

Playing Fields Task Force
Online Remote Meeting Agenda
7:45 am – 9 am – Friday, June 16th, 2023
The meeting will be live on local cable TV Comcast 8/Verizon 40
<https://www.wellesleymedia.org/live-streaming.html>

1. Call to order
2. Citizen Speak
3. Minutes
4. Field Applications
 - a. St. John/St. Paul Collaborative: Outdoor Mass
5. Project updates
 - a. Lacrosse Wall
 - b. Field Utilization Study
 - c. WHS Track and Field
 - d. Sprague Bathrooms
6. General Fields discussion
7. Adjourn

Next meeting: Meetings are generally the 2nd Friday of the month at 7:45 am. Meetings are sometimes rescheduled to coordinate with other Board schedules.

REMOTE MEETING PROTOCOL Residents can view the meeting from the Wellesley Media link above. Residents seeking to participate in Citizen Speak or on a particular agenda item should email recreation@wellesleyma.gov prior to the meeting and they will be given the Zoom link.

PLAYING FIELDS TASK FORCE

MINUTES

May 12th, 2023

7:45 am online zoom meeting

Attending:

Voting Members:

Bea Bezmalinovic – Natural Resources Commission (NRC); Laurance Stuntz – Recreation Commission (RC) (Chair), Linda Chow – School Committee (SC) (arrived about 7:50), Beth Sullivan Woods – Select Board (SB), Jeff Wechsler – Board of Public Works (BPW); Jerry Nigro – Boys Lacrosse (BL), Kelly Uller – Girls Lacrosse (GL) (arrived about 8:00); Michael Bessette – Field Hockey (FH); Ansley Martin – Wellesley United Soccer (S); Rick Kinney – Wellesley Youth Baseball and Softball (LL); Maura Renzella – Wellesley Youth Football (F); Luke DelVecchio – Adult Softball (AS); Tripp Sheehan – Member at Large (TS)

Board/Commission staff and other guests:

Wendy Paul – Advisory; Tim Bania – BPW; Dave Cohen - BPW; Matt Chin – Rec; Angela Snyder – FH; John Maccini, Resident; Joe Roberts, Resident, Terriers, Community Investors; Lisa Collins, NRC

1. Call to order by Laurance Stuntz at 7:46 am

2. Citizen Speak:

None

3. Minutes:

No comments.

Motion: By Bea Bezmalinovic: To approve the Minutes from the April 14th, 2023 meeting as presented

Seconded: by Maura Renzella

Voted in Favor: Bea Bezmalinovic – NRC; Laurance Stuntz – RC; Beth Sullivan Woods – SB; Jeff Wechsler – BPW; Jerry Nigro – BL; Michael Bessette – FH; Ansley Martin - S; Rick Kinney – LL; Maura Renzella – F; Luke DelVecchio – AS;

Abstained: Tripp Sheehan - MaL

4. Field Applications:

- a. Jewish Arts Collaborative, practice art installation at Schofield on 5/27, only about 45-60 minutes use. Non-profit, no charge.
- b. WHS Girls Soccer, summer soccer games, at WHS track and field, Tuesday and Thursday evenings 5-8 pm, June 27-July 27. Organized use of the HS Track, \$15/participant for the series.
- c. WHS Girls Soccer, pre-season captains' practice. Sprague 2, August 7, 8, 9, 5-7:30pm. No charge.
- d. ProPath Soccer. Soccer skills clinic at Perrin Park. 5-8 pm Mondays and Wednesdays, 7/10 to 8/2 (8 dates). Charged as Non-Resident field rental of a grass field.

Motion: By Jerry Nigro: To approve the permits.

