

MIAMI TOWNSHIP FIELD USE POLICIES

(Adopted May 6, 1997)

I. General Policies

1. All Miami Township Parks are open to the general public from dawn to dusk. Walk-on use is permitted on all fields when they are open.
2. As a general rule, where ball diamonds and soccer fields overlap, softball/baseball use will have priority over spring soccer due to the limited season for ball diamond use. This policy is subject to modification depending on the use of certain fields.
3. All leagues should instruct coaches to advise players not to arrive more than ½ hour prior to game/practice time. Carpooling is recommended whenever possible.
4. Starting times for reserved use of all fields is 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. on Saturday; 12:00 noon on Sunday. The Township Administrator or designated representative may grant exceptions to this policy on an individual basis.
5. Air horns and other loud noise-making devices are not permitted on any field.
6. Field schedulers must stagger starting times wherever possible to alleviate parking problems and traffic congestion.
7. Due to the heavy use on athletic fields, the turf growing season is limited. Early season use (before April) is strongly discouraged.
8. Certain fields will periodically be “rested” due to heavy use. When a field is rested, there will be absolutely no use of these fields. No exceptions granted.

II. Field Assignment & Permit Process

1. Field use assignments will be based on the number of teams and participants. Miami Township will distribute a “Athletic Field Request Form” to each organization to submit by a deadline. Based on the information on the completed form, Miami Township will notify organizations of their field allocation to allow the organization to schedule their season.
2. The Miami Township Board of Trustees will utilize the following guidelines in determining field use priority:
 - 1st priority: Teams/organizations with league affiliations serving the Miami Township community (e.g. Knothole, Little League, SAY soccer, etc.). Teams/organizations must consist of at least 50% Miami Township residents. Teams/organizations participating in athletic programs sponsored by the Loveland Recreation Commission are excluded from the 50% provision at the Paxton-Ramsey facility. Teams/organizations in good standing with Miami Township which utilize fields on a continuing basis will be given priority over organizations that have never used Miami Township facilities.
 - 2nd priority: Community based organizations not affiliated with any sanctioned league (e.g. church group, homeowners association, etc.). Teams must consist of at least 50% Miami Township residents.
 - 3rd priority: Teams and organizations not specifically listed above desirous of game or practice facility. Teams must consist of at least 50% Miami Township residents.

NOTE: For teams with less than 50% Miami Township residents, a fee of \$50.00 per day will be assessed before a permit will be issued.

3. Upon receipt of game and practice schedules, a “field use permit” will be issued.
4. Each organization must require participants to sign waivers indemnifying and releasing the Miami Township Board of Trustees of all liability and responsibility in the event of accident or injury.
5. Requests received after the fields are assigned will only be considered if there is time available. All forms must be completed in their entirety before requests will be considered.
6. The Miami Township Board of Trustees reserves the right to alter the schedules as needs arise but in all cases will notify the league representatives. In addition, Miami Township will manage athletic fields according to conditions; limit the number of games and practices on any given field; and determine the amount of time required between games as is deemed necessary. Fields may be closed as conditions dictate
7. Neighborhood pick-up games are permitted on all facilities as long as the facility is open. If a permit holder arrives, the field must be vacated. Users must contact Miami Township at 248-3727 to ascertain if fields are open.

III. Equal Opportunities

All Miami Township facilities are open to the public. The Miami Township Board of Trustees does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, age, sex, or disability.

IV. Field Closing

1. Criteria for Closing Athletic Fields. The Township Administrator or designated representative will make the determination if a field (or fields) are not to be played on. Miami Township will provide a voice-mail telephone message to announce field status. It is the responsibility of the individual leagues to develop a system to notify their respective coaches and players of a field closing. If a team plays on a closed field, they will be subject to paying any damages to the field(s).

The Miami Township Board of Trustees and their respective staff assume no liability in the event of accident or injury and make no warranty as to the playing conditions that may exist on any of the facilities they provide.

V. Modification

The Miami Township Board of Trustees reserves the right to modify the Field Use Policies as needs arise.

VI. Effective Date

These regulations are effective immediately upon their adoption by the Board of Trustees of Miami Township.