

Renaming of Fields

In 2005, we renamed Winston Churchill School and Winston Development fields adopting a numbered field system with signs on the top crossbar of each goal post

Winston Churchill School Site

- soccer field W is now Field #1
- soccer field E is now Field #2

Winston Development Site

- soccer field W is now Field #3
- soccer field E is now Field #4

Rain-out Policy

To minimize turf damage, a rain-out policy has been created to restrict play on fields during inclement weather. Periods of prolonged rain or heavy downpours combined with field use will cause serious damage to the turf. This will also ensure a safe playing surface for all. Parks staff will make a judgment by 2:00 p.m. each day regarding field closures and will record them on the Rain-Out Line at 320-4974. If rain begins after 2:00 p.m., the league representatives for each field will make the call. If damage occurs as a result of a decision to play, the league may be held accountable for repair costs and also may have their booking privileges revoked.

Monitoring

Commissionaires will continue to monitor the use of sports fields in 2006. Teams using fields without a booking will be reported to Leisure Services and the League will be billed for the use. The League is accountable for the actions of their coaches. Please remember that alcohol is not permitted on our community fields. Any teams caught with alcohol will be reported to the Lethbridge Police Service.

Field Lining

After successfully testing the super heated water field lining technique; we purchased our own equipment in 2004.

The Parks staff are reviewing the 2006 Season schedule to ensure consistency but would appreciate a team representative call if a field requires lining prior to an event or if you have any suggestions.

Contact Kevin Hiraga at 329-7324 or 320-3850.

Booking Priority

Leagues: League games have priority of access versus individual team practices. Deadline for application is **March 15th** for league bookings.

Practices: Practices are booked in 1.5 hour time periods beginning between 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to allow 2 practices per evening. Priority is given to leagues that book fields for the entire season and allocate time slots to their teams. Individual teams may book privately through Leisure Services by calling (320-3009) beginning **April 1st** with pre-payment (Credit & Debit Card payments available.)

Tournaments: Tournaments are booked on a first come, first served basis.

Please note: Because of the overlap nature of sports fields located on school grounds, some sports have priority over others and will be booked accordingly. This varies per site annually and per sport demand.

Standards Committee

A Sports field Standards Committee meets seasonally to review rectangular sports field services. Representatives from each user group are involved. The mandate is to jointly develop standards for field use and maintenance practices.

Report-A-Problem

If you see a field or amenity maintenance problem on one of the sports fields, you can contact the City of Lethbridge in three ways: you can **fax** the Field Maintenance Concerns sheet (each organization has one) to 320-9625 (FAX) or you can **call** Parks at 320-3850 or Tom Mihalik at 320-3021 or **email** tmihalik@lethbridge.ca

Provision of Facilities

Through the Joint Use Agreement with School Divisions #51 and #4, community groups have access to sports fields on school grounds after school hours. The City of Lethbridge maintains these fields through a cost sharing arrangement

For many of the major facilities the City of Lethbridge has entered into a variety of operating agreements with non-profit organizations. This includes the new Soccer and Rugby Complex outdoor field scheduled for completion in 2006.

The City of Lethbridge also books and maintains sports fields in neighbourhood parks.

For more information call
Tom Mihalik at 320-3021
Alternate Contact:
Sheila Buelow at 320-3014
www.lethbridge.ca

Sports Field News



2006 Update



CITY OF
Lethbridge
LEISURE SERVICES

Sports Field Designation and Usage

Sports fields have been separated into the following categories:

Game-Only Fields

- Leagues request good quality fields for game play so these are booked for games only – no practice bookings
- Limiting the amount of activity to well worn areas, such as goal mouths, this will reduce wear and allow growth. Practices tend to utilize the same turf areas repetitively causing damage
- Restriction of preseason play on designated game fields will allow spring growth to repair and strengthen turf as turf is most fragile during wet periods in early spring and immediately after rainfalls
- Following a rain out policy will support good turf for the entire season

Practice Fields

- Practice fields are booked for guaranteed access and charges apply
- Rain out policy still applies
- Practice fields may not be regulation size but still allow for personal and team skill development
- Practice fields are lower quality than game fields - allows the ability to provide better quality game fields
- Future practice sites may be designed to better facilitate skill development opportunities e.g. an area with 3 goals for goal scoring drills instead of the traditional field design.

Game & Practice Fields

- Certain fields have been designated for both games and practices – games have priority
- Fields are booked and charges apply
- Rain out policy is in effect

2006 Game-Only Fields:

- Atso Towaawa Park
- Civic Athletic Field
- ENMAX Field
- Dave Elton Soccer Field (2006 closure pending)

2006 Practice Fields:

- Assumption School (E & W fields)
- Children of St. Martha (E & W fields)
- Fleetwood-Bawden School (SE & NW fields)
- Galbraith School (E & W fields)
- LCI/Hamilton Schools (N & S fields)
- Lakeview School (E field)
- Nicholas Sheran

2006 Game & Practice Fields:

- Ecole La Verendrye
- Gilbert Paterson School (NE & SE fields)
- Lakeview School (mini field)
- Palliser Park (N & S fields)
- Wilson School (C, E & W fields)
- Winston Churchill School - Fields 1 & 2
- Winston Development - Fields 3 & 4
- Redwood Park

Pre-season Fields (April 10 - 30, 2006)

To allow for proper growth on our quality fields, and to prevent compaction of our better fields, certain fields have been designated as preseason locations to accommodate for those who want to get a head start on practicing before the turf is ready. Lethbridge usually has nice spring weather with minimal snow cover and a balance between turf needs and coaches needs must be maintained.

No permits are required for preseason fields – first come, first served for this time period only.

- Fleetwood-Bawden School
- St. Patrick School
- Park Meadows School
- Assumption School
- Lakeview
- Nicholas Sheran

No-Charge Practice Fields

- No bookings needed, no charge
- Available on a first come, first serve shared basis
- St. Patrick School
- Westminster School
- Galbraith NW

Fields Closed for the Season

- To allow for restoration
- **No bookings** allowed
- Mike Mountain Horse
- Father Leonard Van Tighem

Lethbridge Outdoor Soccer & Rugby Complex

28th Street & 30th Avenue North Lethbridge

Opens May 1st, 2006

Site Management The site is managed as two complexes under a *Good Neighbour Policy* to share, promote and program it as an asset for the community.

The soccer complex is managed by the new Lethbridge Outdoor Soccer Complex Management Board (appointed by City Council, Bylaw 5322) and the rugby complex is managed by the Lethbridge Rugby Club

During this transition year, Leisure Services will be approving bookings and coordinating program access.

Facility Bookings, Tournaments and League Play

Block bookings of 3 hour duration are being approved. For application forms, rental fees and more information see website details below.

Two leagues and four tournaments have elected to transfer to the new site in follow-up to the longstanding desire for a complex in Lethbridge.

Booking Information, Site Management Policies, Sponsorship Opportunities & the Newsletter

Get the details at www.lethbridge.ca click **What's New** and follow the link to Leisure Services then Lethbridge Outdoor Soccer & Rugby Complex or contact Sheila Buelow, 320-3014 or email sbuelow@lethbridge.ca

To receive a copy of the newsletter directly please forward your email address to sbuelow@lethbridge.ca