

BRIDGTON
B NEWSLETTER
RECREATION



**LAKE REGION
YOUTH
LACROSSE**
BOYS & GIRLS

**Sign Up Open to
ALL LAKE REGION K-6**

Register by
MID-MARCH @BridgtonMaine.org



LOANER EQUIPMENT & SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE - WE CAN HELP!
NO CHILD WILL BE TURNED AWAY!!!

BOYS Equipment
Lacrosse Stick
Helmet
Mouth Guard
Shoulder Pads
Arm Pads
Gloves
Protective Cup

PRE- SEASON CLINIC DATES

Lake Region Middle School Gym
Thursdays @ 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
3/5/20, 3/12/20, 3/19/20 3/26/20
Saturdays @ 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
3/21/20 & 3/28/20

****CLINICS ARE FOR GRADES 3-6**
OPEN TO ALL, NO COST**

MANDATORY LAX PARENT MEETING 3/21/20 9AM

GIRLS Equipment
Goggles
Lacrosse Stick
Mouth Guard

VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED

K-2 - Clinic Based, Weekly Practice - No Equipment Needed

3rd-4th Grade - Weekly Weekend Games, Weekly Practices
5th-6th Grade - Weekly Weekend Games, Weekly Practices

PRACTICES @
Bridgton Academy
& Ham Complex

207-647-1126

rec@bridgtonmaine.org



GAMES @
Ham Complex
Regional Away Games

BOSTON RED SOX TRIP

Saturday, May 2nd @ 1:05



Join Harrison and Bridgton Recreation on a trip
to Fenway Park to watch the Red Sox take on the
Texas Rangers!

Pick Up: 9:00 @ Harrison Town Office

Harrison/Bridgton residents- \$85

Non-residents-\$90

This covers ticket and transportation.

March-April 2020

DATES TO REMEMBER

3/3/20

Town Hall Closed For Voting

3/3-4/20

LRYB 5-6 Gr Playoffs

3/5/20

First Youth LAX Clinic

3/12/20

Spring Karate Begins

3/11/20

Bridgton Softball Winter Meeting

3/12/20

Bridgton Baseball Winter Meeting

3/15/20

**First Call
Spring Registrations DUE**

3/31/20

LAX Season Begins @ BA

4/1/20

**Second Call
Spring Registration**

4/6/20

Mad Science First Class

4/22/20

Earth Day - Save The Date

SOMMER REC Fees

Resident

**Register before 4/29/20
\$120.00**

**Register After 4/29/20
\$145.00**

Non-Resident

**Register before 4/29/20
\$135.00**

**Register After 4/29/20
\$155.00**

Lake Region Youth Basketball 2020 Round Robin



Each year the third and fourth grade boys and girls come together with the boys and girls varsity basketball program for a day of community basketball and pizza! Upperclassmen have the chance to coach their home towns' youth team and all of our fourth graders played in a fun all-star game. It seemed the boys out did the girls in the traditional stoppage of play for the Chicken Dance during the game. Video proof can be seen on our Facebook page! Regardless though it is always a fun time for all! Thank you to all that made it a great day!



Secret Agent Lab



MONDAY'S
AFTER SCHOOL
SPRING



QUICKBALL 6U

Register Now! Open to up to 6 years old!!

Gary Colello, Recreation Director 647-1126 rec@bridgtonmaine.org

RUN CLUB

TEAM LONG RUN



Gary Colello, Recreation Director 647-1126 rec@bridgtonmaine.org

Chuck Wilcoxon, Team Long Run teamlongrun@gmail.com



KARATE Thursday's After School Sign Up Now



NOW HIRING



Town of Bridgton – Recreation Department Summer Programs (Seasonal)



The Town of Bridgton, Maine Recreation Department is currently accepting applications for the following summer seasonal positions:

- **(9) Lifeguard (Highland Lake, Woods Pond, Salmon Point)** *(Contingent on Approval)*

Applicants must be certified through the American Red Cross Lifeguard/Waterfront certified or become certified before June 15, 2020. Seasonal Full-Time, must be able to work from June 22, 2020 through August 13, 2020

