



**New London-Spicer  
Community Education &  
Youth Services**

**Youth sports are offered in the New London-Spicer community in three different manners: School Sponsored, Community Education & Youth Services Sponsored, and Sport Association/Parent Sponsored. This handbook is an attempt to clarify what opportunities are available to youth in our community and provide families a framework to make decisions regarding their child's participation.**

**I. SCHOOL SPONSORED SPORTS**

New London-Spicer schools begin sponsoring athletic opportunities to students in grade 7. Listed below are the sports offered at the high school and middle school level and the fees related to each activity. Also included is the District acceleration policy regarding athletes being moved up from Grades 7-8 to high school level participation.

**HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS & FEE SCHEDULE**

	<u>High School</u>	<u>Middle School</u>
<b><u>Fall</u></b>		
Football	\$155.00	\$100.00
B/G Cross Country	\$155.00	\$100.00
Girl's Tennis	\$155.00	\$100.00
Volleyball	\$155.00	\$100.00
Cheerleading	\$110.00	NA
<b><u>Winter</u></b>		
Dance Team	\$155.00	\$100.00
Wrestling	\$155.00	\$100.00
B/G Basketball	\$155.00	\$100.00
Gymnastics	\$155.00	\$100.00
B/G Hockey (Riverlakes Coop)	\$155.00	NA
B/G Alpine Skiing (Annandale Coop)	\$155.00	\$100.00
<b><u>Spring</u></b>		
Baseball	\$155.00	\$100.00
Softball	\$155.00	\$100.00
Boy's Tennis	\$155.00	\$100.00
B/G Track & Field	\$155.00	\$100.00
B/G Golf	\$155.00	\$100.00
Trap Shooting	\$155.00	NA
Lacrosse (ROCORI Coop)	\$155.00	\$100.00

**Maximum Activity Fees**

\$465 per individual

\$850 per family



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**ATHLETIC AND ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES**

- A. One of the primary goals of the athletic and activities programming is to provide active participation for a maximum numbers of students. Students who join athletics and activities programs may expect to be provided opportunities for actual participation time, but may also expect to have to work diligently to gain the greatest amounts of participation time.
- B. Athletics only: Active participation will vary according to level of competition, with greater playing time afforded at junior high through junior varsity levels, and less at senior high level where the increased competitiveness of contests places relatively more importance on winning and comparative school standings. Squad size at the senior high, junior varsity, and sophomore level may be regulated by the coaching staff with the approval of the Activities Director and High School Principal when it is necessary to do so because of financial, space, or staffing limitations.
- C. The number and kinds of athletic and activities programming will be responsive to student interest as well as to budget limitations. Continuous re-evaluation of athletics and activities programming will create stronger and more unique programming that fits individual and group needs.
- D. Grade Level Participation (Athletics only):
  - 1. Grades 7-8: The goal of middle school athletics is to provide participation opportunities for all students. There may, however, be occasions when the numbers of participants in middle school athletic programs exceed the number that coaches can properly instruct and safely supervise. When that occurs, additional coaches must be added or participation limited with the approval of the Activities Director.
  - 2. Grade 9: Participation and skill development continue to be the primary focus of 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Athletics. The number of contests is similar to the varsity and b-squad level and coaches begin to prepare athletes for the more competitive nature of high school athletics.
  - 3. Middle School Students on Senior High Teams. MS students may participate in senior high sports in accordance with provisions outlined in the Acceleration Procedure.



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The New London-Spicer Acceleration Procedure shall apply to the following activities:

**Baseball  
Softball**

**Basketball  
Volleyball**

**Football**

When acceleration of a student-athlete from the middle school level to the senior high level is being considered, the following procedure must be followed:

1. The student-athlete and the parent/guardian will not be contacted, verbally or written, until all steps of this process have been completed.
2. The head varsity level coach will initiate, in writing, the proposed acceleration to the middle school and high school activities directors.
3. The head coach, two activities directors, and two principals will meet to discuss the proposed acceleration. If the recommendation of the majority of the group is to further consider acceleration, the parents and the student-athlete will be notified by the head varsity coach and asked to review the recommendation to accelerate. Upon final approval of the parents, the athlete will be accelerated to the senior high level.
4. Once the student-athlete has been accelerated, the student-athlete must remain at the level of acceleration and may not return to a lower level of participation for the remainder for the season. The student-athlete could accelerate again to a higher level if the above process is repeated.

The following activities are exempt from these policies due to the 7-12 level of play necessary:

**Gymnastics  
Cross Country**

**Wrestling  
Dance**

**Track and Field  
Tennis**

**Golf**

The following are cooperative sponsored activities and subject to cooperative policies:

**Alpine Skiing**

**Hockey**

**Lacrosse**

Trap Shooting is a Grade 9-12 New New London-Spicer Activity but not an official MSHSL sport.



