



## Recreation Department Outdoor Court Guidelines

The Recreation Department team of staff and volunteers offer many activities to meet your lifestyle needs. Our efforts are to provide the most enjoyable experiences and opportunities to participate and utilize these activities and facilities. The Recreation Department's Outdoor Court Guidelines outline the expectations for the Recreation Department to effectively manage and program these facilities.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Hours of Use:** All outdoor facilities are available from 7a.m. to Dusk. Dusk is defined as 30 minutes after sunset. All facilities are smoke-free.

**Waiver:** Please be sure to fill out the required waiver at your recreation center before joining in the fun.

**ID Requirements:** Please always carry your original Villages ID, or Guest ID and photo ID. Only original ID's are accepted at the recreation centers.

**Location of Emergency Information/Phones:** Please locate the nearest phone and call 911 for emergencies.

**Court Schedule Info:** The Recreation News lists all outdoor court schedules, this publication should be used as a guide. Recreation Bulletin Boards and Offices have current schedules available.

**Attire:** Always wear appropriate attire while at the recreation center facilities. Court shoes without black soles are required on our tennis, pickleball, and platform tennis courts. Open toed shoes are not allowed on our bocce and shuffleboard courts. Sunblock and hats are encouraged.

**Weather Policy:** In the event of lightning or inclement weather, the Recreation Department recommends patrons at outdoor recreation areas find shelter and wait at least 30 minutes before resuming activities. The Recreation Department reserves the right, as issued by the National Weather Service or Public Safety Department in the event of tornados, hurricanes, or other severe storm warnings, to close facilities for public safety.

**Equipment:** All equipment is located in the equipment shed unless noted below. Please return equipment to the shed after use.

- Equipment to be checked out and return to inside the Recreation Centers:
  - Archery Supplies - Paradise
  - Air Gun Supplies - Chula Vista
  - Croquet Equipment - Chula Vista
  - Fishing Rods - La Hacienda / Lake Miona
  - Lawn Bowling Equipment - Chula Vista
  - Paddle Tennis Paddles and Balls - SeaBreeze
  - Track & Field Equipment - Saddlebrook
  - Basketballs - Regional Centers w/ basketball courts

For additional information please check the web site: [www.districtgov.org](http://www.districtgov.org)  
Recreation News or see a staff member.

## **RECREATION PROGRAMS**

**Lessons:** The starting point to learn any of our activities. The Recreation Department with the assistance from volunteer instructors provides the opportunity to attend a variety of lessons. Lessons are recommended before joining league or organized play.

**Open Play:** No courts are reserved, but are available on a first come first serve basis. If there is a posted courtesy rule, please observe it to allow fellow residents play opportunity. Check facility schedules posted on bulletin boards or in the Recreation News Insert. Open play may be converted to scheduled activity time in the future. If other players are waiting the following apply:

- Pickleball – Limit to 1 game to 11 points.
- Tennis – Limit games to: Singles: 1 hour 15 minutes; Doubles: 1 hour 30 minutes.
- Platform Tennis – Limit games to 2 matches.
- Bocce/Shuffleboard/Basketball/Horseshoes/Volleyball and all other outdoor courts – Limit to 1 game.
- Open Play maybe assigned to specific skill levels i.e. Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced

**Organized Play:** For those who prefer to play with a group but cannot commit to participating every week. A staff member or volunteer will organize this play and no statistics will be recorded. Sign-ups are not required.

**Senior Leagues:** Team competition for those who can commit to participation for up to 12 weeks. The leagues are organized and run by Recreation Staff and statistics are recorded on a regular basis. Sign-ups are required. In an effort to keep competition fair and equal, only residents 50 years of age and older will be permitted to sign up for leagues.

**Clinics:** Skill clinics include specific meetings/instruction for outdoor activities. Clinics require a sign-up and have designated start and end dates.

**Tournaments:** Single or multi-day events are scheduled through out the year. Sign-ups are required.

**Special Events:** Special Events are organized by the Recreation Department and may require the use of single or multiple facilities. Sign-ups are often required.

*\* Some activities may require a participation fee \**

*The Recreation Department reserves the right to alter and/or modify a group's contract at anytime to effectively manage the operation of the outside sports courts and continue to provide enjoyment, excellent lifestyle programs and enhance the quality of life for all Villagers.*

## SCHEDULING OF OUTDOOR FACILITIES

**Availability and Reservation of Courts:** The Recreation Department has the responsibility to manage and program the numerous recreation facilities available for your use in your community. To be the best stewards of these facilities, staff makes every effort to provide ample play time for all residents to get the most out of their active lifestyle. The Recreation Department has listed the following detailed information for use of each of the respective courts.

### **Court Scheduling of Pickleball:**

- **Open Play:** Designated at all pickleball courts between 7am – 10am, Monday – Sunday with the exception of La Hacienda pickleball courts which has open play scheduled from 7am – 11am, Monday-Sunday.
- **Recreation Programs:** Will be scheduled between the hours of 10am – 12pm, Monday – Sunday. If no recreation program is scheduled between these times then the time will be considered “Open Play”.
- **Neighborhood/Social Programs:** Specific groups must complete an application for court time for Outdoor Recreation Facilities. These groups are organized by a resident who is the point of contact. Examples of groups include neighborhood, skill levels, and common interests. The courts are available for these types of groups during the following times. Approved applications are required for use of court time.

12pm – Dusk Monday – Sunday

If no Neighborhood/Social program is utilizing the court then the time will be considered “Open Play”.

- **Season Weekly Use Neighborhood/Social Facility Permits:** Outdoor facility permits will be accepted, reviewed and issued for Fall/Winter & Spring/Summer sessions as follows:

| Sessions                                 | Applications Accepted | Application Review | Permits Issued |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Fall/Winter:<br>October 1 - March 31     | August 15 – 31        | September 1 – 16   | September 19   |
| Spring/Summer:<br>April 1 – September 30 | February 15 – 28      | March 1- 11        | March 21       |

### **Permit Guidelines**

- Applications will be reviewed by Recreation staff and permits issued base on need for the recreation region.
  - Whenever conflicts arise the recreation staff will make every effort to resolve the conflict and provide alternatives.
  - Permits issued mid-season will only be issued until the end of the current season.
  - Mid-season permits will be issued 2 weeks after approval of submitted applications.
  - Start times will be scheduled on the hour and the end times 10 minutes from the end of the hour.
  - Groups will be assigned courts, based on group size, for any facility.
  - Courts not being used by the Neighborhood/Social group are to be made available for individuals to use for open play.
  - Neighborhood/Social Leagues for pickleball are limited to two (2) 1 hour and 50 minute timeslots per week throughout The Villages. Using a different name for the group does not entitle additional slots.
- **Reservation Requests for One time use:** Applications may not be made more than one month in advance and no later than one week before requested time. One time reservations are granted based on availability. One time reservations will not appear in the Recreation News. One time reservations may take place 12pm-Dusk Monday-Friday and 10am-Dusk Saturday-Sunday.

Requests for use of the following facilities will be reviewed as applications are submitted. Scheduling of these facilities will be determined by need as well as providing opportunity for all types of play.

*Tennis Platform Tennis Shuffleboard Bocce Sand Volleyball Basketball  
Horseshoes Quoits Cornhole*

*For more information about use of recreation facilities please contact your nearest recreation center manager.*