



South Lyon Area Recreation Authority
23333 Griswold Suite 100, South Lyon, MI 48178
Office Phone (248) 437-8105 Office Fax (248) 437-4324

YOUTH SPORTS WELCOME PACKET

Welcome to your new youth sports' league with SLARA! We are very excited to get the new season started! The goal of this "Welcome Packet" is to provide you with everything you will need to know to prepare for the upcoming season.

Inside you will find all the information you will need for the upcoming season including rules for spectator conduct, school facility rules, the SLARA weather/cancellation policy, and an FAQ about your new league.

Also included in the "Welcome Email" will be your team rosters, schedule, and league rules. Please include these items in your records for the duration of the season. Should you lose your copy, the rosters, schedules, and league rules are available for download on www.slrec.com.

We are looking forward to an incredible season! We hope that your child will have a positive and memorable experience participating in our youth league this season! If at any time you feel there is an issue involving your child's experience this season, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you,

Matt Stanley, CYSA

SPORTS MANAGER

South Lyon Area Recreation Authority

23333 Griswold, Suite 100, South Lyon, MI 48178

(Office) 248.437.8105 - (Cell) 734-558-0084 - (Fax) 248.437.4324



YOUTH SPORTS PHILOSOPHY

South Lyon Area Recreation Authority (SLARA) sponsored youth sports leagues are formed and operated on the principles of good sportsmanship, fair play, courtesy to others, healthy activity, tolerance and inclusiveness, and all other policies pertaining to community understanding and development. SLARA Youth Sports Leagues use a structured league environment to promote participation and player development first, and competition second while maintaining a proper balance between recreation and competition.

The Mission of SLARA Youth Sports Leagues is to provide organized athletic opportunities to young people of all backgrounds and skill levels. SLARA Youth Sports Leagues have been established to:

- Promote personal development over winning
- Show all athletes that they have potential, no matter what their skill level may be
- Foster a love of the game and sense of community
- Emphasize the value of sportsmanship, cooperation, and a mutual respect for one another

SLARA Believes that every child should have the opportunity to participate in and enjoy the benefits of youth sports participation. SLARA Youth Sports Leagues strive to maximize the following benefits of youth sports participation:

- Building of self esteem and self worth in all young athletes
- Opportunity to form lasting friendships and memories
- Keeping young athletes active and developing healthy habits
- Development of emotional intelligence

SLARA is Committed to ensuring every youth league participant has equal opportunity to experience and learn valuable life skills through youth sports. SLARA Youth Sports Leagues seek to teach young athletes:

- How to be a good teammate and contribute as a member of a team
- How to deal with adversities, successes, failures, and challenges through athletic competition
- The importance of preparation and self-discipline
- How to learn and move on from mistakes

SPECTATOR CONDUCT

All SLARA youth leagues are solely for recreational purposes. Our goal is to encourage good sportsmanship, skill development, and fun. When in attendance of a SLARA youth league event, please keep in mind that wins and losses are not counted, no standings will be kept, and no champion will be named. Players of all skill levels are being encouraged to play together and enjoy the sport. Please help us to make this youth league a positive and memorable experience for all involved.

SLARA Staff reserves the right to remove any spectators who fail to adhere to any of the following Spectator or Facility Rules at any time during a league event.

- During the game, a spectator may not question a referee's call or act in an unsportsmanlike manner. All concerns should be addressed with the Site Supervisor.
- The following acts are subject to potential ejection from the event:
 - Persistent addressing of referees concerning their calls and decisions.
 - Committing actions tending to influence decisions by the official.
 - Shouting, clapping hands, or any other action taken with the purpose to distract the official or opponent.
 - Failure to abide by facility rules of the hosting facility
 - Use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, or any illegal drugs before, during, or after league events when at the facility hosting the event
 - Verbal abuse or intimidation directed at any player, coach, spectator, official, facility staff, or league administrator
 - Any use abusive, profane or obscene language or gestures, which are audible to the official or league director, PRE-GAME AND POST-GAME activities are included in this rule.
- For minor offenses, such as questioning officials, shouting, or intentional delay of the game, a warning will be issued. In cases where the offense is repeated, the spectator will be asked to leave the facility.
- For serious offenses, such as deliberate violence towards another individual, profane or obscene language and gestures, verbal assault, etc., the offender will be removed from the game and subject to dismissal from the future games.
- Failure to abide by these rules or involvement in any other action deemed detrimental to the goals of SLARA youth leagues may result in your ejection from league events and dismissal from future league events.



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Facility Rules

The following rules are general guidelines that all SLARA participants must adhere to when utilizing South Lyon Community Schools' facility space during a SLARA program. Please keep in mind that more specific rules may affect certain programs, leagues, or situations. SLARA asks that all of its participants treat the school building, staff, and rules with respect at all times. We thank you for your continued cooperation!

- Please adhere to all scheduled start and end times for your event. Do not arrive more than 15 minutes prior to the start of your event. The facility space should be cleared within 15 minutes after the end of your scheduled event.
- No food or drink (with the exception of water) is to be brought into the gym.
- All tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, and illegal substances are strictly prohibited from school grounds.
- Please make sure all trash is thrown away in a trash receptacle.
- No children should be left unattended and should be under adult supervision at all times!
- There is to be no playing or warming-up in the hallways. No balls should be thrown or bounced in the hallway.
- Please refrain from overcrowding the hallways. If you have to use the restroom, please walk to the restroom and promptly return to your event area.
- Please do not prop open any doors when inside the schools. Do not exit the building using doors inside the gym. Only the designated entrance and exit should be used.
- No one should be under the bleachers at any time! If the bleachers are not pulled out, please do not climb or sit on top of them.
- School gym class equipment should not be touched. You may only utilize equipment provided by SLARA, equipment approved for SLARA use, or your own equipment. Any equipment that SLARA is approved to use will be communicated at the beginning of the season.
- If adjusting the height of a basketball hoop, please be sure to lower it back to 8ft or its lowest possible point at the end of your event.
- For volleyball practices, please ensure all volleyball equipment is taken down and stored neatly in SLARA's corner of the Millennium Middle School storage room. Poles should be stood up using the rack on the wall. The net should be hung up neatly on the wall. All SLARA equipment must remain inside of the square marked on the floor.

