



Niwot Youth Sports Competitive Team Program

Introduction

The “Niwot Youth Sports Competitive Program” was developed to provide the more advanced Niwot Youth Sports (NYS) participant athletes an opportunity to further develop their skills in order to be better prepared to participate in high school sports. The intent is to field competitive teams in all sponsored sports, including baseball, basketball, softball and volleyball for all age/grade levels.

The “Niwot Youth Sports Competitive Program” development philosophy is to emphasize individual skills and team oriented play and is not intended to focus on any single individual player. The desired result is to improve the skill level of each individual athlete on the team. These teams will not adopt a “Play To Win At All Costs” philosophy, but will play competitively with emphasis on teamwork, advanced sport specific skills, advanced sport specific awareness and achieving situational results. The amount of playing time an individual player receives is not guaranteed.

The overall result of having participated in the Niwot Youth Sports Competitive Program will be that the competitive players will have experienced consistent focus on the application of sport specific fundamentals and an increasing level of competitiveness, which prepares the player physically and mentally to compete for roster positions on high school sports programs.

The effective date of the NYS Competitive Program as stipulated within this document will go into effect on March 31, 2003. Any NYS Competitive Team formed prior to March 31, 2003 may, with approval of the NYS Board of Directors, operate under the former NYS Competitive Program objectives. Revised, Sept. 12, 2004.

Section 1 - Tryouts

The composition of any competitive team falling under the umbrella of Niwot Youth Sports (NYS)/ Niwot Youth Sports Competitive Program must meet the following criteria:

1. Tryouts will only be held during the NYS authorized timeframe and at an approved facility by NYS.
2. The Niwot Youth Sports Competitive director and/or the NYS recreational director along with the teams NYS approved head coach will coordinate tryouts.

*Niwot Youth Sports
Competitive Team
Philosophy*

*Niwot Youth Sports
Competitive Team
tryouts will be fair,
impartial and serve
in the best interest in
the future
development of
young athletes.
These young athletes
will be developed to
enhance their
opportunity to
participate in high
school athletic
programs.*



Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior and leadership, adhering to strong ethical and integrity standards.

3. Tryouts to be openly publicized utilizing a common subset of community publications, billboards, websites, etc. to invite all capable and interested youth in and around the Niwot community. At a minimum, tryouts will be openly publicized in the Daily Times-Call, Boulder Daily Camera, Left Hand Valley Courier, Letters or e-mails sent to the previous season participants, Fliers distributed at Sunset Middle School and a notice posted on the NYS website at <http://www.niwotyouthsports.org>.
4. Teams will be selected using a NYS approved system of drills and activities to demonstrate individual athletic skills at a minimum of two separate tryouts. The competitive team tryout process, evaluation and scoring system (tryout system) must be approved by the NYS competitive director and NYS recreational director.
5. Participation in at least one tryout is required (except in the case of injury or illness). Participation in all tryout events is encouraged and recommended. Lack of participation in full or part may affect the athlete's overall evaluation.
6. If due to injury or illness a player misses both tryouts, the player's historical performance and skills displayed in NYS may be used for evaluation purposes. A medical professional must validate the athlete's injury or illness. The NYS approved head coach must present the injured athletes evaluation and injury/illness validation to the NYS competitive director and NYS recreational director for validation and joint approval.
7. Athlete evaluations will be conducted by a predetermined group of individuals who have demonstrated advanced coaching or athletic skills in the sport being considered and who are neutral towards family, friends, and acquaintances. Evaluators will be approved by the NYS competitive director. There must be at least one league official involved in the evaluation of the athletes. NYS may maintain a list of approved evaluators that are considered to be neutral.
8. Volunteers may be recruited to assist with tryouts. Parent volunteers of players trying out for that team or assistant coaches with children trying out for that team, may coordinate tryout activities such as communications, facility and equipment preparation and clean-up, activity organization, etc. These volunteers cannot be involved in the evaluation process. Parent volunteers and assistant coaches with children trying out for that team must refrain from comment to any evaluator or comment about any athlete as to not interfere with or influence the outcome of evaluations.
9. **The athlete and his/her parent or legal guardian must sign and submit the appropriate NYS consent and waiver form prior to participation in tryouts.**

ATHLETES CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY TRYOUT WITHOUT THE APPROPRIATE NYS SIGNED CONSENT AND WAIVER FORM.



