



“Hospitality, Stewardship, Innovation & Creativity, Hard Work”

www.districtgov.org

Recreation and Parks Department Outdoor Court Guidelines

The Recreation and Parks Department team of staff and volunteers offer many activities to meet your lifestyle needs. Our efforts are to provide the most enjoyable experiences and opportunities to participate and utilize these activities and facilities. The Recreation and Parks Department’s Outdoor Court Guidelines outline the expectations for the Recreation and Parks Department to effectively manage and program these facilities.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours of Use: All outdoor facilities are available from 7a.m. to Dusk. Dusk is defined as 30 minutes after sunset. All facilities are smoke-free. Adult & Family pools are opened by 7:30am. Sports Pools open at 7am.

Play at your own risk: Participation in recreational activities always involves some degree of risk. Participants assume full responsibility for and risk of bodily injury arising out of or in any way connected with participation or involvement in or presence at the activity or program. Be sure to fill out the required activity release before joining in on the fun.

Activity Release: A new activity release needs to be completed at the beginning of each calendar year. Additional releases may be required for various activities and programs.

ID Requirements: Please always carry your original Villages ID, or Guest ID and photo ID. Only original ID’s are accepted at the recreation centers.

Location of Emergency Information/Phones: Please locate the nearest phone and call 911 for emergencies.

Bulletin Boards: Are located in close proximity to all outside facilities. Each board contains **emergency information**, program scheduling, special events, and league information.

Court Schedule Info: The Recreation and Parks News lists all outdoor court schedules, this publication should be used as a guide. Recreation Bulletin Boards and Offices have current schedules available.

Attire: Always wear appropriate attire while at the recreation center facilities. Court shoes without black soles are required on our tennis, pickleball, and platform tennis courts. Open toed shoes are not allowed on our bocce and shuffleboard courts. Sunblock and hats are encouraged.

Weather Policy: In the event of lightning or inclement weather, the Recreation and Parks Department recommends patrons at outdoor recreation areas find shelter and wait at least 30 minutes before resuming activities. The Recreation and Parks Department reserves the right, as issued by the National Weather Service or Public Safety Department in the event of tornados, hurricanes, or other severe storm warnings, to close facilities for public safety.

Recreation sponsored programming will be canceled based on the below guidelines:

Outside temperature of 35 degrees or lower

Outside temperature heat index of 104 or higher

Equipment: All equipment is located in the equipment shed unless noted below. Please return equipment to the shed after use.

- Equipment to be checked out and return to inside the Recreation Centers:
 - Air Gun Supplies - Chula Vista / Rohan / Fenney
 - Croquet Equipment - Chula Vista / Fenney
 - Fishing Rods - La Hacienda / Lake Miona / Rohan / Fenney / Everglades
 - Lawn Bowling Equipment- Chula Vista / Fenney
 - Platform Tennis Paddles and Balls - SeaBreeze / Eisenhower / Rohan / Everglades
 - Track & Field Equipment - Saddlebrook

For additional information please check the web site: www.districtgov.org
Recreation and Parks News or see a staff member.

RECREATION PROGRAMS

Lessons: The starting point to learn any of our activities. The Recreation and Parks Department with the assistance from volunteer instructors provides the opportunity to attend a variety of lessons. Lessons are recommended before joining league or organized play.

Open Play: No courts are reserved, but are available on a first come first serve basis. If there is a posted courtesy rule, please observe it to allow fellow residents play opportunity. Check facility schedules posted on bulletin boards or in the Recreation and Parks News Insert. Open play may be converted to scheduled activity time in the future. If other players are waiting the following apply:

- Pickleball - Limit to 1 game to 11 points.
- Tennis - Limit games to: Singles: 1 hour 15 minutes; Doubles: 1 hour 30 minutes.
- Platform Tennis - Limit games to 2 matches.
- Bocce/Shuffleboard/Basketball/Horseshoes/Volleyball and all other outdoor courts - Limit to 1 game.
- Open Play may be assigned to specific skill levels i.e. Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced as well as Men's or Women's Play

Organized Play: For those who prefer to play with a group but cannot commit to participating every week. A staff member or volunteer will organize this play and no statistics will be recorded. Sign-ups are not required.

Recreation Social Leagues: Team competition for those who can commit to participation for up to 7 weeks. The leagues are organized and run by Recreation Staff and statistics are recorded on a regular basis. Sign-ups are required. In an effort to keep competition fair and equal, only residents 50 years of age and older will be permitted to sign up for leagues.

