

## **The Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation**

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**rfpra.com**



### **Parent Orientation Handbook**

Your guide to RFPRA youth sports services and programs.

VII

Rome-Floyd  
Parks & Recreation  
Authority

*Enriching Lives*

rfpra.com

# Discover fun for all seasons!



## School Break Camps

Offering camps year-round during school breaks and throughout the summer. The only local camp with convenient hours for parents open 7:30 am - 6:00 pm.

**Locations:** Several camp locations in Rome & Floyd County

**Details:** Camp details in school flyers and at [rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com)

**Questions?:** 706.291.0766

## Gymnastics

Participate in a wide variety of recreational and competitive gymnastic programs for all ages and abilities. The gym curriculum follows safety procedures with simple to complex skills taught in a progressive manner in a safe and fun environment.

**Questions?:** 706.295.4962



## Northside Swim Center

*Open seasonally*

Large pool featuring slide, splash area, deck, playground, pavilions and snack shack. The pool is also available for group and party rentals.

**Location:** Kingston Ave  
(corner of Church St NE)

**Cost:** \$5 person (all ages)

**Questions?:** 706.291.0766



Rome-Floyd  
Parks & Recreation  
Authority

*Enriching Lives*  
[rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com)

Visit [rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com)  
for more details.

## Letter from Director

Dear Parents:

I want to personally thank you for giving the Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority (RFPPRA) the opportunity to meet your leisure needs. In our commitment to you, we strive to provide the highest quality sports programming, recreational services, and parks management. We continually seek new ways to improve our services and better meet the needs of the community. Please feel free to contact me anytime you have suggestions on ways we can better serve you.

This Parent Orientation Handbook is designed to place at your fingertips the answers to questions that are frequently asked. We want to empower you, our customer, with as much information as possible. Provided in this handbook, are details covering the operation of sports programs, sports registration, team formation, and league play. Should you have further questions, our sports staff is happy to assist you. A current staff contact list is provided on our Web site at [www.rfpra.com](http://www.rfpra.com).

The RFPPRA sports staff strive to create programs that help young people achieve their full potential. Youth sports provide a fun and engaging way for youth to learn important life skills and establish good habits for personal health and fitness. We believe that creating a good atmosphere is critical to providing a positive sports experience for our youth. The RFPPRA trains staff and volunteers to not only apply the practical knowledge of the game, but also to practice patience and leadership. Coaches and officials strive to be fair and to approach differences in a constructive manner. All these actions create a positive environment that make sports fun.

In addition to building a strong program through staff and volunteers, we want to build a strong program through the parents. We believe that knowledge enables parents to take an active role as volunteers and as positive role models for players.

The Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority is proud to be a part of this community and we look forward to serving your family to live a happier and healthier life.



Richard Garland

*Executive Director*

The Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority

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# 1 Community Commitment

## Our Mission

The Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority (RFPR) strives to enrich the lives of the total community by providing opportunities for the worthy use of leisure. Our basic objective is to assure wholesome recreation in its broadest sense through a system of services and facilities.

## Service Philosophy

Park and recreation opportunities should be for all, regardless of age, race, sex, creed, or social or economic status. The park and recreation system must be designed to provide a wide variety of activities and facilities year-round for every possible participant. The total program must be a quality program that meets the leisure needs of the public. We believe a community park and recreation structure should create a feeling of pride, a sense of value, a picture of beauty, an atmosphere of worthiness, a sense of belonging, the satisfaction of accomplishment and the challenge of developing one's mind to the fullest by teaching and allowing people to use their minds and bodies, for the fun of it.

Park and recreation opportunities are a basic need along with health, education, religion and economic opportunities. We are striving to provide park and recreation opportunities which are enriching and meaningful. We trust the citizens will engage in these opportunities for the enjoyment, relaxation and satisfaction, which re-create, renew and refresh the body, mind and spirit. In the end, our community will be a better place to live.

## Authority Goals

The purpose of the Authority is to provide an organized system of recreation and park facilities and programs for the citizens of Rome and Floyd County.

I. To develop, maintain and operate a comprehensive parks and recreation system throughout Floyd County.

II. To enable maximum citizen participation in programs and facility usage.

III. To promote the benefit of leisure services in the community in cooperation with other leisure service providers through community partnership.

IV. To encourage volunteer participation and involvement in the planning and provision of leisure services.

V. To ensure the health and safety of all participants who take part in Authority services.

## Service Overview

The Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority was founded in 1973 through joint consolidation efforts of the City of Rome and Floyd County governments. The Authority is charged with the responsibility of managing and developing parks and recreation facilities and services for all citizens of Rome and Floyd County. A nine-member policy board is appointed to govern the operations and employ a full-time director. The RFPR serves 95,000 + residents of Floyd County including Rome and Cave Springs.

## services continued...

The RFPRA is responsible for operations, maintenance, and capital improvements to the forty-two parks, recreation areas and centers in Rome and Floyd County. The authority manages the planning, design and development of new parks and recreation facilities in Rome and Floyd County.

## Programs Offered

The RFPRA provides Youth and Adult Athletics, Instructional and Enrichment Classes, Special Events, Special Populations Programs (includes senior citizens and people with special needs) Interpretive and Environmental Education, Seasonal Day Camps, Self Directed Recreation, Facilitated Recreation and Tournaments.

## Registration Process

Register for all youth sports at the Rome-Floyd Parks & Recreation Authority main office: *1 Shorter Ave. Rome, GA 30165* or register online at [rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com)

### Hours of Operation

Mon - Thu 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

Fri 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Sat - Sun Closed

- Parents and/or legal guardian must sign waiver to register child.
- Participants are registered by age (based on age control date for each sport), gender and/or participation/school district.
- A copy of participants birth certificate must be on file.
- Registration fee must be paid in full to be eligible for practice and/or games and is payable by check, credit, debit or cash.

- A late fee of \$10 will be charged to all participants who register after the registration deadline.