Seconded: by Kelly Uller

Voted in Favor: Bea Bezmalinovic – NRC; Laurance Stuntz – RC; Linda Chow –SC; Beth Sullivan Woods – SB; Jeff Wechsler – BPW; Jerry Nigro –BL; Kelly Uller –GL; Michael Bessette –FH; Ansley Martin - S; Rick Kinney – LL; Maura Renzella – F; Luke DelVecchio – AS; Tripp Sheehan – MaL

5. Sound Discussion

- a. Lisa Collins from the NRC introduced the subject. The NRC, in collaboration with the School Committee, is interested in developing a policy governing the use of amplified sound on the playing fields. Long term, after developing this policy, there is a thought that the PFTF would help to manage the total requests from the groups represented in the PFTF such that users are not negatively impacted by a “first come first served” approach. Lisa asked the user groups to weigh in on 2 things: 1) What has the experience of the members of this group in been in terms of what is happening in other towns at similar sports events. (i.e. Are you hearing amplified sound at games in other towns?) and 2) Among this group, what do you expect the total demand (use and type) to be for amplified sound?
- b. A robust discussion ensued, with Rick Kinney introducing for context the Girls Softball request for a pilot program for amplified sound, not to exceed 55-60db at Warren Field during night games. Joe Roberts also introduced the Terriers request for amplified music at Kelly and Upham as part of their early baseball/softball program.
- c. Various groups weighed in on their expected use of sound and experience from other towns. Often, particularly as kids get into middle school and high school, they play music briefly as part of their warmups. In general, for sports without stoppages (e.g., soccer, lacrosse, field hockey) don’t have music or amplified sound during the games. For sports with more stoppages (baseball, softball, football) those user groups often would like to use amplified sound for announcements and some music.
- d. Over the discussion, a consensus emerged that any policy should include several aspects:
 - i. Monitoring, measurement, and accountability should be built into any pilot program
 - ii. Sound requests should be submitted ahead of a season so that the total sound amount can be anticipated
 - iii. Create a data base of requests over the entire year
- e. Lisa Collins thanked the group for their input and said that she would be bringing this input back to the NRC.

6. Project Updates

- a. Sprague Bathrooms
 - i. Dave Cohen reported that they are moving forward with the permitting process to get the bathrooms built and in place.
- b. High School Track and Field
 - i. Dave Cohen provided a brief update that a lot of work is going on, with the next major step being a peer review from a consultant that the Wetlands Protection Committee selected to review the Epsilon study completed by the School Committee as part of their project proposal.
- c. Lacrosse Wall
 - i. Tim Bania reported on progress. Virtually done, and the wall is in use by teams. Thanks to everyone, teams, funders, community, for coming together to get this recreational resource available for our kids.
- d. Field Utilization Study
 - i. Bea reported that Weston & Sampson will be putting together a presentation at NRC on May 18th and the next step is for a working group to put together capital requests.

- ii. Bea asked for actuals to be provided for RecTrac so that we have the data to make the case that a capital request is substantiated.

7. General Fields discussion

- a. There is a parking issue at Sprague on Saturdays with people parking on the grass and in illegal spots that would block emergency vehicle access. User groups were asked to remind their teams and visitors of the available parking in the Sprague lot and in the Middle School lot on Donizetti.

8. Adjourn:

Motion: To adjourn by Rick Kinney

Seconded: by Maura Renzella

Voted in Favor: All still present (several members had to drop off early).



WARREN BUILDING
90 WASHINGTON STREET
WELLESLEY, MASSACHUSETTS 02481

DIRECTOR
MATTHEW G. CHIN

TELEPHONE: 781-235-2370
FAX: 781-237-3558

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
BRANDON G. FITTS

FIELD PERMIT APPLICATION

Name: Dave Rosenblatt Organization: Beantown Bombers Baseball

Mailing Address: 36 Cottage St, Natick, MA 01760

Email: beantownbombersbaseball@gmail.com Daytime Phone # 781-400-4334

Field Requested: Kelly 1 & 3 - or any two fields at Kelly & WHS JV Diamond (near tennis courts)

