

Sport Field Strategy



APPENDIX H: GUIDANCE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDED NEW ALLOCATIONS APPROACH

APPENDIX I: AMENITY BEST PRACTICES AND GUIDELINES

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



We acknowledge that the sport fields and other facilities we discuss in this project are built on the unceded territories and homelands of the xʷməθkʷəy'əm (Musqueam), Skwkwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations. We thank them for continuing to care for these lands and waters since time immemorial. The Park Board recognizes its own legacy of colonialism, including the forced removal of Indigenous peoples from their lands to create parks and athletic facilities. This work aims to contribute to athletic facilities that better reflect and support local First Nations cultures and provide more equitable opportunities for Indigenous athletes and field users.

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APPENDIX H: GUIDANCE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDED NEW ALLOCATIONS APPROACH



Youth soccer practice

A NEW APPROACH FOR ALLOCATING SPORT FIELDS

The Park Board has started developing an Outdoor Facility Allocation and Management Policy (OFAMP) that will guide how all outdoor infrastructure is allocated to users and uses, including a new sport field allocation framework. The following should be considered in the development of the broader outdoor facilities policy as it relates to updated permitting for sport fields.

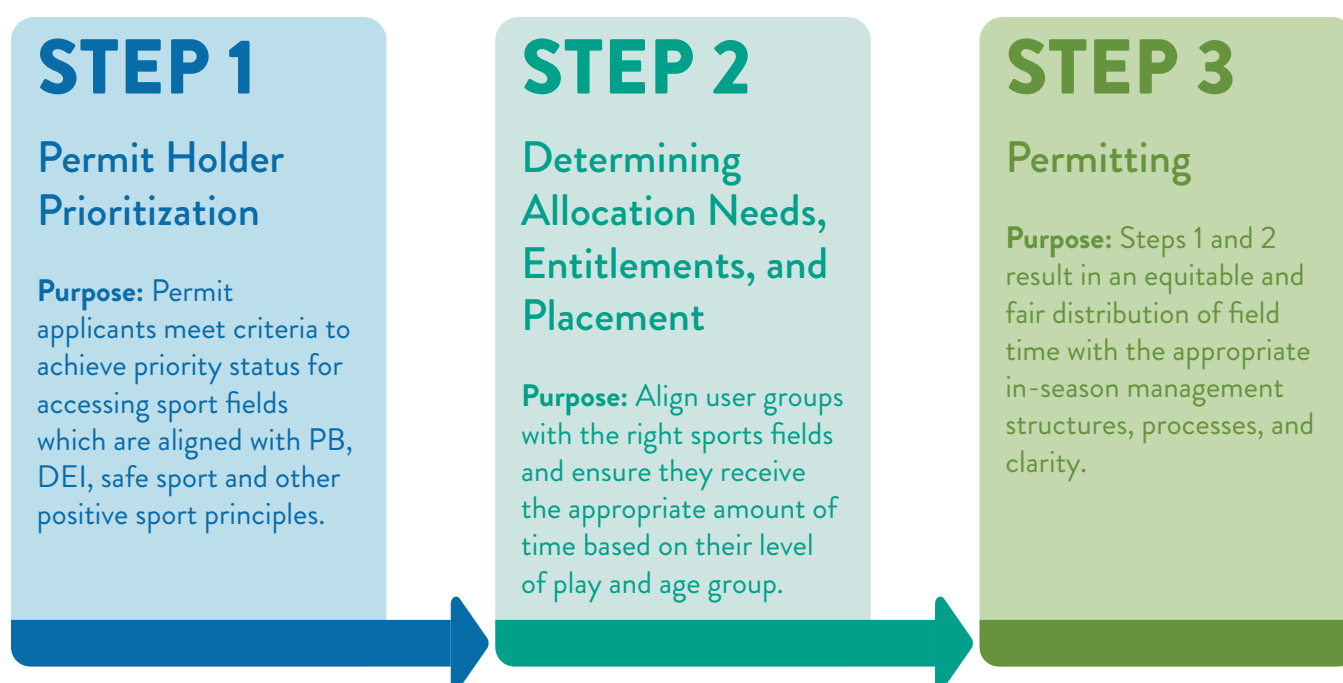
ALLOCATION VALUES

- The allocation process should focus on aligning the right groups with the right fields at the right times.
- Allocation should be based on demonstrated need for field time and recognizes that historically based processes perpetuate inequalities.
- The allocation of sport fields should aim to make the most effective and efficient use of the available inventory.
- Sport field opportunities should be available to all residents of Vancouver regardless of race, ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity.
- The allocation process should actively consider how to better serve historically underserved populations such as equity-denied groups, urban indigenous residents and Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

ALLOCATION PROCESS

Figure H1 outlines the proposed new sport field allocation approach to be included in the OFAMP. Implementing this approach will advance the allocation values and provide increased clarity and structure for permitting.