If you encounter any facility related issues, please contact Matt Stanley at 734-558-0084 or by email at mstanley@slrec.com



Cancellation Notification System

The safety and welfare of all employees and participants is of the utmost importance. This notification system has been designed to give guidance to employees, coaches, officials and participants in activities, as well as renters of SLARA facilities. The following are general guidelines. Employee judgement may be exercised in certain situations and some determinations/cancellations may be made at the facility or on the fields. ***Cancellations may occur due to inclement weather, heat index, outside restrictions or unacceptable facility conditions.***

If Program is Held at a South Lyon School Facility

When the South Lyon School facilities are closed all SLARA programs held at a South Lyon School will be cancelled. ****NOTE: Programs will still be held in case of in-service days.***

If Program is Held at another other Location

If programs are taking place at a facility other than a South Lyon school, please call that facility directly to check the status of your class. SLARA will make every attempt to remain open and stay as close to the regularly scheduled business hours as possible during inclement weather.

For Outdoor Events

As a matter of safety and precaution, all activities must stop if thunder is heard or lighting is seen. All players, coaches, officials, participants, and spectators are to return to their cars. NO EXCEPTIONS. Wait 30 minutes from the last sound of thunder or sight of lightning. If the weather clears, 30 minutes after last sound of thunder or sight of lightning, activity can resume. If conditions persist the activity will be cancelled.

NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Time frame for such cancellations will be as follows: (if no notification has been posted, cancellations may be determined onsite)

Day of: Programs running prior to 4:00 p.m. will be determined as soon as possible. Please understand that some circumstances are out of our control and prior notification might not be possible.

Evening of: Programs running after 4:00 p.m. will be determined by 4:00 p.m.

Weekends: Determined at least 1 hour prior to the beginning of the program.

Special Events: Determined at least 1 hour prior to the beginning of the program.

****Cancellation notices will be posted on SLARA social media accounts including Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. Notifications may also be made via email or by phone if determination is made during business hours and it is feasible to do so.***

For sports leagues, coaches will be emailed and asked to contact individual players.

SLARA Office Line - 248.437.8105

<https://www.facebook.com/South-Lyon-Area-Recreation-545464932297598/>



<https://www.instagram.com/southlyonrec/>



<https://twitter.com/Southlyonrec>



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How is the practice schedule determined?

The practice schedule is determined by facility availability as well as our volunteer coaches. Volunteer coaches select their practice times from the times made available to SLARA by the host facility.

Why does my team have less practices? Will additional/make-up practices be added?

SLARA is a completely separate organization from South Lyon Community Schools and rents facility space to be able to offer youth league opportunities. Our practices are scheduled around the school schedule. Should school events be added, we may lose our practice time on specific nights. In the event our practices are cancelled due to school events, additional/make-up practice times will be added if the schedule permits.

How are rosters created?

SLARA utilizes a random team selection process based on the parent-given player ratings provided at the time of registration. SLARA accepts roster requests for practice availability and friend requests. Requests are only granted if they are deemed to not have an impact on team balance.

How are friend requests made?

Friend requests are made using the "Youth Sports Friend Request Form". This form allows a player to request placement with ONE other player. The requested player must also ask to be paired with the requesting player. All requests must be submitted on the "Youth Sports Friend Request Form" and be turned in to the SLARA office.

How much playing time will my child receive?

All SLARA leagues are equal play leagues. Each player must play at least 50% of the game.

When will we get the team t-shirts?

Team shirts will be provided to individual players by the volunteer coaches prior to or at the first scheduled game of the season. Team shirts are made available for volunteer coaches to pick up as soon as they arrive at the SLARA office.

Can I get a replacement shirt?

Yes, there are options to receive a replacement team t-shirt. If the wrong size is ordered, the t-shirt is lost, or the t-shirt is ruined, extra team shirts can be ordered directly through KV Sports in South Lyon for a small fee. Please check with SLARA prior to ordering a replacement shirt or for more details.

What is the weather policy?

*SLARA league events may be cancelled due to weather related issues. For indoor sports, all league events will be cancelled in the event South Lyon Community Schools are closed. For outdoor sports, we **will play** through light to moderate rain. Heavy rain, extreme heat or cold, and storms/other inclement weather will result in cancellation or suspension of play. Please see the "Cancellation Notification System" in this packet for the complete weather policy.*

Is there any required equipment for this league?

Please see the list of equipment requirements/recommendations for each sport listed below:

- *Basketball*
 - *Tennis Shoes are required*
 - *Personal basketball is highly recommended. Grades K-5 use the 28.5" compact basketball. Grades 6-8 use the regulation size basketball (5th/6th grade league included)*
- *Soccer*
 - *Tennis Shoes are required*
 - *Soccer cleats and shin guards are not required, but recommended*
- *Volleyball*
 - *Tennis Shoes are required*
 - *Personal Volleyball is highly recommended. Grades 3-6 use the Vollelylite and Grades 7-8 use the regulation size volleyball*
 - *Knee pads not required but recommended.*