## Refund Policy

Refunds are decided on a case by case basis. Refunds or credits are issued by the sports coordinator or manager. Full refunds may be issued prior to team formation. After team formation, only credits will be granted unless for medical reasons or relocation. A medical letter must accompany a refund application. For payments made by check, please allow 30 days for refund processing.

## Scholarships

Participation Scholarships are available and are awarded based on each family's financial need. RFPRA scholarship request forms are available online and at all RFPRA indoor facilities. A form must be filled out by a parent or legal guardian and submitted along with required support documents a minimum of one week prior to the registration deadline.

Stop Spending Time in Line  
Register Online!

Register online at [rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com)

Register for upcoming sports and activities online!  
It's convenient, fast and secure!

**Register for sports and activities  
online at [rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com)**

# 2 Sports Division General Information

## Youth Sports Philosophy

Our philosophy is to instill character, sportsmanship, and teamwork into our youth. Our sports programs promote social skills, physical development and intellectual maturity. Our programs downplay winning and losing and promote participation, good sportsmanship, and the enjoyment of all sports. It is our goal to encourage all participants, coaches, and players to work hard at their sport, win or lose with dignity, and demonstrate fair play.

## Sport Seasons

YOUTH SPORTS REGISTRATION CALENDAR

Sport	Registration Dates	Season Dates
Baseball <i>Prep Lg</i>	Jan	Feb
Baseball <i>Spring</i>	Feb - Mar	Apr - Jun
Softball <i>Spring</i>	Feb - Mar	Apr - May
Soccer <i>Spring</i>	Feb - Mar	Mar - Apr
Baseball <i>Summer</i>	Jun	Jul
Cheerleading	Jun - Jul	Sep - Nov
Football	Jun - Jul	Sep - Nov
Softball <i>Fall</i>	Jun - Aug	Sep - Nov
Softball <i>Prep Lg</i>	Jul - Aug	Sep
Baseball <i>Fall</i>	Jul - Aug	Sep - Nov
Flag Football	Aug - Sep	Sep - Oct
Soccer <i>Fall</i>	Aug - Sep	Sep - Oct
Basketball	Sep - Nov	Dec - Feb
Gymnastics	Year-round	
Tennis	Year-round	

## Volunteer Opportunities

The success of youth sports depends on our volunteers. Volunteers are needed for coaches, score keepers, referees and

umpires. Please contact the RFPRA for additional volunteer information.

## Coaches Identification

The RFPRA encourages parents to get involved in our youth programs. Like you, volunteer coaches come from all walks of life. Without volunteer coaches, the team organizational process is delayed. Applications are available online at rfpra.com and at all indoor facilities.

RFPRA sports coordinators process volunteer coach applications for their specified sport. Cheerleading is the only sport not coordinated by RFPRA staff. Please contact the Boys and Girls club if you are interested in coaching cheerleading.

## Requirements for Coaches

- Complete a background check.
- Attend sports specific training.
- Head coaches are required to be certified by the National Youth Sports Coaches Association (NYSCA). Coaches are selected based on knowledge of the game and the current need according to participation levels. Coaches are ambassadors of the RFPRA and the expectations of a coach is to provide a positive learning environment and a fun experience for all participants. Coaches are selected at the discretion of RFPRA staff.

## Team Formation

With the help of volunteer coaches at a Team Formation Meeting, all participants will be placed on teams based on age and participation district. Team Formation meetings are held at the conclusion of registration. Returning coaches have the

option of selecting players that played for them the previous year, as long as he/she is coaching in the same participation district. In the event multiple teams can be formed in the same district, the remaining players will be selected in a round robin fashion with those coaches. In some cases, the district in which a child plays may not have enough to form a stand alone team. In this case, districts will be combined to form a team. Parents that are affected will be notified prior to completion of roster. Participants who are children of the head coach will automatically be placed on the team of the coach.

After teams are formed, coaches will have the responsibility to contact their participant's parents within 72 hours after the Team Formation Meeting. Coaches will be given parent/guardian phone numbers provided during registration. Please ensure you provide day and evening contact numbers during registration. If you do not receive a call from your coach, contact the RFPRA main office. Practices will start until after the Team Formation Meetings.

Note: Flag Football, Youth Soccer, Summer Baseball and Prep Sports follow separate Team Formation Guidelines. See *individual sports for details*.

## Practice Requirements

Teams are allowed to practice three days a week before the start of the season. During the season teams are allowed to practice two days a week. Sunday practices are not permitted.

*Note:* If a player repeatedly misses practice, the coach has the authority to sit that player for one game.

## Parent Code of Ethics

Parents are asked to adhere to a Code of Ethics for Youth Sports and are encour-

aged to help all youth sports organizations implement and enforce the code. The RFPRA reserves the right to dismiss any spectator unable to follow these guidelines. Based on the severity of the infraction, a spectator may be dismissed from the park for a single game or the entire season.

- I will not criticize or yell at officials or players on the field. I will be patient and treat them with respect.
- I will not be a "Sideline Coach." I will not sit behind the team bench or pace along the sideline shouting instructions. I will cooperate with coaches and support the team.
- I will not be a "Grand Stand Coach". I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, and youth sports event.
- I will address team or player problems quietly and only with the team's head coach. I will not argue with or question the coach in public.
- I understand that abusive and profane language is not tolerated. I understand that if I do not conduct myself in a positive manner; I will be asked to vacate the premises.
- I will attend and be on time to all team events. I will arrive early on game days to allow time for proper warm-ups.
- I will refrain from smoking or using any tobacco or alcohol product while at all youth sports events.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of personal desires to win.
- I will teach my child to treat all players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect.
- I will emphasize to my child that winning a game is the result of hard work, team work and maximum effort.
- I will encourage my child and other players on the team. I will keep all

comments positive to influence positive results.

- I will support my child if he/she needs extra practice at home.

message when a game has been canceled due to bad weather. Simply opt-in to the sports that interest you to receive text updates.