FIGURE H1: NEW ALLOCATION APPROACH



STEP 1 (PERMIT HOLDER PRIORITIZATION) will require the Park Board to confer an affiliated (or similar term) status to permit applicants who meet a set of key criteria. Criteria to include governance and operating requirements (e.g. non-profit status, in good standing), demonstrated equity and inclusion practices (e.g. public declarations, gender representation in coaching/board, subsidy programs), positive sport experience commitments (e.g. safe sport, True Sport), etc. Some flexibility will be needed for new and emerging groups that may not immediately be able to demonstrate the same level of organization as established groups. Once groups sufficiently meet the Step 1 requirements they will be able to proceed to Steps 2 and 3. Groups that do not meet the Step 1 requirements may still have access to field time but at non-affiliated rates and will have a lower level of allocation priority.

STEP 2 (DETERMINING ALLOCATION NEED) has two sub-steps:

- **Establishing standards of play** for each sport that clearly outline how much field time user groups are entitled to. Development of the standards of play will require the Park Board to work with user groups using the Sport for Life Long Term Development (LTD) model as a basis, recognizing that LTD guidelines for some sports are more prescriptive than others. *See Appendix H, Tables H2 - H10 for an overview of current National Sport Organization LTD guidelines.*
- **Determining numbers of hours each ‘affiliated’ group is entitled to** by applying the group’s registration numbers against the sport’s standard of play.

STEP 3 (PERMITTING) is the process of aligning the field time entitlement as per the standards of play to the inventory using guidance provided by the new Sport Field Classification System. In some situations, this will be relatively easy with no or minimal conflicts. Where competing field demands exist, staff will need to refer to clear guidelines on the types of groups and activities that should receive priority. The OFAMP must articulate a hierarchy of priority considerations, which include but are not limited to the following factors:

- Age of participants
- Residency of participants
- Type of activity (e.g. program, tournament / competition, special event, etc.)
- Status within the Step 1 pre-qualification process (e.g. different tiers could be established)

REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT

The new allocation approach is based around the general premise that the right users need to be aligned with the right fields at the right times. To ensure compliance with the permit, Park Board field use should be regularly monitored to ensure that:

- Groups are using only the time they are allocated.
- Rogue use of fields is identified and managed.
- Data collection from user groups and other tactics such as periodic spot checks, dialogue, access controls (e.g. fencing) and other forms of monitoring will help advance these efforts.



Soccer balls in a mesh bag

REQUIRED RESOURCES AND USER GROUP DIALOGUE

Implementing the recommended new allocations approach will have significant long-term benefits, but also requires resources to support both the transition and ongoing process management.

The complexity involved in transitioning from a historical method of allocation, booking and permitting process to a needs-based process will require adequate permit office resourcing, including additional staff. Currently the Outdoor Sport Facility (OSF) permit office works under a 3 to 6 week backlog of permit processing and is not well positioned to manage the anticipated new workload with the current number of staff. As reflected in Table H1, dialogue and collaboration with user groups will be critical to establishing and implementing the new allocation approach. Permit office resource expansion is a necessary consideration for effectively managing this major change management process.



Field in Vancouver

RESOURCING REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT THE NEW ALLOCATIONS APPROACH

Successfully implementing the new allocations approach will be a significant undertaking and will require changes to some existing practices, incremental resources, and successful dialogue with user groups. The following table provides an overview of anticipated resource requirements.

