



Athletic Field Advisory Committee Newsletter



Spring 2010

Athletic Field Advisory Committee

The Elmhurst Park District Advisory Committee assists District staff in improving both athletic facilities and the delivery of services to users of baseball, softball, soccer, football fields and tennis courts.

Members of the Athletic Field Advisory Committee act as a liaison between the District staff and the Elmhurst community in order to communicate citizen attitudes, interests, and needs, thereby making the Park District more responsive to athletic field users.

The following groups have representatives on the AFAC:

Team Elmhurst

Mike Tooley - www.elmhurstsoccer.com

AYSO Soccer

Paul Rafac - www.ayso399.org

Elmhurst Youth Baseball

Bill Rehling - www.eybaseball.org

Elmhurst Wildcats

Tom Rossiano - tom_rossiano@ipsd.org

Elmhurst Baseball

Sue Bieterman - www.elmhurstbaseball.com

Eagles Football

Doug Peterson - www.elmhursteagles.com

Cougar Baseball

Debbie Pastuovic - www.elmhurstcougars.net

York Lacrosse

Dave Grubbs - www.yorklacrosseclub.org

Elmhurst College

Paul Krohn - athletics.elmhurst.edu

York High School

John Rutter - www.athletics2000.com/york

IC High School

Darren Howard - www.icelmhurst.org/icgs

Visitation Grade School

Linda Roberts - www.visitationelmhurst.org



Field Playability Guidelines

We are committed to providing high-quality, safe playing surfaces for our multi-use athletic facilities, and with the help and consideration of all user groups we will protect the turf from excessive damage. If any of the following conditions occur, scheduled games and practices must be canceled or postponed.

1. **Audible thunder or visible lightning** (play will not resume until 30 minutes after the last sighting of lightning or sound of thunder)
2. **Visibility** (darkness)
3. **Standing water** on the playing field
4. **Soil saturation**
 - Walking on turf causes water to rise to the surface around the foot
 - Walking on turf causes footprint indentations in the field
 - One inch or more of rain 48 hours prior to a scheduled game or practice accompanied by steady rain on game or practice day
 - Steady downpour of rain on game or practice day, which could cause damage to turf or injury to participants
5. **Extreme drought** conditions where 50% of the playing surface has turned dormant

All coaches, referees and umpires are responsible for ensuring the safety of field playing conditions at all times during scheduled play. In questionable situations the park ambassador will meet with the AFAC representative at the field two hours prior to usage to assess the playing condition of the field. If the field is deemed unplayable, the AFAC representative will inform and enforce that decision with athletic groups, coaches and parents. Safety implies protection of the resource as well as the participants.

It is important that every coach knows and understands these rules in order to ensure the safety of the team and maintain the quality of the fields.

Synthetic Turf Field Rules

- Groups with a permit have priority use at all times.
- During athletic competitions, all spectators shall remain off the playing field.
- Only authorized personnel may relocate goals or equipment.
- Only clean athletic shoes (free of mud) are permissible. Metal spiked shoes are not allowed on the field.
- Only freestanding field markers and sports equipment may be used on the artificial surface. No stakes, posts, poles or markers of any kind may be driven into the surface.
- Motorized vehicles of any kind, bicycles, rollerblades, scooters or skateboards are not allowed on the synthetic turf field.
- Smoking, the use of chewing tobacco, gum, sunflower seeds and food are not allowed on the synthetic turf area.
- Glass and metal containers are prohibited.
- Tables or chairs of any kind should not be placed on the synthetic turf surface.
- Golfing, shot putting, javelin or discus throwing is not allowed on the synthetic turf.
- The storage of any materials or equipment on the football/soccer field is prohibited.
- Pets are not allowed on the synthetic turf surface.

Please report any damage or vandalism to the field or park by calling Wagner Community Center at (630) 993-8901.

Thor Guard Lightning Prediction System

The Elmhurst Park District's lightning prediction system is located at Berens, Butterfield, Eldridge, and Plunkett parks.

When there is potential for a lightning strike within the coverage area, a strobe light will turn on and a warning horn will sound with an uninterrupted 15-second blast. Immediately upon hearing or seeing these signals park users must leave and seek appropriate shelter. When the system senses conditions are safe, the strobe light will turn off and the horn will sound three short four-second blasts. Then normal activity may resume. The system operates 8 a.m.-11 p.m. seven days per week March-November.

NEWS & NOTES

The Elmhurst Park District works to accommodate people with special needs whenever possible. For assistance call (630) 993-8900. Garbage left on fields is still a big problem. The Elmhurst Park District asks that all spectators and athletes please dispose of debris before leaving the fields. For your convenience, a number of trash bins are located at each field for easy disposal. Please help us keep our parks clean and safe. Tobacco use is not allowed within 20 feet of any athletic field, playground, or picnic or concession site. Park ambassadors are on the job to assist you. Keep an eye out for their bright red shirts!

The Athletic Field Advisory Committee Newsletter is published biannually by the Park District to improve communication with the coaches of Elmhurst. We welcome your input for future topics, issues and questions. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the division manager of facilities at (630) 993-8915. To reach a park ambassador, please call (630) 993-8946 or (630) 675-4491. Send written communication to: Elmhurst Park District, 225 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126, or visit us online at www.epd.org.



Want to help give back to the parks that give so much to your team? Adopt A Park! Groups meet for monthly clean-up sessions to help ensure their park remains in pristine condition. It's a great outlet for your team to spend quality time together in a unique way. The program's values are in line with character elements that are important to sports, such as pride and teamwork. Your organization's name will be placed on a sign in the designated park. Call (630) 993-8925 for more information on Adopt A Park.

Please obey street signs. Parking at East End, Golden Meadows, and Pioneer Park is tight enough; don't park on the "No Parking" side of the street.

**Buy 1 Hot Dog Combo
Get 1 Free Round
of Miniature Golf**



Present this coupon and receive:

1 Free round of miniature golf
(with purchase of 1 Hot Dog Combo Meal)

Coupon is valid only at The Hub at Berens Park through October 31, 2010.

**Limit one coupon per customer.
Certain restrictions apply.**