

Roaming Around Reidsville

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It's been a long time since adult sports leagues have been held in the City of Reidsville. When I was first married, I spent several nights a week watching my new husband play softball at Jaycee Ballpark. Back then the churches had a pretty robust league for the men and the women. I even tried playing one year and enjoyed it immensely although no softball scouts came knocking on my door.

The City's Parks & Recreation staff realized that there was a need for organized adult sports to return to Reidsville so three new opportunities are now available for area residents. Adult men's softball was the first to come back. The season kicked off with a one-pitch softball tourney in mid-March at Jaycee Ballpark. Five teams have been established and are currently playing the approximate six-week season. Scott Strader, the City's Baseball/Softball volunteer, has been instrumental in assisting with these efforts.



THE WINNING TEAM poses for a picture at Jaycee Ballpark in mid-March after coming out on top of the One-Pitch Softball Tournament. The tournament also signaled the start of the Adult Men's Softball season and the return of adult recreational leagues to Reidsville.

"Staff felt we needed to offer our adult population some sports-related activities," explained Reidsville Parks & Recreation Superintendent Fred Thompson. "It has been many years since adult softball was played around here, and several people had expressed an interest in reviving the leagues."

Registration begins this month for adult volleyball, which will play in the Rec Center gym, and next month for adult flag football, which will be held at Jaycee Ballpark as well. Both leagues will be co-ed.

"As we looked at other opportunities, we zeroed in on flag football and volleyball as possible leagues," Thompson said. "We thought we'd test it this year and see how much actual interest there is in them. We are excited about the chance to provide these leagues to our residents."

These adult leagues are part of the City's overall strategy to provide recreational activities for all segments of our population, not just for the kids. The City of Reidsville prides itself on the amount of amenities it has, especially for a municipality our size. Think about it. We have two beautiful lakes, a network of walking trails and neighborhood parks and now, even a new dog park. Our children can play

T-ball, baseball, football, volleyball and basketball in our youth leagues. One of the most popular activities at RCARE for our seniors is pickleball.

Yet a key ingredient that was missing was sports-related opportunities for our younger adults. As we get older, adults tend to play sports for the camaraderie more than the competition, but let's face it, we all like to win! Regardless of whether you want to play to meet new people, get some exercise or for the thrill of competition, either one of these new leagues should be great. Thirty minutes walking on a treadmill or an hour playing a fun game of volleyball? I think I'd take the volleyball!

The benefits of sports can be found at any age. Being active is important, helping to fight off that pesky arthritis and other ailments that we tend to experience as we get older. And, like we said, it's more fun than hanging out at the gym or running by yourself.

So stop by the City of Reidsville Parks & Recreation office located at 201 N. Washington Avenue to learn more about these new sports opportunities or call 336-349-1090. Cost to play in the co-ed Adult Volleyball League is \$30. Registration, which began April 1, ends May 3rd so go ahead and sign up now. You must be 18 or older. For the Adult Flag Football League, registration opens May 1 and continues through May 31. The cost is \$30 per person, and you must be 21 or older to play.

Just don't forget to stretch and warm up adequately before the game. Your "older" body will appreciate it!

In other news:

Second Downtown Fridays.

Downtown Reidsville has always been the place to be on the second Friday of each month April through September for the Downtown Cruise-Ins. That event has been revamped to add more to the Friday night lineup.

Classic cars are still part of the night as the Reidsville Downtown Corporation, the Reidsville Chamber of Commerce and the City of Reidsville launch "Second DownTown Fridays" but the events are designed to appeal to the entire family. The nights scheduled are April 12, May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9 and September 13 from 6-9 p.m.

According to coordinator Missy Matthews, the City's Market Square/Main Street Manager, these Second Downtown Fridays will also include family activities, a band at Mural Park and food trucks. Several downtown restaurants will be open as well. From May to September, the events will also include a movie at Market Square beginning at dusk. So, if you have been a frequent visitor to the downtown cruise-ins, come check out "Second Downtown Fridays" beginning April 12th.

Clean Sweep Week April 1-6.

The Reidsville Appearance Commission reminds residents that April 1-6, 2019 is Clean Sweep Week in the City of Reidsville. Please take this week to spruce up and clean up your property. The following can

be placed on the curb: discarded appliances, discarded furniture, junk items. For this week only, tires and construction materials can also be placed at the curb. At the City's Recycling Center at 709 Marcellus Street, residents can take used motor oil and motor oil filters, used cooking oil, computer monitors and televisions. Empty propane cylinders need to be taken to the Rockingham County Landfill. In conjunction with Clean Sweep Week, the landfill will allow Rockingham County residents to drop off items for free, but that is the week of April 1-6th only. Let's all make a clean sweep!