



# YOUTH SPORTS NEW YORK

SUNY YOUTH SPORTS INSTITUTE

A Publication of the SUNY Youth Sports Institute

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Issue 1

## The Youth Sports New York Leadership Network

It gives me great pleasure to welcome the first 47 athletic professionals from 28 SUNY Community Colleges to lead New York's statewide youth sports training network. The Youth Sports Leadership Network was created by the SUNY Youth Sports Institute (YSI) in Cortland, NY to standardize practices for coaches, parents, administrators and officials in non-school sponsored youth sports.

During their training, these athletic professionals were returned to the origins of "sandlot" play, to a time before organized youth sports dominated the local sport scene. After identifying what's missing from youth sports, our trainers focused on the essential elements needed to establish common minimum standards across all youth sports in New York State. It takes a unique person to volunteer during the summer for an untested, two-day program created to change the "in-your-face" world of youth sports; and these trainers are uniquely qualified for their role.

First, each trainer is professionally involved in competitive, high-level amateur or professional athletics and each understands the problems in youth sports. They share a common sense of purpose and are committed to help local sport communities. They know the healthy possibilities of youth sports, and the unhealthy behaviors it can generate. Each trainer believes youth sports must change from being adult-centered to child-centered. To these athletic professionals, it is unacceptable that the ancient values of sport and games are being lost on our youngest members.

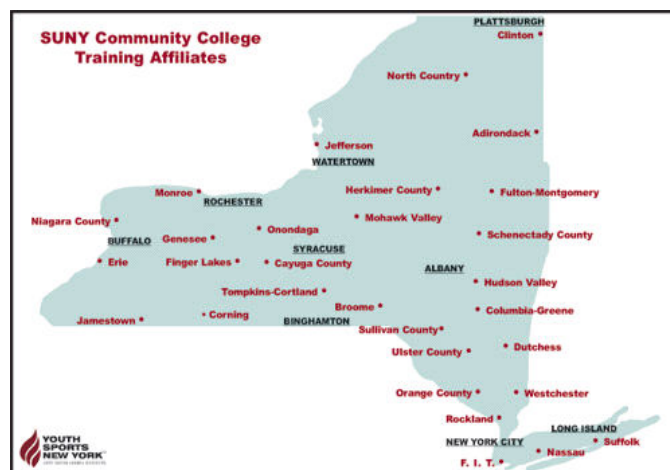
Their zeal to be part of a SUNY training network to help change the culture of youth sports in New York is important news. By helping youth coaches and parents see youth sports as much a part of human development as it is a game and physical activity, these trainers will indeed change the culture. While 'play' may not return to where it once was, our trainers will begin the long process of helping to return community sport to a place where children can form wonderful memories, sustainable values, a healthy lifestyle and their longest lasting relationships.

The Youth Sports Leadership Network and the SUNY Youth Sports Institute are grateful to have these men and women as trainers, instructors and models for youth coaches across New York State.

-- *Tim Donovan, Director*

[donovant@youthsportsny.org](mailto:donovant@youthsportsny.org)

### SUNY Youth Sports Leadership Network



SUNY Youth Sports Institute, Studio West, P.O. Box 2000, Cortland, NY 13045  
Contact us at (607) 753-4754 or visit our website at [www.youthsportsny.org](http://www.youthsportsny.org).

## Few Youth Coaches are Certified

Every middle and secondary school coach in New York State is required by education law to be certified and adhere to high standards of knowledge and behavior as established and regulated by the New York State Education Department (NYSED), yet that is not the case for non-school youth coaches. In fact many more children participate in non-school sports than in school-sponsored sports without any similar requirements for coaches, volunteers and administrators. Therefore, the SUNY Youth Sports Institute's (YSI) Coaching Certification applies to coaches of non-school youth sports, e.g. travel teams, recreational teams, summer teams, select and town teams.

A few scattered leagues, towns or programs require some level of certification, but the YSI's Coaching Certification sets common standards for all non-school youth sports. We address issues of character, health, physical and emotional development, safety, the art of coaching, sport psychology, communication and conduct. The benefits of this approach are significant.

