

# MEMORANDUM



DATE: January 17, 2013  
TO: Mike Herring, City Administrator  
FROM: Mike Geisel, <sup>mor</sup> Director of Public Services  
RE: Park Rule Changes

Attached hereto is a memo from Parks and Recreation Director – Tom McCarthy, recommending minor changes to our official park rules. I concur wholeheartedly with his recommendations. Without restating them entirely, the proposed changes can be summarized as follows:

- ✓ 1) Current rules prohibit patrons from using Kites, playing Bocce Ball, playing Dodge Ball, or using Flying Discs (frisbies) without the written approval of the Director of Parks and Recreation. [We desire to eliminate these restrictions.]
- ✓ 2) Similarly, current rules preclude users from playing baseball, softball, stickball, whiffle ball, and kickball; soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, football, and cricket except in designated areas or with the written permission of the Director of Parks and Recreation. [We desire to eliminate these restrictions.]
- ✓ 3) Finally, we desire to eliminate the prohibition of any dogs on leash at the Chesterfield Valley Athletic Complex. That facility has become much more than simply athletic fields and we find the restriction no longer necessary. [We desire to eliminate this restriction.]

**I request that this recommendation be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Committee for consideration and recommendation.** Inasmuch as our parks rules are adopted by ordinance, if the Parks and Recreation Committee accepts these recommendations, we will prepare legislation amending the ordinance establishing park rules.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please advise.

Cc Tom McCarthy, Parks and Recreation Director

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JH  
1/17/13



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mike Geisel, Director of Public Service  
**FROM:** Thomas McCarthy CPRP, Parks and Recreation Division  
**DATE:** January 17, 2013  
**SUBJECT:** Recommended updates for Park Rules



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Mike, my recommendations are listed below on the Park rule that I think need some adjustments. **Red** indicates that we remove this from the rules. **Black bold and underlined is the new information.**

### **Park Rules & Regulations**

Sec. 22-46. Games and activities.

(a) No person in a park, facility and/or trail area shall take part in or abet the playing of any games involving thrown or otherwise propelled objects such as stones, arrows, javelins, lawn darts, **fly**ing disc, golf, model airplanes, **kites, bocce ball, dodge ball** and horseshoes except in areas set apart for such forms of recreation or upon the written approval of the Director of Parks and Recreation.

(b) No person in a park, facility and/or trail area shall take part in or setup/construct the playing of any games involving the use of volleyball/badminton nets/poles; **baseball, softball, stickball, whiffle ball, and kickball; soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, football, and cricket;** except in areas set apart for such forms of recreation or upon the written approval of the Director of Parks and Recreation.

Mike, the complex has come a long way over the last 20 years and it is no longer just a few ball fields, but more of a regional draw area not just for the sports but, with the introduction of the wet lands and the Chesterfield Monarch Levee Trail, the overall usage of the park-like atmosphere has become greater and more people are using the area for general walking and running more like a park in many instances than just a ball field location. One of the issues that keeps coming to the surface is the opportunity for people to bring their dogs down here for walks or just be with them to enjoy a game or the nice weather. I have contacted several municipalities in the St. Louis region and most of them allow dogs in their parks as long as they are on a leash and the owners clean up after them. Municipalities contacted were; Clayton, Kirkwood, St. Louis County, University City, Webster, Des Peres, Ballwin and Ellisville. So in short, our recommendation is to remove the No Dog Policy down here at the CVAC.

Please let me know if you have questions concerning these recommended rules.