions Regarding Recreation

Policy Given Extenuating Circumstances

Every policy may have circumstances that fall into a "grey area" and decisions of how to implement the policy may need to be reviewed on a case by case basis. If this is an issue with the policies for Parks and Recreation, the implementation of the policy in question will be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Director, County Administrator, and the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. A decision will be made by consensus of those parties and a report of such a decision will be given to all Board of Supervisor members in a timely fashion. To deviate from policy as herein presented may only be considered when an event or incidence occurs causing non-compliance which is beyond the control of the party requesting reconsideration. For example, a child may not be signed up for sports on time because their parent forgot or did not see the registration form delivered with other School papers; however, this event would not qualify for reconsideration without other contributing factors. Alternately, if accident, illness, or travel away from the County during registration time occurred, the registration may be re-considered by the Parks and Recreation Director in consultation with the County Administrator and the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

Development and Maintenance of Athletic

Rules and Regulations for

Youth and Adult Sports

Rules will be adopted for all in county sports by a majority vote of the Bath County Recreation Advisory Committee after consulting with the Director of Parks and Recreation and placing the change on the agenda to allow for the community to have input. These rules will be for the actual playing of games and will not pertain to practice schedules or any sport that is combined with another area. The practice schedules will be controlled by the Parks and Recreation staff and will be designed around facilities, staffing and other county organizations that gyms are shared with. Rules for sports that are combined with other areas will be agreed upon by all involved. For combined sport leagues the Bath County Parks and Recreation Director will seek input from the Advisory Committee and will be the representative and voting member representing Bath County. Rules will be revisited at least yearly and will only be changed if there is a majority vote from the Advisory Committee. Rules will not be changed during the actual season and will only be revisited after the season is completed. No rule will be put in place that will cost parents, the county, or any other entity money without approval of the board of supervisors.