

GLYNN COUNTY RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT

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Our Mission: *To provide quality, year round recreational activities, facilities, and services that are safe, fun, and enhance the quality of life for all.*

Glynn County Recreation and Parks Department **Youth Athletics Mission Statement**

To develop the positive values of athletics, including sportsmanship, teamwork, cooperation, and competition. To provide as many youth as possible the opportunity to participate in activities they enjoy in a fun and safe environment.

Athletic Coaches Mission Statement

To improve the lives of our athletes by teaching them the values of hard work, healthy competition, sportsmanship, and a commitment to excellence; and to instill in them a knowledge and love of the game that will enable them to lead healthy lives.

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Provide all Glynn County youth with the opportunity to participate in Glynn County Recreation and Parks sports programs.

Objective 1: Promote programs through social media, emails and phone calls to past participants, seasonal flyers to schools, presence at community and school events such as high school coaches' camps/clinics, school open house, National Night Out, etc. (Ongoing)

Objective 2: Promote and administer the "Athletics4All Sponsorship Program" that allows families with financial hardships to apply for scholarships to help offset youth athletics registration fees. (Ongoing)

Objective 3: Promote and administer the Additional Child Discount Policy that allows parents to register one child at full price and siblings at a reduced rate (10% off regular registration fee) for seasonal youth athletic leagues. (Ongoing)

Objective 5: As participation in programs increases, utilize facilities in other areas of Glynn County for practices and games. (Ongoing)

Goal 2: Recruit, select, train, and retain volunteer coaches who support and promote the Youth Athletics Mission and Core Values.

Objective 1: With assistance from Glynn County Schools head coaches, develop and utilize sport specific training materials, videos, and hands-on

coaches' clinics to enhance recreational coaches' knowledge of the sport they are coaching, ability to organize and lead practices and games, and ability to develop and motivate young athletes. (Ongoing)

Objective 2: Develop a volunteer manual for new coaches that includes: the Youth Athletics Mission and Athletic Coaches Mission; Glynn County Recreation and Parks' expectations regarding training, communication with players/parents, coach/player/spectator conduct, and disciplinary action; an emergency action plan for practices and games; team formation process; All-Stars; etc. (Fall 2023)

Objective 3: Ensure potential coaches complete all mandatory coaching requirements and successfully pass the County's criminal background before being assigned to a team. (Ongoing)

Objective 4: Recognize and incentivize volunteers who successfully serve as head coaches for youth teams. Incentives include the Volunteer Coach Discount Policy, Glynn County Recreation and Parks coach shirt, periodic recognition of volunteers on social media and local print media, post season thank you letters, and recognition through Georgia Recreation and Park Association awards program. (Ongoing)

Goal 3: Increase player retention.

Objective 1: Provide sport-specific athletic clinics for youth to prepare them for the upcoming season and give them the basic knowledge and tools to be successful at the game. (Ongoing)

Objective 2: Promote and encourage all registered players to attend at least one scheduled player evaluation prior to team formation to ensure teams are formed as fairly and balanced as possible. GCRPD staff will engage coaches during the draft meetings to ensure the skill levels of all players, including those who missed evaluations, are known to all coaches before youth are drafted onto teams. (Ongoing)

Objective 3: Serve as the "gatekeeper" to make sure teams are balanced and, throughout the season, offer assistance to coaches who need extra assistance or additional resources to ensure a successful season. (Ongoing)

Objective 4: Recognize players during the season and post-season on social media using video clips of games and testimonials from players. (Ongoing)

Objective 5: Offer skills competitions such as Pitch, Hit, & Run; Punt, Pass, & Kick; Home Run Derby, etc., to promote fun in athletics and to encourage development of fundamental skills with opportunities to advance to regional and national competitions. (Ongoing)

Goal 4: Provide safe, well-maintained athletic facilities and equipment, and a positive environment in which to play.

Objective 1: Ensure fields and field amenities are well-groomed and maintained, and gymnasiums, restrooms, and lobby areas are clean and fully stocked during practices and games. (Ongoing)

Objective 2: Request funds during the annual budget process for park/facility improvement projects and new amenities, i.e. field maintenance equipment, field/irrigation repairs and upgrades, etc. (Ongoing)

Objective 3: Promote and adhere to GCRPD heat and hydration guidelines for practices and games using Georgia Recreation and Park Association guidelines as the model. (Ongoing)