



THE RECREATION & PARK DEPARTMENTS
of AVON, CANTON, & SIMSBURY
In cooperation with Avon Public Schools' Department of Student Activities
Present

Bob Bigelow

A nationally known speaker regarding the needs of children in youth sports.

**“ADULTS AND CHILDREN IN ORGANIZED YOUTH SPORTS”
“Who Wins, Who Loses...a Common Sense Approach”**

Thursday evening, October 27, 2011, 7:30 – 9:30 pm
Avon High School Auditorium

“...this was the best
talk I have ever heard
on any subject...”

“...I recommend that
everyone who deals with
the youth of America to
spend one hour (more)
with Bob Bigelow...”

Who Should Attend: Coaches and parents of all sports, interested in balancing their perspective on youth sports, are invited and encouraged to attend this program.

About The Speaker: Bob Bigelow, a top 50 High School Basketball player from Winchester, MA, attended the University of Pennsylvania and played for Hall of Fame Coach Chuck Daly. Bob is a former, 1st round NBA draft pick who went on to a four year professional career. He has given over 500 talks to adult groups interested in helping keep their youth sports involvement in perspective while enriching their children's experiences. His goal is to help educate and guide parents as to their children's needs, wants, and capabilities in sports.

About The Program: Mr. Bigelow's talk is educational, challenging, motivational, and humorous. It asks two basic questions: “Why do my kids play?” and “What are my motivations for being involved, or not?”. Whether you are satisfied or uncomfortable with your answers, you should attend this thought provoking forum. Glenn Marston, Avon's Director of Recreation & Parks, having spoken to Mr. Bigelow at length, feels that this talk will benefit all that attend. His goal to put the youth back into youth sports and has received wide-spread media attention in *Sports Illustrated*, *the Boston Globe*, *The New York Times*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Toronto Sun*, *WEEL-AM (Boston)*, *WFAN-AM (New York)*, and *the New England Sports Network (NESN)*. Bob has also written a book, “*Just Let The Kids Play*” that describes organized youth sports' major systemic problems and offer many reforms for change.

Adults interested in attending can review Bob Bigelow's web site at: www.bob-bigelow.com
and can view the program outline on the Recreation and Park Department's web site at:
www.town.avon.ct.us.

There is no fee for this program – just come! Please call Glenn Marston at 860-409-4332 if you have any questions or concerns.

THIS IS AN EVENING YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!!! WE WILL COVER ALL SPORTS!!



“ADULTS AND CHILDREN IN ORGANIZED YOUTH SPORTS”

“Who Wins, Who Loses...a Common Sense Approach”

- A. From Unorganized to Organized – How Time Flies**
- **Baby Boomers – organizers of two generations of youth sports**
 - **Full-fledged “careers” before high school**
 - **Performers or players?**
 - **Neighborhood pick-up to interstate play-offs**
- B. Physical, Psychological and Emotional Age-Appropriateness**
- **Children, teenagers or miniature adults?**
 - **Techniques or Tactics, which will prevail?**
 - **Cognitive overload – teaching calculus before middle school**
 - **Is everybody having fun”**
- C Defining Ability and Talent**
- **Elementary school “All-Stars” and “Phenoms” – the not-so-innocuous oxymoron**
 - **The potential delusions of pre-pubescent**
 - **Are children placed on irrevocable tracks?**
 - **Current and future relative ability – when will/does it finally materialize**
- D Can we do better?**
- **From performance to recess**
 - **Organized boards – is there pediatric, recreational and physical educational representation and clout?**
 - **Good “picket fences” make better neighbors – and sports**
 - **SOS – Sidelines of Smiles: Grin and wear it**