

WHAT IS COLOR WARS?

Description: Color Wars is a healthy competition where members are divided into teams and represent a color (i.e., red, blue, green, purple, black, etc.).

Purpose: The purpose of Color Wars is to promote healthy competition, sportsmanship, leadership, teamwork, while simultaneously highlighting the Core Areas of the Club.

Goal: There are three main goals of Color Wars: 1) to educate members about healthy competition, losing, winning, social skills, and attitude, 2) to encourage academic success, good character & citizenship, and healthy lifestyles, and 3) to provide *fun* opportunities for members that they wouldn't otherwise receive (i.e. rewards, games, trips, etc.)

Details: Teams are usually comprised of members of all ages and have 1-3 staff members as team leaders (depending on ratios). Because groups are comprised of members of all ages, they can interact with members they usually would not. This allows members to take natural leadership roles and build positive relationships and mentorships. Each week a staff and member are named best dressed, the teams share their chants (if time allows), and there is a challenge that highlights one of the Boys & Girls Club's 3 Core Programming Areas: Academic Success, Good Character & Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyles. One person is the Color War Leader and hosts, describes activities, and awards points (usually a director).

Sample Activities:

Academic Success	Good Character & Citizenship	Healthy Lifestyles
Trivia (i.e. site words, math, general))	Drives (i.e. clothing, food, item)	Physical challenges (i.e. jump rope, hula hoop, circuits)
Name that Tune (i.e. kids pop, 5 second challenge)	Teamwork & Sportsmanship Challenges (i.e. factory, choir, cheering)	Relay Races
Academic Bowls and Relays (i.e. math spot shot, sink or float)	Character Awards (i.e. members/staff of the week, members/staff of the month)	Minute to Win It Challenges (i.e. tissue box, hula hoop race)
Spelling Bees	Youth for Unity (i.e. Door Decorating Contests, culture activities)	Sports Challenges (i.e. dodgeball, basketball, tennis)

Naming a Champion: All challenge winners earn points. At the end of the Color Wars period (usually December and April) a champion team is named. Points are given for: best dressed member, best dressed staff, quiet points (this encourages silence during explanation times), sportsmanship, teamwork, challenges, members/staff of the week, members/staff of the month, etc.