

Mattapoisett Recreation Department

Director: Greta Fox

Chairperson: Jeanne O'Brien

Committee Members: Charles Rider, Michael Moreau, Brett Fortin, Robert Gardner, Alison Van Kueren, Jennifer Janicki, Peter Brzezinski

The mission of Mattapoisett Recreation is to create diverse recreational opportunities to increase the social, cultural, and physical well-being of its residents and visitors. 2016 was a successful year for the department as many new programs were offered and the number of engaged community members increased.

To further our mission and to make sure all community members have access to our programming, we provide financial aid to those that require it. Over \$4000 in scholarships were awarded in 2016.

New programs introduced in 2016:

Yoga taught by Lynda Jacobvitz- a certified Yoga instructor who specializes in youth yoga and introduces songs and games into the curriculum. 4 sessions were offered including summer outdoor yoga.

Volleyball Program run by Craig Letourneau the Head Coach for Wheaton College. The session was geared towards 6-8th Grade students planning to play high school volleyball.

LEGO Engineering This program (offered thru a partnership with Bristol Community College) brought LEGOs to a whole new level for children in Grades 1-6. Participants enjoyed building robots and other vehicles using gears and motors.

Sweet Treats Candy making A seasonal offering that gave participants the opportunity to make different type of candy and treats to share and give as holiday gifts.

Fencing Offered thru a partnership with Blackstone Valley Fencing Academy. This program gave participants the opportunity to learn the art of Fencing with all gear and equipment provided.

Other programs offered throughout the year:

Center Stage Kids-Drama, Gymnastic and Tumbling-through Bay State Gymnastics Academy, Crafting-sessions every season, Tennis Lessons- Spring, Summer and Fall sessions, Golf Lessons at The Bay Club-Spring, Summer and Fall sessions.

Seasonal Sports offered:

Flag Football was a huge success as participant numbers more that doubled since program started 2 seasons ago. Over 100 participants attended the 8 week session that concluded with a pizza party and "Under the Lights Game" at Old Rochester Regional High School football Field.

Basketball Clinics and leagues were offered for Kindergarten through Junior High level. Over 270 children participated. For Grades 3-6 MATTREC combined with Marion Recreation to form a Tri-Town League that had 16 teams that practiced and played games in all of the Tri-Town schools.

Field Hockey A volunteer run program by former ORR players. Offered to girls in Grades 3-8.

Our sports clinics and leagues are largely run and coached by community volunteers and student volunteers. We could not offer the affordable opportunities that we do without the help of these wonderful community members!

Seahorse Explorers Summer Camp:

A new camp director Erin Feeney was hired for the 3rd summer of Seahorse Explorers. Erin's strong STEM background was a huge bonus to the program as many science and nature activities were added. Also new in 2016 were field trips and a partnership with Mad Science of Southeastern MA. A great summer experience for children ages 4-12yrs. with a 20% increase in participation.

One week Summer Camps offered:

Shooting Stars Girls Basketball Camp run by Julie Letourneau a Div II basketball player that also played professionally in a European league.

Boys Competitive Basketball Training Clinic offered by Brian Rudolph a Div. I player and Assistant coach for UMASS Dartmouth Men's Basketball.

Nature Explorers Camp hosted by Marion Natural History Museum. Participants enjoyed a week of exploring Mattapoissett's unique natural areas- shoreline and forests.

Town Beach:

Jane Finnerty was brought on as Town Beach Supervisor and Recreation Administrator. Jane brought years of aquatic experience from former positions as both Program and Aquatic Director for YMCA Southcoast. New safety and training measures were implemented at the beach and a kayak was acquired for lifeguard usage and raft supervision. The format for swim lessons was changed and proved to be a vast improvement that increased participation and success of program.

Future plans for MATTREC include free self-defense workshops, Bicycle safety clinic in partnership with the Friends of the Mattapoissett Bike Path, Dodgeball clinic, Aquaerobics for adults, and kayak excursions. As our mission statement says we are always looking to offer new and diverse programs. Please email us at mattrec@mattapoistt.net or call us at 508-758-4548 with any program suggestions or feedback.