- **(4) Water Safety Instructors (Swim Lessons)**

Applicants must be certified through the American Red Cross Water Safety Certification program or become certified before June 15, 2020. Seasonal Full-Time, must be able to work from June 22, 2020 through August 13, 2020

- **(8) Youth Development Professionals (Summer Rec & Teen Summer Rec)**

Applicants must be at least 16 years old and have desire to work with teens and/or elementary children. Seasonal Full-Time, must be able to work from June 22, 2020 through August 13, 2020

Contact Gary Colello, Recreation Director for more information. All applicants should submit application on bridgtonmaine.org and submit to: Gary Colello, Recreation Director 3 Chase St. Suite 1 Bridgton, Maine 04009.

The Town of Bridgton is an EOE/AE

BRIDGTON
SUMMER REC
@BridgtonMaine.org

Registration is Open Until Full

RED CROSS SWIM LESSONS
Registration is OPEN
@BridgtonMaine.org

REGISTER NOW!

BRIDGTON RECREATION
BASEBALL
SOFTBALL
QUICK BALL
@BridgtonMaine.org

REGISTER NOW!

Register By **Mid-March**

26 North High St. Bridgton, ME 04009

BRIDGTON

Call or Text 207-647-1126 rec@bridgtonmaine.org

Old Town Hall Gym

B

Town Ice Rink



DIRECTOR OF RECREATION - Gary Colallo

RECREATION PROGRAMMER - Tyler Bretton

RECREATION

Visit <https://bridgtonmaine.org/bridgton-recreation/> For Building Programs and Schedule



PICKLEBALL

JUMPING
James Exercise

OPEN GYM



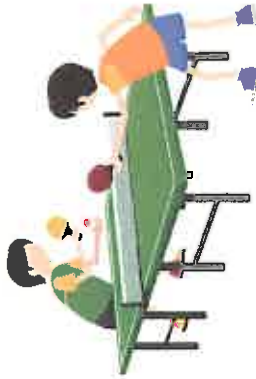
ZUMBA

With Allison *Extra Fee



Bridgton Town Hall Tuesday and Thursday 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Table Tennis



TAI CHI
MAINE

FUTSAL



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - Donations Accepted



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Sponsored by Bridgton Recreation Department

Bridgton SECRET AGENT LAB

Look out 007! Secret Agent Lab is in session! Students will learn about forensics, evidence gathering and analysis, while building their skills of recall and observation. These gumshoes will develop the tools of the trade to sniff out forgeries and counterfeits. This is the perfect class for students who are seeking to learn how investigative science relates to their world. Students will become spies in training and learn that detectives are really just scientists in disguise!

Location: Stevens Brook Elementary School

Day: Mondays

Time: 3:15-4:15 pm

Dates: 4/6, 4/13, 4/27, 5/4, 5/11, 5/18

Grades: K-5

Price: \$59.00

Register online today at:

<https://bridgtonmaine.org/bridgton-recreation>

**Register
Today!**

www.maine.madscience.org

AFTER SCHOOL KARATE

Sponsored by Bridgton Recreation



**Karate Makes Kids
Stronger, Safer and Smarter!**



After School Karate Program at Stevens Brook School

Thursdays 3:20 – 4:20 pm

Elementary School Gym

Spring Session: March 12 – June 11

Karate Students...3-Month Session \$129 Includes:

After-School Karate Classes and a Healthy Snack Every Week.

New Students Purchase Uniform from Instructor at First Class: \$47

Online Registration Required for ALL students.

Visit the Bridgton Recreation Portal listed below.

Instructors will be waiting for your child in the Lobby.

Please send a note every week for your child to attend Karate.

Karate Program runs from September to June.

For More Information Contact Renshi Lisa Magiera

Call: 207-627-7170

RenshiLisa@gmail.com

Text: 207-240-7163

Stronger Bodies. Safer Behaviors. Smarter Kids.