For what activity/sport: Baseball Tryouts

DATE (S) – List all

Saturday, July 8: 8-10am @ Kelly Sunday, July 9: 8-10am @ Kelly

Saturday, July 22: 8-10am @ Kelly Saturday, July 29: 8-10am @ WHS JV

Day (s): _____ Time: Start 8am Finish 10am

Rain Date (if needed): Will wait and see if needed and then reapply

Approximate # of people: 20 # of Wellesley Residents: 15

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- Requests to use school fields will be presented to the Playing Fields Task Force and the School Athletic Director for approval. *
- * These committees may only meet once a month. Do not expect a quick turnaround for permit approval.
- Requests for fields made by vendors operating summer camps will not be approved until that vendor has satisfied state and local Board of Health requirements.
- SEE PAGE TWO FOR FEES AND POLICIES

FOR THE WELLESLEY GREEN INITIATIVE – SEE SECOND PAGE

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General Policies:

- No Alcohol, No illegal drugs
- Public property may not be used to conduct a private business, unless certain requirements are met. The Recreation Director can aid you with this process. See "Public Facility Use for Private Gain Policy" at www.wellesleyma.gov click Department, click Recreation, click Recreation Commission & General Policies.
- Users are responsible for any damage.
- Users are responsible for checking the Town website for field conditions/closures. Fields will be posted when closed during the spring, summer and fall seasons. Assume that fields are closed during the winter.
- If selling food, you must receive authorization from the Board of Health.
- In general, Wellesley fields do not have sanitary facilities.
- No play before 8 am on Sunday. Multipurpose lights may remain on until 9:30 pm.

WELLESLEY GREEN INITIATIVE: The Playing Fields Task Force is partnering with Wellesley Green Schools on an important initiative to reduce waste on town fields. We require you to tell coaches, teams, family & friends, to help in the following ways: 1) Please ask players & visiting teams to **BRING REUSABLE WATER BOTTLES TO ALL GAMES & PRACTICES**; 2) Please consider **eliminating the extra drinks & snacks that are often brought to practices & games** (studies show that this has a positive health benefit as well); 3) Consider **naming a team captain to oversee garbage collection & recycling** or encourage players to clean up after themselves; and 4) Please remind players and visiting teams that the Town of Wellesley is committed to sustainable principles and has installed **working water fountains & recycling bins at almost all town fields**.

Priority of use:

1. Park Maintenance
2. Town Wide Special Events
3. School use – Sports, Special Events, Coaches Clinics
4. Wellesley Youth Sports
5. Wellesley Recreation Department Programs
6. Wellesley Adult Organized Groups
7. Wellesley Residents: one-time use
8. Charitable Organizations
9. Non-Resident Groups/Non Recreation Department Camps & Clinics

FEES:

- Town Wide Special Events / School Use / Recreation Department / Charitable Groups: NO FEE
- Coaches Clinics: \$15 per participant
- Resident Youth Sports: \$30 per participant/per sport/per session
- Resident Use – Softball: Multipurpose Field - \$25 per person/per season – no lights
- Resident Use – Softball: Multipurpose Field - \$40 per person/per season – **with lights**
- Resident Use – All other grass fields or one time use of Multipurpose Field - \$50 per game – no lights
- Resident Use – All other grass fields or one time use of Multipurpose Field - \$75 per game – **with lights**
- Resident use – TURF Field - \$75 per game
- Non-Resident use – Grass Field = \$100 - Turf Field = \$275
- Non-Recreation Department Camps/Clinics: Grass Field = \$35 per participant
- Non-Recreation Department Camps/Clinics: Turf Field = \$50 per participant
- Field use fees are determined in units of 1.5 hours if they are not permitted per person.

