

# IWAAna Know!

A Quarterly Newsletter offered by Isle of Wight Amateur Athletics Inc.

## Sk8 Park Re-opened for Business

01 August 2009  
Volume 1, Issue 1

On April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009, after an almost two year hiatus, the Skate Park at Carrollton's Nike Park re-opened.

The park had fallen into disrepair and become unsafe over its previous lifetime, so the decision was made by Isle of Wight County Parks and Recreation to close the park until repairs and improvements could be made.

Those improvements finally happened in March of 2009 thanks to a collaborative effort between IWAA and IOW Parks and Rec. IWAA contributed \$20,000 and the county matched that

contribution with \$40,000 in funding. The combined funding allowed the County to purchase a new half pipe, grind rail, picnic table, up ramp, and C-rail from American Ramp Company. A team of County and IWAA volunteers, led by representatives from American Ramp, installed the new park equipment in one long Saturday effort.

On April 25<sup>th</sup>, following remarks by Newport Supervisor Stan Clark, the skate park was re-opened to the general public. Approximately 35 skaters from all over Hampton Roads

attended, with the majority coming from the Carrollton area.

To learn more about hours of operation, waiver requirements, and upcoming tournaments, visit [www.iwaasports.org/pages/now](http://www.iwaasports.org/pages/now).



Skaters dropping in on new half pipe

---

### Inside this issue:

What is IWAA?	2
Appreciation Month	2
In the Loop?	2
Who is NAYS?	3
Goals donated	3
Coming Events	4

---

## Ramp the Isle Sk8 Tournaments Results

IWAA and Isle of Wight County Parks and Rec will hold up to three events annually at the Carrollton Nike Park Skate Park. The winners of the first event, a skate tournament open to 3 age categories, held on Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup> 2009, were:

Andrew Gordon (7 & under), Clayton Ippolito (8-14), Kevin Green (15 and over). The winners of the second skate tournament, held on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009 were: Ryan Farrell (8 & under), Shane Stephens (9-14), Trey Hill (15 & over).

The next tournament will be

held on October 24<sup>th</sup>. You can get more information from IWAA's website at [www.iwaasports.org](http://www.iwaasports.org), and hit the skate tab. Opportunities exist for sponsorships and event volunteers, contact Win Winslow at 757.642.6178 if interested.

# Isle of Wight Amateur Athletics, Inc. – Who We

## ***IWAA provides a range of youth sports services***

Since you are receiving this newsletter for the first time you may be wondering what is IWAA? Well for starters let me explain what we are NOT since that seems to be the biggest misconception.

Isle of Wight Amateur Athletics is not a centralized sporting organization looking to take over your league. We are not an organization designed to dictate to leagues how they run their associations. Those are the two most common rumors that are heard the most and couldn't be further from the truth. Here is what we ARE!

IWAA was founded with the purpose of supporting local youth sports in its broadest sense. We can provide many services to local sporting organizations such as: Background checks, NAYS coaching certifications, NAYS officials' certifications, and parent certification classes. We host an annual event to recognize volunteer coaches from all organizations here in IOW County. We help with fundraising for local sporting organizations to help you meet your financial needs throughout the year. When financially feasible we will provide

scholarship opportunities for our youth based on athletic ability, good standing in the community, and financial need. We are an advocate and voice for local organizations when there are issues that need to be addressed at the county level such as facility usage, maintenance, and capital expenditure projects that will benefit youth sports.

Ultimately it is the goal of this organization to be the ideal resource to turn to for information regarding all youth sports here in IOW County. Additionally IWAA would like to see, at some point in the future, a public private partnership with the county to construct a youth sports complex, similar to that of other local communities, that the county can be proud of and will provide a venue for decades to come for our youth to participate in their sport or activity.

We have come a long way in a short period of time, but we have

**“IWAA was founded with the purpose of supporting local youth sports in its broadest sense.”**

much further to go. By combining the knowledge and resources of all sports enthusiasts in the county we know we can accomplish these goals and so much more.

So spread the word about IWAA and what we can do to help the organizations that your sons and daughters participate in. For more information visit our website at [IWAASPORTS.ORG](http://IWAASPORTS.ORG).

-Andrew Gregory

President, IWAA

### **Want to be in the IWAA Loop?**

You've received this first newsletter because you or your family has at some point shown an interest in youth sports in Isle of Wight County. If you'd like to receive information from IWAA on a regular basis, please go to our website, click on the contact us link, and send us an email letting us know you want to be in the Loop. Or, we'd love for you to give us a call at 757.642.6178 to tell us you want to be in the Loop. We look forward to hearing from you and partnering with you to support local youth sports!

## October Youth Sports Appreciation Month

IWAA, in cooperation with Isle of County Parks and Recreation, is working to have October designated once again as Youth Sports Volunteer Appreciation Month in Isle of Wight County.

