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**Policy:** Park and Facility Use Rules & Regulations

**Adopted by Board of Park Commissioners:** February 2019

The following is a list of rules and regulations for use on city fields and courts. The list is not meant to be all-inclusive and additional rules may be enforced if the BPRYCS Department and Board of Park Commissioners deem the behavior is in violation of safety of users or health and well-being of the property.

- 1) Any acts that put participants in danger or potential danger (i.e. driving/parking vehicles on the fields) are strictly prohibited.
- 2) Any abuse or damage of city property (i.e. tearing up the field, littering, and purposeful breaking of equipment) are strictly prohibited.
- 3) Use of fields without a permit or during a time when the BPRYCS Department has closed a field due to weather or maintenance.
- 4) Field permits are exclusively for the organization listed on the permit. Subletting field time or usage to other organizations is not permitted for any reasons.
- 5) Use of illegal drugs, alcohol, smoking and loud, vulgar, confrontational language are not permitted on city fields and recreational spaces or its immediate vicinity.
- 6) Any illegal acts in the parks, playgrounds, open space areas and flood plains.
- 7) User groups are not permitted to engage in any form of field maintenance (i.e. raking, sweeping, applying drying agents, etc.) unless specified under a lease agreement.
- 8) Any and all maintenance of City of Bristol athletic fields will be performed by city staff (unless specified under a lease agreement). Groups/organizations/teams having specific requests for maintenance will include them in the Facility Reservation Request. City staff will make its best attempt to complete such request with consideration to time, staffing and weather conditions. The city reserves the right to support or deny the request. Additional charges may be assessed to the renting organization.
- 9) All Youth Athletic organizations must comply with state standards and state statutes for concussion education and awareness.
- 10) City of Bristol is not responsible for any items left or stored on facility grounds by Applicant.
- 11) Applicants must comply with all municipal ordinances, regulations and policies.
- 12) A Certificate of Insurance naming the City of Bristol as additionally insured is required and must be submitted prior to use. The COI must conform to the city's insurance policies indicated in the section below.
- 13) *Special Note:* All groups using Wilson Field for softball are required to park only on the side of Fifth Street and Sixth Street that is nearest to the field. Please inform the players, parents and opponents.

**Weather Closure/Unsafe Field Conditions:** The BPRYCS Department reserves the right to close fields due to inclement weather or unsafe conditions at any time. Fields are inspected by city staff and cancellation decisions are made by the Superintendent or designee. The city is committed to optimizing the quality of fields, ensure safety, minimize injury, and reduce damage to fields that lead to costly repairs. If users are uncertain of the status of a field, they are encouraged to contact BPRYCS Main Office at 860-584-6160.

Determining to play on athletic fields is a crucial decision impacting the conditions and sustainability of a field. Fields are closed to avoid injury and damage to players and to the playing surface. Choosing to play on a wet field or the vigorous attempt to dry a wet field are major reasons fields are damaged.

An athletic field should be considered **closed** if any of the following conditions exist:

- There is standing water present on any part of the field that cannot be removed without causing damage to the field.
- There are muddy conditions present that will not dry by the start of the game.
- While walking on the field water can be seen or heard with a footstep.
- While walking on the field of play, any impression of your footprint is left in the surface
- If water gathers around the sole of a shoe or boot on any portion of the field.
- Standing water occurs because the ground is saturated. Removing standing water does not eliminate the saturation. It is the saturation and not standing water that causes damage and unsafe conditions.
- Unsafe weather conditions exist including but not limited to thunder, lightning, hail, etc.

**Safety Plans:** A supervisor of an activity involving young people has the responsibility to ensure that conditions exist to promote the highest degree of safety possible. For example: higher than anticipated attendance; small children unattended; first aid provisions; etc. Facility users must take appropriate precautions, such as providing onsite medical staff, first aid kits, and/or the ability to contact emergency services. Additionally, the rental organization is responsible for coordinating temporary bathroom needs including port-o-johns. These services are the responsibility of the organization renting the facility.