



Hello Modified Sports Families,

We warmly welcome you to the Homer modified sports program. Some of you may already be familiar with our practice and procedures, while others may be new to our program.

To ensure that every student athlete has a successful experience in our program, we would like to reinforce and clarify our expectations. We believe that most issues or problems that arise can be avoided through clear communication and understanding.

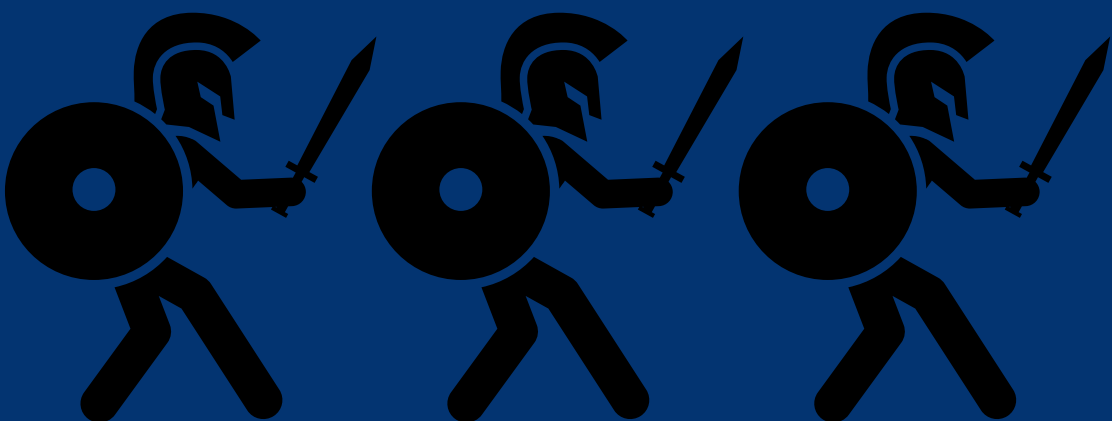
We look forward to helping each of your children have a successful and enjoyable experience in our sports program. Thank you for supporting us.

Mission, Blue Pride!

Our goal at the modified sports level is to build upon the foundation that was set in our youth programs, as well as introducing students to new activities and sports that they may not have tried before.

Our varsity coaches have vertically aligned each program with extensive planning, forethought and research, making sure each of our sports is age-appropriate and tailored for each learners' needs. We strive to ensure that each player on the team is treated fairly, displaying our commitment to inclusiveness and competitiveness.

At the modified level, our coaches are dedicated to developing each player's skills, as well as improving their co-operative abilities such as teamwork and communication. We take pride in offering multi-faceted instruction that engages each player's strengths, highlighting the importance of sportsmanship, dedication and respect. Blue Pride! We are confident that our modified sports team is the right way to build learning and character development.



Questions Commonly Asked

Safety

At the modified level, safety is of the utmost importance and our athletic trainers, nurses and medical staff, as well as the athletic department, are all on hand to help ensure a safe and successful season.

In the event that a child has sustained an injury, even if it is not seen and the child didn't tell the coach, it is important to alert the coach and athletic staff of this injury. It is important that we are made aware of any injury sustained, so that we are able to provide the best support and advice for both the athlete and their parents.

We do our best to provide detailed and informative education for the parents of athletes. We encourage our student's parents to understand sports injuries, how to identify them, and how to treat them.



Game Postponements/Cancellations (Weather or Field Conditions)

At the modified level, we strive to make fair, consistent and timely decisions. When it comes to inclement weather, the safety of our players is of the utmost importance.

In the event of canceled games or practices due to inclement weather, our policy is that these decisions will be made no later than 2 PM for away games and 1:30 PM for home games. Athletic department personnel and coaches are kept up to date and are instructed to notify the team as soon as possible.

It's understandable that when a game is canceled and then the sun comes out soon after, it raises questions as to why. Please rest assured that I always do my best to make decisions based on the information and conditions available at the time. I take the safety of our student athletes, coaches, staff and spectators very seriously, and will not put them in an unsafe situation.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in our effort to ensure the safety of all of our athletes.



Tryout Process

As we get ready for the new modified sports season, many questions often arise. This is certainly the case with teams that are required to make cuts due to a large number of sign ups. We understand that it can be very disappointing and difficult to miss out on the opportunity to play on a team.

However, we are committed to ensuring each child is given the best coaching and guidance. We therefore need to cap the number of players on a team to enable our coaches to provide guidance and teach the necessary techniques and skills.

I am sure many of you have experienced similar situations as I have. I personally did not make the seventh grade basketball team, but my coach did provide me with honest feedback and guidance which helped me understand what I was doing well and what areas I needed to work on to make the team for eighth grade.

While it was not the end for me, I did understand that I had two choices. I had the choice to either accept it or to work hard and enhance those skills and try to make the team the following year.

We believe that every child deserves a positive and encouraging environment and we are committed to helping every player reach their potential and realize their goals in whichever sport they pursue.



A Quarters and B Quarters

In New York state, there are certain rules and regulations regarding which players, and what type of players, play in certain quarters or periods of the game for modified sports. Your coach will be able to provide you with more detailed information on the specifics of these rules, and create an atmosphere where you can better understand the protocols we have to follow as it pertains to playing time.

At the modified level, every player has a purpose and every player is important to the outcome of the game. As such, coaches will ensure that every player playing some part in the game will receive proper playing time, and that everyone is treated fairly and with the respect they deserve.