## Weather Cancellations

Decisions about field condition or game cancellation are not made until 3 p.m. on weekdays and 8 a.m. on weekends. If a decision cannot be made at those specified times, it will be made at game time. Decisions are made by the sports coordinator before the game starts.

Games are cancelled if weather or field conditions are unsafe for play. On days of inclement weather, there are several ways to find out if a game has been cancelled.

**Web site:** [www.rfpra.com](http://www.rfpra.com)

**Weather Line:** 706-290-9597

**RainedOut Text Alerts** - Receive a text

## Parent Feedback

The RFPRA always welcomes feedback from the public. Program Evaluation Forms are provided toward the end of league play and are available from your coach or Sports Coordinator. Upon completion of the evaluation; parents may return the forms to the Sports Coordinator at the game sites or by mailing or drop off at the main office located at 1 Shorter Ave. Rome, GA 30165. *See Sporting Facilities Map*

Parents may also submit comments and questions online by visiting [rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com) and clicking the "CONTACT" tab.



**Sign Up for RainedOut Text Alerts**  
*Know before you go.*

### Text Alert

### How to Opt-in

**Baseball (Youth):** Text **bsblrfpra** to 70359

**Basketball (Youth):** Text **basketballrfpra** to 70359

**Challenger Sports:** Text **chalrfpra** to 70359

**Flag Football (Youth):** Text **flagrfpra** to 70359

**Gymnastics :** Text **gymrfpra** to 70359

**Soccer (Youth):** Text **socrfpra** to 70359

**Softball (Adult):** Text **adsbrfpra** to 70359

**Softball (Youth):** Text **sbrfpra** to 70359

**Tennis (Classes):** Text **tenrfpra** to 70359

**Unified Football:** Text **unfdrfpra** to 70359

**& Cheerleading**

**RFPRA In the Know:** Text **inforfpra** to 70359

# 3 Sport Details



## Baseball

### Season dates

Prep Baseball: February - April

Spring Baseball: April - June  
(Excludes All Star play)

Summer Baseball: June - July

Fall Baseball: September - November

*Note: Fall Baseball is a team registration format and is not subject to participation districts.*

### Age groups and Gender

(T-Ball) 4-5

(Coach Pitch) 5-6, 7-8

(Player Pitch) 9-10, 11- 12, 13-14

Both male and female are allowed to play in all age divisions except prep league.

### Prep League (6-7-8 grade)

A league for students who desire to play in a competitive league and represent the school they attend.

### Age Control Date

The age control date is the participant's age as of May 1 of the current year.

### Teams

Each team will have at least 9 players but no more than 12. T-Ball and Coach Pitch teams can have up to 15 players.

### Game Days and Times

All days are open for play except Sunday. Games are typically played on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Wednesday and Friday are reserved for make-up games. Games start at 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm on weeknights; 10:00 am and 11:30 am on Saturday. Teams generally play 2 to 3 games per week.

### Game Participation Rule

Each player must play at least two innings on defense. No player may sit more than two consecutive innings of play.

### Game Locations *(See Index Map)*

Games are played at two locations:

1) Hugh Selman Complex at North Floyd Park: North Floyd Park Road (off of Martha Berry Highway) Rome, 30165.

2) Etowah Park: 1325 Kingston Rd. Rome, 30161.

### Uniforms

Uniforms are not included in the registration fee. Parents are responsible for purchasing the child's uniform to include shirt, pants, cleats and hat. The Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority has developed a uniform standard to ease the burden of selection and provide greater continuity to the program. The RFPRA name/logo, player name and/or team sponsor name is allowed on the back of the jersey. Each coach will receive this information to share with parents. Coaches and parents will determine uniform color and team name at the first team meeting.

### Awards

Each player in T-ball will receive an award. All other age divisions will receive first and second place individual player awards following the post season tournament.

### All-star Selection Process

*(Excludes T-ball & 5-6 age division)*

Players are evaluated throughout the season to be considered for post season All-star play. All coaches in the league along with the sports coordinator will meet and select All-star team participants. Once the teams are formed, the All-star team coaches will

be selected by the sports coordinator. An All-star team is formed from the participants within the league who played during regular season. Players who play up in age-group during league play can only qualify for All-stars in that same age group. All players that are selected for the All-star team will be contacted by the All-star head coach. Teams will compete in District and State competition under the by-laws of GRPA.



## Basketball

### Season dates

Winter basketball: December - February  
(Excludes All Star play)

### Age groups and Gender

Boys and girls teams are formed in all age divisions:

Gender Division	Goal Height - Ball Size
Boys & Girls, 5&6	6-1/2 ft - 27
Boys & Girls, 7&8	8.5 ft - 28.5
Boys & Girls, 9&10	8.5 ft - 28.5
Boys & Girls, 11&12	10 ft - 28.5
Girls, 13&14	10 ft - 28.5
Boys, 13&14	10 ft - 30

### Age Control Date

The age control date is the participant's age as of January 1 of the current year.

### Game Days and Times

All days are open for play except Sunday. Games are normally played on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday with 5:30, 6:30, 7:30 game times and Saturdays starting at 10:00 am. Teams generally play 2 to 3 games per week.

### Game Locations *(See Index Map)*

Games are played at four gyms:

- 1) Thornton Center: N.Floyd Park Rd. Rome, 30165
- 2) Gilbreath Center at Wolfe Park: 106 Park Ave Se, Lindale, 30147
- 3) Anthony Center at Garden Lakes Park 901 Garden Lakes Blvd. NW, Rome, 30161
- 4) Fielder Center: 1500 Crane St. SW. Rome 30161

### Game Participation Rule

It is mandatory for all participants to play in all games. Each child must play 1 full uninterrupted quarter of each game.

### Uniforms

Uniforms are not included in the registration fee. Parents are responsible for purchasing the child's uniform to include shirt, shorts, and court shoes. The Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority has developed a uniform standard to ease the burden of selection and provide greater continuity to the program. The RFPRA name/logo, player name and/or team sponsor name is allowed on the back of the jersey. Each coach will receive this information to share with parents. Coaches and parents will determine uniform color and team name at the first team meeting.

