

OUTDOOR ATHLETIC FIELD USE & FEE POLICY

The increasing use and demand for outdoor athletic field space, combined with the major renovation of the Skokie Playfield project has resulted in the need to review the existing field use/fee policy , and develop a more comprehensive and applicable structure, operating procedures, and fee model.

Field Use by PERMIT ONLY

The request, approval and usage of outdoor athletic field spaces, is limited to APPROVED PERMIT requests exclusively.

Athletic field permit applications are available at the WPD office, and/or on our website at: www.winpark.org

Misrepresented and/or Unauthorized use of WPD & associated facilities is subject to; revocation of permit and termination of future usage privileges, enforcement per WPD ordinance # 504 (available for review at WPD office), and/or local police citation.

Outdoor Athletic Fields

- * Skokie playfields (and proposed synthetic turf fields) * Little Duke athletic fields
- * Corwin Park * Northfield Park * Washburne/Skokie playfields (in conjunction w/ SD 36)
- * New Trier West & Duke Childs (in conjunction w/ NTHS)

Athletic User/Fee Policy Objectives:

- To provide maximum utilization and efficient use of fields through centralized permitting and scheduling
- To plan and provide a fair, impartial, proportionate and equitable distribution of athletic fields to the various WPD programs, affiliates and other rental groups who wish to reserve and use fields
- To continue to provide for an adequate amount of fields, quality amenities, as well as a high standard for the care and maintenance of both.
- To address the addition, and use of newly renovated Skokie Playfields, including artificial turf
- Consider a greater balance between the tax related financial subsidy currently provided, with a more up to date and applicable user fee based program---for both affiliate youth sports organizations, and rental groups.

Field Scheduling/use PRIORITY establishment & qualifications

- 1) A) Park District programs & B) established license/lease agreements
 - a) administered in-house and/or with recognized contractual service provider
 - b) North Shore Country Day School (per license agreement)
- 2) School District 36, NTHS District (athletic teams)
- 3) Park District youth sport affiliate programs
 - Baseball (KWBA)
 - Soccer (AYSO)
- 4) Resident groups – to qualify for resident fees a group shall consist of 60% or more Winnetka Park District residents. Residency shall be based on home address.
- 5) Non-Residents Groups, Not-for profit groups, commercial (for profit)—and/or (resident) groups that charge a fee for services
- 6) All other requests...including those that would be considered a program/service in direct competition with the programs and services offered by a WPD program and/or recognized affiliate—after WPD and affiliates are given right of first refusal, for requested use of field space

Scheduling PERMIT and RESERVATION Requests

Scheduling request for considerations are to follow the basic timeline below;

- Spring/Summer (December 31st)....Park District, School District and affiliate groups
- Spring/Summer (March 1st)....all other groups and individuals
- Fall (June 1st)....Park District, School District and affiliate groups
- Fall (July 1st)....all other groups and individuals

Philosophy and direction (Tax revenue vs. User Fees—related to athletic field use)—Athletic Field Improvements

Resident tax revenue support has traditionally been recognized to provide a basic level of service towards the acquisition, maintenance and improvement of athletic fields and related facilities. Historically, athletic field rentals has not been a major source of revenue.

There has been a demonstrated historical and dramatic increase in youth sports participation and demand for field space , and expectation for field quality and amenity conditions. This heavy demand for use, specialized requirements for fields, facilities and equipment/supplies and significant amount of increased “indirect” expense associated with these areas--- including the administrative costs of scheduling, use and maintenance, places an increased need for user/rental fee revenue.

In many ways the contemporary approach to updating our user/fee policy might be viewed as moving from the “subsidized” or no-fee park reservation system to a more user fee-based mentality using the aforementioned priority system. This is necessary if the Winnetka Park District desires to continue to meet the demand for use of outdoor athletic field space, and meet the growing needs and expectations for the quality and condition of these areas.

Fees Per HOUR	WPD programs	NTHS/SD 36	Affiliate	Resident	Non-Resident & Commercial	<i>*preferred Rental Group and/or Tournaments</i>
Baseball/Sball			\$ 15/hour	\$ 35	\$ 50	
Football/soccer/Lax			\$ 15/hour	\$ 45	\$ 65	
Turf (full field) *Able to be divided rented 1/2			\$ 55	\$ 110	\$ 150	
Lights			\$ 15/hour	\$ 35	\$ 45	
Other	*Built into fee/cost of program (see revenue fee policy)	* part of co-operative facility/field use	*reimburse for direct costs of field maintenance			*case by case basis using proposed fees as basis- discount considered for significant space/time commitments