TABLE H1. ALLOCATION RESOURCES REQUIRED

Function	Transitional (Required to support implementation)	Ongoing (Required on a move forward basis to successfully manage the new process)
Establishing the Step 1 pre-requisites / affiliate program.	✓	
Management of the Step 1 pre-requisite / affiliate program.		✓
User group relationship management to communicate the rationale for the new allocations approach	✓	✓
Work with user groups to establish and revisit (as required) the standards of play.	✓	✓
Work with user groups to collect the required participant data.	✓	✓
Creating and testing the new permitting process.	✓	
Annual permitting using the new approach.		✓

ALIGNMENT LONG TERM DEVELOPMENT

Sport for Life's Long Term Development (LTD) model provides a best practice that supports physical literacy, athlete development, and lifelong participation. National Sport Organizations are required to develop and maintain an LTD plan specific to their sport which identifies key age group and level appropriate characteristics. The following tables summarize LTD plans for a number of field sports. Please refer to the websites referenced for the most up to date information. Field sports not included in this appendix may not have had an LTD plan available on the Sport for Life's quality sport programs page of their website at time the Strategy was published..

TABLE H2. BASEBALL

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNDamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Learn to Compete	Train to Compete	Learn to Win	Train to Win	Active for Life
Chronological Age	Male: 0-6 Female: 0-6	Male: 6-9 Female:6-8	Male: 9-12 Female: 9-11	Male: 12-15 Female: 11-16	Male: 15- 18 Female: 16-18	Male: U23	U18	Males: 21+	All Ages
Season Length	8 weeks (summer months)	8 weeks (summer months)	8 weeks (summer months) to 12 weeks (with spring)	15 - 20 weeks	Year Round play but local competitions 12 weeks	Year round - Competitions in spring summer	year round	year round	Not specified
Match / Game Duration	No formal play	60 minutes	90 - 120 minutes	120 minutes	180 minutes>	180 minutes>	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNDamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Learn to Compete	Train to Compete	Learn to Win	Train to Win	Active for Life
Match format	No formal play	6 v 6 (rally cap format: 3 team rotation (1 practicing while 2 play))	6 v 6 to 9 v 9	9 v 9	9 v 9 (7 innings)	9 v 9 (9 innings)	9 v 9 (9 innings)	Regular format	Not specified
Number of Match / Game Days per Week	No formal play	1	1	1	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
Practice Duration	60 minutes	60 min	60 - 90 minutes	90- 120 minutes	60 - 180 minutes	60 - 180 minutes	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
Number of Practices per Week	1	1	3	5 - 9 sessions	9 - 12 sessions	9 - 12 sessions	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
Practice to Match Ratio	No formal play	80:20	70:30	60:30	40:60	30:70	20:80	20:80	10: 90

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNDamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Learn to Compete	Train to Compete	Learn to Win	Train to Win	Active for Life
Guidance on Appropriate Playing Surface Size / Dimensions	tbball (not provided)	Pitch: 40ft-48ft Bases: 50ft - 60ft	Pitch: 44 - 48 ft Bases: 60 - 70 ft Foul Lines: 180 - 200 ft Fences: 200 - 240 ft	Pitch: 54-60 ft Bases: 80 - 90 ft Foul Lines: 215 - 285 ft Fences: 260 - 325 ft	Pitch: 60 - 66 ft Bases: 90 ft Foul Lines: 325 ft Fences: ~400 ft	Pitch: 60 - 66 ft Bases: 90 ft Foul Lines: 325 ft Fences: ~400 ft	Pitch: 60 - 66 ft Bases: 90 ft Foul Lines: 325 ft Fences: ~400 ft	Pitch: 60 - 66 ft Bases: 90 ft Foul Lines: 325 ft Fences: ~400 ft	Not specified
Player to Coach Ratio	Not specified	3:1 (minimum 2 coaches/ team)	9:1 (minimum 2 coaches / team)	9:2	17:3	25:4	25:6	25:6	2 Coaches minimum
Source:	https://sportforlife.ca/sport-frameworks/#toggle-id-28								

TABLE H3. CRICKET

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNDamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Train to Compete	Train to Win	Active for Life
Chronological Age	Male: 0-6 Female: 0-6	Male: 6-9 Female: 6-8	Male: 9-12 Female: 8-11	Male: 12-16 Female: 11-15	Male: 16-23+ Female: 15-22+	Male: 23+ Female: 22+	All Ages
Season Length	N/A	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
Match / Game Duration	N/A	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
Match format	No formal play	No formal play	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
Number of Match / Game Days per Week	N/A	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
Practice Duration	N/A	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNDamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Train to Compete	Train to Win	Active for Life
Number of Practices per Week	N/A	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
Practice to Match Ratio	N/A	Not specified	2:1 practice to match	1:1 practice to match	1:1:1 play, practice, rest	Not specified	Not specified
Guidance on Appropriate Playing Surface Size / Dimensions	N/A	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
Recommended Roster Size	N/A	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
Source:	https://www.cricketcanada.org/documentation/long-term-athlete-development-ltad						