### Awards

Each player in the 5-6 year-old age division will receive an award. All other age divisions will receive first and second place individual player awards following post season tournament.

### All-star Selection Process

(Excludes 5-6 Year Instructional Division)

Players are evaluated throughout the season to be considered for post season All-star play. All coaches in the league along with the sports coordinator will meet and select All-star team participants. Once the teams are formed, the All-star team coaches will be selected by the sports coordinator. An All-star team is formed from the participants within the league they played during regular

## basketball continued...

season. Players who play up in age-group during league play can only qualify for All-stars in that same age group. All players that are selected for the All-star team will be contacted by the All-star head coach. Teams will compete in District and State competition under the by-laws of GRPA.



## Cheerleading

The Unified Cheerleading program is coordinated in partnership with Boys and Girls Club. The RFPRA is responsible for accepting registrations. The Boys and Girls Club coordinates all other aspects of the cheerleading program.

Please direct program questions to the Boys and Girls Club: 706.234.8591



## Football

### Season dates

August - October

### Age Divisions

Junior Pee Wee	7-8
Pee Wee	9-10
Mites	11-12

### Age Control Date

The age control date is the participant's age as of August 31 of the current year.

### Game Days and Times

Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays

Field 1: 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm

Field 2: 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm

Saturdays

Field 1: 10:00 am , 11:30 am, 1:00 pm, 2:30 pm, 4:00 pm

Field 2: 10:30 am , 12:00 pm, 1:30 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:30 pm

Game Admission:

\$1.00 for everyone 6 years old or older

### Game Locations (See Index Map)

Games are played at two locations:

- 1) Riverview Sports Complex: Behind the levee on E. 2nd Ave. Rome, 30161.
- 2) Boys and Girls Club of Northwest GA: 100 Gadson St NW, Rome, 30165.

### Game Participation Rule

Season games: 8-10 games

Junior Pee Wee: 4 plays

Pee Wee: 4 plays

Mites: 1 play

### Uniforms

Uniforms are not included in the registration fee. Parents are responsible for purchasing the child's uniform. A uniform for youth football shall include a certified helmet with face guard, shoulder pads, football pants with pads protecting the hips, butt, thighs, and knees; and a jersey with numerals on the front and back. It is mandatory that all players wear such uniforms. All players must wear mouthpieces. *Note: Equipment rental is available through the Boys and Girls Club: 706.234.8591*

### Awards

All age divisions will receive first and second place individual player awards following post season tournament.



# Flag Football

## Season dates

September - October

## Age groups and Gender

5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12

Boys and girls coed teams

## Age Control Date

Age as of September 1 of the current year

## Game Days and Times

Games may be played on any combination of days and times during the week. Games may be played on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays with 5:30, 6:30, 7:30 game times and Saturdays starting at 10:00 am.

## Game Locations *(See Index Map)*

- 1) Riverview Park: Behind the levee on E. 2nd Ave. Rome, 30161.
- 2) North Floyd Park: N. Floyd Park Rd. (off of Martha Berry Highway) Rome, 30165.
- 3) Garden Lakes Soccer Complex: 2901 Garden Lakes Blvd. NW. Rome, 30161

## Game Participation Rule

The number of games played is based on the total number of teams in each age division (typically 8-10 games). Each child must play in half of each game attending.

## Uniforms

A jersey is included with the registration fee and is provided by the RFPRA.

## Awards

Each player in the 5-6 year-old age division will receive an award. All other age

divisions will receive first and second place individual player awards following post season tournament.



# Soccer

## Season dates

Spring: April - May

Fall: September - October

## Age groups and Gender

5-6, 7-8, 9-10

Boys and girls coed teams

## Age Control Date

Age as of January 1 of the current year

## Game Days and Times

Games are played on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 - 6:30 pm.

## Game Location *(See Index Map)*

Garden Lakes Soccer Complex: 2901 Garden Lakes Blvd. NW. Rome, 30161

## Game Participation Rule

The number of games played is based on the total number of teams in each age division (typically 8-10 games). Each child must play in half of each game attending.

## Uniforms

A jersey is included with the registration fee and is provided by the RFPRA.

## Awards

Each participant will receive an award following the completion of league play.



# Softball

## Season Dates

Spring : April - May

Fall: September - November

Fall: (Prep League) Sep-Nov

## Age groups and Gender

8 & Under      Machine Pitch

9-10             Player Pitch

11-12            Player Pitch

13-14            Player Pitch

Open to females in all age divisions.

## Prep League (6-7-8 grade)

A league for students who desire to play in a competitive league and represent the school they attend.

## Age Control Date

Spring & Fall Season: Age as of January 1 of the current year

## Game Days and Times

All days are open for play except Sunday. Games are typically played on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Wednesday and Friday are reserved for make-up games. Games start at 5:45 pm and 6:00 pm on weeknights; 10:00 am and 11:30 am on Saturday. Teams generally play 2 to 3 games per week.

## Game Locations *(See Index Map)*

Games are played at one location:

Alto Park: 1014 Burnett Ferry Rd, Fields 6, 7 & 8.

## Game Participation Rule

It is mandatory for all participants to play

in all games. Each player must play six consecutive defensive outs and have at least one at bat.

## Uniforms

Uniforms are not included in the registration fee. Parents are responsible for purchasing the child's uniform to include shirt, pants, cleats and hat. The Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority has developed a uniform standard to ease the burden of selection and provide greater continuity to the program. The RFPRA name/logo, player name and/or team sponsor name is allowed on the back of the jersey. Each coach will receive this information to share with parents. Coaches and parents will determine uniform color and team name at the first team meeting.

## Awards

Each player in the 5-6 year-old age division will receive an award. All other age divisions will receive first and second place individual player awards following post season tournament.

