



CITY OF MARTINEZ

PARKS, RECREATION, MARINA & CULTURAL
COMMISSION

DATE: November 10, 2010
TO: Parks, Recreation, Marina & Cultural Commission
FROM: Mitch Austin, Recreation Manager
SUBJECT: Co-sponsored Youth Athletic Group Field Use Fee Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend to the City Council that field use be increased to \$10.00 per player and that these increased be spread over three years, 2011 at \$5.00 per player, 2012 at \$7.50 per player, 2013 at \$10.00 per player. Fees effective for all June 1, 2011.

BACKGROUND

Despite past attempts to increase the per player fee charged to Co-sponsored Youth Athletic Groups to over the past 15 years, the fees have not increased. Each group pays \$2.00 per play for an entire season's worth of field use. The cost of maintenance supplies and increased use of the fields have impacted the City's maintenance budget. The City is attempting to raise the fees to charge a reasonable rate for use of the fields. City staff has done a survey of surrounding agencies (**Attachment A**) and discovered that the fee currently being charged to Martinez Co-sponsored Youth Athletic Groups is dramatically lower than any other city or agency. Even if the City were to charge the lowest hourly rate (Concord's rate) for fields the cost for fields would still be higher than the per player fee set at \$10.00.

Per Hourly Using the Concord's rate (lowest)

1 field x 3.5 hours (4-7:30 p.m.) x 5 days x \$3 per hour x 16 weeks = \$840 for one field x 10 fields = \$8,400
702 players (Martinez Youth Baseball) @ \$10.00 per player, per season - \$7,002

It is important to begin raising fees now in order to get some alignment with a reasonable cost with use for City fields otherwise the gap will continue to grow and could cause further hardship on users groups in future years. Staff chose the Per Player fee as it is the lowest fee option as compared to the survey to bring our groups in alignment with reasonable rate and is recommending a three period to help groups plan for the increased expense.

City has elected to use a per player fee because it allows the user groups the greatest flexibility for field use without negatively impacting their budgets. Each year they can accurately estimate the cost for field use and not have to worry about changes in scheduling affecting their bottom line. It also helps reduce scheduling costs because scheduling is done in blocks of time and changes to hours of use do not have to be tracked and billed. It is questionable if the City has the resources to even provide hourly rate billing for our Co-sponsored Youth Athletic Groups due to the amount of work it would generate. The per player, per season rate for field use allows team to set fees with greater ease and not have to calculate hours of field use for each season. Each season a league can choose to attach the field use fee to the player fee and/or put on fundraisers to offset field use field costs.

The City met with user groups on Tuesday, November to discuss the survey findings and proposed fee structure. Three groups were represented that attended, the Pleasant Hill Martinez Soccer Association, Martinez Youth Baseball and Martinez Pony (sport of baseball) organization. While two of the three groups supported the increases and expected it was time to start paying more for fields, one group expressed difficulty in attaching more costs to their fees. The Martinez Youth Baseball expressed their concerns in passing on costs to parents as they are hearing many parents say that the cost for players to play exceeds their ability to play. More scholarship requests are being made than in the past and they do not wish to pass on any more costs to parents. Staff did inquire if doing a special fundraiser to offset the costs were a possibility they did not confirm or deny this option. They did indicate that there fees for the spring 2011 season have already been set and some fees collected. They would experience great difficulty in adjusting fees mid registration for the upcoming season. Staff suggested that their fee changes would become effective June 1, 2010 this would mean that the in fall season 2011 they would pay the fee.

In addition to the increase discussion was a request to explore the possibility of providing maintenance and getting a credit toward fees for work done. Staff explained that this might be a possibility so long as the work being done was per approved and that is help offset basic maintenance costs. Work done for the primary benefit of the groups such as adding a score booth would not be considered as offsetting basic maintenance costs. Also discussed for purposes of magnitude of cost was some of the maintenance cost associated with the fields. For instance the water bill for Hidden Lakes Park fields is \$8,400 per year and comparatively the City only brings in approximately \$4,200 total from the Co-sponsored Youth Athletic Groups for use of all the City's fields for the entire year. **Attachment B** is a table showing the field use, season, by Co-sponsored Youth Athletic Group and the fees paid for use at the current rate. Aside from the relative costs of maintenance other concerns and issues were brought up such as:

- Dog fecal matter on the fields, areas of greatest concern is Borman Field and Hidden Lakes fields. People are still using the fields as “de facto” dog parks and not picking up even with bags left for their use. The groups requested a larger sign with ordinance listed and number to call and removal of the bags to help enforce the idea that they fields are not dog parks.
- The desire/need to improve the level of maintenance provided for the fields.

