2026-2027 Town of Grand Island - Recreation Department Adult League Procedures and Rules *3/18/26*

1. Leagues offered by the Town are recreation programs coordinated by the Town's Recreation Department.

2. Programs are offered based on popularity and interest. The Recreation Department continues to seek popular programs and will offer if permitted. If there is little to no interest in a certain program, the Recreation Department has the right to eliminate it.

3. League officials are contracted by: Niagara Frontier Officials Association.

Facility Use:

1. Certain programs are subject to School Use facility availability, and rules.
2. School gym use: no spectators or minors permitted in the school gym during our Recreation programs.

Locations:

1. Softball Diamonds: **NB**= Nike Base 3278 Whitehaven Road., **K1** = Kaegebein #1, located corner of Broadway & E. Park Rd. **VP9 + VP10** = Veterans Park 1717 Bedell Rd.
2. Soccer Fields**: VP 4a and 7** = Vets Park 1717 Bedell Rd.
3. Volleyball and Basketball Courts**: M/S =** Veronica E. Connor Middle School 1100 Ransom Rd.

Lost & Found:

Outdoor Fields**:** contact GI Parks Maintenance 716-773-9686 and notify Rec office 716-773-9680
School Gym**:** contact Middle School 716-773-8800 and notify Rec. office 716-773-9680

Drug & Alcohol Laws apply.

a. Consumption of illegal drugs and/or alcoholic beverages are not permitted on town or school property.
b. Umpires/Refs will forfeit any game where players, coaches, or spectators are consuming drugs or alcohol.

Medical/Photo/Release:

1. It is the responsibility of each player to have their own health and accident insurance coverage prior to playing in any Town of Grand Island Recreation Department program. Each team is responsible for providing their own first aid and first aid kit. Neither the umpire/Ref. nor Rec. Department is responsible for providing first aid kits.

2. **Liability release: Town of Grand Island Recreation Department - RELEASE OF LIABILITY**
   In consideration of my participation in Recreation Department Programs, which includes any recreation program sponsored by the Town of Grand Island (the "Town"), I hereby release the Town employees, officers and directors, from all claims and causes of action of any nature (including those based on negligence) in connection with my participation and agree that I will not initiate any legal action in any forum against the Town, its employees, officers or directors, in connection with my participation.
3. **Photo release:**
   The Town of Grand Island Recreation Department will take photos of programs and participants throughout the program session. Photos will be taken on department approved devices (camera or cell phone) and will be used for department purposes only. Photos will be used on the department website and department approved media. If you wish to opt out of photo release only, please email the Recreation Department.

Registration:

4. Team members must be 18 years of age to participate in Grand Island Recreation Leagues, unless otherwise stated in Sport Bylaws. See sport bylaws for information. HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS participating in any Varsity or JV sport may not participate in recreation League until their high school season is over.

5. **"OPEN GYM/Space"** use: When a league is not formed, and the facility is available through the Rec. Department as "Open Gym/space" type use; then:
   a. Each participant must officially register, agree/consent to the online disclaimers and waivers, and pay the registration fee.
   b. Outstanding account balance does not disappear and will be collected on the next registration process. Unpaid balances may result in the account being inactive.

c. Abide by Rec. rules and procedures segments, which are not applicable as league aspects.
d. All participants must be checked in with Rec. Staff upon arrival.
e. The Rec. Department will provide facility use as per date and timeslots, applicable equipment, first aid kit, 2 Rec. staff members for roster attendance, and set up facility.
f. There are no officials such as refs/ umps, no score reporting, no playoffs & trophies are applicable.
g. Registered participants are subject to their own game type agreement.
h. Make-up dates are not applicable due to cancelations.

6. Coaches and players are required to log into their account to complete registration. All must create an account if they do not have one. All must agree to the disclaimers and bylaw documents. For account assistance, call the Recreation Office 716-773-9680.
7. Resident Teams will have priority to register.
8. Registration for coaches to register their team will open first. Nonresident teams will be subject to space availability.
9. Team registration and full payment must be made by the deadline as per the outline on the flyer and website.
10. Player registration will open after the team is registered and paid. Players are free up to the first scheduled game. ***Then $25 player fee after first scheduled game to noon of the 5th scheduled game.*** Excludes fall softball.
11. Team Coach responsibilities:
    a. When applicable to certain sport leagues, coach to pick up team supplies before their first game at the Recreation Office during business hours M-F 8am to 4pm. If the coach is sending an alternate person to pick up Team supplies, the coach must contact the Recreation Department with the name, date & approx. time of pick up.
    b. Ensure all players and subs are officially registered on their online team roster prior to playing in their first game. Team must have appropriate number of players on their roster.
    c. Provide proof of online roster
    d. Must report scores to the Recreation Adult Coordinator within 24 hours of game completion
    e. Must report forfeit, and to pay/replenish forfeit fee.
    f. Can request additional supplies, pay supply fee, and pick up.