## All-star Selection Process

Players are evaluated throughout the season to be considered for post season All-star play. All coaches in the league along with the sports coordinator will meet and select All-star team participants. Once the teams are formed, the All-star team coaches will be selected by the sports coordinator. An All-star team is formed from the participants within the league who played during regular season. Players who play up in age-group during league play can only qualify for All-stars in that same age group. All players that are selected for the All-star team will be contacted by the All-star head coach. Teams will compete in District and State competition under the by-laws of GRPA.



# Gymnastics

## Gym Curriculum

Students of all ages and abilities are encouraged to participate in the wide variety of recreational and competitive gymnastics programs. The gym curriculum follows safety procedures with simple to complex skills taught in a progressive manner in a safe and fun environment. Students learn without injury by mastering the basics of building strength, flexibility and coordination.

Students who have trained in a wide variety of recreational gymnastics programs are considered for team, which is offered by coach invite only.

## Age Groups and Gender

Gymnastics is offered year round for boys and girls ages 18 months and older.

## Classes & Dates

Gymnastics is a year round sport. Classes are held weekly during afternoon and evening hours Monday - Friday.

### **Tutsi-Rolls** (Parent and Me:18 mos-2yrs)

8:1ratio (student: teacher)

With a parent by their side, students participate in baby gymnastics using equipment and circuits designed specifically for toddlers. Students work on gross motor skills in a playful environment.

### **Tumblebees** (3 years old)

6:1ratio (student: teacher)

Students follow organized, structured training on the tumble floor, baby beam, tumble track, baby bars and vault table.

### **Gymneebes** (4 years old)

6:1ratio (student: teacher)

This class is geared for helping students develop social and motor skills. Students

will train for skills such as cartwheels, handstands and donkey kicks - all while learning how to take turns and follow directions.

### **Kinderbees** (5 years old)

8:1ratio (student: teacher)

This class enables the student to build the strength and confidence necessary to learn basic skills and techniques on the tumble floor, bars, balance beam, tumble track and vault. Skills learned in the Kinderbees will prepare the student for future class in Beginning Aerials.

### **Aerials** (6 & up)

8:1 ratio (student: teacher)

This program offers professional gymnastics instruction. Aerials is a progression gymnastics class starting at beginner level and working through advanced levels. Aerial students train on all four main events: floor, bars, beam and vault. The program is taught in structured progressions using a star skill sheet. Coaches instruct on proper form and technique while maintaining high standards with respect to effort, behavior, attitude and sportsmanship. Students are encouraged to work hard and enjoy their training.

### **Beginning Tumbling** (8 & up)

10:1ratio (student: teacher)

Tumbling is one of the most important foundation activities for success in gymnastics at all levels. In addition to learning the foundational skills necessary to perform a back handspring, students learn cartwheels, round-offs and bridge kick-overs. Coaches utilize planned progressions that focus on pace, body posture and increasing strength and flexibility.

### **Boys Class** (6 & up)

8:1ratio (student: teacher)

This program provides professional gymnastic basic instruction for boys focused on strength, flexibility and endurance.

## gymnastics continued...

### What to Wear

Girls typically wear a leotard with or without shorts or sweatpants. Boys typically wear shorts or sweatpants and a t-shirt. For safety, loose clothes, buttons, zippers and jewelry are not allowed. Hair must be pulled back (avoid barrettes or hair decor).

### Gym Location *(See Index Map)*

Team practices are held at the Gymnastics Center: 1 Shorter Ave. Rome, 30165.

### General Gym Rules

- Only coaches and students are permitted in the official gym area. Parents inside the official gym area may create distraction causing a safety concern. Parents may sit in the designated sitting area.
- Crop tops and sport bras worn as the primary garment are not allowed.
- Jewelry is not allowed to be worn during class.
- Clothes should not be too loose and shirts should be tucked in.
- In-appropriate language is not tolerated
- Food and drink is not allowed in the official gym area.
- Smoking is not permitted inside the facility or outside the door areas.
- No flash photography



## Tennis

The Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority partners with the Coosa Valley Tennis Association to run a year round tennis program which is based at the Rome-Floyd Tennis Center, the Etowah

Park Tennis Complex, and the Alto Park Tennis Complex.

### Classes

A staff of certified teaching professionals, offers a variety of private and group lessons for all ages, from the beginner to the advanced.

Monthly Beginner Tennis Classes that are offered:

Tots	Ages: 3-5
Child	Ages: 5-8
Youth	Ages: 8-10
Junior	Ages: 11-15
Adults	Ages: 16+

Please check [www.rfpra.com](http://www.rfpra.com) for class schedules or the The Rome-Floyd Tennis Center at 706-290-0072.

### USTA Leagues

Adult and junior league tennis are run by the Coosa Valley Tennis Association. All participants must be a member of the United States Tennis Association. League matches are played year round at RFPRA tennis facilities. For more information check out [www.coosavalleytennis.com](http://www.coosavalleytennis.com)

### Tennis Facilities

- 1) The Rome-Floyd Tennis Center; 706-290-0072; 300 West Third Street, Rome, GA, 30165; 16 Lighted Hardcourts.
- 2) Etowah Park Tennis Complex; 1325 Kingston Rd NE, Rome, GA 30161; 10 Lighted Hardcourts.
- 3) Alto Park Tennis Complex; 1014 Burnett Ferry Rd SW, Rome GA; 10 Lighted Hardcourts.

# Challenger Sports

The Challenger Sports League is designed to help children and adults with special needs to have the opportunity to experience the excitement of playing sports.

## Challenger Sports & Seasons

Basketball	Jan - Feb
Baseball /T-Ball	Mar - Apr
Soccer	Sep - Oct
Cheerleading	Sep - Oct
Bowling	Sep - Oct

## Age groups and Gender

All challenger programs are designed for persons with special needs 4 and over.