TABLE H4. FIELD HOCKEY

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNdamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Train to Compete (Learn to Compete and Train to Compete)	Train to Perform (Learn to Win and Train to Win)	Active for Life
Chronological Age	Male: 4-6 Female: 0-5	Male: 7-10 Female:6-7	Male: 11-12 Female: 8-10	Male: 13-16 Female: 11-14	Male: 16- 23 Female: 15-21+	Male: 19+ Female: 18 +	All Ages
Season Length	12 weeks	12 weeks	12 weeks	24 weeks	24 weeks	24 weeks	Not Specified
Match / Game Duration	N/A	N/A	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes
Match format	Fun Games	Fun Games with variable formats: 3 v 3, 5 v 5, 6 v 6	3 v 3 - 5 v 5	11 v 11	11 v 11	11 v 11	11 v 11
Number of Match / Game Days per Week	1	1	1	1-2 per week	Not specified	Not Specified	Not Specified
Practice Duration	60 - 75 minutes	60 - 75 minutes	90 minutes	90 minutes	Not specified	Not Specified	Not Specified

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNdamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Train to Compete (Learn to Compete and Train to Compete)	Train to Perform (Learn to Win and Train to Win)	Active for Life
Number of Practices per Week	1	1	2	6	9	9	Not Specified
Practice to Match Ratio	N/A	N/A	75:25	60:40	40:60	20:80	Not Specified
Guidance on Appropriate Playing Surface Size / Dimensions	Variable sizes based on game formats	Variable sizes based on game formats	Modified small area	W: 55 m L: 91.40 m	W: 55 m L: 91.40 m	W: 55 m L: 91.40 m	W: 55 m L: 91.40 m
Recommended Roster Size	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	16	Not Specified
Source:	https://sportforlife.ca/sport-frameworks/#toggle-id-19 http://lthd.fieldhockey.ca/en/home						

TABLE H5. FIELD LACROSSE

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNdamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Train to Compete (Learn to Compete and Train to Compete)	Train to Perform (Learn to Win and Train to Win)	Active for Life
Chronological Age	Male: 4-6 Female: 0-5	Male: 7-10 Female:6-7	Male: 11-12 Female: 8-10	Male: 13-16 Female: 11-14	Male: 16- 21 Female: 15-17+	Male: 21+ Female: 18 +	All ages
Season Length	Not Specified	Not Specified	Mens Approx: 14 weeks (Late Aug to November or December) Women: 8 Weeks (may and june) and 8 weeks in fall (september and october) -16 weeks				Not Specified
Match / Game Duration	30 minutes	40 minutes	40 -60 minutes	50 - 110 minutes	50 - 110 minutes	60 - 110 minutes	Not Specified
Match format	3 v 3 no goalie	6 v 6 plus goalie	10 v 10	10 v 10	12 v 12	12 v 12	Not Specified
Number of Match / Game Days per Week	Not Specified	1	1	1	1	1	Not Specified
Practice Duration	30 minutes	55 minutes	90 minutes	90 minutes	90 minutes	90 minutes	90 minutes

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNdamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Train to Compete (Learn to Compete and Train to Compete)	Train to Perform (Learn to Win and Train to Win)	Active for Life
Number of Practices per Week	1	1	2	2	2	Not Specified	Not Specified
Practice to Match Ratio	Not Specified	1:1	2:1	2:1	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified
Guidance on Appropriate Playing Surface Size / Dimensions	1/3 length of regulation field	1/2 length of regulation field	W: 54.86 m L: 100.58 m	W: 54.86 m L: 100.58 m	W: 54.86 m L: 100.58 m	W: 54.86 m L: 100.58 m	W: 54.86 m L: 100.58 m
Recommended Roster Size	9	12	15	15	18	18	22
Source:	https://sportforlife.ca/sport-frameworks/#toggle-id-28 https://www.bclacrosse.com/field_layout.php https://www.lacrosse.ca/content/lacrosse-for-life-ltad-stages						

TABLE H6. FOOTBALL (CFL)

