



READINGTON RECREATION

REC SOFTBALL PROGRAM

COACHES INFORMATION

Thank you for volunteering to coach for the Readington Recreation Softball Program. Volunteer coaches make our programs run! The following information provides an outline of everything you need to know to coach.

PRE-SEASON REQUIREMENTS PRE-SEASON REQUIREMENTS

- **Coach's Application:** (ALL COACHES) Readington Recreation requires all coaches to complete a coaching application for each season, prior to the start of each season. The coaching application is available on the Coaches Corner section of the Readington Recreation website (ReadingtonRecreation.org)
- **Rutgers SAFETY Clinic:** (NEW COACHES) Readington Recreation requires all coaches to complete the Rutgers SAFETY Clinic. The certification is valid for life, so coaches only need to take it one time. The Rutgers course provides volunteer coaches with civil immunity. The Department offers the clinic seasonally and it is free to all Readington coaches.
- **Background Check:** (NEW COACHES) Readington Recreation requires all new coaches to complete a background check by finger printing. This must be done specifically for Readington Recreation, even if you have gotten fingerprinted for other organizations. Information is available from the office. Contact Lisa Baum at readingtonrecoffice@gmail.com.
- **CPR/First Aid:** We do not require you to be certified but coaches are encouraged to pursue this on their own if interested. Classes are offered through the Red Cross and the Hunterdon Medical Center.

PRE-SEASON COACHING TASKS

- **Coaches Meeting:** Prior to each season, there will be a coaches' meeting where the league coordinator will discuss important topics for the upcoming season.
- **Rosters & Schedules:** Coaches will receive their rosters and schedules approximately two weeks prior to the start of the season.
- **Welcome Email:** Upon receipt of the rosters from the recreation department, coaches must send a welcome email to their team. A template for this email is included.
- **Uniforms & Equipment:** Uniforms consist of a team shirt. Equipment will be provided by the Recreation Department. Coaches will receive an email when uniforms and equipment are ready for pick-up from the recreation department.

DURING THE SEASON

- **Communication with the League:** All Readington Recreation teams will play in the Branchburg Recreation League. If you have a scheduling issue during the season, please contact Kevin Fitzgibbon who is the league coordinator in Branchburg, at kevinfitzus@yahoo.com.
- **Communication with the Team:** Throughout the course of the season, information may come from the recreation department that will need to be communicated to the team. This can include picture day schedules, rescheduling of games, etc. It is the coach's responsibility to forward that information to the team. You will also have team specific information during the season to impart. You may want to ask an assistant coach or a parent to handle your email communications.
- **Weather Cancelations:** All initial weather cancelations will be posted on the Readington Recreation website and Facebook page. If updates throughout the day are necessary, they will be posted on the Facebook page only. Coaches should inform their team of the weather cancelation policy in the welcome email.
- **Injury:** While we do everything possible to provide a safe playing environment, injury is a predictable part of participation in sports. Ice packs are available at the concession stand. Coaches should carry a pack with them for practices. Should an injury occur, it is the coach's responsibility to complete the accident report form, please keep a copy for your records and submit a copy to the Recreation Office as soon as possible.

Readington Recreation is here to help you! If you have any questions or concerns about coaching and managing your team, please contact us!

Brian VanDongen

Assistant Director of Recreation

programsreadington@gmail.com

Office: (908) 534-9752

Text/Cell: (908) 295-1129