On Friday October 23<sup>rd</sup> IWAA, Smithfield Recreation Association and Pop Warner Football will be

hosting the first annual Youth Sports Golf Tournament to benefit all three organizations. On Saturday October 24<sup>th</sup>, IWAA will

**IWAA's Third Annual Youth Sports Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and Awards will be held on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009.**

be hosting its third skateboard tournament at Carrollton Nike Park. And on the evening of October 24<sup>th</sup>, IWAA will host its third Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and Awards.

Watch this newsletter for more details on the October events, or visit our website, [iwaasports.org](http://iwaasports.org).

## National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS)

IWAA is an affiliate chapter of the National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS). So who is NAYS?

National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS) is America's leading advocate for positive and safe sports and activities for children. The non-profit 501(c)(3) organization is based in West Palm Beach, Florida. Today, NAYS offers programs and services for everyone involved in youth sports experiences, including professional administrators, volunteer administrators, volunteer coaches, officials, parents and young athletes. The goal of NAYS is to make sports and activities safe and positive by providing programs and services that add value to youth sports. NAYS believes this can only happen if:

- We provide children positive instruction and build basic motor skills
- Administrators (both

professional and volunteer), volunteer coaches and officials are well trained in their roles and responsibilities

- Parents complete an orientation program to understand the important impact sports has on their child's development
- The [National Standards For Youth Sports](#) (2008 edition) are used as a guide for operating youth sports programs
- Youth sports programs are conducted in accordance with the [Recommendations for Communities](#)

In addition, NAYS promotes their position as a role model.

**"NAYS programs are provided at the local level through dynamic partnerships with more than 3,000 community-based organizations."**

The NYSCA is a volunteer coaches training program that has been utilized by more than 2 million volunteer coaches the value and importance of sports and physical activities in the emotional, physical, social and mental development of youth. The Alliance believes that participation in sports and activities develops important character traits and lifelong values. In addition, NAYS believes that the lives of youngsters can be positively impacted by participation in sports and physical activities if the adults involved have proper training and information.

Today, NAYS has become the nation's leading youth sports educator and advocate with national programs that educate administrators, coaches, officials and parents about their roles and responsibilities in the context of youth sports, in addition to offering youth development programs for children.

## *IWAA donates adjustable height basketball goals*

At a NAYS basketball coaches certification training session last fall, Isle of Wight Parks & Rec coaches informed IWAA that the youngest teams (6 & 7 year olds) were required to play on standard ten foot basketball rims, thus greatly reducing their chance to be successful and have fun while playing. In response to this

previously unidentified need, the IWAA Board of Directors agreed to purchase Bison Industries adjustable height goals that attach to the existing ten foot rim and then move from heights of 6 ½ to 8 ½ feet thus ensuring that players of any height will have ample opportunity for success at their chosen sport.

The goals have been placed in every elementary school in Isle of Wight County, as well as at Isle of Wight Academy to benefit their summer camp programs.

If you have a young basketball player in your family, encourage them to check out the new goals when playing at school or in a Parks & Rec league!

---

Isle of Wight Amateur  
Athletics, Inc.

P. O. Box 82  
Isle of Wight, VA 23397  
**Phone:** 757.642.6178  
**E-mail:** [info@iwaasports.org](mailto:info@iwaasports.org)  
**Web:** [www.iwaasports.org](http://www.iwaasports.org)



*Education. Advocacy.  
Facilities Development.*

We're on the Web!  
[www.iwaasports.org](http://www.iwaasports.org)

IWAA's mission includes education, advocacy, and facilities development. We are an affiliate chapter of the National Alliance for Youth Sports, and our Executive Director is a NAYS Certified Youth Sports Administrator and Trainer – IWAA offers NAYS training in over 10 sports for coaches, officials, and parents. We offer support to County youth sports organizations when dealing with issues of policy, finance, or local regulation. And, long term, we are working to identify sites in the County that will yield youth sports training and playing facilities.

---

## Coming Events

FallBall Registration – Smithfield Recreation Association is holding registration at Beale Park on the following dates:

Saturday 08/01 9 AM-12 Noon  
Monday - 08/03 6 - 8 PM  
Tuesday - 08/04 6 - 8 PM  
Thursday - 08/06 6 - 8 PM  
Saturday - 08/08 9 AM -12Noon

Visit [www.smithfieldrec.org](http://www.smithfieldrec.org) for more info and to download the registration forms.

October 23<sup>rd</sup> – Youth Sports Golf Tournament. Cypress Creek Golfers Club. To benefit Smithfield Recreation Association, Pop Warner Football, and IWAA. For more

details or to be a sponsor call 757.642.6178

October 24<sup>th</sup> – Skateboard Tournament, Carrollton Nike Park.

October 24<sup>th</sup> – 3d Annual Youth Sports Volunteer Dinner and Awards. 6:30pm, Smithfield Center. Tickets \$20.00 per person or \$175 per table of 8 (a 12% discount). IWAA's cost for this event is \$30 per person, so if you'd like to help sponsor the event call 757.642.6178 for more information.

Credits for this issue:

Photo p1, p4 – David Sawyer photography

Article p3 – NAYS

