

## **Sports Leagues FAQs**

### **What is the difference between NP Rec sports leagues and NP PAL sports leagues?**

New Providence PAL, a nationally affiliated non-profit organization, offers athletic programs for children and young adults, ages 5-18. *They tend to be more competitive than Recreation programs.*

Programs under PAL's direction include the following: Baseball, Basketball, Cheerleading, Football, Softball and Wrestling. All PAL leagues may require travel for games. Some of the older, more competitive leagues may require try-outs for team placement. Every effort is made to place all interested participants on a team.

PAL also uses CommunityPass online registration system for all programs – however, Recreation CANNOT help with these registrations as we are unable to view them. The NP PAL website is [www.nppal.org](http://www.nppal.org).

### **What sports leagues are offered by NP Recreation?**

- In the spring the following leagues are offered:
  - Coed T-Ball (Kindergarten or age 5)
  - Baseball (1<sup>st</sup> grade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - Softball (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- In the winter, the following programs and leagues are offered:
  - Fundamentals (Grades 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> boys and girls)
  - Boys Basketball (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - Girls Basketball (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### **How are teams formed?**

- The first part of the process is the recruitment of volunteer coaches and organizing teams based on coach availability.
- In the younger leagues (Grade 2 and under), Recreation strives to equally distribute players by gender (if a Coed League) and from each elementary school.
- In the older leagues (3-8), the goal is to create evenly balanced teams using information collected from previous season's coaches or, for basketball, through Skills Assessments.
- The staff then balances teams by placing players by skill set, experience (PAL participation), grade level, and school.

Many factors are considered throughout the process to provide a successful, fun season for everyone.

### **Can I request my child be on a team with a friend?**

- Yes, parents may request their child be with ONE other child (for younger leagues K – 2 only).

### **What equipment does my child need for T-ball, Baseball, or Softball?**

- Each child should have his/her own glove.
- Helmets are available, but many families prefer to buy their own.
- Long pants and sneakers or cleats are encouraged for ALL age groups.

### **What is the weather cancellation policy?**

**Cancellation Information, as soon as it is available, will be:**

- Updated on the Weather Info Line - 908-464-0600

- Posted on the Recreation Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/NPRecreation>
- Emailed to program participants using the emails provided on your CommunityPass account.
- Every effort will be made to send the email at least an hour before the program begins.
- For Winter Basketball, cancellations will be posted on the season website at [www.leaguelineup.com/newprovbasketball](http://www.leaguelineup.com/newprovbasketball).

**Week-day cancellations related to New Providence Public Schools:**

- If the New Providence Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather - ALL Recreation programs, sports and classes are cancelled for the entire day and evening.
- If the New Providence Public Schools have a delayed opening due to inclement weather - only morning programs are cancelled and afternoon/evening programs are held as scheduled.
- If the New Providence Public Schools have an early dismissal due to inclement weather - ALL Recreation programs, sports and classes are cancelled for the remainder of the day and evening.

**General weather cancellations:**

- Weather conditions are evaluated by Recreation on an hourly basis.
- Please check the weather hotline and/or your email before heading to a program if the weather looks questionable - just because a morning program ran, doesn't mean the remaining programs for the day will run.

**Fields Conditions cancellations:**

- The NP Dept. of Public Works assesses field conditions, checks weather predictions, and recommends whether to cancel. Cancellations are made when conditions are unsuitable or unsafe for play and to protect the long-term playability of town fields.
- In the event of cancellations, the hotline (908-464-0600) and the season Web site ([www.leaguelineup.com/newprovbbaseball](http://www.leaguelineup.com/newprovbbaseball)) will be updated by 3:30PM. An e-mail will also be sent.
- The decision to cancel will be made by 3:30pm.
- An e-mail will also be sent to all league/class/camp participants.
- *Should weather conditions deteriorate AFTER 3:30pm, the decision to cancel is at the discretion of individual team coaches. Coaches have been provided with team contact information.*