

Other Sports

Brennan, Sarah Rees

Fence series (#1—*Striking Distance*) (fencing)

Nicholas earns a spot on a prestigious fencing squad where bad dates, a scandal, and a series of team-building exercises help them on their way to the state championships.

Bryant, Kobe—***Geese Are Never Swans*** (swimming)

Gus needs to convince Coach Marks that he can handle the pressure of swimming at an Olympic level—the same pressure that led his older brother to take his own life.

Fujimura, Sara

Every Reason We Shouldn't (ice skating)

Her Olympic dreams over, Olivia is adjusting to normal teen life but has her hands full with her family's ice rink and the cute speed skater who trains there.

Kress, Emma—***Dangerous Play*** (field hockey)

After being sexually assaulted at a party, Zoe and her teammates start to take justice into their own hands, but being a vigilante may cost Zoe everything she's worked for.

Norriss, Andrew—***Mike*** (tennis)

Meet Floyd. He's a teenage tennis prodigy. All he's ever known is the routine of training and matches. Meet Mike. He's following Floyd—and no one else can see him.

Pulido, Rod—***Chasing Pacquiao*** (boxing)

Bobby takes up boxing after being outed and finds a hero in Filipino boxer Manny Pacquiao, but when Pacquiao takes an anti-queer stance, Bobby's newfound confidence is shaken.

Reynolds, Jason—***Track series (#1—Ghost)*** (track)

Ghost, a talented runner and troublemaker, is recruited for an elite middle school track team. He must stay on track, literally and figuratively, to reach his full potential.

Turner, Erika—***And Other Mistakes*** (cross country)

After being outed last year, Aaliyah is just trying to survive her senior year despite nosy counselors, teammates who don't trust her, and the new girl who gives her butterflies.

A few notes:

- These book lists are examples, not complete lists of books which fit into the genre.
- Not all books will be of interest to every reader.
- Teen Scene staff are always eager to help you find a book that fits your personal taste and interests. Just ask!

Sports Stories



Suggestions for Young Adult books about ...

- Sports, athletics, or athletes
- Inspiration from the sports world

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Baseball

Cozzo, Karole

The Game Can't Love You Back

Eve and Jamie each want the top spot on their team's pitching rotation, and as the competition heats up, so do their feelings for each other.

Deuker, Carl—***Golden Arm***

If Laz pursues his baseball dreams, he worries that he won't be able to keep an eye on his younger brother who has been drawn to the darker influences of their neighborhood.

Teague, David

How Oscar Indigo Broke the Universe

Oscar has never been good at baseball, so naturally he's nervous when he has to fill in for his team's injured All-Star. Luckily, Oscar has a mysterious watch that can stop time, which he uses to fake a game-winning home run.

Williams, Ismée

This Train Is Being Held

Dancer Isabelle and baseball star Alex meet on the subway one day and bond over beautiful dreams and parental expectations.

Basketball

Bledsoe, Lucy Jane—***No Stopping Us Now***

In the 1970s, Louisa learns about Title IX, a law that promises equal opportunity for girls, and works to start a girls basketball league in her city's public schools.

Graves, Byron—***Rez Ball***

After his older brother dies, Tre takes over his role as the star of the Red Lake Reservation basketball team in hopes of leading them to a state championship.

Greenwald, Tommy—***Rivals***

A school sports reporter reveals scandals that may jeopardize the basketball season for cross-town middle school rivals Austin and Carter.

Khan, H. N.—***Wrong Side of the Court***

Fawad dreams of being the world's first Pakistani to be drafted into the NBA, but first he has to convince his mother to let him try out for the team and deal with estranged best friends, gang violence, and crushes.

Lucas, Chad

Thanks a Lot, Universe

Ezra notices his quiet friend and teammate Brian is pulling away and wants to help, but is worried his friends will discover his crush on Brian if he's too nice.

Football

Adler, Dahlia—***Home Field Advantage***

Amber's dream of being cheer captain is disrupted after the team's quarterback dies, and Amber starts to have a crush on the new quarterback, Jack—short for Jaclyn.

Buford, Candace—***Kneel***

Russell becomes a target of hatred when he decides to kneel during the national anthem in protest of his best friend being unjustly arrested and kicked off the team.

Henning, Sarah—***Throw Like a Girl***

Liv loses her scholarship after being kicked off the softball team and joins the football team to prove that she can be a team player.

Shippen, Lauren

Bright Sessions series (#1—The Infinite Noise)

Star running back Caleb's therapist encourages him to explore his connection to his classmate, Adam, and learn more about his own enhanced empathetic abilities.

Shusterman, Neal—***Game Changer***

Whenever Ash is hit hard on the football field, he bounces to a slightly different dimension, but with every switch he risks changing his own world forever.

Thomas, Charlene—***Seton Girls***

A lost flash drive and a group of determined girls are key to exposing the disturbing secrets behind their school's football success.

Soccer

Einstein, John—***Benchwarmers***

Although she's one of the best players on the team, Andi's coach doesn't think she belongs so she and fellow benchwarmer Jeff go straight to the media, i.e. Jeff's dad.

Fitzsimons, Isaac—***The Passing Playbook***

At Spencer's new school, nobody knows that he's transgender, and his spot on the soccer team is in jeopardy when the coach discovers an "F" on his birth certificate.

Méndez, Yamile Saied—***Furia***

Camila is the star player on her fútbol team, but her short-tempered father doesn't know, and when her team qualifies for an important tournament, she has to come clean about her secrets.

Sullivan, Mary—***High***

After stealing a phone for her drug-addicted mom, Ceti's dream of soccer stardom feels further away than ever, and a fresh start seems impossible when her mom overdoses.