Stamford Parks & Recreation Commission: Proposed Moratorium on Sanctioning Sports Leagues

In accordance with the authority granted to it by Charter § C6-120-2, the Stamford Parks & Recreation Commission is imposing a moratorium on the sanctioning of new Youth and Adult Sports Leagues and new Parks & Recreation Department house leagues for the 2025 season.

Due to high demand from existing league activities, the athletic fields in Stamford's parks are operating at full capacity this year. As a result, the City's parks currently lack the necessary field space to accommodate any new sports leagues. This saturation underscores the need for careful management of existing resources and highlights the importance of optimizing current field usage to ensure that all current leagues continue to receive the access they need. The Parks & Recreation Commission remains committed to exploring potential solutions to address future demands for athletic space.

To this end, the Parks & Recreation Commission will conduct a comprehensive field use study to accurately gauge the extent of field utilization across all sports during both daytime and evening hours. This initiative aims to provide a detailed understanding of current field demands and usage patterns. To support this effort, the Parks & Recreation Department will record actual field usage on a weekly basis throughout the seasonal play period. This tracking will help ensure that field allocation and scheduling meet the needs of our community effectively and efficiently. The moratorium on field usage imposed for the 2025 season may be continued from year to year depending on the results of this study.

The moratorium will not affect the status of leagues that are presently sanctioned. Leagues that currently have temporary status will be required to come before the Commission for full approval and will not be allowed to expand in size. Leagues that have an interest in becoming a sanctioned league may fill out and submit the paperwork to the Parks & Recreation Department as required by the Field Use Policy Manual and will be added to a waiting list based upon the completion of the submission. When a spot opens, the Leagues will be asked to come before the Commission in order of the waiting list and type of sport.