## Registration Fee

Basketball, Baseball/T-ball, Soccer, Cheerleading: \$40 (includes uniform)

Bowling: Cost is dependent on bowling center rates (There are no uniforms)

## Registration Dates

Basketball	Early January
Baseball/T-ball	Early March
Soccer	Early September
Cheerleading	September
Bowling	October

## Game Locations *(See Index Map)*

Basketball - Fielder Recreation Center:  
1500 Crane St SW. Rome 30161

Baseball -Midway Park: Midway Park Rd  
(off of Wax Rd.), Silver Creek, GA 30173

Soccer - Garden Lakes Soccer Complex:  
901 Garden Lakes Blvd NW, Rome,  
30161.

Cheerleading - Riverview Sports Complex:  
Behind the levee on E. 2nd Ave. Rome,  
30161.

Bowling - Classic Lanes: 75 Huffaker Rd.  
NW, Rome, 30165

## Sport and Play Description

Challenger Sports uses a “buddy system” where each participant that needs assistance has a helper who shadows him throughout the game. Buddies can be siblings, friends, parents, or a volunteer over the age of 12. Duties include: pushing a wheelchair, giving directions, helping to throw a ball or swing a bat, and other necessary accommodations and adaptations to help them succeed in playing the sport. Only words of affirmation and encouragement are spoken to the players at all times. Each participant plays during the game and scores are not kept.

## Uniforms

Uniforms are included in registration fee and are distributed at the first game for each sport. Special Equipment for game play will be provided when necessary. Bowling does not have uniforms.

## Awards

Each player will receive a trophy at the end of each sport season.

## Special Game Rules

Only coaches, players and 1 buddy per player is allowed on the court or field during play. No sliding in any sport will be permitted. No unnecessary roughness will be allowed by any player. Players who do not follow these rules will sit out the remainder of game.

## Parent/ Player Code of Conduct

Any parent or player guilty of improper conduct at any game or practice will be asked to leave the sports facility and be suspended from the following game. Repeat violations may cause forfeiture of the privilege of attending all games. Improper conduct will consist of engagement in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with

coaches, players, or spectators such as booing, taunting, refusing to shake hands, hitting, or using profane language or gestures. No drugs, alcohol, or tobacco in any form will be permitted in sports facility or at any sports event.

**Safety Regulations**

Challenger sports rules are adapted to ensure safety at all times.

**Parent / Volunteer Pledge**

- I will teach all children to play fair and do their best
- I will positively support all managers, coaches, and participants
- I will respect the decisions of the managers and coaches
- I will give praise and encouragement to the participants at all times

**Volunteer Opportunities**

Challenger Sports depends on our volunteers. Volunteers are needed for coaches, buddies, refreshments, special events, and other positions. Please contact us for more information on becoming a volunteer. Call the Special Populations Coordinator at 706.234.0383.

**Youth Sports Build Character**



**Become a coach & support our youth.**

**Volunteer to Coach:**

**Baseball | Softball | T-ball  
Football | Cheerleading  
Soccer | Flag Football  
Challenger Sports**

**To volunteer, visit us at our main office.**

Party with your Team



Party

at a

- Pool
- Party Room
- Outdoor Pavilion

We have the perfect facility for you!

10% RFPRA Team Discount

Call to book:  
706-291-0766

# 4 Appendix

## FAQ Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q: What is the Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority?**

**A:** The Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority is a legally constituted Board that operates as an independent enterprise service agency for Rome and Floyd County as the recognized recreation service provider for all citizens. A nine-member appointed Board of Directors is responsible for policy making and accountability for Authority services.

### **Q: What is the purpose of the Parks and Recreation Authority?**

**A:** The Authority's primary purpose is to develop, maintain and operate a comprehensive parks and recreation service system.

### **Q: How is the Authority funded?**

**A:** Capital improvements to City-owned facilities are provided by the City Commission. Capital improvements to County-owned facilities are provided by the County Commission. Operating expenses are provided in part by the County General Fund (60%) and in part by the fees and charges paid by users taking advantage of the programs and services offered by RFPRA (40%). The "pay as you play" philosophy motivates staff to create programming that appeals to the local community.

### **Q: Why do I have to pay to participate in programs or pay a rental fee to use public facilities?**

**A:** Your fees are used to assist in covering the total cost of the service provided. Registration fees alone are not enough to cover the cost of the program. Your fees pay part of the 40% of operation costs not paid by tax dollars.

### **Q: Why are not more games played in my neighborhood park?**

**A:** The RFPRA has designed facilities specifically for league play. These facilities have larger parking areas and amenities to enhance play. (i.e.: lighted fields, restrooms, scoreboards, concessions.) This plan also reduces maintenance cost throughout the entire system by limiting game level fields to certain parks.

### **Q: Why are some games scheduled during times which conflict with church and school activities?**

**A:** Schedules are planned based on the number of teams in a league and the number of games in a season. The Authority has a limited number of game-level facilities and games can only be played during certain times of the day. In essence, there may be too many games to avoid conflicts with every other organization's program.

### **Q: How are practice schedules set?**

**A:** Schedules are planned at the discretion of the coach. Our facilities are available during the pre-season.

**Q: If I register my child in a youth sports program will he/she play in every game?**

**A:** A participation policy in all youth sport recreation programs assures that each participant who registers, pays to play and attends scheduled practices will play in all scheduled games. The Authority's philosophy is that winning is secondary to learning and experiencing the excitement that comes with playing the game.

Participants who register for Prep Leagues are registering for a competitive play league, which do not adhere to the recreation program participation policy.

**Q: I would like for my child to play-up a year, is this allowed?**

**A:** Parents may register a child up an age division. The age control dates are set to ensure children play with others who are at the same skill level and physical development. This measure is enacted for both safety and fair play. Each child's situation is different and is evaluated on a case by case basis.

**Q: After I register, how soon will I hear from my coach?**

**A:** Your coach should contact you within 72 hours after the Team Formation Meeting. If you do not receive a call from your coach, contact the Authority's main office.


