

Community Meeting
Athletic Field Use Policy

Meeting minutes of March 28, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commissions present: Almasy, McCreary, Wentworth and Woods
Library and Recreation Services staff: Abigail Schellberg, Jason Lass, Gabbi Cao, David Montgomery-Scott, and Cristy Gavett

Youth Sports Organization representatives: Jeff Jensen-AYSO, Sean Bangert-Corona American Little League, Bridget Sherman and Trisha Reyes-Corona Girls Softball, Joseph Cruz and Mike Dogger-Corona National Little League, Marty Tyson-Corona Angles, Phillip Fuentes and James Tamplin-Corona Chargers, Kevin Del Toro-Corona Pony, Jenev Boyd-Corona Rebels, Mathew Dool and Darryl -O.G. Ducks, John Broderick-Milan SC, Bryan Benso-Corona Youth Lacrosse, Chris Scott-Crossroads Christian Elementary and Jr. High School, Madel Ruiz-Atlas Milan, and Marjorie Torre-Corona Local Boys, Jeremy Healey-Arsenal.

Ms. Schellberg and Mr. Lass presented an overview of the Field Allocation Policy and highlighted the field allocation process. The group was presented with six questions for open discussion and below is their feedback.

Question 1: What is working for your group within the current policy?

- Liaison between the City & youth sports organization
- Recognize numerous recreation programs and opportunities
- Field maintenance communication
- Two-season field allocations: Spring & Fall
- Organizations coordinate field use for tournaments

Question 2: What is not working for your group?

- Recreation youth sports groups versus competitive group and competitive groups field allocation is minimal
- Underutilized parks are not being used
- A clearly defined field allocation timeline needs to be developed
- Fields allocated but not being used so fields are unavailable for other groups to use
- Zero fields available so why try and apply
- Teams having to go to other cities to play
- Homeless and drug activity in the parks is a danger to players (PD/City Net)
- Accountability and enforce the current field allocation policy
- Non-resident numbers based off County areas
- Lack of parks with lights

Question 3: What would you like to see for a more equitable experience?

- Fair allocation and distribution of fields
- Accountability of user groups
- Breakdown and identify games vs practice use

- Appropriate fee rate
- Clearly defined user group definitions
- Programs are accessible to youth
- Additional tiers within “non-profit” groups
- Defined inventory of resources
- Realistic permits times
- Challenger group is an exception to residency %
- Diversity of sport types
- Skill scale: beginner to advanced levels

Question #4: What are your concerns regarding revising the policy?

- How will this impact my organization’s future?
- Influx of new residents & population growth
- Balance between traditional and new sports organizations
- Maintenance of fields in relation to fees
- Umbrella organizations set boundary radius that local leagues must follow for registration with the City and/or school district
- “Open” registration and youth sports organization cannot turn anyone away
- Residency expectations for recreation vs travel/club
- Size of organization considered in allocation of space
- Safety at parks

Question #5: What is a fair percentage of participation in a league?

- Consider size of organization when calculating residency percentages
- “Sphere of influence.”” Umbrella organization has different boundary requirements and restrictions

Question #6: Any other ideas for a successful policy?

- Sport groups to come together as a subgroup to review & discuss
- Keep the good players in Corona
- Provide options to review & match/combine
- Address subletting of fields
- Address residency requirements and boundaries
- Underutilized facilities...get them up to par to add additional resources/amenities

Commissioner Wentworth requested a park inventory list that highlights the underutilized parks that are not used for field allocation. The group will review a draft of the policy at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. The next meeting will be held on April 25, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Circle City Center.