Shifting focus from Grant as a war General and President to his role as a father, the paper examines how sport, games, and other physical activities in the lives of Ulysses and Julia Grant’s four children illustrate the development of sport in the United States. Through analysis of primary sources written by the family and an interview with Ulysses Grant Dietz (great-great-grandson of Ulysses S. Grant), the paper highlights the influence of gender, education, class, and race in shaping the games the Grant children played but also in American sports during the second half of the 19th century.