

**YORK PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
2026 DYB 15U AGES: 12-15**

<u>REGULAR REGISTRATION:</u>	FEBRUARY 16- MARCH 18	\$80 PER CHILD
<u>LATE REGISTRATION:</u>	MARCH 19- MARCH 22	\$90 PER CHILD

York Parks and Recreation reserves the right to make any necessary changes or cancellations to these programs in the interest of the safety and well-being of all participants, parents, officials, coaches and staff.

York Parks and Recreation Department is pleased to have your child as a participant in our baseball program. This information is provided to acquaint our parents with the way in which this year's program will be structured. Some of the guidelines we follow are set by Diamond Boys Baseball. Other rules were developed with input from our coaches and staff.

When you register your child, there are a number of forms in which you will be required to complete. These include:

1. Registration Form
2. Waiver of Liability
3. Parent's Code of Ethics

BIRTH CERTIFICATES

Effective February 1, 2010, a copy of each participant's birth certificate must be on file with York Parks and Recreation Department no later than Monday, March 23, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. or your child will not be placed on a team. This includes participants that have played in previous seasons and other programs sponsored by York Parks and Recreation Department.

FEES/REFUNDS

Registration fees will be collected by York Parks and Recreation Department at the time of registration. Methods of payment accepted are cash, check (payable to York Parks and Recreation Department), Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. **Please note that a fee of \$2 will be charged to all credit card payments.** Financial assistance is available. See staff for details. Fees may be refunded less 25% administrative costs until the late registration deadline. **There will be no refunds after Sunday, March 22, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.**

Once the registration deadline has passed a waiting list will be formed. Anyone on the waiting list will not be eligible for a team unless it has been deemed necessary by York Parks and Recreation Department. The waiting list will be referred to in the order that the names are received and no preference will be given to any names on the list.

AGE GROUPS

15U baseball is comprised of boys ages 12-15. To be eligible to participate, a child must be twelve (12) years old before May 1 and cannot be fifteen (15) years old before May 1. **League age 12-year-olds have the option to play either Diamond Youth Ozone (ages 10-12) or Diamond Boys Baseball 15U (ages 12-15). This must be determined at registration. No other exceptions will be made. A player may only play in one league and will not be allowed to play in another age group at any time during the regular season, post-season or All-Stars.** All new participants will enter a draft and will be selected by a team. The draft is designed to promote equal competition among our teams. Participants are required to play in their appropriate age group. Once a player has been placed on a team, no changes will be made.

LEAGUE BOUNDARIES

York Parks and Recreation Department has established boundaries that have been approved by Diamond Youth/Boys Baseball. Each community/area has defined boundaries in which the player must reside in order to participate with that area. The defined areas are York, Newport, and Hickory Grove/Sharon/Smyrna are combined as one area. A York player is not allowed to participate on a team from Newport or the Hickory Grove/Sharon/Smyrna area. A Newport or Hickory Grove/Sharon/Smyrna player can participate on a York team due to the availability of teams.

SKILLS REVIEW

In fairness to all players and coaches and to balance the teams as equally as possible, all new players will enter a draft to be placed on a team. To be placed on a team, all players must attend the appropriate skills evaluation on Optimist Field located behind the Recreation Center, 21 White Rose Lane. Separate drafts will be held for any boundary that has more than one team. Skills reviews will be scheduled the week of March 23rd. **Parents will be notified of their particular draft time and date once it is set.** Players should bring their baseball glove to the Skills Review. If it rains, the skills review will be moved inside the gym.

Participants that do not attend will be drafted on a team by placing their names in a “hat,” and coaches may only select those players not in attendance by drawing them randomly out of the hat at any time during the draft process. Diamond Boys coaches will meet to select new players immediately after the Skills Review inside the Recreation Center. Coaches will contact players concerning their team assignment and practices.

Requests for placement with a specific team, player, or coach will not be accepted. The only guarantee of placement on the same team is brothers and head coach’s children provided that staff is made aware of this at registration.

Requests from parents not wanting their child to play with a particular player or coach must provide a written explanation to York Parks and Recreation Department which will be shared with that coach. That player will enter the appropriate draft and his name will be placed “in the hat” to be randomly drawn by the coaches during the draft process.

Diamond Boys coaches will meet to select players and will contact players concerning their team assignment and practice information.

