## NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION FIELD AND FACILITY USE POLICY

The Northampton Township Parks and Recreation Department's primary mission is to address the interests and needs of the Northampton Township community by providing facilities and services to Northampton residents for the betterment of the community.

The Parks and Recreation Board trusts that the community realizes that the demand and the need for the fields and facilities may exceed the number of facilities available. The Parks and Recreation Board will use its best effort and due diligence to find playing areas for all residents that apply for use of Township recreation facilities. In order to best accommodate the residents' needs and after much consideration and deliberation, the Board hereby adopts the following policies to be used in the allocation of facilities under its control.

- A. Use of Township owned recreation facilities for any purpose is restricted. Use must be in compliance with this Field and Facility Use Policy, Field and Facility Rules and Regulations, Accreditation of User Groups, Parks and Recreation Fee Schedule and the Code of the Township of Northampton.
- B. The Parks and Recreation Board adopted a fee schedule for the use of the Parks and Recreation facilities. Fees are charged to offset maintenance and operational costs and help lessen the burden to the Northampton Township taxpayer. The user may be charged an application and maintenance fee for use of the fields and facilities. A Fee Schedule is reviewed and adopted each year by the Parks and Recreation Board.
- C. Organizations, groups and/or individuals which receive permits from the Parks and Recreation Board have authorized use. If the permitted organization, group and/or individual is not using the facility during its authorized time, the facility is then available for use by others in accordance with the Rules and Regulations. Anyone wishing to schedule use of a field or facility must contact the Parks and Recreation Department for the issuance of a permit
- D. The Parks and Recreation Board encourages anyone who is considering the formation of a new program, new organization, a merger of organizations or an inclusion of new activities which would require use of Township fields, to confer with the Parks and Recreation Board before embarking on such an endeavor.
- E. The Parks and Recreation Board, on a yearly basis, will accredit sports organizations who meet the criteria established for accreditation of user groups in order that priority use of facilities is granted. Organizations who receive accreditation may appoint two representatives to participate as advisory members to the Field and Facilities Committee.
- F. The Parks and Recreation Board reserves the right to limit the number of times a group or individual uses a field, recreation area or facility without obtaining a permit.
- G. Anyone providing or performing a professional service, including, but not limited to: personal or group instruction, training, clinic and/or camp; paid or unpaid, must obtain a permit.
- H. The Parks and Recreation Board may designate fields and recreation areas each year as fields or areas that will either be available for use without a permit or fields that may only be used with a permit.
- I. All athletic fields shall be used for their designated sport. There will be no dual use of facilities unless authorized by the Parks and Recreation Director or Board.
- J. The Parks and Recreation Board reserves the right to assign recreation facilities for any and all special events as it deems necessary.
- K. The Parks and Recreation Board reserves the right to revoke any and all permits.
- L. Northampton Township Parks and Recreation Department programs and/or activities have preference over all requests for fields and/or facilities.

March 2012 ~end~