Team Uniform: Teams must register a team name or team shirt color (color applies to soccer league). Team color uniform must be worn during the game. Teams will be responsible for their own team shirts. In the event two teams have the same color uniform and play each other, the home team remains in uniform color. The visitor/away team will wear an alternate color/Pinney of their choice.

Supplies: Game supplied per team or per league: When applicable, scorebooks and game balls will be provided to each team in a league, by the Recreation Department.
Supply quantities are subject to each specific sport. Additional game supplies must be purchased through the Recreation Department at market price.

1. Softball= 1 scorebook and 1 softball for each scheduled **home** game. Rec. Department provides balls for playoffs
2. Soccer = 1 soccer ball and 1 score book
3. Fall Softball = 1 scorebook and 1 softball for each scheduled **home** game.
4. Volleyball = Volleyballs are the property of the Recreation Department. *Staff will provide for the game.

Fees:

1. Leagues that run 8 to 14 weeks are subject to $300 league fee and or according to Town fee schedule.
2. Leagues that run 7 weeks or less are subject to a $200 league fee.
3. Forfeit fees are subject to Officials Association rates, are additional to the Team leagues fee and are subject to change per season/contract.
4. Officials Fee: Officials will be paid - Cash only, by each team at the game location. Official fee is as listed on flyer & website.
5. Extra Game balls and scorebook must be purchased through the Recreation Department at market price.

Payment

1. Payment types: Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover Card), Cash or Check. Account credits can also be used.
2. Team Registration & Forfeit Fee must be **paid in full by the due date**.
3. Teams that have outstanding accounts will be cancelled from the league and will not be included on the final game schedule.

Refunds

1. Full Refunds are issued if not enough Teams to play as determined by the Rec. Department.
2. Teams requesting to cancel out of the league, upon written notice **before** the team/coach registration deadline will be issued a full refund.

3. If a team cancels out of the league upon written notice, **after** the registration deadline and no less than **2 days** before the first scheduled game the team will be invoiced an administrative fee which reflects the forfeit fee. If registration payment was made, then the balance will be refunded, or an account credit will be issued. Refunds after this timeframe will not be issued.
4. If more than 1/3 of the games are canceled due to inclement weather or facility cancelations, and not able to make up games, then a prorated refund will be issued as determined by The Recreation Department.
5. Refunds will be issued to the original payer in the format in which payment was received.
6. Forfeit fees that are collected and not used will be processed as a refund at the end of the season, to the original Payer.
7. If refunded by Town Check, anticipate 4-6 weeks for processing.
8. No buy-back policy for returned/unused game balls or scorebooks

Rosters:

Minimum and Maximum number of registered players are required on the team's online roaster as per the specific sport bylaw by 12noon day of game.