**Q: I've been told I have to join a booster club to participate on a team from my neighborhood - is this true?**

**A:** No. Parent clubs help in fund-raising to provide team equipment, uniforms and awards. However, it is not a pre-requisite that you join a Parent Booster Club in order for your child to participate in sports programs. Your membership is voluntary.

**Q: I can't afford the registration fee; are scholarships available?**

**A:** The Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority administers a scholarship program to Rome and Floyd County residents to increase leisure opportunities for all community members, regardless of income level. Applications are available online at [rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com) and at main office located at: 1 Shorter Ave. Rome, GA 30165.

*See page 20 for scholarship guidelines.*




## Evaluate Your Coach

### *ANONYMOUSLY*

Our coaches need feedback and support.  
Help your coach attain immediate  
feedback on how he/she is performing  
anytime during the season.

**What you need to rate:**  
Your coach's ID number which he/she  
will provide after team formation -  
or call 706.291.0766.

**How to rate your coach:**  
Go to [rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com) and click the logo:



# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DETAILS

**Rome-Floyd Parks and Recreation Authority administers a scholarship program to Rome and Floyd County residents. The goal of the program is to increase leisure opportunities for all community members regardless of income level.**

- Financial Aid is available to Floyd County citizens ages 17 and younger and enrolled in school.
- Assistance is limited to one activity/program per season (winter, spring, summer, fall) per approved individual.
- Financial Aid is considered only for programs costing in excess of \$15 and may not be applied toward a "team fee" in which one fee is paid by a group to participate.
- Applicable programs are those in which an individual fee is charged.
- Financial Aid applications are available at the RFPPRA main office.
- All applications and corresponding paperwork must be submitted to the main office 10 days prior to the registration deadline in order to be considered.
- Approval for financial aid does not guarantee space is available in the chosen activity.
- If approved, it is the responsibility of the applicant to complete all registration forms and pay any fee prior to the registration deadline.
- Financial aid is not available for year-round programs with a mandatory monthly fee such as the competitive gymnastics team.

**Scholarship applications are available online at [rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com) and at the main office located at: 1 Shorter Ave. Rome, GA 30165**



## Community & Neighborhood Parks

	ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES	EXHIBITS/DISPLAYS	FARMER'S MARKET	BASKETBALL (OUTSIDE)	FISHING/BOATING/RAMPS	FITNESS FACILITIES	FOOTBALL/SOCCER FIELDS	FRISBEE GOLF COURSE	HORSESHOES - H, SHUFFLEBOARD - S	LAKE/POOL/RIVER/CREEK	MULTI-PURPOSE FIELDS	PICNIC AREAS/PICNIC SHELTER	PLAYGROUND	RESTROOMS	CONCESSIONS AREA	SOFTBALL/BASEBALL FIELDS (Game-G, Practice-F)	BATTING CAGES	TENNIS COURTS (L-LIT, U-UNLIT)	TRAILS: NATURAL/PAVED/GRAVEL	VOLLEYBALL COURTS (Sand- S, Grass- G, Indoor- I)	AMPHITHEATER	RENTAL OPPORTUNITIES	LEAGUE PLAY: A-ADULT/YOUTH
<b>COMMUNITY PARKS</b>																							
Alto Park												PS:1	2	X	X	X	X	L10	N	G-1	X		AY
Armuchee Park			4	F					C	X	S:1	1				3	U2					X	
Cave Spring Park			6								S:1	1	X	X	2	U2						X	
Coosa Park									C		S:1				2							X	
Etowah Park									H/S	C	X	S:1	3	X	X	6	X	L10	NP				Y
Garden Lakes Park			2							X	PS:1	1	X	X	2	U1	N					X	AY
Heritage Park				ALL					R	S3	1	X										X	
Lock and Dam Park	X			ALL					H	R	X	PS:1	1	X						N	G-1	X	X
Lock and Nature Preserve (includes Hwy 100)																				N			
Midway Park			2							X	S3	1	X	X	3	X	U2	P					X
Ridge Ferry Park	X	X		FB	X					R	X	PS:4	3	X				ALL	S2			X	
Riverview Park	X	X		ALL			2		R	S3	1	X	X	X	5	X	P					X	AY
Shannon Park (Shag Williams Park)			9			1			X	P	1	X	X	2	U1	P						X	
West Third Street Complex	X	X							R													X	AY
Wolfe Park			2						C	X	P	1	X	X	2	L2	P					X	Y
North Floyd Park	X						2			S:1	1	X	X	X	4	X	N					X	AY
<b>NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</b>																							
Banty Jones Park			6						X	P	1	X	1									X	
Eagle Park			6						X														
Paris Hoke Park			6						X	P	1												
Riverside Park			2													1	U1						
Tolbert Park			2					H	C	X	PS:1	1					U2					X	

facility guide charts continued...

**RECREATION CENTERS**

		ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES	EXHIBITS/DISPLAYS	BASKETBALL (OUTSIDE)	GYMNASIUM	PLAYGROUND	RECREATION CENTER BUILDING	ACTIVITY ROOM	BANQUET ROOM	KITCHEN	RESTROOMS	CONCESSIONS AREA	VOLLEYBALL COURTS (Sand: S; Grass: G; Indoor)	RENTAL OPPORTUNITIES	LEAGUE PLAY: A-ADULTY-YOUTH
<b>RECREATION CENTERS</b>															
<b>Active Adult Center</b>	Kingston Hwy.	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
<b>Anthony Center</b>	Garden Lakes Park	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	I2	X	A/Y
<b>Fielder Center</b>	Crane Street	X			X		X	2		X	X	X	I2	X	A/Y
<b>Gilbreath Center</b>	Park Ave./Lindale	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	I2	X	A/Y
<b>Thornton Center</b>	N. Floyd Park Rd	X			2	2	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	A/Y
<b>Shannon Center</b>	Shannon Park	X	X	X		X	X		2	2	X			X	



