



Parks & Recreation

## **Tega Cay Parks and Recreation Youth Sports Policies and Procedures**

*(Updated November 2021)*

The City of Tega Cay's Recreation Department offers youth sports for both Tega Cay residents and non-residents. Please adhere to the policies and procedures specified below and e-mailed out to the primary account's e-mail address listed in CivicRec. You and your child's safety and enjoyment are the primary concerns for these guidelines. These rules are subject to change before the start of each new season. Any updates will be sent to the primary email on file upon completion of a sports registration. Please take the time to read these policies and procedures periodically to be informed on any changes.

### **Youth Recreation Programs Offered**

Tega Cay Parks & Recreation offers youth and adult programming in the Spring, Summer, and Fall seasons. Programs offered in the Spring (Feb-June) & Fall (Aug-Nov) seasons are Youth Baseball, Softball (16U Softball offered in Spring only), Soccer, and Flag Football. Youth Flag Football & several sports camps are offered during the Summer.

#### **Programs & Age Divisions**

##### Little League Youth Baseball

- Tiny Tees (League Age 3-4)
- Adv. T-Ball (League Age 5-6)
- Coach Pitch (League Age 6-8)
- Minors (League Age 9-10)
- Majors (League Age 11-12)

##### Youth Softball

- 8U Coach Pitch (League Age 6-8)
- 10U Kid Pitch (League Age 9-10)
- 12U Kid Pitch (League Age 11-12)
- 16U Kid Pitch (League Age 13-16)

##### Youth Soccer

- U5 Kickers (League Age 3-4)
- U7 Coed Soccer (League Age 5-6)
- U9 Boys & Girls (League Age 7-8)
- U11 Boys & Girls (League Age 9-10)
- U14 Boys & Girls (League Age 11-13)

##### Youth Flag Football

- 6U Flag Football (League Age 5-6)
- 8U Flag Football (League Age 7-8)
- 10U Flag Football (League Age 9-10)
- 13U Flag Football (League Age 11-13)

Participants will register for the above programs based on their date of birth & League Age. League Age can be found on the Registration Page here: <https://www.tegacaysc.org/1296/Sports-Registration>.

*\*Participants have the option to play “up” into an older age division with permission from the Recreation Programmer overseeing the sport.\**

*\*Participants cannot play “down” unless there is a diagnosed medical condition preventing them from participating in their age appropriate division. Any player requesting to play “down” must still receive permission from the Recreation Programmer overseeing the sport.\**

## Registration

-Spring Registration: December 1<sup>st</sup> through the first week in February.

-Fall Registration: June 1<sup>st</sup> through the first week in August.

-Summer Registration: Mid-March through the Summer.

*\*All programs are subject to close prior to the posted end date due to registration numbers, coach availability, and/or field space limitations.\**

Registration can be completed online through a CivicRec Account or in-person at the Parks & Recreation office (7727 Tega Cay Dr). You can access your CivicRec Account here:

<https://secure.rec1.com/SC/tega-cay-sc/catalog>

## Refund Policy

Full refund minus the convenience fee prior to the last day of registration. Partial refunds (registration amount minus convenience fee and uniform cost) can be given after uniforms are ordered. No refunds are issued once -practices begin.

## Skill Evaluations

Skill Evaluations are held post-registration in the older age groups to help competitive balance teams, those age groups (*Coach Pitch Baseball & Above, Youth Softball, U9 Soccer & Above, and 8U Flag Football & Above*). Participants are ***strongly encouraged*** to attend skill evaluations each season.

Participants will complete a series of sport specific drills to the best of their abilities. They will be scored by independent evaluators based on their skill level in each drill. All registered players will be placed on a team regardless of their evaluation score. Participants who are unable to attend their skill evaluation day will still be placed on a team. However, they are not subject to the player draft and will be placed onto a team at random. Attendance at skill evaluations is required for participants with carpool requests.

## Team Selection

### **Tiny Tees/Adv. T-Ball/6U Flag Football/U5 Soccer/U7 Soccer**

Participants are assigned to teams through a combination of coach requests, practice requests, age, and random placement.

### **Coach Pitch Baseball & Up/Youth Softball/U9 Soccer & Up/8U Flag Football & Up**

Teams are selected utilizing a player draft. Head Coaches can designate protected players prior to player draft. Participants who attend evaluations, excluding protected players (max 3 per team), are included in the player pool and can be selected by any coach during the draft process. Participants who did not attend evaluations are randomly assigned to teams following the conclusion of the player draft.

