

TEN MOST ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. WHAT IS THE MISSION OF THE FORT MEADE YOUTH SERVICES SPORTS AND FITNESS?

Provide a wide range of opportunities for participation in team sports, individual sports and outdoor activities. The program emphasizes fun, fundamentals, maximum participation and physical conditioning rather than winning or losing.

In compliance with the Boys and Girls Club of America we inspire and enable all young people to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens.

2. WHAT TEAM SPORTS DOES YOUTH SPORTS OFFER?

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Ages</u>
Soccer Clinic	Spring and Fall	3-4 yr olds (must be 3 by 1 Apr)
Soccer	Spring and Fall	5-14 yr olds (FIFA age grouping 1 Aug)
Indoor Soccer	Fall and Winter	10-14 yr olds (FIFA age grouping 1 Aug)
Tball	Spring	5-6 yr olds (Must be 5 by 1 Apr)
Baseball	Spring	7-14 yr olds (as of 1 Aug)
Baseball	Fall	11-14 yr olds (play in age for next year)
Girls Softball	Spring	9-14 yr olds (as of 1 Aug)
Indoor Track	Winter	7-17 yr olds (as of 31 Dec)
Track	Spring	7-18 yr olds (as of 31 Dec)
Football	Fall	7-15 yr olds (age of 31 Dec and By Weight)
Cheerleading	Fall	7-15 yr olds (not a factor)
Basketball	Winter	7-17 yr olds (as of 31 Dec)

3. WHAT INDIVIDUAL SPORTS DOES YOUTH SPORTS OFFER?

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Ages</u>
Martial Arts	Year Round	3-18 yr olds (not a factor)
Gymnastics	Year Round	3-18 yr olds (not a factor)
Tennis	Summer	7-14 yr olds (not a factor)
Swim	Year Round	7-18 yr olds (not a factor)
Bowling	Year Round	5-18 yr olds (not a factor)

4. WHY DO WE PAY A MEMBERSHIP FEE?

An annual registration fee is assessed to each participant to help defray program expenses.

5. IS THERE A COACHES CERTIFICATION PROGRAM AT FORT MEADE?

Yes, the Army mandates that all volunteer coaches attend training and receive their coach's certification credentials in order to coach. This program applies to

all head coaches and assistant coaches. At this time Youth Services uses the National Alliance of Youth Sports (NAYS) for it's certification program. All volunteer coaches also submit to a background screening for prior instances of reported misconduct involving children, assault behavior, substance abuse, and larceny misconduct.

6. WHAT IS THE POLICY FOR SPORTS PHYSICALS?

Youth participants must provide a medical statement signed by a licensed health care professional that certifies the individual is physically fit to participate in the chosen sport(s) and addresses any pertinent medical condition(s)/ constraint(s). The medical statement must be current at the time of actual registration and remain valid through the completion date of the chosen sport. These requirements are a condition of participation and no child/youth will be authorized to play (practice or participation in games) until a valid physical is furnished.

7. WHY DOES MY CHILD GET PUT ON AN INTEREST LIST?

All youth who register with the Youth Services Sports program during the registration dates will be assured a place on a team. Youth who register after this time frame will be placed on teams on a space available basis.

As openings occur on teams, Youth Services will fill those openings from the interest list. Sports staff will ensure the children will be notified based on the order of the interest list and not ability. Youth who register late for Sports & Fitness programs due to PCS moves to the Ft. Meade Community (must provide a copy of PCS orders) will be given priority on any interest file and will be the first to be called on to a team when an opening exists.

8. HOW ARE THE DIFFERENT TEAMS PUT TOGETHER?

Ages 5-8 yr olds will be arbitrarily placed on teams regardless of ability. Request for children to play on the same team with other children (friends, car pooling etc.) must be in writing to be given consideration. The request for placement must be done prior to the parent coaches meeting. Once the parent coaches meeting takes place changes of rosters will be on a space available basis.

Ages 9-17 yr olds will be evaluated and placed on a team through a player distribution plan. It is strongly recommended that all players show up for the evaluation process to ensure all teams are as competitively equal as possible. Individuals called from the interest list will be placed by the order of the interest list and not be evaluated.

9. ARE PLAYERS AUTHORIZED TO PLAY IN DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS?

Yes, but must be evaluated by the higher age group coaches. They must also appear at their normal age group evaluations so that all coaches have the opportunity to evaluate the child.

After evaluations, all coaches must agree the child is capable of playing at the higher level. Children may not play down in age groups. Parents that feel there may be circumstances to waive this policy must provide written justification. The Sports Manager will review the justification.

10. **DOES YOUTH SERVICES SPORTS AND FITNESS PROVIDE UNIFORMS?**

Parents or Coaches will sign a Hand Receipt for all uniforms issued to youth participants. They are assuming direct responsibility for the items listed on the Hand Receipt. The Hand Receipt signer will pay for any uniform/equipment signed for that is lost, stolen or thrown away.