

City of Stamford

Parks & Recreation Commission

Sanctioning Policy

Establishment: The Parks and Recreation Commission encourage and support the use of Park fields by nonprofit community sports organizations/leagues through the Department's Sanctioning Policy.

Definition: Sanctioning is a designation between the Parks & Recreation Department and Commission and a local Stamford based nonprofit sports organization to provide recreational sports leagues which meet a community need.

***See Appendix B for current list of Sanctioned Users.**

Eligibility and Application Process for Sanctioning: Each year existing sanctioned organizations must renew their sanctioning status by providing the following . . .

- a. A constitution and by-laws including provisions for an annual election of officers, and a list of names and addresses and contact info of a board of directors or governing body. Elections must be held at a previously advertised general meeting for all members, and must take nominations from the floor. Duly elected officers and a full board must be in place before each season begins to obtain a permit. Election results are to be submitted to the Recreation Superintendent and or designee.
- b. A Board of Directors will be mandatory. Which will permit nominations to the board from the floor at an annual meeting
- c. A complaint processing policy with detailed procedures including the way in which formal complaints will be handled and a commitment that responses are to be promptly made in writing to the Parks & Recreation Commission. Responses must copy the Superintendent of Recreation.
- d. A coach selection procedure (for youth sports only). Background checks are recommended.
- e. Provide its own liability and or accident insurance with the City of Stamford named as an additional insured subject to a minimum limit of liability of a million dollars combined single limit per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage. (See field permit application for full provisions, certificates required).
- f. Disclose annually any and all current national charters and affiliations.
- g. Submit annually to the Parks & Recreation Commission a complete participant roster list with names, ages, addresses and phone numbers.
- h. Follow all local, charter and national governing body rules regarding rules of play, age and residency requirements.
- i. Any significant additions (such as new affiliations, charters, divisions or teams, assimilation of existing programs/leagues) to an existing sanctioned program are considered new programs and must be approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission.

- j. All users will be required to fill out a City/Recreation Field Use Permit Application and include a master schedule of all games and practices preferably at our annual winter meeting, but no later than one month before your first game.
- k. With the exception of tournament play, all all-star/travel teams participating in regional leagues must provide a full league schedule and must play at least 50% of their games away.
- l. To be considered a Stamford youth team 100% of the team roster must be Stamford residents. For adult teams 75% must be Stamford residents. Roster sizes must be a reasonable number and related appropriate to the sport.
- m. Sanctioned programs do not have permission to partner with any for profit commercial camp or clinic on park property. (See Field Policy Manual for further clarification and rules). No sanctioned team or program has the right/authority to sublet their assigned fields.
- n. Sanctioned programs should make every effort whenever possible to provide scholarships or fee waivers to disadvantaged youth who qualify for free or reduced lunch in the Stamford school system.
- o. Sanctioned programs should provide opportunities for recreation level play with an expectation of participation/playing time, skill development and enjoyment as the primary program format for any children's program under the age of 13.
- p. Sanctioned programs should provide for a formal participant evaluation including the program content, knowledge and temperament of coaches, and overall enjoyment of the program.
- q. Once sanctioned programs receive their field assignments the expectation is that those assignments will be used for the originally submitted game or practice. Should any change arise for any reason the sanctioned organization must contact the Recreation office as soon as possible or no later than the following morning with notification of the change. The City will be auditing fields with spot checks throughout the season.
- r. Advertising signs and banners at City fields may be displayed on or after April 1st and must be taken down no later than October 31st of each year. Per the Parks & Recreation Committee of the Board of Representatives any signs not removed by this date will be removed by the City's Parks Dept and or painted over. All signs should comply with Parks & Recreation Committee of the Board of Representatives policy and specs.

Withdrawal of Sanctioning Status: The City of Stamford Parks & Recreation Commission reserves the right to withdraw sanctioning of an organization with adequate notice contingent upon any or all of the following stipulations.

- a. The rules and conditions of the sanctioning policy and its recommendations are not substantially met.
- b. If the rules, regulations of the City of Stamford Field Policy or a national governing body charter is violated.
- c. Unethical, immoral, financial or other misbehavior by one or more of the sanctioned organization representatives/officers.

Appendix B
Current Sanctioned Organizations

Youth Leagues

Stamford American Little League
Stamford National Little League
Stamford North Little League
Jackie Robinson League
Boys Babe Ruth Baseball
American Legion Baseball
Stamford Stars Girls Babe Ruth Softball
Stamford Youth Soccer
Stamford Youth Hockey
First Down Youth Football
Spartans Youth Football
MadDogs Youth Cricket
Stamford Peace Basketball
Six Love Tennis
Grassroots Tennis

Adult Leagues

Over 30 Men's Baseball(Mets & Pirates)
Central American Soccer League
Stamford Co-Ed soccer league
Southern CT Women's soccer league
St. John's Cricket League
Shaheen Cricket League
Stamford Cricket Club
Eagles Men/Women Saturday Soccer League
Men's Shoreline Soccer O30 O40
Italia Men's Soccer
Italia Co-Ed Soccer league
Haitian Soccer League