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**II. COMMUNITY EDUCATION & YOUTH SERVICES SPONSORED SPORTS**

The NL- S Community Ed & Youth Services program provides a variety of sport activities to youth throughout the calendar year. Fees vary depending on the activity, length of season, number of contests, coaches/officials needed, and equipment.

<b><u>Fall</u></b>	<b><u>Grade Level</u></b>	<b><u>Coaches</u></b>
Cheerleading Camp	Grades K-6	Varsity Coach & Athletes
Flag Football	Grades 1-4	Varsity Coaches & Athletes
5/6 Grade Tackle Football	Grades 5-6	Volunteer Coaches
Volleyball Camp	Grades 3-6	Varsity Coaches & Athletes
Bowling	Grades 1-8	CE Staff, NHS, HS Student Council
Dance Camp	Grades K-6	Varsity Coaches & Athletes
Golf – Elementary	Grades K-2	LCCC Staff
Golf – Junior	Grades 3-6	LCCC Staff
Cross Country Running Club	Grades 4-6	Varsity Coaches
<b><u>Winter</u></b>	<b><u>Grade Level</u></b>	<b><u>Coaches</u></b>
Basketball – Little Dribblers	Grades K-1	School Coaches & Athletes
Basketball – Skills & Drills	Grades 3-4	School Coaches & Athletes
Gymnastics – camps	Grades K-6	Varsity Coaches & Athletes
<b><u>Spring</u></b>	<b><u>Grade Level</u></b>	<b><u>Coaches</u></b>
Baseball Pre-season Camp	Grades 5-8	Varsity Coaches & Athletes
Softball Pre-season Camp	Grades 3-8	Varsity Coaches & Athletes
Golf – Elementary	Grades K-2	LCCC Staff
Golf – Junior	Grades 3-6	LCCC Staff
Gymnastics – camps	Grades K-6	Varsity Coaches & Athletes
<b><u>Summer</u></b>	<b><u>Grade Level</u></b>	<b><u>Coaches</u></b>
Baseball Little Sluggers	Pre K-2	Summer Staff
Baseball League	3-4 & 5-6	Summer Staff
Baseball Babe Ruth	7-9	Volunteer Coaches
Softball Youth	K-2	Summer Staff
Softball U10/ U12/U14/U16	3-11	Summer Staff
Basketball – Little Dribblers	Grades K-1	School Coaches & Athletes
Basketball – Skills & Drills	Grades 3-4	School Coaches & Athletes
Tennis - Youth	K-6	Summer Staff
Tennis – Lessons/open play	7-12	Varsity Coaches
Tennis – camp	7-12	Outsourced
Volleyball – camp	7-12	Outsourced
Gymnastics – camps	Grades K-6	Varsity Coaches & Athletes



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**III. SPORT ASSOCIATION/PARENT SPONSORED SPORTS**

Listed below are the sport opportunities offered by independent sport associations or volunteer parents when associations have not yet been formed. Each of these activities must adhere to the following guidelines when using school and/or city facilities.

1. All activities must be schedule to NOT interfere or conflict with similar School District and Community Education sponsored programs.
2. All youth must be given equal opportunity to access the program or activity. If participation is limited, tryouts must be advertised and be held prior to the start of the program.
3. Scheduling of School District facilities for non-school sponsored athletic programs shall be done with the Community Education office.
4. Rental fees shall be charged for all practice and games held in or on School District facilities, with the current rate being \$10/hour.
5. To use School District facilities, coaches must either be certified school coaches, be trained by the sport specific state or national association, or demonstrate completion of the NYSCA coaches training session. In addition, coaches must demonstrate completion of concussion training.
6. Participants in all non-school or non-community education sponsored athletic programs will be assessed a \$10 per participant fee that will be paid to the Community Education Department. This fee will help cover facility scheduling, background checks of coaches, and management costs incurred by the School District and Community Education Department. Negligent actions are not covered by school insurance.