Staff is requesting feedback on staff's recommendation and that the PRMCC provide a recommendation to the City Council regarding fee increases for use of City fields to accommodate Co-sponsored Youth Athletic Groups. Staff plans to bring this item to the City Council at the December 1, 2010 City Council meeting.

Attachment A – Survey of Field Use Fees

Attachment B – Field Use by Season, by Co-sponsored Youth Athletic Group and fees paid at current rate.

FIELD USER FEE SURVEY – Sponsored Youth Groups
November 2010

City of Martinez

- \$2 per participant per season - youth play – Sponsored Group
- \$5 per participant per season – adult play – Sponsored Group

Martinez Unified School District

- \$10 per hour with a 2 hour minimum for grass fields
- \$100 per hour for the all weather field with lights
- \$50 per hour for the all weather field without lights

City of Benicia

- \$10 per player

City of Concord

- \$3.00 /field/hr –youth play
- \$30 /hr lights
- \$30 /field/hr – adult play
- \$25 / day – high school

Pleasant Hill Park and Recreation District

- Will be setting a \$10 per child fee

City of San Ramon

- \$6.40 /field/hr – youth play
- \$12.80 /field/hr – adult play

City of Vacaville

- **\$12.60 per participant** (\$2.90 admin + \$9.70 park maintenance) (increased by 5% annually)

City of Vallejo

- \$12 /field/hour

City of Walnut Creek

- \$27 /field/hr
- \$56 /field/hr

Per Hourly Using the Concord's rate (lowest)

1 field x 3.5 hours (4-7:30 p.m.) x 5 days x \$3 per hour x 16 weeks = \$840 for one field

Proposed per person/athlete fee:

\$5.00 in 2011
\$7.50 in 2012
\$10.00 in 2013

Cost to water Hidden Lakes Park is \$700 a month or \$8400 a year.

Players: 702 **Fee:** \$1,404
Season: September–October 2010
Players: 41 **Fee:** \$ 82

All Seasons Approx. Total Hours of Field Usage Hours: 6,188

Hidden Lakes Fields Lower	Mon – Friday	Sat. – Sun	
Jan 9- 30		8 a.m. – Dusk (Sat)	
Feb 1 – July 30	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – Dusk	
Hidden Lakes Field Lower – Fall Ball			
September 13 – October 31	M, T, W, Th	Sunday	
	4:30 – Dusk	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.	
Hidden Lakes Fields Upper			
February 1 – July 30	Mon – Friday	Sat. – Sun	
	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – Dusk	
Nancy Boyd Park Ballfield			
February 1- June 13	Mon – Fri	Sat	Sun
	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 – 5	1-5 p.m.
Hidden Valley Field 1			
February 1 – June 5	Mon – Fri	Saturday	
	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	
Hidden Valley Field 2			
February 1 – June 5	Mon – Fri	Saturday	
	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	
Mountain View Park – Borman			
January 9 – 30		Sat	Sun
		8-5	
February 1 – June 13	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 -5	1 – 5 p.m.
Morello Park Field 1			
February1– June 13	Mon – Fri	Sat	Sun
	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 – 5	1 – 5 p.m.
Morello Park Field 1			
February1– June 13	Mon – Fri	Sat	Sun
	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 – 5	1 – 5 p.m.

WATERFRONT/JOE DIMAGGIO FIELDS 1 -4 –
May 1 Adult Softball begins but unused fields are re-assigned to MYBSA.

Martinez Field Use by Co-Sponsored Youth Group

November 2010

WF 1	Mon – Fri	Saturday – Sunday
February 1 – March 28	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
March 29 – April 30	Mon – Thurs, 3:30 – D	Fr 3:30 – 6

Martinez Youth Baseball and Softball Association Field Use Continued

WF 2	Mon – Fri	Saturday – Sunday
February 1 – March 28	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
March 29 – April 30	Mon – Thurs, 3:30 – D	Fr 3:30 – 6
WF 3	Mon – Fri	Saturday – Sunday
February 1 – March 28	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
March 29 – April 30	Mon – Thurs, 3:30 – D	Fr 3:30 – 6
WF 4	Mon – Fri	Saturday – Sunday
February 1 – March 28	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
March 29 – April 30	Mon – Thurs, 3:30 – D	Fr 3:30 – 6:30

WATERFRONT 5/Multi – Use Field

Waterfront/DiMaggio 5	Mon, Wed, Fri	Sat	Sun*
February 1 – June 13	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 -2 pm.	1 p.m -D