1. A minimum number of players will be required to start a game according to specific sport bylaw. See applicable sport bylaw. We allow a maximum of 20 registered players per team.
2. Coed Leagues: Will have a minimum number of female players required to start a game. See applicable bylaws.
3. 6-week- Fall Season Leagues: registration deadlines are as posted on the flyer and website.
4. If a coach is also a player, coach must also register as a player
5. All players must be registered online. Player registration is free up to the first scheduled game. *Then $25 fee after first scheduled game to the 5th scheduled game.* Excludes fall softball.
6. The Final Online Rosters must be completed by 12 noon on the 5th scheduled game. Excludes fall softball.
7. The first game will be forfeited if there is less than the shorthanded count of players at the scheduled start of the game.
8. If not, enough players officially registered on the final online roster, the team forfeits the Season w/o refund.
9. The coach can request by email: Roster change such as: Team name or Player transfers up to 5th scheduled game, Excludes fall softball.
10. Team online rosters are locked-in/frozen after 12noon of the 5th scheduled game. Excludes fall softball.
11. Coaches will be granted access on the website <General Info> page to view their team roster throughout the season
12. If a player wishes to change teams, they must EMAIL the Recreation Department in advance, to be transferred to the new team roster. Players cannot change teams after 12noon of the 5th scheduled game. Excludes fall softball.
13. Coaches have the right to request to view the opposing teams' online roster prior to the start of game. The coach can request their roster copy from the rec. office M-F 8am to 4pm.
14. **Free Agent/Player looking to join a team**: Coaches are notified if there are players registered to join a team.
    - **a)** If the Coach needs players, they can reach out to the Rec. Department before the player registration final deadline.
    - **b)** Any free agent/wait listed players, will be contacted and if agreed, will be transferred to an applicable team that needs players to fulfil the minimum shorthand requirement for the roster.
    - **c)** The coach will be notified of the transferred player and will be on the team's official roster.
15. Teams that **do not meet the minimum requirement of players** on their teams' online roster:

    a) Teams that have the minimum required registered players after the deadline, will play shorthanded for the remainder of the season.

    b) Teams that have less than the shorthanded number of players after the deadline, will forfeit the season- no refunds. Game Schedules will then be modified to reflect the reduced number of teams.

    c) A notification will be sent out to the league, listing which teams have less than the required number of players:

    Volleyball: Min required 6pp; Shorthanded 4 to 5 players for the remainder of the season

    Softball: Min required is 11pp; Shorthanded 9 players for the remainder of the season.

    Soccer: Min required is: 9pp; Shorthand: 7 players for the rest of the season.

Score Reporting:

1. Softball & Soccer League games: Winning team must report the score within 24 hours of game completion. Coach must include date, winning team name and losing team name via text to Adult Coordinator 716-382-5785 or email lprusinski@grandislandny.gov or Recreation@grandislandny.gov
2. Late reporting: scores that are reported more than 7 days late will be recorded as a loss 0:0
3. **Tie Games** are permitted throughout regular season play, but emphasis should be on completing the game in the time allowed.
4. Volleyball scores are recorded/reported by the Rec. staff.

Forfeit

1. Forfeits must be reported to the Recreation office by phone, email, or text.
2. Team Forfeit: If a team forfeits more than 24-hour notice to the Recreation Department, there is no forfeit fee replenishment required.
3. If a team forfeits within 24 hours, it will result in the forfeit fee being invoiced. To play the next game, the forfeit fee replenishment must be paid to the Recreation Department within **3 business days**. Payments can be made via credit card online by coach or by calling during regular office hours **8am – 4 pm**. The Coach may also pay by cash or check in person at the Recreation Office.
4. **WEEKEND LEAGUES:** If a team forfeits before 4pm Friday, there is no forfeit fee replenishment required.
5. Failure to report forfeit and repay forfeit replenishment (when applicable) prior to next game will result in team removal from the game schedule and playoffs. No refunds.
6. If a team forfeits more than twice throughout the season, they may be removed from the League. Final decisions regarding team removal from league will be made by the Recreation Supervisor.
7. Forfeit scores are reported according to each specific sport bylaw.

Games/Cancelations/Notifications/Rescheduling:

1. **Summer/Outdoor** leagues and **Winter/Indoor Leagues** are approx. 10-12 weeks plus playoffs (Indoor leagues are based on school availability)
2. **6-week Season Leagues and Open Gym program**: No playoffs. If there is inclement weather, poor field conditions, school closing, games will not be re-scheduled. If 3 or more games get cancelled, then a prorated refund will be established by the Rec. Department.
3. Teams requesting postponements or delay will not be granted.
4. When schools are closed for scheduled holidays, weather or emergency conditions, the Recreation Department's activities are canceled for that date.
5. **Inclement Weather** will be assessed and posted no later than 3:30 pm on game day. Any inclement weather after 330pm will be called by the Umpire/Referees at the fields.
6. **Notifications**: will be posted on the Recreation Department website and sent via eblast, and/or text blast. Online accounts can receive direct notifications to your email via eblast and/or to your cell phone via text blast. We recommend opting IN for both Cancelations and General notifications. Be sure your email and mobile number are registered to receive notices.
7. **Rescheduling** cancelled games may be considered according to dates and space availability within the season, as determined by The Rec. department. Rescheduling does not apply to OUTDOOR FALL Leagues.
8. **Schedules** made are based according to the number of teams that have paid in full and have the minimum number of players on their roster.
    a) Game schedules will be posted after the Registration deadline.
    b) Schedules are subject to change due to inclement weather and field prep conditions and will be updated as needed.
    c) Scheduled games cannot be switched, nor by any team/coach or ump/ref.

