

Back2BasicPlay.... a Registered non-profit organization - 501-c3 status pending

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John LaRue is President and Founder of J.P. LaRue, Inc. (a playground designer/consultant) as well as President and Founder of Back2BasicPlay, Inc. (non-profit cooperative-based play programming program).

His first involvement with cooperative-based play was thru the New Games Foundation, back in 1978-79. He became a sanctioned "Referee" in 1980-81, and then continued his quest to learn more about the field of cooperative play. He attended the first East Coast New Games Training Camp in 1981; held the position as a Lead Assistant Trainer and was a contributing writer to *More New Games*, published in 1981. Since the New Games Foundation closed its doors in the early '80's, John has held over 450 workshops and seminars and continues to spread the word on the importance of cooperative play activities.

Back2BasicPlay, Inc. is a consulting business that focuses on utilizing cooperative and non-competitive recreational activities to address issues associated with character education and healthy life styles in youth.

John is a recognized speaker on a national, regional and statewide level on a variety of topics and has presented well over 500 seminars throughout North America, addressing Cooperative-Based Play; Character in Youth; Playground Regulations; American with Disabilities Act; Materials for Construction in Green Playgrounds; and Developmental Aspects of Children and Play. In addition to his passion for sharing the word on character education and the importance of play, he is well-known for his action packed cooperative games workshops. He was a contributing writer to the *More New Games* book published by Doubleday in 1981 and *Games and Great Ideas* published by Greenwood Press in 1995. He is a Registered CEU Provider for the American Society of Landscape Architects, a Certified Playground Safety Inspector and a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist.

John resides with his family in Little Compton, RI.

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