

Town of Weymouth

SPORTS LEAGUES

The Weymouth Youth Coalition's Substance Abuse Prevention Team needs your help in the fight to prevent underage drinking in Weymouth.

KNOW THE FACTS:*

Weymouth has a high rate of participation in youth sports and a significantly higher rate of alcohol use among high school age students.

- 68.3% of High School students report having tried alcohol in lifetime
- 68.4% of High School students report having used alcohol at least once in the past year
- 44% of High School students report using alcohol in the past 30 days
- 27.5% of those who drank in the past 30 days report binge drinking

***From the Communities That Care that Care survey administered to WPS students in grades 7 – 12 on September 25, 2007**

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP:

- Celebrate without alcohol – host alcohol-free banquets.
- Fundraise without alcohol – Sell raffles without alcohol prizes, collect donations (canning) outside of a grocery store rather than a package store

THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN MAKING YOUR DECISION TO HELP:

- Sports banquets are a celebration of the dedication, teamwork, and commitment by athletes, coaches and parents and make sports participation a positive experience, filled with valuable life lessons for the youth of Weymouth. These lessons, however, are often undermined when the season-ending celebration involves alcohol.*
- When youth witness parents, coaches, league presidents and other role models drinking at athletic banquets, they begin to think the only way to celebrate is with alcohol. They are also dependent on these same adults for rides home.

* When booking the banquet hall, all you need to do is ask that alcohol not be served