Tryouts will be conducted around the following timeframes and will be consistent year-to-year:

- Basketball Late August to early September
- Baseball Mid to late September
- Softball Late August
- Volleyball Late August (Gold Crown) and late October (Club)

Section 2 - Player Eligibility

Criteria for selection of the NYS competitive teams will include a review of the players' current residence, school feeder attendance and past participation in NYS.

1. It is the goal of NYS to have 100% of the competitive team players meet the residency guidelines as set forth below.
2. Players currently attending a Niwot High School feeder school or who have siblings who attend Niwot High School, or who have previously participated in the NYS recreational program for the past two (2) seasons are considered current residents of the NYS system.
3. Players from schools or residences not considered to be current residents of the NYS system can only be chosen to play on the NYS competitive team if all athletes that meet the current residency of the NYS system requirement do not fill the available roster positions. (See Section 3)
4. Any player being placed on a NYS competitive team shall be considered a NYS player in future years, for that specific sport only, i.e. being placed on a NYS competitive baseball team does not make that player eligible for a NYS basketball or any other NYS competitive team, if other players trying out do meet the residency guidelines.
5. All players must meet the age/grade requirements established by the competitive league. It is the NYS competitive director and the approved head coach's responsibility to ensure all players and team rosters meet competitive league requirements and rules.
6. Some competitive leagues may have more restrictive eligibility guidelines than what have been defined by NYS. The NYS competitive coordinator and NYS president must approve individual player eligibility if different than what is specified by NYS.
7. Players who do not meet NYS residency requirements and have not previously participated in NYS will be assessed a \$100 non-residency fee in addition to the standard registration fees.



Section 3 - Team/Player Selection

1. Players will be selected based upon their individual abilities, skills and sport specific awareness displayed at the competitive team tryouts.
2. Players will be selected upon individual historic performance, skills displayed and sport specific awareness from previous years playing in NYS only if they are unable to attend tryouts and have received prior written approval from the NYS competitive director or the NYS recreational director. (see Section 1.6)
3. In a case where a NYS competitive team roster position may be unfilled because the available resident athletes do not demonstrate the skills required to play at the competitive level and the head coach feels placing an available resident athlete on the NYS competitive team will most likely result in serious injury to the athlete, the NYS competitive director must be notified immediately. The NYS competitive director and NYS recreational director must observe the next tryout and all agree that the competitive team roster position may be made available to a non-current resident of the NYS system. Only then may any commitment be made to a non-current resident of the NYS system.
4. NYS competitive team rosters will consist of the following:
 - o Basketball 8 Players
 - o Baseball 11 Players
 - o Softball 12 Players
 - o Volleyball 8 Players

Any deviation must be approved by the NYS competitive director, NYS recreational director and NYS President.

5. Players will be prioritized for placement on a team based on their current age or current grade in school depending on the age/grade requirements of the sport.
6. In general, the practice of “playing up” is discouraged. Players will be allowed to “play up”, one level only, if there is no NYS competitive team organized for their current age/grade and they do not displace a NYS resident player from that level and they compete for and win a roster position through the tryout system for the team one level higher than their own. Should an athlete be placed on a team one level higher than his/her own, this is a one time only placement and does not guarantee placement on this team for future years. The athlete who has “played up”, will be required to play at his own level if the preexisting requirements for players are met. It is the goal of NYS to have competitive teams at each age/grade level, to avoid situations where a certain age/grade level does not have a competitive team and to make sure any given age/grade level is not stripped of it’s most capable athletes. Allowing players to “play up” has a negative impact on maintaining this goal.

Use only fair and honest means in the desire for personal achievement and shall count the goodwill of their peers far above any achievement unfairly gained.

Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athlete.



Perform evaluations or team selections within the context of a defined professional relationship.

Coaches should maintain open lines of communication with the parents of their athletes.