Additional Regulations

1. **NO JEWELRY** is to be worn while playing any sport scheduled by the Recreation Department.
2. **No metal spikes** are allowed on the field of play.
3. **Game Time** - Time indicated on schedule is the official start time. No Grace Period The umpire's time is official.
4. The Home Team is indicated last on the official schedule listed. Home will be determined by the higher seed for playoffs.
5. A game will not be played if Park or School Regulations are not adhered to. If a game is in progress and an official of the Recreation Department notices a violation of regulations such as parking, alcohol consumption, etc.; the game will be stopped until such violations are corrected.
6. If the umpire/Ref. arrives after game time, the two coaches of the teams involved can decide whether they want to play. If played, the score stands. The 1h 10m time limit will start when the game starts. If there is a double header and the second game is affected by the late start of the first game, the two coaches of the teams involved can decide whether they want to play. If played, the score stands.
7. In the case of an umpire/ref. not arriving by game time, if coaches cannot agree, the game will be postponed and rescheduled by the Recreation Department.

Softball Bat Testing: See Softball Bylaws and Rec. Flyer.

Play-offs and tie breaking procedure:

When Playoffs are applicable:

a. Playoffs will be single elimination.
b. Playoff seeding will be based on overall season reported record.
c. A minimum of the top 4 teams will make the playoffs, or as determined by the Rec. Department, dates, and space availability within the season.

Ties will be decided in the following order: Emphasis should be on completing the game in the time allowed.

1. Head-to-head record between the two teams
2. Points against/for between the two teams
3. Points against/for in league play
4. Single game playoff (time permitting)
5. Coin flip if there is not time for a single game playoff

Trophies:

1. **LEAGUE** trophies are issued to the **first place/seed** team in their league, based on score reports and online standings.
2. League trophies are to be picked up at the Rec office M-F 8am-4pm.
3. **PLAYOFF Trophy:** When playoffs are scheduled: The championship trophy will be issued to the winning team. Once the trophy is ready, it can be picked up at the Rec office M-F 8am-4pm.

Player Code of Conduct, Penalties, Game Protests

1. Ejection from a game, i.e., disputes over a call, etc. with no physical violence or verbal threats. The following are in addition to your ejection:
   1st offense - 1 game suspension
   2nd offense - 3 game suspension

2. Verbally threatening or continued inappropriate language directed at an official, spectator, another player or recreation staff. The following are in addition to your ejection:
   1st offense - Zero tolerance- indefinite suspension

3. Deliberate or Intention to cause injury, Assault, physically touching an official, spectator, another player or recreation staff. The following are in addition to your ejection:
   1st offense - Zero tolerance. Indefinite suspension.

1. All rules and league by-laws apply directly before, during and after a game.

2. **Blood Rule:** A game participant or umpire who is bleeding or who has blood on their uniform shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment can be administered. If medic care or treatment is administered in a reasonable length of time (5 minutes), the individual will not have to leave the game. Uniform rule violations will not be enforced.

In the event any of the above occurs or a game is protested:

a. All game protests must be initiated by the team coach within 24 hours of the game ending. Appeals to rule violation suspensions must be initiated by the player or team coach within 24 hours of notification of suspension by the Recreation Department. Any protests or appeals initiated after this time may not be reviewed.
b. Protests and appeals must be emailed to recreation@grand-island.ny.us or called in to the Recreation Department office at 716-773-9680.
c. Team coach or player(s) may have a hearing with the Recreation Department. Statements will be taken from officials, players and Recreation Department staff involved.
d. Players suspended from play may not play for another team or league during their suspension time
e. Suspension may carry over from one sport season to another sport.
f. All decisions regarding suspension will be rendered by the GI Recreation Department.

Comments & suggestions: Team members and/or witnesses may contact the Recreation Department in writing via email: Recreation@grandislandny.gov. Or, to schedule a private discussion, contact the office 716-773-9680.