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNDamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Train to Compete	Train to Win	Active for Life
Chronological Age	Male: 0-6 Female: 0-6	Male: 6-9 Female: 6-8	Male: 9-12 Female: 8-11	Male: 12-16 Female: 11-15	Male: 16-23+ Female: 15-22+	Male: 23+ Female: 22+	All Ages
Season Length	Not specified	Not Specified	11 - 12 weeks	13 - 17 weeks	17 weeks	Not Specified	Not Specified
Match / Game Duration	N/A	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified
Match format	No formal matches	Touch/ Flag (6 v 6)	6 v 6 or 9 v 9	9 v 9	12 v 12	12 v 12	12 v 12
Number of Match / Game Days per Week	N/A	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified
Practice Duration	30 minutes	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNDamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Train to Compete	Train to Win	Active for Life
Number of Practices per Week	Not specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified
Practice to Match Ratio	N/A	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified
Guidance on Appropriate Playing Surface Size / Dimensions	Not specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified
Recommended Roster Size	7:1	12:1	18:1	18:1	28:1	Not Specified	Not Specified
Source:	https://footballcanada.com/coach/ltad-resources/						

TABLE H7. RUGBY

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNDamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Train to Compete	Train to Perform	Ultimate Performance	Active for Life
Chronological Age	Male: 0-6 Female: 0-6	Male: 6-9 Female: 6-8	Male: 9-12 Female: 8-11	Male: 12-16 Female: 11-15	Male: 16-19 Female: 15-18	Male: 19-23 Female: 18-21	Male: 23+ Female: 21+	All Ages
Season Length	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Recreation: 12-15 weeks Competitive: 21-24 weeks	Recreation: 12-15 weeks Senior: 15-22 weeks Performance: 30-40 weeks	Elite Games: 22-28/season 52 week program with 2 weeks transition	Elite Games: 22-28/season 52 week program with 2 weeks transition	Not Specified
Match / Game Duration	15-20 minutes	20 minutes	20 - 30 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	80 minutes	80 minutes	Not Specified
Match format	No formal matches	U8 Flag (5-7 players/side)	U10 Flag & U12 Modified Contact (9 players/side)	Contact (U12-13: 9 to 12 players/side; U16: 12 to 13 players/side)	Contact (15 players/side)	Contact (15 players/side)	Contact (15 players/side)	Not Specified
Number of Match / Game Days per Week	No formal matches	1	1	1	1	1	1	Not Specified
Practice Duration	40 - 60 minutes	40 - 60 minutes	60 minutes	70 - 90 minutes	90 minutes	90 minutes	90 minutes	Not Specified

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNDamentals	Learning to Train	Train to Train	Train to Compete	Train to Perform	Ultimate Performance	Active for Life
Number of Practices per Week	1	1	3	4-5 days	4-5 days	7	7	Not Specified
Practice to Match Ratio	Not Specified	Not Specified	2:1	2:1 training for recreational 5:1 training for competition	2:1	1 match/week for recreation, 2:1 practice to match for senior	Not specified	Not Specified
Guidance on Appropriate Playing Surface Size / Dimensions	W:30 - 40 m L: 40 - 50 m	W:30 - 40 m L: 40 - 50 m	W:30 - 40 m L: 40 - 50 m	W: 70 m L: 50 m	W: 70 m L: 100 m	W: 70 m L: 100 m	W: 70 m L: 100 m	Not Specified
Player to Coach Ratio	5:1 - 7:1	7:1 *	9:1 *	12:1 *	13:1 *	15:1 *	15:1 *	Not Specified
Source:	https://sportforlife.ca/sport-frameworks/#toggle-id-31							

TABLE H8. SOCCER

LTD Stage	Active Start	Fundamentals	Fundamentals	Learn to Train	Learn to Train	Training to Train	Training to Compete	Training to Win	Active for Life
Chronological Age	Male: 0-6 Female: 0-6	U7 Male: 6-9 Female:6-8	U8-U9 Male: 6-9 Female:6-8	U10 - 11 Male: 9-12 Female: 8-11	U2-U13 Male: 9-12 Female: 8-11	Male: 12-16 Female: 11-15	Male: 16-19 Female: 15-18	Male: 19+ Female:18+	All Ages
Season Length	6 - 16 weeks	6 - 16 weeks	6 - 22 weeks	10 - 22 weeks	10 - 22 weeks	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual
Match / Game Duration	Informal play	30 minutes (60 minutes per player, per day)	40 minutes (60 minutes per player, per day)	50 - 80 minutes (80 - 100 minutes per player, per day)	70 - 80 minutes (100 minutes per player, per day)	70- 80 minutes (2 X 35 minutes)	90 -100 minutes (2X40 minutes for female, 2X45 minutes for male)	90 -100 minutes (2X45 minutes)	90 -100 minutes (2X45 minutes)
Match format	No formal matches	3 v 3	4 v 4 or 5 v 5	7 v 7	9 v 9 or 11 v 11	11 v 11	11 v 11	11 v 11	11 v 11
Number of Match / Game Days per Week	No formal matches	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Practice Duration	30 - 45 minutes	31 - 45 minutes	45 - 60 minutes	60 - 75 minutes	60 - 75 minutes	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified

LTD Stage	Active Start	Fundamentals	Fundamentals	Learn to Train	Learn to Train	Training to Train	Training to Compete	Training to Win	Active for Life
Number of Practices per Week	1	1	1.5	2	3	5	5	5	Not specified
Practice to Match Ratio	N/A	1:1	1:1 or 1:2	2:1 or 3:1	2:1 or 3:1	5:1 (5 to 10 practices for every game)	5:1 (5 to 12 practices for every game)	5:1 (5 to 12 practices for every game)	Not specified
Guidance on Appropriate Playing Surface Size / Dimensions	N/A	W: 18 - 22 m L: 25 - 30 m	W: 25 - 30 m L: 30 - 36 m	W: 30 - 36 m L: 40 - 55 m	9 v 9 W: 42 - 55 m L: 60 - 75 m 11 v 11 W: 45 - 90 m L: 90 - 120 m	11 v 11 W: 45 - 90 m L: 90 - 120 m	11 v 11 W: 45 - 90 m L: 90 - 120 m	11 v 11 W: 45 - 90 m L: 90 - 120 m	Not specified
Player to Coach Ratio	4:1 - 8:1	6:1 - 8:1	8:1 - 10:1	10:1 - 12:1	9 v 9 (12:1 - 16:1) 11 vs 11 (16:1 - 18:1)	16:1 - 18:1	16:1 - 18:1	16:1 - 18:1	Not specified
Source:	https://canadasoccer.com/play-landing/canada-soccer-pathway/								

TABLE H9. SOFTBALL

LTD Stage	Active Start	Fundamental Fun	Learning to Train	Training to Train
Chronological Age	Males: 0- 6 Females: 0-6	Males: 6-9 Females: 6-8	Males: 9-12 Females: 8- 11	Males: 12- 16 Females: 11-15
Season Length	8 - 10 weeks	8 - 10 weeks (competitive season)	12 - 15 weeks (competitive season)	12 - 15 weeks (competitive season) 8 to 15 practices pre season (- 4- 6 weeks) for community softball 10 to 15 practices for competitive (4-6 weeks)
Match / Game Duration	60 minutes	45 - 60 minutes	90 minutes	90 minutes
Match format	No formal matches - combine practices with modified games sessions (recommended having 2 or more teams on the field at a time)(6 v 6)	No formal matches - combine practices with modified games sessions (recommended having 2 or more teams on the field at a time)(6 v 6)	modified pitching and baseline distances	modified pitching and baseline distances and limit on innings
Number of Match / Game Days per Week	1-2 times per week with practices	1-2 times per week with practices	18-22	24 -30
Practice Duration	60 minutes	90 minutes	90 minutes	90 minutes

LTD Stage	Active Start	Fundamental Fun	Learning to Train	Training to Train
Number of Practices per Week	1-2 time per week	1-2 time per week	2 - 3 times	2- 4 times
Practice to Match Ratio	No ratio	No ratio	70:30	Community: 50:50 Late/ Competitive: 60:40 practice to match
Guidance on Appropriate Playing Surface Size / Dimensions	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not Specified
Player to Coach Ratio	1:6	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
Source:	https://sportforlife.ca/sport-frameworks/#toggle-id-37 https://softball.ca/resources/2022rulebook/?section=25			

