

**Dreamt it.  
Did it.**

# Youth Venture New England



## The Inspiration

Playing sports has always been a no-brainer for Nick, Louie and Kevin because it's so much fun! But as these young friends reached their teen years they began to realize that money can play a strong, and often unfair role in youth sports. In an effort to keep down local taxes, their local school has begun to charge pay-to-play fees for student athletes.

## The Idea

These friends decided to create a *sportship* fund—a scholarship to help offset fees and equipment costs for would-be young players whom otherwise could not afford to play sports. “This way, more kids in our community can play organized sports and be part of a TEAM.”



## The 4-H Venture

The eighth graders soon launched their 4-H Venture the *Suncook Valley Sports Swap*. Money raised from hosting two annual sports swaps would go into the sportship fund. At the swaps people could buy and sell used sporting equipment at reasonable prices. Proceeds will go into the sportship fund.

## The Impact

Their first Sports Swaps are planned for April and September in 2007. Nick, Louie and Kevin anticipate proceeds of at least \$300 to share evenly among three Pittsfield youth sports associations. Their efforts will benefit young players from kindergarten through 6th grade.

**YVNE**  
**Dream it. Do it.**