<b><u>Baseball – June/July</u></b>	<b><u>Grade Level</u></b>	<b><u>Coaches</u></b>
Legion Baseball	18U	NL-S Baseball Association
VFW Baseball	16U	NL-S Baseball Association
Traveling Teams	10U/11U/12U/13U	NL-S Baseball Association
<b><u>Wrestling- Dec/March</u></b>	<b><u>Grade Level</u></b>	<b><u>Coaches</u></b>
Youth Wrestling	K-8	NL-S Reversal Club
<b><u>Volleyball – Jan/May</u></b>	<b><u>Grade Level</u></b>	<b><u>Coaches</u></b>
Junior Olympic (JO)	Grades 5-12	Junior Olympic Program
<b><u>Basketball</u></b>	<b><u>Grade Level</u></b>	<b><u>Coaches</u></b>
Traveling Teams Nov-April	4-6	Parents/Volunteers
Off Season March-April	7-9	Parents/Volunteers
Off Season June-July	10-12	School Coaches
** Traveling basketball does not have an organized association.		
<b><u>Gymnastics</u></b>	<b><u>Grade Level</u></b>	<b><u>Coaches</u></b>
Wings Gymnastics Club	5-12	Willmar Wings Staff
<b><u>Hockey</u></b>	<b><u>Grade Level</u></b>	<b><u>Coaches</u></b>
Riverlakes West	K-10	Riverlakes Hockey Association
<b><u>Dance</u></b>	<b><u>Grade Level</u></b>	<b><u>Coaches</u></b>
Main Point Dance Studio	Pre-K-12	Main Point Staff



Just for Kix

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Pre-K-6

Just for Kix Staff

#### **IV. COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES**

- A. Communications parents should expect from your child's coach:
  - 1. Philosophy of the coach
  - 2. Expectations the coach has for your child
  - 3. Team requirements, i.e. practices, special equipment, out of season training
  - 4. Procedures to follow should your child be injured during participation
  - 5. Discipline that may result in the denial of your child's participation
  
- B. Communication that coaches may expect from parents:
  - 1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach
  - 2. Specific concerns with regard to a coaches philosophy and or expectations
  - 3. Notification of any illness or injury of missed practices
  
- C. Appropriate concerns to discuss with the coaches:
  - 1. Treatment of your child, mentally and physically
  - 2. Ways to help your child improve
  - 3. Concerns about your child's behavior
  
- D. Issues not appropriate to discuss with the coach:
  - 1. Playing time
  - 2. Team strategy
  - 3. Play calling
  - 4. Other student-athletes
  
- E. Resolving Conflict
  - 1. If there is a problem:
    - a. Have your son/daughter talk directly to the coach, one on one.
  - 2. If the problem is not resolved:
    - a. Call and request a meeting with the coach, student, and parent.
  - 3. Parents Should Not:
    - a. Confront the coach before or after practice
    - b. Confront the coach before or after a gameConcerns do not get resolved during emotional times. A 24 hour "cooling off" period should be adhered to.
  - 4. What to do if the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution?  
Call the school athletic director, youth services director, or sport association president and request a meeting with all parties.
  
- F. Tips For Parents
  - 1. Be Supportive of Coaches. In front of your child be supportive and positive of the coaches decisions. If you have problems with what the coach is doing, it is best to talk directly with the coach.
  - 2. Teach Respect for Authority. There will be times when you disagree with a coach or



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official but always remember they are trying their best and are trying to be fair. Show good sportsmanship by being positive.

### **F. Tips for Parents continued**

3. Let the Coach do the Coaching but you can do some of the Teaching. When your child is on the field, court or ice, let the coach do the coaching. You can teach sportsmanship and how to deal with success and failure. Develop their character and teach life skills that athletics and activities bring to the forefront.
4. Help your Children Learn through Failure. The way your child handles failure can help them to face the certain failures life will throw them in the future. The worst time for you as a parent to give advice is immediately after a disappointment. Let your child cope in their own way.
5. Get to know the Coach. Since the Coach has a powerful influence on your child, take the time to attend the preseason parent meeting and get to know the coaches' philosophy, expectations, and guidelines.
6. Focus on your Child as an Individual. Focus on what your child does well and where they need to improve. Encouragement is essential.
7. Listen to your Child, but Stay Rational. Always support and listen to your child, but remember to stay rational until you have investigated the situation.
8. Be Mindful of your Role as a Role Model. Take a good honest look at your actions and reactions in the athletic arena. These actions are a big cue to your child and to the others around you.
9. Show Unconditional Love. The most important thing...show your child you love them, win or lose.

### **G. Facts About Sports**

#### Top 10 Reasons High School Sports Benefit Students

1. Community Representation
2. Fitness
3. Improved Academics
4. The Importance of the 3 P's – persistence, patience, practice
5. Teamwork and Cooperation
6. Positive Mentors
7. Social Relationships
8. Leadership Skills
9. Time Management
10. Success Mindset

Source: Grace Chen, Public School Review, 2017

#### Top Reasons Why Kids Quit

1. It's no longer fun
2. They have lost ownership of the activity
3. They don't get playing time
4. They are afraid to make mistakes



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5. They feel disrespected

Source: John O'Sullivan, Changing the Game Project, 2015