

# City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: NOVEMBER 5, 2014

TO: YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

FROM: PARK PLANNING, RECREATION SERVICES & PARK OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: DIAMOND FIELDS EXERCISE UPDATE

---

On October 14, 2014, the City of Alexandria Youth Sports Advisory Board participated in a feedback exercise to identify all maintenance and site issues at the City's diamond fields. Staff posted aerial images of all fields on a wall and participants used post-it notes to record their experiences and opinions of the sites. The attached document provides a list of the comments on each site and a coordinated RPCA response, where necessary.

Based on the comments from the Diamond Field exercise, RPCA recommends the following action items:

1. Recreation Services will complete its migration to real-time based scheduling instead of block scheduling. If there is a proven demand for additional diamond fields, Park Operations will upgrade one of the following locations, shown in priority order:
  - a. Stevenson Park, upgrades may include:
    - i. installation of irrigation in conjunction with the upcoming DEQ air quality monitoring station
    - ii. Overlay a soccer field for non-programmed use (based on the community feedback in the Neighborhood Park Plan)
    - iii. Install a portable, seasonal fence for baseball
  - b. Four Mile Run Field #3, upgrades may include:
    - i. Irrigation
    - ii. Improved infield
    - iii. New backstop and furniture
  - c. Lee Center Field #1, upgrades may include:
    - i. Extend irrigation from Miracle Field to field #1
  - d. Angel Field, this field is shown last in priority because there is no dedicated parking

2. Engage in discussions with ACPS on future of Braddock fields. These three ball fields with an overlay are the largest in the City without a clear short and long-term plan and may provide a multi-sport facility opportunity.

Please review the attached document and provide any questions or comments to Joe Petrella, Recreation Division Chief by December 1, 2014.

Attachments

- (1) Field exercise comments and responses (Fall 2014)

###

**Youth Sports Advisory Board Diamond Field Exercise  
Fall 2014**

Ownership	Site	YSAB Post-it Note Comment from exercise on October 14, 2014	RPCA Response/Action Item
<b>SHORT-TERM ACTION ONCE PROGRAM DECISIONS MADE</b>			
RPCA	Stevenson Baseball Field	No comments	Potential to upgrade field, allowing alleviation from other fields
RPCA	Four Mile Field #3	Under utilized	Potential to upgrade field, allowing alleviation from other fields
RPCA	Angel Park Field	No comments	Potential to upgrade field, allowing alleviation from other fields
RPCA	Kelley Cares Miracle Field and Lee Center	Better maintenance (grass, plants, weeding)	Potential to upgrade field #1 with improved irrigation, allowing alleviation from other fields
RPCA	Kelley Cares Miracle Field and Lee Center	Great facility. We need more Miracles!	
ACPS	Braddock Softball Field #1	Multi-use turf (baseball/rugby/football/soccer/LAX	Will begin discussions with ACPS on undertaking a comprehensive plan for recreational needs once new Potomac Yard path complete.
ACPS	Braddock Softball Field #1	Big. Not very nice	
ACPS	Braddock Softball Field #1	Good for multi-use	
ACPS	Braddock Softball Field #2	Poor upkeep	
ACPS	Braddock Softball Field #2	Big. Not very nice	
ACPS	Braddock Softball Field #2	Good for multi-use	
ACPS	Braddock Softball Field #3	Make this a complex	
ACPS	Braddock Softball Field #3	Much nicer since fences went up in all fields	
ACPS	Braddock Softball Field #3	Good space but rugby needs it	
ACPS	Braddock Softball Field #3	Big. Not very nice	
RPCA	Luckett Field	Drainage issues around the outfield area	Will look into grading needs through neighborhood parks plan to improve drainage
<b>MID-TERM ACTION</b>			
RPCA	Hensley Field#1	Good field. AA should fit easily	Full site renovation scheduled for FY16-18; includes 3 fields and rectangular, per the park plan
RPCA	Hensley Field#2	Prefer multi-turf field sport	
RPCA	Hensley Field#2	Drainage issues	
RPCA	Hensley Field#2	More parking	
RPCA	Hensley Field#3	Upkeep could be better	
RPCA	Hensley Field#3	Wet outfields	
RPCA	Hensley Field#3	Wet outfields	
<b>LONG-TERM ACTION/DISCUSSION</b>			
RPCA	Little Simpson Softball Field	Better drainage is needed	Improved drainage requires full re-grading; est. to cost \$100,000. Will need to look at priorities in CIP and alternative funding sources.
ACPS	Mount Vernon Field	Improve quality/durability of grass surface	Can discuss with ACPS
ACPS	Mount Vernon Field	Put futsal/multi-use court	
ACPS	Patrick Henry Lower Field	Maintenance could be better	Hold until school renovation
ACPS	Patrick Henry Lower Field	Should be turfed as multi-use	
ACPS	William Ramsay Field	Improve futsal	Hold until Beauregard turf field
ACPS	William Ramsay Field	Improve grass surface	
	Other	Use St.Stephens/St.Agnes and Episcopal fields for shared use	For ALL to negotiate use
<b>OTHER/MORE INFORMATION NEEDED</b>			
RPCA	Chambliss Park	Needs better drainage	Need more information
ACPS	Charles Barrett Baseball Field	Improve quality of grass	Drainage improvements underway
RPCA	Frank Mann Field	Parked cars are often hit by baseballs	No recent issues we are aware of; Witter netting will set precedent, if needed at FMR.
RPCA	Brenman Softball	Parking needed	RPCA will review parking during peak program time.
<b>NO ACTION ITEMS</b>			
RPCA	Witter Field	No comments	
ACPS	George Mason ES Ball Fields	No comments	
RPCA	Four Mile Softball Field#2	Possibility for overlay?	
RPCA	Four Mile Softball Field#2	Big, nice field	
RPCA	Frank Mann Field	Very good	
RPCA	Frank Mann Field	Nice	
RPCA	Frank Mann Field	Grass base paths	
RPCA	Frank Mann Field	Turf infield	
RPCA	Simpson Stadium Baseball Field	Some drainage issues	
RPCA	Simpson Stadium Baseball Field	Grass base paths	
RPCA	Simpson Stadium Baseball Field	Nice; one of the best fields in NoVA for a long time	
RPCA	Simpson Stadium Baseball Field	turf infield	
RPCA	Lyles Crouch	No comments	
ACPS	James K. Polk Upper Field	No comments	

**Youth Sports Advisory Board Diamond Field Exercise  
Fall 2014**

ACPS	Matthew Maury Field	No comments	
RPCA	Little Simpson Softball Field	Small, nice field	
RPCA	Chinquapin	Multi-use complex with 90-ft field	Chinquapin Park Plan completed in 2014; does not include 90ft field
RPCA	Brenman Softball	Nice. Very good	
RPCA	Brenman Baseball	No comments	
RPCA	Lockett Field	Big and nice field	
RPCA	Boothe Park Field	Good for multi-use	
RPCA	Boothe Park Field	Looks nice	Will maintain as is given transportation easement