FOR QUESTIONS - CALL MATT CHIN AT: (781) 235-2370 OR EMAIL TO: MCHIN@WELLESLEYMA.GOV



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DIRECTOR
MATTHEW G. CHIN

TELEPHONE: 781-235-2370
FAX: 781- 237 -3558

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Chad Norton

FIELD PERMIT APPLICATION

Name: Caleigh Renzella Organization: WHS Girls Soccer

Mailing Address: 16 Bradley Ave Wellesley, MA 02482

Email: cmrenzella@gmail.com Daytime Phone # 781-234-8576

Field Requested: Sprague 2- turf

For what activity/sport: WHS Girls Soccer Captain's Practice

DATE (S) – List all

June 21, June 28, July 5, July 12, July 19, July 26, August 2, August 9, August 16, and August 23, 2023

Day (s): Wednesdays Time: Start 5:30 pm Finish 7:00 pm

Rain Date (if needed): N/A

Approximate # of people: 50 # of Wellesley Residents: 100%

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Summer 2023 Fields -Wellesley Youth Baseball & Softball
June 20 - August 9

Fields	Saturdays	Fields	Sundays	Fields
Reidy	All Day	Reidy	All Day	Reidy
Kelly I	All Day	Kelly I	All Day	Kelly I
Kelly II		Kelly II		Kelly II
Kelly III		Kelly III		Kelly III
Kelly IV		Kelly IV		Kelly IV
Ouellet	All Day	Ouellet	All Day	Ouellet
Brown	All Day	Brown	All Day	Brown
Upham II	All Day	Upham II	All Day	Upham II
Lee	8am - Dark	Lee	8am - Dark	Lee
Schofield	8am - Dark	Schofield	8am - Dark	Schofield
Warren/Multi	8am - Dark	Warren/Multi	8am - Dark	Warren/Multi
Hunnewell JV		Hunnewell JV		Hunnewell JV
Hunnewell Fresh		Hunnewell Fresh		Hunnewell Fresh
Fiske	All Day	Fiske	All Day	Fiske
Hardy I		Hardy I		Hardy I
Hardy II		Hardy II		Hardy II
Sprague 1/SB		Sprague 1/SB		Sprague 1/SB
Phillips	All Day	Phillips	All Day	Phillips
Sprague 5/Diamond		Sprague 5/Diamond		Sprague 5/Diamond

M - F	
3:00 - Dark	
4:00 - Dark	Terriers on fields until 3:30/4pm M-F
4:00 - Dark	
4:00 - Dark	
4:00 - Dark	
4:00 - Dark	
4:00 - Dark	
See right.....	All Thursdays 4 - 9:30 • All Fridays 4 - 9:30 • All Wednesdays from 7:25-9:30
2 nights / 6pm	
4:00 - Dark	
5:00 - Dark	
All Day	
2 nights / 6pm	Will know better what nights we will need.

Chin, Matthew

From: jgruneic@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 2:19 PM
To: Chin, Matthew
Cc: Paul_Cramer; ddalrymple@mayouthsoccer.org; 'Chris Howard'; bli0406@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Wellesley Soccer Fields in Summer for MA District 3 Select Practice?
Attachments: MA_Soccer_U12_July_Practices_Request_2023.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[**EXTERNAL EMAIL** : This message originated outside of the TOWN OF WELLESLEY mail system. **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hi Matt,

Good to talk briefly today. Attached is the form. Here's some info for the review process, happy to present to the town in person or answer any questions:

- **Who's requesting:** Jeff Gruneich is a Wellesley resident for 15 years, volunteer coach for about 10 years for Wellesley United Soccer Club, and volunteer coach for MA Youth Soccer Association for a second year. Over the years Jeff has helped develop several of the town's athletes in the class of 2027 and class of 2030. Ben his 5th grade son is graduating from Bates this year and has played since kindergarten for Wellesley United Soccer Club, and last summer for MA Soccer District 3 Summer Select team. Also plays basketball. Coaching for MA soccer last summer helped Jeff understand how to more effectively coach 9v9. We won our Bay Area Youth Soccer section this fall and spring this year, and are on track to win or reach the finals for the Bay Area Youth Soccer President's cup for Division 4 next week. Jeff also plays pickup soccer in town since 2018. Bo Li who will be an assistant coach from time to time is a resident of Sherborn, coaches in Sherborn, and also possesses CORI registration and concussion training. Bo's son Kevin is on an Olympic development soccer team.
- **Will anyone be paid to coach?** No, it's 100% volunteer work for MA Youth Soccer.
- **Does MA Youth Soccer charge?** MA Youth Soccer is a nonprofit organization that charges \$200 per player and also provides need based scholarships. The fees are mainly to help administer the nonprofit and pay referees. David Dalrymple (cc'ed) from MA Youth Soccer has mentioned the association has a very limited budget of around \$100 per team available for field rentals.
- **How many Wellesley Residents will be involved?** We anticipate Jeff and Ben (2) residents, and perhaps one or two more from our Wellesley United Soccer team. The remaining 14 or so kids on the roster will be from district 3.
- **About Massachusetts Youth Soccer.** From their website at <https://www.mayouthsoccer.org/about/missionstatement/> Massachusetts Youth Soccer, a nonprofit educational and service organization, is dedicated to the equitable and ongoing development of youth soccer players, coaches, referees, clubs and leagues in an inclusive, unbiased, safe, affordable and fun environment for all. We Believe in:
 - Leadership driven by fair play and sportsmanship;
 - Affordable and inclusive player development;
 - Commitment to education of coaches, referees and clubs;
 - Promoting a fun, safe and healthy soccer environment.
- **Dates & Time:** Ideally Tuesday and Thursday 5:30-7:00 starting July 6 ending Aug3, but we could be flexible on days to not interfere with other activities on the fields. Ideally we practice twice per week on weekday evenings. Games are at Progin Park in Lancaster on Saturdays.

- **Locations.** Ideally we play on a field equipped with 9v9 field and goals: Bates, Schofield (grass) or Sprague (Turf or grass) all have 9v9 fields. Hunnewell field (soccer or lacrosse) could also work. Jeff could coordinate with Wellesley United Soccer Club about using 9v9 goals and replacing them after practice is complete.
- **Why is this good for Wellesley?** MA district Select is a statewide summer program. Athletes tend to be competitive to very good. There is a tryout process. Wellesley has some of the leading soccer teams in the grade 3-9 age range, so there is some prestige for hosting it here in town. Also, the town is relatively centrally located in MA district 3. I also have a request out to Natick Soccer Club for Elm Bank.
- **How much wear and tear on the fields?** There will be minimal impact on the fields. Practice will be for about 3 hours per week in the summer when fields are frequently otherwise not being used.
- **Budget Requested.** MA Youth soccer has a budget of about \$100 per team for fields. Jeff could provide an additional \$100 or so to the town to help cover these 11 or so practice sessions.
- **Other information?** Jeff has a valid CORI form, safesport and first aid training, US Soccer Grassroots Coaching License, and MA Youth Soccer can provide more information about MA Youth Soccer Association as well as liability waivers from team members if needed.

Thanks,
Jeff

617-775-2173 mobile

From: Chin, Matthew <mchin@wellesleyma.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 5, 2023 10:09 AM
To: jgruneic@yahoo.com
Cc: Paul_Cramer <pacramer1960@icloud.com>; ddalrymple@mayouthsoccer.org; 'Chris Howard' <wuscdoc@wellesleysoccer.org>
Subject: RE: Wellesley Soccer Fields in Summer for MA District 3 Select Practice?

Morning Jeff,

Thanks for the email...

Please fill out the field application with specifics for dates/times, etc and I'll look into availability. As for cost, that decision and application approval is done by the Playing Fields Task Force. PFTF next meeting is June 16, 2023 at 745 am. When your application is discussed, maybe you could attend to present your case for reduced fees?

Any questions, please let me know...Field application link is below.