7. The NYS approved head coach will have the option of selecting their own child to fill one of the NYS competitive team roster positions. Assistant coach's children must meet the requirements for tryouts and residency as outlined above.
8. A sibling situation occurs when a younger sibling of the NYS approved head coach's child demonstrates comparable talent to those on the older team and the NYS approved head coach requests the sibling "play up" one level. When a sibling situation occurs, the NYS competitive director must be notified immediately by the NYS approved head coach. The NYS competitive director, NYS recreational director and NYS President (or his/her appointee) must observe the sibling being considered at the tryout sessions and all agree a competitive team roster position may be made available to a sibling to "play up". Only then may any commitment be made to a sibling to "play up". A sibling situation does not apply to assistant coach's child and their sibling or any other players and their siblings.
9. All athletes trying out for a NYS competitive team shall be notified by the NYS approved head coach as to have made or have not made the competitive team roster. The NYS approved head coach must obtain approval of the final competitive team roster from the NYS competitive director and NYS recreational director prior to notifying any players of their made or not made status. Players having made the roster will usually be notified first. Players having not made the competitive team roster shall be notified within 5 days of the last tryout date.
10. NYS competitive team tryouts will always field an "A" (most competitive) team. After tryouts and assessing the number of youth athletes that possess competitive level skills, the NYS competitive director, NYS recreational director and NYS approved head coaches will determine whether or not two competitive teams for an age/grade level can be fielded. If it's determined two competitive teams will be fielded, the teams will be established as "A" (most competitive) and "B" (competitive) teams. The NYS approved head coaches will determine team rosters. The NYS competitive director and NYS recreational director will resolve any conflicts and approve final team rosters.
11. A player may request placement on a lower competitive team than the team on which they were placed. These requests will reasonably be accommodated. The NYS approved coaches and the NYS competitive director will determine final team rosters.

Children and Relatives of Coaches

Coaches expecting to bring a young athlete with them to play on a NYS competitive team must ensure their young athlete meets the NYS competitive team selection guidelines. (see Section 1, Section 2 and Section 3)



It is the policy of Niwot Youth Sports to field competitive team rosters from athletes that currently participate in NYS programs.

Section 4 – Team Roster Changes

Players being considered for “call up” must be coordinated with the NYS competitive director and NYS recreational director for the league the player currently participates in. The player’s parents and the player must understand the planned usage for that player and the level of commitment required. For instance if a player is being called up to field a complete team, the planned usage is clear and understood. If a player is being called up as an insurance policy “Just In Case” that player needs to understand that and agree before he agrees to join that team. The new player will not to be used to displace a player that has been on the team for the whole year.

It is not the policy of NYS to add players to a roster to displace current players but instead to fill hole(s) to make sure a team has enough players to remain eligible for the games in question. The NYS competitive director must approve all roster changes for competitive teams. The current players on the NYS competitive team will get priority playing time over any new added players when a full team can be fielded without the need for that “Just In Case” player. Staying loyal to those players who have invested their time and money throughout the season must be a higher priority than winning. It is the NYS approved head coach’s responsibility to manage and communicate the NYS Call Up Process.

Temporary Roster Changes

Periodically there are circumstances when a team will need to make temporary changes to their competitive team roster due to injuries, vacations or the unavailability of the original roster members. Temporary roster changes are those changes needed to “field a team” for a day, week, or weekend and are not permanent in nature and/or be used to randomly fill an unfilled roster position.

Athletes currently participating in the NYS sport for which they are being called up will be called up first. Athletes outside the NYS sport for which the call up is issued may be called up if there are no available and/or qualified NYS participants available. Non current NYS participants may be “called up” only if the NYS approved head coach has demonstrated to the NYS competitive director no current NYS participating athletes are available and/or where the available NYS athletes do not demonstrate the skills required to play at the competitive level and placing such available athletes on the NYS competitive team roster will most likely result in serious injury to the athlete.

Any non-NYS program player(s) will be required to register as NYS participants in order to be covered under the NYS insurance. It will be the NYS policy temporary changes to NYS competitive team rosters must be reviewed and approved by the NYS competitive director and the NYS recreational director before any commitments for temporary competitive team roster changes are communicated and/or committed.

All temporary call-ups must have parent and player approval. All temporary call-ups must conform to competitive league rules to ensure team eligibility is maintained and not jeopardized.



Permanent Roster Changes

Periodically there are circumstances when a team will need to make permanent changes to their competitive team roster due to injuries, vacations or the unavailability of the original roster members. Permanent roster changes include the addition of a roster position, replacement of an “athlete notified” roster position and deletion of a roster position.