LTD Stage	Training to Compete	Learning & Training to Win	Living to Win	Active for Life	Active for Life
Chronological Age	Males: 16-23 Females: 15 - 21	Males: 19+ Females: 19+	Males: 23+ Females: 19+	All Ages	All Ages
Season Length	12 - 16 (competitive season) 15 - 20 pre season practices (~8-16 weeks)	14 - 16 (competitive season) 10 - 20 pre season practices (~8-16 weeks)	14 - 16 (competitive season) 18 - 22 pre season practices (~8-16 weeks)	Not Specified	Not specified
Match / Game Duration	120 minutes>	120 minutes>	120 minutes>	Not Specified	Not specified
Match format	regular format	regular format	regular format	Not Specified	Not specified
Number of Match / Game Days per Week	44 to 52	44- 48 games/ season	40 -50 games	Not Specified	Not specified
Practice Duration	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not Specified	Not specified

LTD Stage	Training to Compete	Learning & Training to Win	Living to Win	Active for Life	Active for Life
Number of Practices per Week	4 - 8 times	6 to 9 times	9 to 12	Not Specified	Not specified
Practice to Match Ratio	Community: 40:60 Competitive: 50:50	Community: 40:60 Competitive: 40:60	25:75	Not Specified	10: 90
Guidance on Appropriate Playing Surface Size / Dimensions	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not Specified	Not specified
Player to Coach Ratio	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not Specified	2 Coaches minimum
Source:	https://sportforlife.ca/sport-frameworks/#toggle-id-37 https://softball.ca/resources/2022rulebook/?section=25				

TABLE H10. ULTIMATE

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNDamentals	Learn to Play	Train to Play	Train to Compete	Learn to Win	Train to Win	Active for Life
Chronological Age	0-6	Male: 6-9 Female:6-8	Male: 9-12 Female: 9-11	Male: 12-16 Female: 11-15	Male: 15-18 Female: 16-18	Male: 20 -23 Female: 19 -21	U18	All Ages
Season Length	Not Specified	8-12 weeks	4 -12 weeks	8-16 weeks	32 weeks	Annual	Annual	Based on leagues
Match / Game Duration	Not Specified	Not Specified	30 -40 minutes	75-90 minutes	90 minutes	90 minutes	120 minutes	60 - 90 minutes
Match format	Introduce skills 1 on 1	4 v 4	5 v 5	7 v 7	7 v 7	7 v 7	7 v 7	7 v 7
Number of Match / Game Days per Week	Not Specified	Not Specified	1 (3 teams meet up, rotate games with practice time)	1-2 games	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified
Practice Duration	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	Not Specified

LTD Stage	Active Start	FUNdamentals	Learn to Play	Train to Play	Train to Compete	Learn to Win	Train to Win	Active for Life
Number of Practices per Week	1	1	1 - 2 practices	1 - 2 practices	2 - 3 practices	6	6	Not Specified
Practice to Match Ratio	Not Specified	Not Specified	70:30	60:40	40:60	40:60	25:75	Not Specified
Guidance on Appropriate Playing Surface Size / Dimensions	Not Specified	Not Specified	W:18 m L: 27 m End Zone: 3 m	W:23 m width L: 39 m End Zone: 13 m	W: 37m L: 64 m End Zone: 18 m	W: 37m L: 64 m End Zone: 18 m	W: 37m L: 64 m End Zone: 18 m	W: 37m L: 64 m End Zone: 18 m
Recommended Roster Size	10	10	12	14	28	28	28	28
Source:	https://sportforlife.ca/sport-frameworks/#toggle-id-48							

APPENDIX I: AMENITY BEST PRACTICES AND GUIDELINES



Softball player batting

This appendix provides a series of current best practices for amenities for consideration in new and upgraded sport field facilities. Where applicable, the Park Board's Park Development Standards should be followed. When considering the applicability of best practices site context and condition should be considered.

BEST PRACTICES FOR WASHROOMS AND FIELDHOUSES

The upcoming Washroom & Fieldhouse Strategy will include more information on these types of facilities.

BEST PRACTICES FOR STORAGE

Groups that regularly use a field require storage to deliver their programming in an efficient and effective way that reduces the burden on volunteers and other personnel. While these needs are valid, providing storage space comes with a number of challenges that include cost, security, and lack of space on many sites. At present, sport equipment storage to support field sports in Vancouver parks is occurring in a number of existing fieldhouses and in some cases in standalone storage containers that are user group owned, installed and not under agreements with the Park Board. These are unsanctioned and unregulated and pose risk to the Park Board. The approach has been first come first serve rather than based off established criteria around needs and access, which is not ideal from an equity perspective.