SCHEDULES

While schedules will not be available until after registration is complete, we do have preliminary information available. Practices may begin after drafts are completed and are scheduled at the discretion of the coaches. Games will be played on various days. Make-up games will be rescheduled for the next available date or at the end of the season if necessary. Games will begin in late April and continue until July. Games will be played in York (Optimist Field), Fort Mill, and Clover. Every effort will be made to play teams on their home fields as often as possible.

Game times will occur as follows: Weekday games will be played at 6:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. This is only a tentative schedule of game times. York Parks and Recreation reserves the right to change dates and times of schedules. Please note that 7:30 p.m. games may or may not begin promptly as scheduled. Please take this into consideration when registering your child.

SCHOOL CONFLICTS

Parents are asked to find out any school events such as concerts, field trips, etc. that will conflict with the DBB schedule and let your coach know no later than Tuesday, April 3, 2026. Every effort will be made to schedule games around conflicting dates provided that staff is notified prior to scheduling preparations. Once the schedule is made, no changes will be allowed, regardless of the conflict.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of a cancellation coaches will be notified as soon as a decision is reached, coaches will then contact their players. A decision to cancel games will not be made until as late in the day as possible. Rain out information will also be posted to our Facebook page.

MINIMUM PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT

The Diamond Boys Baseball league has minimum participation requirements to ensure that all kids have a chance to play. York Parks and Recreation Department follows the requirements that provide the most opportunity for the kids to play.

In the Diamond Boys League (12-15 year olds) the participation rule reads:

“Every boy present shall play six (6) outs and a complete turn at bat.”

Coaches are encouraged to play each child as much as possible. However, there may be situations when a child does not play in a game. If a parent is not satisfied with their child’s playing time or other decisions made by the coach, parents are encouraged to first discuss these issues with the coach **after** the game or practice and not during the game or practice. York Parks and Recreation Department staff is also available to assist parents if there is a concern after talking to the coach.

PARENT INFORMATION

Attending all practices is a very important part of any athletic program and is a very important requirement to coaches. Players that do not attend practice are not able to learn or prepare for a game. Coaches have the right not to play a participant because of not attending practice or disciplinary reasons.

If a parent is not satisfied with their child’s playing time or other decisions made by the coach, parents are encouraged to first discuss these issues with the coach **before** or **after** the game or practice and not during the game or practice. York Parks and Recreation Department is also available to assist parents if there is a concern after talking with the coach.

PARK RULES

Please keep several park rules in mind while at the York Optimist Field:

1. **Warning!** Please approach ball fields with caution and at your own risk.
2. Only players, coaches, and managers are allowed inside the dugouts at any field, including county fields.
3. Everyone is asked to please keep the dugouts and fields picked up following their games.
4. Pets are not allowed near the ball field area. Only **TRAINED** service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome, as per: Americans with Disabilities Act, Title II Enacted March, 2011. No comfort or emotional support animals are allowed.
5. Tobacco products including E-Cigarettes are prohibited on or near the playing field, including dugouts. This applies at all fields including county fields.

York Parks and Recreation department has adopted a “Zero Tolerance Policy.” Profanity, fighting, heckling, disrespect, abusive language, threats, or alcoholic beverages will not be tolerated. Violators will be subject to suspension from York Parks and Recreation Department sponsored programs and facilities.

York Parks and Recreation Department programs and facilities are designed to offer leisure activities for families, groups, and individuals of all ages with diversified interests. Sporting events are provided by the department as opportunities of friendly competition while promoting a spirit of good sportsmanship among participants and a pleasant environment for spectators.

Participants, coaches, team representatives, and spectators are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner before, during, and after an event, or within 500 feet of City of York property and playing areas.

STAFF

The staff at York Parks and Recreation Department is always accessible and available to assist parents and coaches in anyway possible. If you experience a problem or a concern that needs attention, please let staff know immediately. Or, please contact Chris White, Recreation Director, at 803-684-3742.

SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS

York Parks and Recreation Department welcomes input from parents, coaches, and others so that we may provide a positive learning experience for everyone associated with the Diamond Boys Baseball program. Please share your comments and suggestions by contacting any staff member or Chris White, Recreation Director, at 803-684-3742, or by mail to York Parks and Recreation Department, P.O. Box 500, York, SC 29745. You may also e-mail yorkrecreation@yorksc.gov.