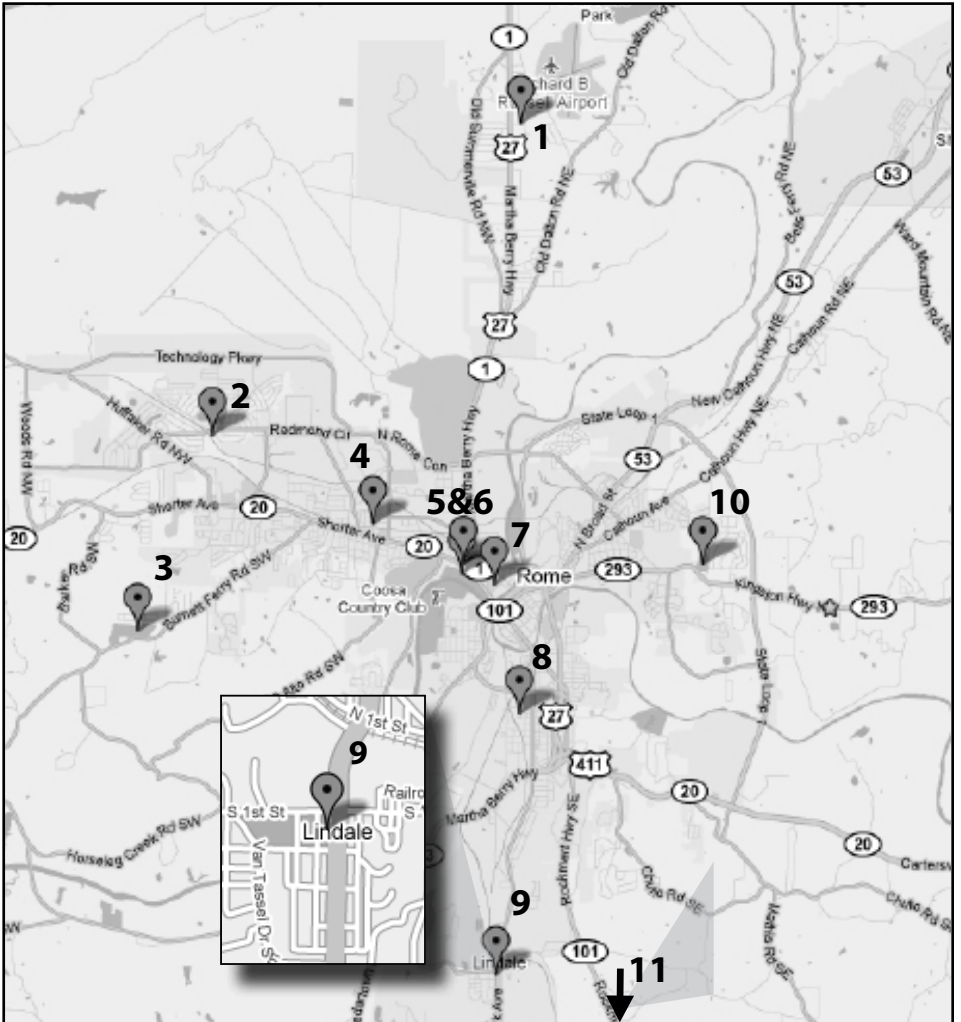
Photo: Foxworthy Studios

# Event Facilities

For facility photos & rates:

**rfpra.com**

# SPORTING FACILITIES MAP



- 1. North Floyd Park:** N. Floyd Park Rd. (off of Martha Berry Hwy) Rome, 30165
- 2. Anthony Center Gym & Soccer Fields:** 901 Garden Lakes Blvd NW Rome, 30165
- 3. Alto Park:** 1014 Burnett Ferry Rd. SW, Rome, 30165
- 4. Boys & Girls Club Football Fields:** 300 Gadson St NW, Rome, 30165
- 5. Riverview Sports Complex:** Behind the levee on E. 2nd Ave. Rome, 30165
- 6. Registration Office & Gymnastics Center:** 1 Shorter Ave. Rome, 30165
- 7. Sports Complex & Administrative Building:** 300 W. Third St. Rome, 30165
- 8. Fielder Center:** 1500 Crane St SW, Rome, 30161
- 9. Wolf Park & Gilbreath Center :** 106 Park Ave SE, Lindale, 30147
- 10. Etowah Park:** 1325 Kingston Rd. NE, Rome, 30161
- 11. Midway Park:** Midway Park Rd (off of Wax Rd.) Silver Creek, 30173

# Discover

## programs & events

### Fitness is Fun Classes



**Where:** Thornton Center  
(North Floyd Park)

**When:** Daily Classes  
(Schedule online)

**Class Offerings:** Zumba, Aerobics, Prenatal Fitness, Yoga Chair, Seniors Power Pump **Cost:** \$2 & up

**Questions?:** 706.291.0766

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### After-school Recreation



Kids enjoy after-school fun in a safe environment with trained staff.

**Dates:** Mon-Fri  
(Registration is ongoing.)

**Ages:** 5-15, 3 - 6 pm  
(1-6 early release days)

**Location:** Anthony Center

**Questions?:** 706.291.0766

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### Seasonal Classes

Check [rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com) for details on the latest programs and classes. Class offerings vary to include dance, language, cake decorating, golf, informational, self help and more. Classes are typically offered in the evenings and/or weekends. **Questions?:** 706.291.0766

Rome-Floyd  
Parks & Recreation  
Authority

*Enriching Lives*  
rfpra.com

**Visit [rfpra.com](http://rfpra.com)  
for details  
on programs & events**

The logo for the Rome-Floyd Parks & Recreation Authority is centered on the page. It consists of a dark gray diamond shape. Inside the diamond, the words "Rome-Floyd", "Parks & Recreation", and "Authority" are stacked vertically in a white, serif font.

Rome-Floyd  
Parks & Recreation  
Authority

*Enriching Lives*  
rfpra.com

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1 Shorter Avenue, Rome, GA 30165  
office: 706.291.0766 fax: 706.235.3936