#### Player Draft

A snake format utilizing randomized draft order is used during the player draft process. Protected Players are slotted into their respective round based on their skill evaluation scores. These players

will be considered the pick in the round they were slotted into. For example, if a coach's child grades out as a 1<sup>st</sup> Round Pick that child will be the Coach's 1<sup>st</sup> Round Pick. If a team has multiple players protected in the same round at the discretion of the programmer assigned to that league has the option to competitively balance a team. Once the protected players have been slotted and competitively balancing (if required) takes place teams will then begin selecting players in each round until all players who attended evaluations have been drafted onto a team. All players who did not attend evaluations are then randomly assigned onto teams.

#### Carpool Requests

**Tiny Tee/Adv. T-Ball/6U Flag Football/U5 Soccer/U7 Soccer:** Request will be honored unless conflicts with another request. **Coach Pitch Baseball & Up/Youth Softball/U9 Soccer & Up/8U Flag Football & Up:** Carpool requests will be taken under consideration provided both children involved in the carpool make the request on their registrations and both attend evaluations. Carpools requests involving more than 2 families and/or head coaches' protected players will not be honored. Carpool requests must be made no later than the day of evaluations.

#### Coach Requests

**Tiny Tee/Adv. T-Ball/6U Flag Football/U5 Soccer/U7 Soccer:** Request will be honored unless conflicts with another request. **Coach Pitch Baseball & Up/Youth Softball/U9 Soccer & Up/8U Flag Football & Up:** Coach requests can be made during the registration process but are not guaranteed. Coaches will receive the requests prior to the draft, however it will ultimately be up to the coach to draft the player that made the request.

#### Multiple Sports/Activity Requests

Tega Cay Parks & Recreation strongly discourages participants from signing up for multiple activities that conflicts with youth sports participation. If a family chooses to sign up for multiple activities inside or outside of the program accommodation will not be made by Tega Cay Parks & Recreation to accommodate the additional activity.

#### Sibling Requests

Tega Cay Parks & Recreation will automatically place siblings in the same age group on the same team unless otherwise noted on the registration form. However, Tega Cay Parks & Recreation cannot honor requests for siblings in different sports, and/or age groups to have the same practice/game schedule or avoid conflicts with the other sibling's practice/game schedule.

#### Practice Day/Time Requests

**Adv. T-Ball/6U Flag Football:** Practice day requests or conflict days can be noted at the time of registration. The Recreation Dept. will honor practice requests within reason, however, requests cannot be guaranteed. **U7 Soccer:** The practice schedule is determined by the day and time selected at the time of registration. **Coach Pitch Baseball & Up/Youth Softball/U9 Soccer & Up/8U Flag Football & Up:** Request for specific practice day/times will not be honored. Families are allotted one conflict day or time slot request that will be honored during team selections. Requests must be made no later than evaluation day. Players will not be moved to an alternate team due to practice conflicts if request is not noted prior to team selection.

#### Protected Players

These players are designated by Head Coaches prior to the player draft. These players are automatically placed onto the team without the need to be drafted. Baseball, Softball, and Flag Football are allotted (3) players. U9 & U11 soccer coaches are allotted (4) players, and U14

soccer coaches are allotted (5) players. These players can be a combination of the coaches' children, assistant coaches' children, or players that have made a request for the coach.

### Competitive Balance

Competitive balances are given to teams who have multiple protected players slotted in the same round. The degree of the competitive balances varies based on the ranking of the protected players and at the programmer's discretion. Teams that are subject to competitive balances can have their draft order manipulated, players assigned to their teams and/or protected players shifted to other rounds. The competitive balances are tools that allow our department to keep the teams as evenly matched as possible.

## Practices

**Tiny Tees/U5 Soccer:** Practices are held prior to games on Saturdays. **Adv. T-Ball/U7 Soccer/6U Flag Football:** Teams will practice (1) time during the week. Families will sign up for specific practice times in U7 soccer. However, practice days/times are determined by the team children are assigned to in Adv. T-Ball & 6U Flag Football. **U9 Soccer & Above/8U Flag Football & Above:** Teams will practice (2) times per week (1 weekday/1 Saturday) prior to the start of games. Once games begin, teams will drop to (1) weekday practice per week. Practice days & times are selected by the head coach of the participant's team. **Coach Pitch Baseball & Above/Youth Softball:** Teams will practice (2) times per week (1 weekday/1 Sat/Sun) prior to the start of games. Once games begin, teams will drop to (1) weekend practice per week. Practice days & times are selected by the head coach of the participant's team.