The NYS authorized head coach must request any permanent roster change and submit a plan to address the permanent roster change for unanimous approval from the NYS competitive director and NYS recreational director.

Available current participating NYS athletes in the sport for which they are being called up will be given first priority to fill any permanent changes to the competitive team roster.

Non-participating NYS athletes may be “called up” only if the NYS approved head coach has demonstrated to the NYS competitive director no current NYS resident athletes are available and that a NYS competitive team roster position may be unfilled because the available NYS athletes do not demonstrate the skills required to play at the competitive level and placing such available athletes on the NYS competitive team will likely result in serious injury to the athlete.

In the event the NYS approved head coach determines that a non-participating NYS athlete is the most appropriate selection, the NYS competitive director must be notified immediately allowing appropriate time to review the request.

It will be the NYS policy that permanent changes to NYS competitive team rosters must be reviewed and approved by the NYS competitive director, the NYS recreational director and NYS President (or his/her appointee) before any commitments for temporary competitive team roster changes are communicated.

All permanent call-ups must have parent and player approval. All permanent call-ups must conform to the competitive league rules to ensure team eligibility is maintained and not jeopardized.

Section 5 - Coach Selection

All prospective competitive team coaches will be required to complete a NYS coaching application each year. Once a coach has been approved by NYS, it does not imply that NYS coach approval is guaranteed year-to-year. NYS coach approval may be rescinded at any time at the sole discretion of NYS. A coach survey/evaluation will be given to all competitive participants, players, parents and/or legal guardians and will be used as input to the evaluation and approval process for coach applications for the following year.

Head coaches will be selected on several key items. These include but are not limited to:

- Number of years of coaching experience
- Number of years he/she has supported NYS



- Coaching philosophies
- Coaching and teaching skill
- Appropriate references
- Positive return on a Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) background check

The NYS recreational director, NYS competitive director and NYS president will make the final selection of the NYS competitive team coaches, with a majority decision. Appeals on any coach selection shall be elevated to the NYS Board of Directors for the final decision.

Coach Selection Dates

It is the goal of NYS to select competitive team coaches around the following dates:

- Basketball: Applications due May 15. Coaches selected June 1.
- Baseball: Applications due August 1. Coaches selected August 15.
- Softball: Applications due July 1. Coaches selected July 15.
- Volleyball: Applications due July 15. Coaches selected August 1.

Coach Residency

It is the goal of NYS to have NYS competitive team head coaches who reside within the NHS feeder system. However, if the head coach does not have a child in the program or does not have a son/daughter on his/her team, or other qualified coaches are not available, he/she will be eligible for the head coach position as a NYS non-resident coach. (see Section 2)

Assistant Coaches

The NYS approved head coach will recruit and nominate assistant coaches. Assistant coaches will complete a NYS competitive team coach application and are also subject to a positive return of a CBI background check.

The NYS recreational director, NYS competitive director and NYS president will make the final selection of the NYS competitive team head and assistant coaches, with a majority decision. Appeals on any coach selection shall be elevated to the NYS Board of Directors for the final decision.

Coach Education and Certification

NYS encourages its competitive team coaches to participate in NYS coaching clinics and advanced coaching methods seminars offered by NYS. NYS also encourages outside education and certification offered by organizations such as Gold Crown's Positive Coaching Alliance or ASEP certification (<http://www.asep.com/>). NYS

Assure that anyone who is delegated responsibility has the competence and training to fulfill those responsibilities competently, responsibly and ethically.



reserves the right to require certification levels and/or verification of annual coaching education as a requirement for NYS coach approval at any time in the future.

Coach Sport Specific Knowledge

NYS expects competitive team coaches to have obtained, read and understand the Colorado High School rules for the sport they are coaching. The Colorado High School Athletic Association (CHSAA) governs high school sports in Colorado. CHSAA may be contacted at <http://www.chsaa.org>. CHSAA is a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS). Rule books, common rule interpretations, and abbreviated rule guides may be ordered through the NFHS web site at <http://www.nfhs.org>. Available materials may vary by sport.

NYS also expects the NYS approved head coach also be familiar with, have read and understand competitive league rule modifications specific to the sport and league in which they are participating in. These league rule modifications should be made available by the competitive league.

