

RECREATION COMMISSION-2018

We finished the 2017-2018 basketball season in February. The 1st and 2nd grade group of 17 students worked on learning basic skills at the PES gym. Our 3rd and 4th grade boys group of 10, 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 did not have enough 3rd and 4th grade girls to have a team but a drop in practice schedule was put together for those interested. In the spring we started our 3rd and 4th grade baseball with a group of 11 boys. They practiced and played teams from other area towns. Home games were played on Prescott Field. Skills and sportsmanship were worked on through 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.

We ran our T-ball during the spring again this year. Participation was at 22 1st and 2nd graders and an additional 11 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 the morning of June 2nd 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 63 kids participate in the event and the big catch of the day was made by Kinley Gage with a trout of nearly 16". There were a total of 110 fish caught during the derby this year. We recorded 56 participants catching at least one fish and 54 of them catching the derby 2 fish limit. As always, 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 7th annual Spirit Day was held on August 26th. 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 Loose Cannons. 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 First Baptist Church provided lemonade and water. Also this year we had a magic show with Dylan Tenney, sponsored by the Meriden Deli and Poor Thom's Tavern. Dylan captured the attention of the group as he amazed them with his great talent and sleight of hand. 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 2019.

The Soccer program in the fall included the 3rd and 4th grade boys' team made up of 24 boys and the 3rd and 4th grade girls' team made up of 12 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. The groups participated in a soccer jamboree at the Sachem Fields. The 1st and 2nd grade had three teams made up of a total of 41 players. These teams practiced basic skill and played games with each other at the Prescott Field. We had an additional 16 kids that participated in the kindergarten group. They worked on basic skills of the game. After a request came in and interest shown, we added a pre-school group this year. We had 23 participants in this last group. This continues to be a huge program with 116 participants in our pre-school through 4th grade soccer groups.

The 2018-2019 basketball season got started in November for our 3rd and 4th grade boys (team of 15) and 3rd and 4th grade girls (team of 6). 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 17 participants and 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, Taylor Farm, Poor Thom's Tavern, and First Baptist Church for your donations to the Fishing Derby and/or 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



2018 Fishing Derby

Photos S. Halleran



**Aaraline Balch with her prize and trophy!!
Photo S. Halleran**

