

Hello WYA families,

My name is Derek Atwood and I am the coach for the 9U Roos this year. I am also the President of WYA. I was born and raised in Austin, Texas (but I'm definitely not a Longhorn fan, Go Gators). My wife Megan and I have been married for almost 13 years and we have two beautiful children. Jackson is 9 and plays baseball, football and basketball. Our daughter Quinn is 5 and has recently started gymnastics and t-ball. I am a Security Consulting Engineer at CDW and Megan is a RN at Cook Children's. We attend North Side Baptist Church here in Weatherford.

This is my 5th year in WYA and 2nd year as President. I have been coaching and mentoring children for 22 years now. I started working for the Parks and Recreation Department in Austin, coaching and teaching basketball and football when I was in high school. I played college basketball at Tarleton State University and graduated from Texas State University. I have worked many basketball camps during my time in Austin and a few up here. I have continued to coach football, basketball and assisting with my son's baseball teams.

My Why: I love helping children develop a love of the game (in any sport), build character, learning what it means to be a good person on and off the field while improving their skills at the same time. Winning is nice but seeing the boys develop that fire in their eye and learning how to be a good person is where it's at!

My expectations/goal for 2023: To continue to create a bond with the players on our team, new and existing, and to continue advancing them in the sport. This will be a fun season and I am excited to see how it goes!

My non-football goal: To spend what free time I do have with my family making memories that will last their lifetimes, a few trips along the way won't hurt either. The kids are our future so building confidence in them will better the world.

