



RPAA FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Rochelle Park Athletic Association (RPAA)?

The RPAA is an independent, resident-led, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization created to manage, improve, and expand sports programs in Rochelle Park. Our goal is to provide high-quality athletic opportunities in a safe, inclusive, and community-focused environment.

Why start a non-profit organization to administer sports?

The transition was made to establish a dedicated, resident-led structure focused exclusively on the long-term growth and stability of local sports. Shifting administration to an independent 501(c)(3) removes political turnover from sports management, opens doors to non-profit funding and business sponsorships, and empowers active parents, coaches, and volunteers to directly drive decision-making for our community's athletic programs.

What are the anticipated benefits of this transition?

By adopting a non-profit association model, we can streamline administrative processes, optimize financial management, enhance coaching standards, and improve program quality. This structure allows residents to be more actively involved with athletic programs while maintaining a close partnership and support from the Township.

What is the role of the Board of Directors?

The Board provides overarching governance, strategic direction, and operational oversight. This includes managing budget allocations, maintaining compliance with non-profit standards, supporting sport committees, and ensuring high standards of program quality and safety across all programs.

How will individual sports programs be run?

Each youth sport will be managed by its own dedicated committee composed of local coaches, parents, and volunteers. Additional committees will be assigned to support RPAA endeavors (e.g. Adult Sports, Fundraising). These committees will handle day-to-day operations—such as logistics, team formation, equipment management, program guidelines, etc.

How can Rochelle Park residents become members?

RPAA membership will soon be open to all Rochelle Park residents. Becoming a member keeps you informed about key association updates, direct details about program offerings, opportunities to engage in special events, and share feedback as we continue to grow local sports recreation.

How can I get involved or volunteer?

We actively encourage community participation! Residents can get involved by:

- **Joining a Sport Committee** to help organize specific sports programs.
- **Coaching or Assistant Coaching** youth teams.
- **Volunteering** for events, field maintenance, or administrative support.
- **Sponsor** an athletic event, program, or team

When will these changes take effect?

We are currently working with the Township of Rochelle Park leadership to establish formal agreements, transition program administration, and secure facility access. Detailed announcements regarding upcoming sports registrations and membership sign-ups will be shared in the coming months.

How will registration fees be affected with this transition?

Operating as a 501(c)(3) non-profit allows us to apply for grants, accept tax-deductible donations, and partner with local business sponsors. These additional funding avenues are specifically designed to help offset operational costs, upgrade equipment, and keep registration fees low and accessible for Rochelle Park families.

Are donations and business sponsorships tax-deductible?

Yes. Because the RPAA is a recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law. We intend to offer sponsorship packages for local businesses looking to support community athletics while gaining local visibility.

How will safety, background checks, and coaching standards be managed?

Safety is our top priority. The RPAA Board works with the Township of Rochelle Park for mandatory background checks, ensuring coaching certifications, and enforcing safety protocols for every volunteer and coach across all sport committees before they take the field or court.

How does the RPAA work with the Township Committee?

The RPAA operates as an independent non-profit partner working in close, formalized coordination with the Township of Rochelle Park. While the RPAA manages sports administration, volunteer committees, and day-to-day league operations, we collaborate directly with township leadership to coordinate facility usage, field access, compliance requirements, and long-term improvements to local recreational spaces.

Is the RPAA only for youth sports, or will there be adult programs?

While youth athletic development remains a core focus, the RPAA is dedicated to recreational opportunities for residents of all ages. We are actively expanding our portfolio to include adult recreational offerings to keep our entire community active and connected.

Have additional questions or want to get involved early?

Contact rochelleparkaa@gmail.com as we build the future of Rochelle Park athletics together!