Matt

www.wellesleyma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/34190/FIELD-PERMIT-APPLICATION

Matthew G. Chin, CPRP
 Recreation Director
 Town of Wellesley, MA.
 90 Washington St., Wellesley, MA. 02481
 Office: (781) 235-2370 / Fax: (781) 237-3558
www.wellesleyma.gov/recreation

TOWN OF WELLESLEY



RECREATION DEPARTMENT

WARREN BUILDING
90 WASHINGTON STREET
WELLESLEY, MASSACHUSETTS 02481

DIRECTOR
MATTHEW G. CHIN

TELEPHONE: 781-235-2370
FAX: 781-237-3558

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Chad Norton

FIELD PERMIT APPLICATION

Name: Jeff Gruneich Organization: MA Soccer
Mailing Address: 63 Suffolk Rd, Wellesley MA, 02481
Email: jgruneich@yahoo.com Daytime Phone # 781-235-1457
Field Requested: Hunnewell Park, Bates, Sprague, Schoolfield 9V9 soccer
For what activity/sport: MA Soccer U12 Boys Practice

DATE (S) – List all

TUES & THURS 5:30 - 7:00PM July 6 - Aug 3
July 11, 18, 21 6, 13, 20, 27
Aug 1 3

Day (s): Tues & Thurs Time: Start 5:30 Finish 7:00

Rain Date (if needed): _____

Approximate # of people: 16 # of Wellesley Residents: 2

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DIRECTOR
MATTHEW G. CHIN

TELEPHONE: 781-235-2370
FAX: 781-237-3558

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
BRANDON G. FITTS

FIELD PERMIT APPLICATION

Name: Maura Renzella Organization: Wellesley Youth Football

Mailing Address: PO Box 812839 Wellesley Ma, 02482

Email: wyf.player.reg@gmail.com Daytime Phone # 781-727-1821

Field Requested: HS Stadium

For what activity/sport: WYF Skills Clinic with WHS Varsity Football

DATE (S) – List all

August 7 - August 11, 2023

July 31 - August 3, 2023 * addition to original request

Day (s): Monday - Friday Time: Start 5:00 pm Finish 7:30 pm

Rain Date (if needed): N/A

Approximate # of people: 100 # of Wellesley Residents: 90

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- If selling food, you must receive authorization from the Board of Health.
- In general, Wellesley fields do not have sanitary facilities.
- **WELLESLEY GREEN INITIATIVE:** The Playing Fields Task Force is partnering with Wellesley Green Schools on an important initiative to reduce waste on town fields. We require you to tell coaches, teams, family & friends, to help in the following ways: 1) Please ask players & visiting teams to BRING REUSABLE WATER BOTTLES TO ALL GAMES & PRACTICES; 2) Please consider eliminating the extra drinks & snacks that are often brought to practices & games (studies show that this has a positive health benefit as well); 3) Consider naming a team captain to oversee garbage collection & recycling or encourage players to clean up after themselves; and 4) Please remind players and visiting teams that the Town of Wellesley is committed to sustainable principles and has installed working water fountains & recycling bins at almost all Town fields.

Priority of Use:

- 1) Town-Wide Special Events
- 2) School Use/School Coaches' Clinics
- 3) Wellesley Resident Youth Leagues
- 4) Wellesley Recreation Department Programs
- 5) Wellesley Resident Adult Groups
- 6) Wellesley Resident – One-Time Use
- 7) Charitable Groups
- 8) Non-Resident Groups / Non-Recreation Department Camps and Clinics

Fees, as approved in the Playing Fields Policy:

- 1) Town-wide Special Events: No fee,
- 2) School Use: No fee,
- 3) School Coach(es) Clinics: \$15 per participant,
- 4) Wellesley Resident Youth Leagues: \$30 per participant per season (\$15 to Turf Field Fund),
- 5) Wellesley Resident Youth League Clinics: \$15 per participant,
- 6) Wellesley Recreation Department Programs: No fee,
- 7) Organized Use of the High School Track: \$15 per participant per season; if not a seasonal rental: \$150,
- 8) Multi-Purpose Field (at Hunnewell) for Adult Softball: \$40 per participant per season (\$25 to Recreation lighting account)
- 9) Wellesley Resident – One-Time Use: \$50 for a grass field, including the Multi-Purpose Field (at Hunnewell), but \$75 if using lights (incremental \$25 to Recreation lighting account); \$75 for a turf field,
- 10) Charitable Groups: No fee,
- 11) Non-Resident (Adults and Youth): Grass field and Sprague turf field: \$150; High School turf field: \$375 (fee is for field use only; utilization of scoreboard and sound system is not allowed), and
- 12) Non-Recreation Department Camps: \$35 per participant on a grass field; \$50 per participant on a turf field. (Camps catering to participants over the age of twelve years shall, whenever available, be assigned to turf fields).
- 13) All track and field rentals that are not charged per participant are figured in increments of 1.5 hours. Fees collected shall be deposited into the DPW Field Use Fund, unless otherwise noted or a rental of a turf field; revenue from turf field rentals shall be deposited into the Turf Field Fund.