Recreation Sponsored Leagues: A league sponsored by the Recreation and Parks Department that is run by resident volunteers that provides all residents the opportunity to participate.

Clinics: Skill clinics include specific meetings/instruction for outdoor activities. Clinics require a sign-up and have designated start and end dates.

Tournaments: Single or multi-day events are scheduled throughout the year. Sign-ups are required. In an effort to keep competition fair and equal, only residents 50 years of age and older will be permitted to sign up for tournaments unless otherwise noted.

Special Events: Special Events are organized by the Recreation and Parks Department and may require the use of single or multiple facilities. Sign-ups are often required.

** Some activities may require a participation fee **

The Recreation and Parks Department reserves the right to alter and/or modify a group’s booking at any time to effectively manage the operation of the outside sports courts and continue to provide enjoyment, excellent lifestyle programs and enhance the quality of life for all Villagers.

SCHEDULING OF OUTDOOR FACILITIES

Availability and Reservation of Courts: The Recreation and Parks Department has the responsibility to manage and program the numerous recreation facilities available for your use in your community. To be the best stewards of these facilities, staff makes every effort to provide ample play time for all residents to get the most out of their active lifestyle. The Recreation and Parks Department has listed the following detailed information for use of each of the respective courts.

Court Scheduling of Pickleball and Platform Tennis:

- **Open Play:** Designated at all pickleball and platform tennis courts between 7am - 10am from October 1-March 31st, Monday - Sunday. April 1-September 30th open play times may be altered to accommodate other recreation programming (Leagues/Lessons).
- **Recreation Programs:** October 1-March 31st will be scheduled between the hours of 10am - 12pm, Monday - Sunday. April 1-September 30th programs may start as early as 8am due to summer weather conditions. If no recreation program is scheduled between these times then the time will be considered “Open Play”.
- **Neighborhood/Social Programs:** Specific groups must complete an Outdoor Recreation Facility Use Application to reserve court time. These groups are organized by a resident who is the point of contact. Examples of groups include neighborhood, skill levels, and common interests. The courts are available for these types of groups during the following times. Approved applications are required for use of court time.

October 1-March 31st: 12pm - Dusk Monday - Sunday
April 1- September 30th: 10am- Dusk Monday-Sunday

If no Neighborhood/Social program is utilizing the court then the time will be considered “Open Play”.

- **Lessons:** Recreation sponsored lessons during the months of April-September may have a start time as early as 8:00am due to the summer weather conditions. Lessons during the months of October-March will return to the traditional 10:00am Recreation programming time slot.
- **Season Weekly Use Neighborhood/Social Facility Bookings:** Outdoor Recreation Facility Use Applications will be accepted, reviewed and issued for Fall/Winter & Spring/Summer sessions as follows:

Sessions	Applications Accepted	Application Review	Permits Issued
Fall/Winter: October 1 - March 31	August 15 - 31	September 1 - 16	September 19
Spring/Summer: April 1 - September 30	February 15 - 28	March 1- 11	March 21

Booking Reservation Guidelines

- Applications will be reviewed by Recreation staff and bookings issued base on need for the recreation region.
 - Whenever conflicts arise the recreation staff will make every effort to resolve the conflict and provide alternatives.
 - Bookings issued mid-season will only be issued until the end of the current season.
 - Mid-season bookings will be issued 2 weeks after approval of submitted applications.
 - Start times will be scheduled on the hour and the end times 10 minutes from the end of the hour.
 - Groups will be assigned courts, based on group size, for any facility.
 - Courts not being used by the Neighborhood/Social group are to be made available for individuals to use for open play.
 - Social Leagues for pickleball are limited to two (2) 1 hour and 50 minute timeslots per week throughout The Villages. Using a different name for the group does not entitle additional slots.
- **Reservation Requests for One time use:** Applications may not be made more than one month in advance and no later than one week before requested time. One time reservations are granted based on availability. One time reservations will not appear in the Recreation and Parks News. One time reservations may take place 12pm-Dusk Monday-Sunday.

Requests for use of the following facilities will be reviewed as applications are submitted. Scheduling of these facilities will be determined by need as well as providing opportunity for all types of play.

*Archery Air Gun Lawn Bowling Croquet Tennis Shuffleboard Bocce Basketball Master Tennis
Platform Tennis Pickleball Horseshoes Quoits Corn Toss Sand Volleyball/Beach Tennis Petanque*

For more information about use of recreation facilities please contact your nearest recreation center manager.