

Town of Micanopy

Parks & Recreation

706 N.E. Chokolka Blvd. ♦ P.O. Box 137
Micanopy, Florida 32667

(352) 466-3121

Open Monday to Thursday, 7:30am to 6:00pm

Micanopy Youth Sports Recreation Program

WELCOME TO MICANOPY SPORTS!

Sports Program Procedures

The start of every sports season creates a flurry of activity and questions, and we are happy to help make your family's participation enjoyable and memorable. Please read the following information and let us know if you have more questions.

Registration: Depending on the sport, children as young as four years old can join a team and have fun. Because Micanopy is a small community, there may not be enough participants to form teams in all age groups, but we try hard to find a place for every child who wants to play, whether experienced or beginner.

A registration packet is available on request that will answer many questions and describe procedures and responsibilities. Some questions cannot be answered with certainty until enough children have registered to form teams, and enough coaches signed up to lead them. We encourage everyone to register early. If a fit cannot be provided, the registration fee will be refunded. There is a late fee for registering after the sign-up deadline.

If a child's birth certificate is not already on file, one must be provided to the Recreation Manager with the registration form. Payment in full must be submitted when registering. If other arrangements have been made to pay the fee, please confirm in writing who will be paying the fee so we can confirm. No child can participate until registration procedures are complete.

Sports equipment: Personal equipment for players such as shin guards, helmets and baseball bats are the responsibility of the players and their families. Other equipment required for play is provided by the facility, such as balls, nets, bases, and pinnies. A supply of used soccer and baseball shoes are available for families in need, and we encourage donations of used equipment and shoes for such sharing.

Coaches: Micanopy's coaches are unpaid volunteers who generously donate their time and hard work for the benefit of the program's children and families and love of the sport. Coaches need not be accredited for practices and regular game play. Tournament coaches must qualify under specific tournament rules. (Speak to the Recreation Manager or MARC officers about how to become accredited as a coach, umpire, etc.) All coaches, assistant coaches, and other volunteers who come into direct contact with the players will undergo a background check per Ch. 943.04351, Florida Statutes, conducted by the Recreation Manager at the beginning of the

season. Coaches will place players into teams that best fit their abilities and potential. The priority is always safety for all participants. Anyone interested in coaching, assisting coaching, or acting as a Team Parent should contact the Recreation Manager.

Practice times: Each sports season the coaches, MARC, and Recreation Manager come together to schedule practices for the current teams. Usually two evenings per week (e.g., Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:00pm) are selected, although more or fewer may be scheduled. The park welcomes families and players who want to come by anytime to get in personal practice.

Game Schedules: Games are scheduled at the regional and district levels with input from member leagues. Schedules will be distributed to coaches and players as soon as they are provided to the Recreation Manager. Transportation to games is the responsibility of players and their families.

Picture Day: Photographs of Micanopy sports teams are desirable -- and required for Babe Ruth League tournament play. Sometimes a professional photographer is hired to photograph teams and individual players, when requested. Families are not required to pay for photographs they do not want. On picture day, players should arrive early and fully dressed in their team uniforms. Team photos taken by nonprofessionals should supply electronic copies to the Recreation Manager for the archives.

Sports oversight: Micanopy Sports is a member of the following sports associations and conforms to their policies, procedures and rules:

ACTFOR: Soccer, Basketball

BABE RUTH (Micanopy Lake Area League): Baseball, T-ball, Softball

Micanopy Area Recreation Co-operative (MARC), a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, handles most of the “people” side of Micanopy sports, organizing rosters, providing coaches and other volunteers, ordering uniforms, helping with registrations and fundraising, and much more. Please see the MARC handout for more details.

Volunteers: The Micanopy sports programs could not function without enthusiastic volunteers. They help maintain the fields, prepare for games, work the concession window, man booths at public events, drive children to away games, locate sponsors, host parties, and many other activities. If you can find it in your heart to dedicate a few hours to helping make this program stronger, please contact the Recreation Manager or MARC. Volunteers are also needed for other Town activities such as the annual 4th of July celebration, Halloween, Antique Car Show, and Fall Festival.

Sportsmanship: All participants in Micanopy sports, whether players, volunteers or staff, are held to high standards of behavior. Please see the program’s Code of Conduct for specifics.

Additional questions? Contact the Recreation Manager at (352) 466-3121.

Thank You for Caring about Our Community’s Youth