## First Daily Youth Sports Newswire

Stories from around the nation and the globe are culled and brought together in the first newswire of its kind. Visit [www.youthsportsny.org/newswire.html](http://www.youthsportsny.org/newswire.html) where local and national news sources are combined to deliver stories addressing topics of youth sports.

## Youth Sports Leadership Conference

Join us for the third "Train the Trainers" conference to be held at SUNY Cortland on **January 10 & 11, 2008**. To become a YSI instructor, call Tim Donovan at 607-753-4252.

## Training Sessions at SUNY Community Colleges

Adirondack CC	April 1, 2008
Broome CC	TBA
Cayuga CC	Fall 2008
Clinton CC	April 14, 2008
Corning CC	TBA
Columbia-Greene CC	March 2008
Dutchess CC	TBA
Erie CC	TBA
F.I.T. (Manhattan)	TBA
Finger Lakes CC	March 2008
Fulton-Montgomery CC	TBA
Herkimer CC	March 2008
Hudson Valley CC	March 2008
Jamestown CC	TBA
Jefferson CC	March 2008
Mohawk Valley CC	March 2008
Monroe CC	TBA
Nassau CC	TBA
Niagara CCC	March 2008
Onondaga CC	April 26, 2008
Orange CC	March 2008
Rockland CC	TBA
Schenectady CC	Summer 2008
Suffolk CC	May/June 2008
Sullivan CC	TBA
Tompkins-Cortland CC	TBA
Ulster CC	April 8, 2008
Westchester CC	January 2008

*Subject to change.*

## Visit Our Website

For the latest updates, news, sport specific training and coaching opportunities visit [www.youthsportsny.org](http://www.youthsportsny.org). Once you register for the SUNY YSI Certification Course you will receive a password to the site to get training videos and communicate with coaches in your sport at no additional cost.

## Youth Sports Institute Advisory Board

Leading faculty and department chairs from SUNY Cortland have authored our evidence-based 80-page curriculum, in-class training guide of slides, 20-page student study guide and on-line exam.

The YSI Advisory Board members include...

Tim Donovan, Director,  
SUNY Youth Sports Institute

Jerry Casciani, Ph.D., Associate Professor and  
Chair, Physical Education

John Cottone, Ph.D., Associate Professor and  
Chair, Kinesiology

Ted Fay, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Sport  
Management

Roy Olsson Jr., Ph.D., Dean, School of  
Professional Studies

Katie Polasek, Ph.D., Assistant Professor and  
Sport Psychology Consultant, Kinesiology

Wayne Stormann, Ph.D., Professor,  
Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies

## Local Training Beginning in 2008

For your convenience, beginning in January 2008, SUNY YSI trainers will see you in a classroom or come to your location to train your coaches. To learn how your program can benefit, contact at [danielsb@youthsportsny.org](mailto:danielsb@youthsportsny.org) or call Bonnie Daniels at 607-753-4754.

## Coaches: Lead Sport- Specific Discussions for Youth Sports

If you have the credentials and desire to lead discussions with coaches from across New York State on a sport-specific email discussion group, we'd like to hear from you. Contact the editor at [editor@youthsportsny.org](mailto:editor@youthsportsny.org).

## Call for Coaching Drills

Show off your best drills, coaching philosophy and training techniques. Be a part of the SUNY Youth Sports Institute's on-line library of youth sports drills. We would like to invite high school and college coaches across New York State to submit your print or video-based instruction. Your material will be linked to a sport-specific section of [www.youthsportsny.org](http://www.youthsportsny.org) accompanied by two-way Q & A between college coaches and youth coaches. As a coach, you can contribute to the discussion and the library. We'll give you credit and optionally send our viewers to your website for more content. For more information, contact Joe Cooper, SUNY Youth Sports Institute Program Manager, at 607-753-4862. You may send in your video to [cooperj@youthsportsny.org](mailto:cooperj@youthsportsny.org).