Pleasant Hill Martinez Soccer Association

SUMMARY

Season: Spring & Fall 2010

Players: 1,046 players

Fee: \$2,092

All Seasons Approx. Total Hours of Field Usage

Hours: 4,738

Hidden Lakes Soccer Field - 2010

Dates	Week days	Saturday	Sunday
August 1-8 (UK Soccer Camp)	8 a.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 – 5 p.m.
August 9-15	4 p.m. - Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 – 5 p.m.
August 16-21 (UK Soccer camp)	8 a.m. - Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 – 5 p.m.
Sept. 1 – Dec. 1	4 p.m. – dusk	8 a.m. – 5p.m.	1 – 5 p.m.

Hidden Lakes Soccer Field – December 2010 – March 31, 2011 (to be finalized)

Dates	Monday - Friday	Saturday	Sunday
January 3 – 31, 2011	4:00 p.m. – Dusk	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	8:00 – 5:00 p.m.
February 1 - 28, 2011	4:00 p.m. - Dusk	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	8:00 - 5:00 p.m.
March 1 - 31, 2011	4:00 p.m. - Dusk	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Hidden Lakes Soccer Field – April 1 – May 31, 2011 (to be finalized)

Dates	Tues, Thurs. & Fri.	Saturday	Sunday
April 1 - 31, 2007	4:00 p.m. - Dusk	8:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m.	1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
May 1 - 31, 2007	4:00 p.m. - Dusk	1:00 p.m. - 5 p.m.	1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Nancy Boyd Park Field – Aug 1 – November 30, 2010

Dates	Week Days	Saturday	Sunday
Aug 1 – Nov 30	3:30 – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Pleasant Hill Martinez Soccer Association (Continued)

Nancy Boyd Park - Dec 1 – January 31, 2011

Dates	Monday - Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 1-31, 2010	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk
January 3 - 31, 2011	3:30 p.m. to Dusk	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk

Golden Hills Park – August 1 – November 30, 2010

Dates	Week Days	Saturday	Sunday
August 1 - November 30	Monday - Friday 4 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	1 - 5 p.m.

Golden Hills Park – Dec 1, 2010 – May 31, 2011

Dates	Tuesday & Thursday	Saturday	Sunday
Dec. 1, 2010 – Feb 25, 2011	3:30 p.m. to Dusk	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk
Feb. 26 - April 24, 2011	3:30 p.m. to Dusk	1 p.m. – 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk
April 25 – May 31, 2011	3:30 p.m. to Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk

Hidden Valley Park – Aug – November 30

Dates	Week Days	Saturday	Sunday
Aug 1 – November 30	Monday - Friday 4 p.m. - Dusk	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	1 – 5 p.m.

Hidden Valley – Dec 1 – January 31, 2011

Dates	Monday - Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 1-31, 2010	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk
January 3 - 31, 2011	3:30 p.m. to Dusk	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk

Pleasant Hill Martinez Soccer Association (Continued)

Morello Park – August 1 – November 30, 2010

Dates	Week Days	Saturday	Sunday
August 1 - Sept. 12	Monday - Friday 4 p.m. - Dusk	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	1 - 5 p.m.
Sept. 13 – Nov. 30 *	Monday - Friday 4p.m. - Dusk	1 - 5 p.m. <i>City has the field until 12:45 p.m.</i>	1 - 5 p.m.

Morello Park – December 1, 2010 – January 31, 2011

Dates	Monday - Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 1-31, 2010	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk
January 3 - 31, 2011	3:30 p.m. to Dusk	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk

Mountain View – August 1 – November 21, 2010

Dates	Week Days	Saturday	Sunday
August 1 - November 21	Monday - Friday 4 p.m. - Dusk	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	1 - 5 p.m.

Holiday Highlands –August 1 – November 21, 2010

Dates	Week Days	Saturday	Sunday
August 1 - November 30,	Monday - Friday 4 p.m. - Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 - 5 p.m.

Waterfront 5/Multi-Use Field – September 6 – Novmeber 30, 2010

Dates	Monday - Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Sept. 6-12	Tuesday & Thursday Only 4 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk
Sept. 13 – Nov. 30	4 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk

Pleasant Hill Martinez Soccer Association (Continued)

Waterfront 5/Multi-Use Field December 1, 2010 – May 2011

Dates	Monday - Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 1-31, 2010	3:30 p.m. – Dusk	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk
January 3 - 31, 2011	3:30 p.m. to Dusk	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	1 p.m. - Dusk
December 1- 2010			8 a.m. – 1 p.m.