General Managers

The NYS approved head coach may determine a general manager position is required to fulfill the extensive obligations associated with the administrative duties. Typical general manager responsibilities include:

- Tournament and league applications
- Schedule (pre-season, season, post-season)
- Fee collections
- NYS materials and documentation distribution/collection
- Equipment management
- Team communications, announcements and car pools
- Team and parent meeting schedule and agenda

General managers that participate in practices, provide player instruction, participate in game strategy and/or decisions and have the possibility of one-on-one or one-on-many contact with the players are considered by NYS to be assistant coaches and are subject to NYS approval and positive return of a CBI background check as stated in "Section 5, Assistant Coaches."

Coaching Issues

If a NYS competitive team head coach or assistant coach demonstrates behavior unacceptable and not in line with NYS policy and philosophy, the NYS approved head coach will be required to explain such actions to the NYS Advocacy Committee and be subject to disciplinary action that may include dismissal of all or part of the competitive team coaching staff. NYS competitive team coaches that are members of the NYS Board of Directors, NYS sport board of directors or NYS Advocacy Committee will not participate in the determination as to their own disciplinary



action and may be required to relinquish their NYS office as deemed appropriate by the NYS Board of Directors.

Section 6 – Time Commitments

The time commitments required to coach and participate as a player on a NYS competitive team is significantly greater than the time required for the NYS recreational program. The Niwot Youth Sports Competitive Program exists for the more advanced players who's athletic development will benefit from the demands of a schedule that includes more structured and intense practices and games than experienced at the recreation level. These NYS competitive teams are coached by experienced people who commit extraordinary personal time to NYS and who understand that advanced skill development requires primary focus on the fundamental skill development needs of each individual athlete. Advanced development of individual fundamental skills will lead to the ongoing maturity of quality athletes and facilitate a smooth transition to a High School sports program.

The amount of time required for competitive team participation will generally be (subject to change depending on weather, facilities and other conditions):

Basketball:

- Practices will begin in mid-September (typically at least 2 per week) thru the entire season, which ends in early March.
- League games will begin in early January and conclude in early March with a league tournament. (Gold Crown)
- Non-league tournaments will be scheduled in October, November and December at the sole discretion of the head coach and the approval of the competitive director.
- Coaches may have an option to work with teams during the off-season since basketball leagues operate year round (with the approval of the competitive director).

Baseball:

- Practices begin in February and continue through July.
- League games begin in April and continue through July.
- Tournaments will be weekends and holidays ending early August.
- Off-season workouts can be scheduled from December through February. These workouts will be skill oriented workouts and/or camps with High School or skill specific instructors.

Softball:

- Practices begin in November, generally once per week but may include twice-weekly sessions inside or outdoors, weather permitting.
- Tournament play generally begins in April and can extend through early August.



- Practices are held once or twice per week. All practices are between one and two hours in duration.

Volleyball:

- Gold Crown practices begin in September, generally twice per week for two hours each, ending in late October.
- Gold Crown league games will be from September through October.
- Gold Crown tournament is typically in late October.
- Club practices will begin in November, generally 2 to 3 practices per week for 2 hours each, ending in July.
- Club games are from January through the end of March.
- Club “in season” tournaments may consist of approximately 8 tournaments from January through March, which are held on Sunday’s and last all day.
- Other tournaments, both “in state” and “out of state” may be required depending on age group and level of play in order to qualify for national tournaments.
- Club “post season” tournaments are typically in early April and early May.
- Club national tournaments are typically held in July.

If a player is unable to meet the time requirements, the NYS approved head coach shall contact the NYS competitive director and mutually determine a course of action appropriate to the situation. Action may include a permanent or temporary roster change (see Section 4). Any action taken must conform to the competitive league rules to ensure team eligibility is maintained within the competitive league.

Section 7 - Competitive League Applications

The NYS competitive director and NYS recreational director must approve all applications and commitments for competitive league and tournament play. The NYS competitive director and NYS recreational director will determine the competitive team head coach’s proposed participation in such competitive league will provide sufficient and developmental competition for NYS athletes.

Section 8 - Fees

Each player is required to pay a participation fee. Fees are considerably higher to participate on a competitive team versus a recreation team. The fees can run from \$300 to over \$800 per player. The player participation fees will vary depending on team sponsorships, quantity and quality of tournaments the head coach decides to participate in and where the tournaments are played. Registrations may be made on-line at <http://www.niwotyouthsports.org>.



A NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT OF \$250 IS REQUIRED BY NYS WITHIN ONE WEEK AFTER THE FINAL TEAM SELECTION TO SECURE THE PLAYER'S SPOT ON THAT TEAM.

Limited scholarships may be available for those players who qualify. The NYS approved head coach is encouraged to contact the NYS competitive director or NYS recreational director for additional information.

Section 9 - Code of Conduct

NYS expects participants in our Niwot Youth Sports Competitive Program to follow the written NYS Code of Conduct (available on our web site). Failure to adhere to this Code of Conduct will result in consequences up to and including immediate and irrevocable dismissal from any Niwot Youth Sports program.

Section 10 – NYS Advocate Committee

Any situation or conflict that may arise in the selection and/or management of any team within Niwot Youth Sports should be brought to the attention of the President of NYS and its Board of Directors. An NYS Advocacy Committee, appointed by the Niwot Youth Sports president, will be responsible for settling any disputes or violations of Code of Conduct by player, coach, parent or others. This committee will act as the final approval for any issue that cannot be adequately resolved by the individual sport's administrative organization.

Section 11 - Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What if I have a situation which the NYS Competitive Team Program does not address?

A. Contact your NYS competitive director. An appropriate course of action will be determined.

Q. As a coach, do I have to take the players that evaluate the best?

A. In general, yes. If there is some reason that justifies placing an athlete on the roster that did not evaluate as well as another athlete you wish not to have on the team roster, you must contact the NYS competitive director and NYS recreational director for direction. The NYS competitive director and NYS recreational director will make the final roster decision.



Q. What if there are not sufficient qualified athletes that meet residency requirements to field a competitive team?

A. The NYS Competitive Program was developed to enrich NYS athletes in preparation for High School sports programs. Contact the NYS competitive director to develop an appropriate course of action.

Q. Am I allowed to “bring in” or recruit a “ringer” to give my team a better chance at winning a tournament?

A. The NYS Competitive Program was developed to enrich NYS athletes in preparation for High School sports programs. Players called up that do not meet NYS residency requirements and may displace playing time of a NYS resident player is not consistent with the intent of the NYS Competitive Program. Contact the NYS competitive director to develop an appropriate course of action.

Q. I have selected an athlete as a player and he/she has relocated out of the area or resigned. What do I do?

A. Contact the NYS competitive director to determine and appropriate action plan.

Q. I have selected an athlete that has moved out of the Niwot feeder area and is now a NYS nonresident. Can the athlete continue to participate on the NYS competitive team?

A. The NYS Competitive Program is in place to develop athletes within the NYS feeder system. Contact the NYS competitive director and NYS league director to determine the proper course of action.

Q. I am having problems getting certain players to attend practices. What can I do?

A. Contact your NYS competitive director to develop an appropriate course of action.

Q. I may have to travel for business from time to time and not be able to attend a game or practice now and then. May one of my assistant coaches assume head coach responsibilities.

A. No. NYS only authorizes one head coach per team. Even though you may not be able to attend all functions, you are still responsible. If your travel requirements cause significant problems with your NYS approved head coach responsibilities, contact the NYS competitive director to initiate the process to authorize a replacement NYS approved head coach.

Q. I have a parent or legal guardian that is disruptive to the team and interferes with my ability to coach. What do I do?



A. Contact the NYS competitive director to determine an appropriate course of action.

Q. What authority does the coaching staff have to address the NYS Code of Conduct violations?

A. In general, the NYS approved head coach will address NYS Code of Conduct violations in a manner consistent with the intent on which the NYS Code of Conduct was developed. Refer to the NYS Code of Conduct and contact the NYS competitive director and NYS recreational director prior to implementing actions to ensure consistency.

Q. There is a conflict between the NYS Competitive Team Program Rules and the rules of the competitive league or competitive tournament rules in which we are playing. Which rules do I follow?

A. In general, you will follow the rules of the NYS Competitive Team Program. If the rules of the NYS Competitive Team Program cause your team to become ineligible or break the rules of the competitive league, contact the NYS competitive director for resolution.

Q. I have an issue, complaint or concern with the NYS Competitive Program and/or it's directors. How do I resolve these issues?

A. All disputes will be decided by the NYS Advocacy Committee.