General Field Use Rules

Hours of Operation:

Fields may be used until dusk with the exception of the lighted Multi-Purpose Field (at Hunnewell). Lights may remain on until 9:30 pm, except for Reidy Field, where lights may remain on until 9:45 pm. No play before 8:00 am on Sunday at any field that abuts homeowners.

Prohibited Activities:

Any prohibited activities posted on signage at the High School track or any fields, consumption/possession of drugs or alcoholic beverages; use of fields beyond permitted dates or times; use of grass fields during wet field conditions or before they are declared available for use; and any activity that may cause field damage. Users must show good judgment when using fields and must stop play if the field shows damage during activity. Any group who causes damage to any field will be responsible for repair costs.

Field Closures:

<http://www.wellesleyma.gov/1049/Playing-Fields-OpenClosed-Status> or call (781) 235-2370 for the latest field closures. If a field is closed, no use is permitted at all. The field status webpage and the hotline are for informational purposes only; field signage and/or direct communication from the Wellesley DPW Park and Tree Division (DPW) take precedence. Whenever possible, DPW will email user groups and post signs when fields are closed.

Please note that grass fields can be closed even when the weather appears good at the time because of standing water, previous damage or other field condition issues. The DPW, in consultation with the PFTF, will recommend when fields should be closed in order to rest them to prevent significant damage from overuse or for maintenance reasons.

Weather:

Since lightning can strike up to 10 miles from a storm, users should seek safe shelter as soon as they hear thunder or see lightning. They should wait for 30 minutes without hearing thunder or seeing lightning before returning to the field.

Maintenance of Baseball/Softball Infields:

Baseball/softball players and coaches are expected to groom the infields after each game and practice. Equipment for grooming is supplied and coaches are responsible for knowing the storage box combinations.

Litter, Trash and Recycling:

All users are responsible for picking up any trash or litter on the field at the completion of their practice or game session regardless of whether this trash was there when they first got on the field or not. Pick up trash when you leave the field, even if it is not yours. Consider naming team captains at each practice or game to oversee litter collection and recycling.

Users are expected to use trash and recycling receptacles located on or near the fields or to take their waste home for disposal. If the group expects to generate excess trash, they must provide a means for removing trash themselves. Bring a trash bag with you to games and practices. Please pick up and recycle all plastic bottles. Inform coaches, players, players' families, and attendees at games and practices that there are water fountains at the majority of the active playing fields and that participants are strongly encouraged to utilize reusable and refillable water bottles for all practices and games.

The last group to use a field for the day is responsible for leaving a clean, litter free field. If you consistently find trash when you arrive at the field please contact the Recreation Director at (781) 235-2370, who will attempt to identify the users who might be leaving the field in such condition.

Users are urged to support the preservation and sustainability of Wellesley's playing fields through responsible use of the fields and respect for those who neighbor the fields. It is the responsibility of all coaches, managers, referees and parents to lead by example by educating our children on the proper use of field space and emphasizing the importance of caring for our community assets and maintaining a clean environment.

Concerns related to the maintenance/condition of the High School track or any field should be addressed to the Assistant Superintendent/Deputy Tree Warden of the Park Division at dpw@wellesleyma.gov.