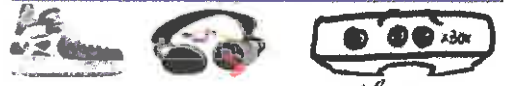
All students, new and returning, register online BEFORE 12/10.

<https://bridgtonmaine.org/bridgton-recreation>

Old Town Hall Gym



Town Ice Rink



DIRECTOR OF RECREATION - Gary Colello

RECREATION

RECREATION PROGRAMMER - Tyler Britton

Visit <https://bridgtonmaine.org/bridgton-recreation/>

For Building Programs and Schedule

Rec Directors Notes

Over the last several months I have taken a lot of time to learn more about the modern day socioeconomic pressures of families, particularly related to youth athletics and childrens programming. I wanted to start figuring out why children are not participating in athletics as once before. I always felt the “kids are lazy” reasoning was a not a good response. What is really going on here?

I recently read a study conducted by the Aspen Institute Project Play and it concluded that children are six times more likely to quit sports due to cost associated with the activity. When I read this I was not surprised but I did not realize the extend of that impact. I thought about how over time our society has excluded children of literally playing a game because adults have created this world of illusion that their child will be next great Kobe, Jeter, or Brady. That somehow heavy competition at the elementary school level will somehow produce great hall of fame champion athletes. When in all likelihood a professional athletic opportunity currently stands at less than .8% chance and a much higher chance of quitting the sport before even reaching Middle School.

I also started to think about Bridgton’s median household income of \$48,319. I wondered how this study related to our communities challenges. The Aspen study found almost 11% of families making under \$50,000 a year had to leave athletics because of time alone. Another 6% of children did not participate in athletics because of the expense of the sport (This is likely higher in our Town). When you think of how this can associate with Bridgton I realized that potentially close to 20% of our children can not use our athletic programs based on cost and time alone. Thats about 51 children within a school of 300 (similar size to Stevens Brook School). Our school has close to 63% of our children on Free or Reduced Lunch! That is 189 children out of 300. Bridgton is about \$20,000 less than the median State of Maine average and \$13,000 less than the national average.

Suddenly when you look at these numbers you realize that children are not lazy, families just have more barriers. When you do the quick math of the cost of health care, day care, and housing all of sudden you realize a family with an income of less than \$50,000 first priorities are not getting their child to the next lacrosse practice or basketball game. Perhaps, understandably so, families are more worried about their food security, the heat and electric bill, gas money or maybe even caring for a sick loved one. Let’s also not leave out talking points like abuse, drugs, and alcohol as other reasons for barriers for participation in programming.

The study goes even further into the sad reality of pay to play youth athletics with the growth of travel programs and the promises of becoming a better reconizable player and athlete. Youth Athletics are being treated less and less as an avenue of youth development but instead as a promotion of false hope of a D1 scholarship or a chance at the professional levels of the sport. It is time all of us start looking at youth athletics as youth development opportunity and less as a feeder program to scholarships and big time college athletics. I am not saying earning a scholarship through athletics is not a noble goal, for those that have earned one I applaude you for all the extra work you put in when everone else was not. I am simply saying our children’s programs and athletics now more than ever need and should always be built around youth development, fun, and community.

My goal has always been to create a way for our communities children to participate in youth programs regardless of their families ability to pay. Our commitment in our programs is and will always be youth development through fun and love of the game and is always more important that youth championships and wins. Think about your fifth grade baseball season or your fourth grade basketball season, even your senior year, were your memories about your records and stats or do you remember having the time of your life with your friends and teammates? Do you remember the late bus rides, team sleepovers, the early morning practices? Or do you remember if Tim dropped the ball in the 3rd inning, or the missed call from the umpire at first base? Which memeories are more important to you now? Let’s get back to creating lifetime memories for our kids and stop pushing for the local team championships and best records. Let the sport itself teach great lessons like resilience, teamwork, and community.

What i learned is kids are not lazy, they just have more social and financial barriers than ever before and it is our job as adults to fix this before it is to late! There is not a easy answer to fix this but we can all agree that kids need to have fun, especially in after school extra-circular activities.

Gary Colello,
Director of Recreation