

RECREATION COMMISSION-2017

We finished the 2016-2017 basketball season in February. The 1st and 2nd grade group of 16 students worked on learning basic skills at the PES gym. Our 3rd and 4th grade boys group and our 3rd and 4th grade girls group of 10 each, practiced and played several games with local towns during the season. Focus was put on individual skills, playing as a team, and sportsmanship. Practices and home games were held at PES. We ended our season with the 3rd & 4th grade boys participating in the Karp's Klassic in Lebanon and the 3rd&4th grade girls playing a parents/kids game prior to a pizza lunch. The combined groups of grades 1 through 4 had a total participation of 36 boys and girls.

In the spring we started our 3rd and 4th grade baseball season with a group of 11 boys and girls. They practiced and played teams from other area towns. Home games were played on Prescott Field. Skills and sportsmanship were worked on throughout the season. They also all participated in a 3-Pitch Jamboree in May. We unfortunately were not able to field a 3&4 softball team again this year because of a low number of sign-ups but all who were interested played on the baseball team.

We ran our T-ball during the spring again this year. This was done first in 2016, as requested by many, so that it would end before summer vacations. It worked well and we will continue this in the future years. Participation was at 15 1st and 2nd graders and an additional 22 participants to make up our farm team. 1st and 2nd graders practiced skills and played games. The Farm Team worked on basic skills of throwing, catching, batting, and rules of the game. These teams practiced and played on Prescott Field.

Our annual fishing Derby was held on a cold June 3rd morning in Blood Brook behind the Meriden Deli. Trophies for first, second, and third place in each of the four age groups were handed out. Hot dogs were cooked on the grill for the kids to enjoy with drinks including McNamara Dairy Chocolate Milk, Coca Cola soft drinks and water. Ice cream cones were handed out from the Meriden Deli to all participants. We had 57 kids participate in the event and the big catch of the day was made by Allie Isabelle with a trout of 11 3/4". There were only a total of 23 fish caught during the derby this year as they were biting much less than in previous years. We recorded 17 participants catching at least one fish and 6 catching the derby 2 fish limit. It was a lot of fun watching the excitement as the fish were hooked. All kids had the opportunity to fish the brook at the completion of the derby, following NH law.

Our 6th annual Spirit Day was held on August 27th. This event is an extension of our 250th celebration which was held in 2011. It is a great way to get together as a community as the summer comes to an end. The event started at 5:00 pm with music provided by the band BorderStone. They played throughout the evening while we enjoyed a corn roast, cooking on the grill and Mac's Maple Creamees, while relaxing and visiting with our friends and neighbors. The Plainfield Police, Plainfield and Meriden Fire departments as well as Cornish rescue squad were there for our safety and welcomed everyone to see the trucks and ask questions. The evening ended with the playing of our National Anthem as our fire department displayed a large flag hanging high from their ladder truck prior to a spectacular display of fireworks by Northstar Fireworks. It was a fun evening and I hope it was enjoyed by everyone who was able to attend. This is an event we plan to continue and I hope that if you were unable to attend this past year that you can make it in 2018.

The Soccer program in the fall included the 3rd & 4th grade boys' team made up of 16 boys and the 3rd girls' team made up of 16 girls. These two teams played other area recreation teams and practiced and played home games on Hewes Field. This group worked on individual skills, working as a team, and sportsmanship. Both groups participated in a soccer jamboree at the Sachem Fields. The 1st and 2nd grade had three teams made up of a total of 35 players. These teams practiced basic skill and played games with each other at the Cory Taber Field. We had an additional 18 kids that participated in the kindergarten group. This continues to be a huge program with 85 participants in our K through 4th grade soccer groups.

The 2016-2017 basketball season got started in December for our 3/4 grade boys. They are working on both individual and team skills and will play games with other area towns. The 1st and 2nd grade group, working on basic skills at the PES gym has 16 participants and also started in December.

I would like to thank the Meriden Deli, Hy-On-A-Hill Trout Farm, N.H. Fish and Game, Coca Cola Company, Vern's Worms, McNamara Dairy, Edgewater Farm, and Taylor Farm for your donations to the Fishing Derby and Spirit Day events. Thank you to the Plainfield School and facilities group for a place to hold our games, practices, events, and the help provided. I would also like to thank both the Fishing Derby Crew and the Spirit Day Crew for all your help in the preparation and work that you do during these events. Thank you to our many

volunteer coaches, officials, and helpers that provide an opportunity for our local youth to participate in the sports programs that we offer. It is a combination of many volunteers that make these programs and events available and successful.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel P. Cantlin,
Recreation Director



Ice cream and conversation at “Spirit Day.”

Photo Loretta Tessier



Resident Bart Daley and his prized draft horses 4th of July Parade.