



## **Elizabeth Township Recreation and Parks Policy**

**ADOPTED 4/6/2020 by RESOLUTION 2020-11**

### **Policy Statement**

It is the policy of the Elizabeth Township that the Township owned recreation facilities and parks shall be kept for the healthful and varied amusement and recreation of the residents of the Township on a year-round basis, as a means of promoting the general health and welfare. Use to the maximum intensity is to be encouraged, subject to requirements of health, safety and security of property in the parks. This policy shall apply to all parks and recreation facilities now owned by the Township, as well as those hereafter acquired; provided, that nothing set forth herein is intended to be in conflict with or inconsistent with the requirement of any federal or state regulation appurtenant to use of any facility acquired or developed with federal or state funds as relates to the use of such facility.

### **Presently Existing Parks and Facilities**

The parks and facilities presently maintained by the Elizabeth Township are:

Boston- Ronald Wise Memorial Field

Boston Soccer

Boston Church (Not owned)

Twele

Municipal

Greenock (Not owned)

Mt. Vernon (Not owned)

Industry

Blythedale (Not owned)

Chapel Drive

Community Center

These are sometimes collectively referred to in this Part as the "park system" or as the "parks," which also includes any additional park hereinafter acquired by the Township.

### **Authority of the Township**

The Elizabeth Township Board of Commissioners is empowered to promulgate suitable regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of this Part for the governance, operation and use of the parks, including the imposition of reasonable user fees and security deposits.

### **Certain Activities Prohibited**

The following acts done within the limits of any of the public parks of the Elizabeth Township are hereby declared to be unlawful and Township police officers shall have the power to remove any individual from a Township park or recreation facility for violation of Township ordinances and posted park regulations or for performing any of the acts listed here:

- A. To injure, deface or destroy any posted notice, rules or regulations relating to the use of such park.
- B. To cut, injure, remove, deface or destroy any wood, turf, grass, tree, soil, rock, sand or gravel therein or any shelter house, building, structure, plumbing or electrical equipment or fireplace therein.
- C. To make or kindle a fire therein for any purpose excepting in the fireplaces provided therefor.
- D. To indulge in riotous, boisterous, threatening or indecent conduct or to use abusive, threatening, profane or indecent language therein.
- E. To sell, expose or offer for sale any merchandise, article or thing whatsoever without first obtaining a written permit therefor from the Office Manager.
- F. To lead, ride, let loose or permit to run at large any animal or fowl.
- G. To ride, drive or propel any powered vehicle on a foot path, or on any other part of such park, except on roadways or parking lots therein.
- H. To ride or drive any powered vehicle at a speed in excess of 15 miles per hour.
- I. To possess, use, carry or discharge any fireworks or explosives.
- J. To carry, transport or consume any malt, spirituous or vinous beverages whatsoever within the limits of such park, or to remain while under the influence of the same, provided that, subject to the regulations of the Elizabeth Township Board of Commissioners. Alcohol permits may be granted for the Community Center only.
- K. To deposit, drop or cast out any trash, litter, rubbish, garbage or debris, except to place the same within a rubbish or trash container provided for such purpose.
- L. To enter any enclosed or fenced facility within the public parks, such as buildings, without permission from authorized Township personnel.

M. To carry a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or other lighted smoking device.

N. To unlawfully possess, use, carry or discharge any firearms.

### **Permit Required for Certain Activities**

1. It shall be unlawful for any group, company, society or organization whatsoever to hold any picnic, celebration, parade, service or exercise whatsoever in the public parks of the Elizabeth Township without first having obtained a permit in writing from the Township Office Manager. Such permit shall be applied for by a bona fide member of such group, company, society or organization who is also a resident of the Elizabeth Township. Pavilions located at playgrounds are not for reservation and are open for public use as first come first serve.