## Games

**Tiny Tee Baseball/U5 Kickers:** Teams will play (1) game per week during the season. Practices & Games are played on Saturdays for 6 weeks. **Adv. T-Ball/U7 Soccer/6U Flag Football:** Teams typically play (1-2) games per week during the season. Games are played primarily on Saturdays for (6-8) weeks, but games may also be scheduled during the week or Sunday. **8U Flag Football & Above:** Teams typically play (1) game per week during the season. Games are played primarily on Saturday or Sunday for (7-8) weeks. **U9 Soccer & Above:** Teams typically play (1-2) games per week during the season. Games are primarily played on Saturdays with the possibility of some during the week for (7-9) weeks. **Coach Pitch Baseball & Above/Youth Softball:** Teams typically play (1-2) games per week during the season. Games are primarily played during the week with the possibility of Saturdays for (7-9) weeks. Baseball will normally play games during the week on: Majors (Mon/Thurs), Minors (Mon/Thurs), Coach Pitch (Tues/Thurs).

### Post Season Games

**Tiny Tees/Adv. T-Ball/6U Flag/U5 & U7 Soccer:** There are no post season games. We do not keep score or standings in these age groups and no participation trophies will be provided. **Coach Pitch Baseball & Above:** Teams will compete in a seeded tournament at the end of the regular season in the Spring Season. Teams will compete in an unseeded, blind draw tournament at the end of the regular season in the Fall Season. Champions and Runner Ups will be awarded medals. **Youth Softball:** Teams will compete in a seeded tournament at the end of the regular season in the Spring and Fall Seasons. Champions and Runner Ups will be awarded medals. **U9 Soccer & Above:** Teams will compete in a seeded tournament at the end of the regular season in the Spring and Fall Seasons. Champions and Runners-Up will be awarded medals. **8U Flag Football & Above:** Teams will compete in a single Bowl Game at the end of the regular season during the Fall and Spring Seasons. Bowl Games will match teams with similar records during the regular season. Champions and Runner Ups will be awarded medals.

## Location of Rules

Baseball – A link to each division’s rules can be found on the baseball page by clicking on the “Rules” tab: <https://www.tegacaysc.org/859/Youth-Baseball>

Softball – A link to each division’s rules can be found on the softball page by clicking on the “Rules” tab: <https://www.tegacaysc.org/950/Youth-Softball>

Soccer – A link to each division’s rules can be found on the soccer page by clicking on the “Rules” tab: <https://www.tegacaysc.org/877/Youth-Soccer>

Flag Football – A link to each division’s rules can be found on the flag football page by clicking on the “Rules” tab: <https://www.tegacaysc.org/882/Youth-Football>

## Play Time Requirements

### Baseball

**Tiny Tees/Advanced T-ball:** All players will bat before switching to defense

**Coach Pitch:** All players are required to play at least (9) defensive outs per game

**Minors/Majors:** All players are required to play at least (6) defensive outs per game

*\*All baseball line ups use a continuous batting order.\**

### Flag Football

**6U/8U/10U/13U:** All players are required to play at least (1) half of the game

**Summer Flag 9U/12U:** All players are required to play at least (1) half of the game

### Soccer

**U5/U7:** All players are required to play (16) minutes

**U9/U11/U14:** All players are required to play at least (1) half of the game

### Softball

**8U/10U/12U:** All players are required to play at least (6) defensive outs per game

16U – All players are required to play at least (6) defensive outs per game and (1) at bat per game

*\*8U, 10U and 12U line ups use a continuous batting order.\**

## Conflict Resolution

The City of Tega Cay encourages participants to proactively resolve any issues that may occur during the season opposed to waiting until the end of the season. The first chain of command (if applicable) is to contact your child’s coach regarding an issue. We ask that this contact does not occur during a practice or game. If the issue cannot be resolved, please contact the Recreation Programmer assigned to the sport involving the conflict.

## Parent Expectations

Your role as a parent in our program is to support, encourage and serve as a positive role model for your child’s participation. We expect you to help create a fun and safe environment that focuses on skill development and understands that no college scholarships will be earned at this level. Your role does not include berating officials, coaches or other volunteers involved with the program, using profanity, alcohol or drugs, and no tobacco products unless it is in the designated areas.