The renewed classification system recommends providing storage opportunities to support regular users of synthetic turf and Class A fields, with a high priority for “hub” sites. The Park Board has a Washroom Strategy, which will be updated to address the use of fieldhouse components (e.g. changerooms, programming spaces, etc.) and outline the decision-making process when public washrooms within fieldhouses are identified for renewal. That Strategy will

also provide direction around storage uses in fieldhouses. Storage to support sport field use will likely need to be addressed through a mix of fieldhouse storage opportunities and stand alone, lockable, vandal proof, sanctioned storage boxes.

Identified below are a number of suggested best practices for sites where storage is to be provided or facilitated:

- Storage boxes should be painted black or wrapped in a vandalism proof steel container. Lockable boxes are recommended with clear identification of the user.
- At rectangular fields, storage boxes should be able to fit training equipment and field marking items and should not exceed the size of 60”L x 28”H x 24”D. Storage boxes should be kept outside the field of play and mounted on a concrete pad.
- For ball diamonds, storage boxes should be able to fit hand tools (i.e. rakes / shovels) for infield repairs, 2-3 bags of field marking materials and equipment, and sport use equipment such as bases. Storage boxes should not exceed the size of 60”L x 60”H x 24”D. Storage boxes should be kept outside the field of play and mounted on a concrete pad.



Diamond in Vancouver



Example of box for rectangular field storage



Example of small scale diamond equipment storage

BEST PRACTICES FOR SPORT FIELD LIGHTING

- Sport field lighting controls should be a consistent, centrally controlled and integrated system that is compatible with field bookings and allocations.
- In alignment with the new sport field classification system, the following lighting design characteristics should be adhered to:
 - » Appropriate lighting levels for the level of play, recommend Class IV and 300lux for community use,
 - » Lighting design criteria should aim to minimize surrounding neighbourhood and environmental lighting impacts by utilizing lighting glare and light spill reduction strategies and technologies, including “Dark Sky” compliance.
 - » Lighting design and products should be responsive to Fatal Light Awareness Plan (FLAP) for birds and minimize habitat impacts.
 - » Energy efficient lighting systems and technologies should be reviewed and targeted on an ongoing basis.

BEST PRACTICES FOR SPORT FIELD FENCING

- Consideration should be given to integrating ball control and safety fencing at synthetic turf and Class A fields.
- Synthetic turf surfaces are a major capital investment requiring regular replacement (every 10 - 12 years). Replacement cycles are shortened when the surface is impacted by activity not aligned with sport use - picnics and food use, dogs, fires, impromptu community events. Deterrents and controls via fences and gates help to minimize these impacts.
- Technology exists to manage access remotely through gates and should be explored
- Fencing for diamonds, including backstops and outfield fencing, should be reflective of the field classification, sport, and age level of the field.
- The design and construction of fencing should be of a consistent quality and material, as much as possible, throughout the inventory and regularly checked for condition to ensure the field classifications are consistent.

FOR CONSIDERATION:

Natural turf fields are not typically fenced, however ball control fencing behind goals are common. Strategic fencing for ball control and directly open access to purposeful locations is recommended and fencing should be minimized where possible. Synthetic turf fields inside tracks can pose user conflict challenges and should be addressed on a site by site basis whereby track users and field users are considered holistically.

APPENDIX J: GUIDANCE FOR ESTABLISHING COST RECOVERY TARGETS



People on a field in Vancouver

The following next steps and key considerations have been identified to support Direction 2 and its associated actions aimed at establishing cost recovery targets.

- The Park Board creates a system or model which considers direct and indirect costs to establish per unit costs for providing sport fields and associated amenities by their classification types; the model can be consistently applied as required on an ongoing basis.
- Align fees and charges with cost recovery targets, once established in the Recreation Fees and Charges Policy.
- Ideally, the cost recovery targets and associated fees and charges rationale should be applied across all bookable types of sport and recreation infrastructure under the Park Board's mandate, including sport fields, sport courts, pools, rinks and fitness centres.
- Market adjustment should be a consideration in the pricing process, but not be the primary driver.
- It should be noted that municipalities commonly set or adjust their fees by benchmarking their rates against neighbouring or comparable municipalities via a market adjustment approach. Although there is merit in not outpricing the market and in being competitive, this approach does not consider the unique conditions and factors that contribute to costs and often lead to misalignment with cost recovery goals. Currently, the Park Board's fees and charges for sport fields are consistent with other municipal providers across the region (detailed benchmarking information is available in the "Current State" Research Findings Report – see Appendix A).

