

A community where the children are transients for any reason necessitates planning for short complete units. Such a program will be difficult to organize because most likely only a minority will remain for the entire season.

There are numerous ways of handling the matter of attendance but a record of attendance should be kept throughout the entire season. This record serves as a safety record, legal record and above all as a very good means of popularizing the program.

Squads, with squad leaders if possible, with a definite job for each squad member are perhaps the most satisfactory way of keeping attendance records and promoting an activity. Care must be taken to see that all squads or teams are equally divided as to members and ability of the individual members. If one group is permitted to have all the "good" athletes, the spirit of competition will be weak between groups. Squad leaders may be chosen by the group or by the director and his or her assistants. If the playground or park is sponsored by a civic group or club a committee from this group well acquainted with all the children may choose the squad leaders. If there are children not attending the activities, a membership campaign may be a part of the program with points for new members. If this is done, then squads at the beginning should be small since at no time should squads or teams be too large to permit all members to take an active part in all activities. The squad leader should have at least two named assistants to take over his duties in case the leader is absent. If the program must be broken into short sessions, squad or team leaders should be changed at the beginning of each new session.

There are many other methods of dividing the group into working units. Having a general roll call by members and new teams selected each day is a rather lengthy and dull process. It does away with keeping of cumulative scores except for individuals. This ruins the feeling of sharing and team work.

A system of checking in and out at a common entrance may also be used. Punching an imitation clock, transferring of a name or number card from an "out" board to an "in" board, or being checked in and out by a leader on a roll card or book are all time wasting and uninteresting. None of these take care of a group organization for the day or session.

There is no limit to the number of kinds of activities and tournaments that can be held on play grounds and in city parks. If school or civic owned equipment is not available, necessary equipment can be secured by subscription or a small daily attendance charge. Much equipment can be made by the children forming the group.

ACTIVITIES

Hobby and Pet Shows

These shows may be added features to the intramural program, not a part of it. They may be given points either for individual or team scores.

If hobby shows are new to the group, it may be well to combine them with a pet show and have one big display of both. There may be in the vicinity such attractions as a trained dog, or pony, or some one who has a particularly interesting hobby, such as a collection of toy sail boats, coin collections, etc. Such persons may be invited to give a short exhibition, either on the day of the show or a week in advance to add interest to the pet and hobby show of the children.