

# **Charter - Recreation Association Steering Committee Virginia Beach Department of Parks and Recreation**

## Mission

The Recreation Association Steering Committee (RASC) will provide guidance and leadership to the Department of Parks and Recreation and youth athletic leagues during the transition of youth athletic league administration and practice as outlined in the following goal, and will establish a continuum of service model for sports/leagues based on child/youth development.

RASC's goal is to establish a youth sports program based on child/youth development.

- RASC will establish a continuum of service model for each sport/league based on the National Standards for Youth Sports ([www.nays.org](http://www.nays.org)) and the Recommendations for Communities ([www.nays.org](http://www.nays.org)), which includes a timeline for transition, a master implementation plan, and key measures of success.

## Team Composition

RASC members are selected based on the following criteria (sports offered by the association, sports experience, youth served, additional skills/experience) to provide the best possible cross section of views in order to enhance the planning effort while developing support throughout project implementation. No more than one representative from any given recreation association may serve on this committee.

- **Volunteers**  
Renee Bradshaw - Treasurer, Assoc. of Courthouse Recreation  
Don Marcari - Football Coordinator, Great Neck Athletic Assoc.  
John Dorsett - Vice President/Baseball Coordinator, Kempsville Recreation Assoc.  
Amber Wood-Bailey - Volleyball Coordinator/Webmaster, Kings Grant Recreation Assoc.  
Mike Kirby - President/Area Chairman, West Kempsville Youth Athletics  
Sherray Gravely - President/Area Chairman, Woodstock Recreation Assoc.
- **Parks & Recreation**  
Eddy Hendricks, CYSA - Recreation Specialist II, Youth League Administrator  
Sherry Hawkins - Recreation Supervisor, City-Wide Athletics  
Kevin Bennington - Sports Management Coordinator
- **Ex-officio**  
Bob Trahan - Organization Development Coordinator, City Manager's Office  
Aaron McCoy - Finance

## Interrelationships and Roles

By serving on this committee, all members agree to the following keys for success:

- Active participation in meetings is vital. Members should make every effort to attend each meeting, arriving on time and prepared to contribute to the agenda. Each committee member will identify one alternate who will have voting rights.
- "Homework assignments" must be completed in a timely manner.
- Should a member accumulate one (1) unexcused absence or two (2) consecutive excused absences that member will be contacted by the Advisor to see if there are any issues with regards to that individual's participation. Any final action following the inquiry will be at the direction of the RASC. There will be an emphasis to maintain RASC membership at 9 members with a representative makeup similar to that of the initial committee. Alternates will be selected from those who originally volunteered to serve on this committee, but were not originally chosen.
- Committee members will treat each other with respect, listen to each other, work cooperatively, and allow all members to voice their opinions.
- Members should strive to represent all Recreation Associations, not just their own. Communication with Recreation Associations not specifically represented is encouraged and will be facilitated via a central mailbox maintained by City-Wide Athletics.
- Members should strive to represent all sports, not just their preferred area of expertise.
- It is ok to agree to disagree.
- No decisions will be made in a vacuum.
- Transparency is valued (information will be posted on Sports Management/City-Wide Athletics' webpage and circulated via email blasts).

Facilitator: Bob Trahan/Aaron McCoy

Facilitator Role: Assist the Team Lead in setting agendas, staying on track, following/enforcing "keys for success;" ensure all voices are heard; move team to informed consent.

Team Lead: Eddy Hendricks

Lead Role: Coordinate meetings, determine agendas and assure the goal of the Committee is accomplished.

Advisor: Kevin Bennington

Advisor Role: Represent City of Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation interests, provide technical "Best Practices" from national models (based on the National Standards for Youth Sports and the Recommendations for Communities), liaison with other divisions and departments as needed, allocation of resources/budgeted funds.

Recorder: Sherry Hawkins

Recorder Role: Maintain attendance records, capture major conversations of agenda items, record assignments for members, record decisions of team, prepare and distribute notes.

### Performance Challenge

Communication and transparency are paramount as we transition the youth athletic league administration. Parks & Recreation/City-Wide Athletics will establish a link on their webpage ([www.VBgov.com/sports](http://www.VBgov.com/sports)) to disseminate information (and any additional communication RASC deems necessary) to the community. Members will apprise their board and membership whenever necessary of conversations and issues raised by youth athletic leagues.

### Guidelines and Boundaries

RASC will provide guidance and leadership to the Department of Parks and Recreation and the youth athletic leagues during this transition to include a timeline for this transition, a master implementation plan, and key measures of success. In addition, RASC will establish a continuum of service model for each sport/league based on the National Standards for Youth Sports ([www.nays.org](http://www.nays.org)) and the Recommendations for Communities ([www.nays.org](http://www.nays.org)). These documents provide a foundation for the development and administration of youth sports programs that facilitate meaningful participation for all children/youth, thus creating a strong and positive youth sports culture.

### Processes

Meetings will be held on the third Thursday of every month, 6:30pm, at the Landscape Management Building.

All committee members have voting power and 2/3 approval is required to move forward. Committee members will strive to achieve informed consent rather than consensus.

Agendas will be sent to members in advance of meetings.

Email questions/concerns will be recognized as formal agenda items and addressed at future meetings.

### Resources and Support

Unless otherwise specified, Parks & Recreation/City-Wide Athletics will provide all items necessary to conduct meetings.

Team members are responsible for submitting material needed to make informed decisions (preferably in electronic format prior to scheduled meetings).

### Accountability

RASC's goal is to establish a youth sports program based on child/youth development, rather than the needs/desires of adults. While we are responsible to each other for the success or

failure of this process, we're ultimately accountable to the children of Virginia Beach to make this transition a reality.

We, the undersigned, hereby agree to adhere to the guiding principles outlined in this Charter.

Renee Bradshaw 5/21/15  
Date

Eddy Hendricks 5/21/15  
Date

Don Marcari 5/21/15  
Date

Sherry Hawkins 5/21/15  
Date

John Dorsett 5/21/15  
Date

Kevin Bennington 5/21/15  
Date

Amber Wood-Bailey 5/21/15  
Date

Bob Trahan 5/21/15  
Date

Mike Kirby 5/21/15  
Date

Aaron McCoy 5/21/15  
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Sherray Gravely 5/21/15  
Date