

## **VAA Mission Statement**

The purpose of VAA is to benefit the youth of our community by providing a means of their athletic and social development through organized sports. As such, it is our goal to recognize the importance of all individuals and to conduct our programs in a manner that provides the opportunity for the development of all participants.

## **Proposed VAA Mission Statement**

The purpose of VAA, as a non-profit, volunteer organization, is to benefit the youth in the communities of ISD 196 by providing a means of athletic and social development through organized sports. VAA's goal is to recognize the importance of all participants and to conduct our programs in a manner that provides the opportunity for the development of all participants.

VAA offers a variety of sports within two broad competitive/skill levels: "Community" and "Traveling". The goal of Community athletics is to develop participant self-esteem, basic skills/knowledge & social interaction in a less competitive environment. The goal of Traveling athletics is to develop participant self-esteem, advanced skill/knowledge, and social interaction in a more competitive environment. The Traveling athletic teams compete against other Athletic Association Traveling teams, require a greater time and financial commitment and provide a more concentrated athletic experience. The Traveling programs are open to all participants; however, a selection process is necessary not only due to limited availability, but also to be able to group participants into similar skill level teams. Participants not selected for a Traveling team will have the option to participate at the Community level.

Community team characteristics:

- Compete only within the VAA program
- Emphasis on enjoyment for participants; less emphasis on winning & losing
- All participants play, regardless of skill level
- Minimal financial commitment

Traveling team characteristics:

- Compete against other traveling programs
- More emphasis on competition
- Greater time commitment – attendance is required
- Greater financial commitment
- Weekend overnight travel is possible
- Selection process to limit participants and group players by skill level