2. It shall be unlawful for any persons to possess, use, carry or discharge archery equipment in the public parks of the Elizabeth Township or on any Township-owned property without first having obtained a permit in writing from the Township Office Manager. Such permit shall be issued only to an individual for purposes-controlled hunting. All Pennsylvania State Game Commission Laws, local Ordinances, laws and adopted policies apply. Permits will only be issued for areas in which are deemed safe hunting zones by the PA Game Commission and Police Chief. Any violation of this section or the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder could result in a revocation of permit.

### **Hours of Operation**

The public parks, shall be closed every night at dusk, prevailing time, and shall remain closed until dawn, prevailing time, of the following day. The road (s) leading to parks shall also be closed at dusk, prevailing time, except on those nights when authorized events or activities are taking place at the Community Center or a permit has been issued. During the closed period it shall be unlawful for any person, not having official business therein, to be within the territorial limits of said parks. Dusk is defined as that time of day immediately following sunset. Dawn is defined as that time of day immediately following sunrise. Any officer of the Township's Police Department shall have the power to close any Township park or recreation facility for violation of Township ordinances and posted park regulations or public safety concerns when circumstances in the discretion of an officer on duty or acting in an official capacity merits such an adjustment. Community Center Rental hours are defined as 8:00 AM until 11:00 PM unless special written authorization is acquired from Township Offices.

### **Rules and Regulations Authorized**

The Elizabeth Township Board of Commissioner is hereby authorized to promulgate rules and regulations for conduct to be enforced on the premises of all parks and recreation facilities. Rules and regulations are subject to ratification by resolution of Commissioners. Please see the attached guidelines. The Township shall enforce said rules and regulations and may delegate any and all responsibilities in relation thereto. Any person or persons violating the posted rules and regulations shall be subject to immediate dismissal from the grounds and the loss of privileges without refund

of money for the remainder of the season. Violation of the rules and regulations above provided for shall constitute a violation of this Part.

### **Use of Recreational Facilities**

All playgrounds, playfields, basketball courts and other recreational centers which have been or hereafter may be established by the Elizabeth Township are intended for the use and enjoyment of Township residents and organizations and Township residents and organizations will be given preference for the use of facilities. Provided, further, Township parks and recreational facilities shall not be used for-profit purposes unless a permit is obtained from the Township Office Manager or his/her designee.

### **Fees for Use and Rental of Township Park and Recreation Facilities**

The Township Commissioners may establish, by resolution adopted from time to time, a schedule of fees as shall be necessary for the use and/or rental of Township park and recreation facilities.

Elizabeth Student Sponsored Athletic Field Use is Free with the only requirement being that proper insurance forms are to be submitted to the Township Offices prior to the use of the facilities. (EFYA)

All teams/organizations shall pay a fee per time slot per season. A time slot is defined as a game/practice. A season is defined as summer and fall. Fees are established and set in the Township Fee Schedule.

All fees are subject to the rules and regulations being followed and fees shall be not be returned if there is a violation of the rules and guidelines of fields.

Special exceptions may be granted only when request is received in writing addressed to the Board of Commissioners prior to the season starting and must be voted upon.

Fees for Community Center- As set in current adopted fee schedule of Elizabeth Township.

### **Insurance Certificates**

Any organization that uses any of the facilities in Elizabeth Township must submit a Certificate of Liability Insurance to the Township Office Manager prior to using any facility. A new Certificate of Liability Insurance must be submitted permitted for each season/ or event. Certificates will be kept on file in the township offices. Failure to submit a Certificate of Liability Insurance will prohibit the organization from using the township facilities.

Liability Waivers may be substituted on a case-by-case basis.

### **Scheduling of Facilities**

The scheduling of EFYA Activities will be coordinated through the EFYA Organization and completed schedules must be submitted to the Township once they are completed.

The scheduling of all other athletic activities will be coordinated through the Township offices.

Organizations wishing to schedule the use of baseball or softball fields must complete of this policy and submit to the Township offices.

**All completed applications for field use must be submitted prior to March 15 of each year.**

**Schedules will be assigned on a first come first serve basis and Township resident organizations will be given priority for scheduling.**

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT AND I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT.

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Print Name

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Signature

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Date