

**NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP**  
**RULES AND REGULATIONS**  
**FOR PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS**

**1. DEFINITIONS**

Except where the content clearly indicates otherwise, the following terms used shall have the following meanings, in all other cases, the definition of common usage shall prevail:

- A. The term "Park System" shall mean any land or facilities owned or leased by the Township or New Britain designated or used for park or recreation purposes.
- B. The word "Person" shall mean any individual, corporation, partnership, association, unincorporated association, individual or collective representative(s) of any group(s) who may apply for, or require, a Park Use Permit.
- C. The term "Facility" shall refer to all areas and amenities within the Park System boundaries which are available for public use.
- D. The term "Park Use Permit" shall refer to the original written authorization issued by new Britain Township granting permission for the use of a requested facility.

**2. HOURS**

The Park System is open for public use from sunrise to sunset unless otherwise posted or authorized by the Township.

**3. PARK USE APPLICATION AND PERMIT**

- A. All Park System visitors must comply with all rules and regulations established by the Township of New Britain, whether or not a permit is required or obtained.
- B. All applications for Park use Permits shall be made upon the official forms designated by the township, and shall be accompanied by the required fees, when applicable. No other form shall be accepted. Applications are available at the township office during normal business hours.
- C. Proof of insurance, listing New Britain Township as an additional insured should be submitted along with the park use Application, but in any case, must be submitted prior to issuance of a Park Use Permit by the township. All groups and/or organizations applying for a Park Use Permit are required to carry a minimum aggregate of \$2,000,000 and \$1,000,000 liability coverage for each occurrence.
- D. Any gathering or group of fifteen (15) or more persons shall be required to obtain a Park Use Permit.

- E. Park Use Permits issued must be available for inspection by a Township employee or representative at all times during park occupancy.
- F. The township will make park use permits available without discrimination to race, creed, or gender. Permits will be issued as equitably as possible so that all age and interest groups are afforded available playing time. It is the policy of the New Britain Township Board of Supervisors and the New Britain Township park and Recreation Board to make its fields first available to groups and organizations representing township residents, or with the greatest percentage of township residents, and in consideration of the varied uses, age groups, and blending of uses.
- G. Except by special circumstance, facilities will not be reserved for teams or organizations based outside of the township and which are primarily comprised of township residents. The township reserves the right to accept applications only from persons/organizations in good standing.
- H. All teams/organizations applying for a Park Use Permit must submit a roster with the team member's full name, address, telephone number, age and the proposed schedule of games, tournaments, and/or practice times with their application.
- I. An applicant must be at least 18 years of age.
- J. Persons or organizations to whom Park use Permits are issued will be held responsible for the actions and conduct of all those associated with the authorized facility use.
- K. Persons or organizations in receipt of a Park Use Permit may not prevent other Park System users from making use of available facilities.

**4. DESTRUCTION, VANDALISM, DEFACING PROPERTY**

- A. No person shall injure, deface or destroy any notice, sign, rule or regulation posted within the Park System, nor shall any person post any notices or placards in the Park System without first obtaining written permission for the Township.
- B. Cutting, mutilating or taking away of trees, shrubs and/or flowers or the removal, defacing, damaging or vandalism of Park System property and structures is prohibited.
- C. No person shall utilize park amenities or fixtures in a manner for which the said items not designated or intended.
- D. No person shall remove or relocate any bench, table or other structure from any Township Park.
- E. Water spigot must be turned off when not in use.
- F. The Township Building and equipment, including tractors, gas pumps, snow fences, etc., shall not be disturbed.

## **5. VEHICLE OPERATION, PARKING**

- A. Vehicles are to be driven and parked only in designated areas. Authorized vehicles only shall be permitted on bike/hike paths or grass areas unless otherwise authorized.
- B. The designated speed limit within the Township Park System shall be 5 M.P.H. unless otherwise posted.
- C. Motorists shall at all times yield the right-of-way to pedestrians in a designated crosswalk.
- D. Motorists shall refrain from obstructing traffic on any Park System roadway or parking area.
- E. Horses and all unlicensed motor vehicles are prohibited anywhere on park grounds.
- F. No person shall wash or perform mechanical work on any vehicle within the park System.

## **6. SOLICITATION**

- A. Unless authorized in writing by the Township, private solicitation of any kind is prohibited within the Park System.
- B. Unless authorized in writing by the Township, no person or group shall set up any booth, table or structure within the park System.

## **7. FEES AND CHARGES**

- A. A non-resident fee of \$5.00 for youth teams/organizations shall be required to be submitted with the Park Use Application for each non-resident child. Adult teams/groups/organizations shall pay fees in accordance with the fee schedule as approved by the New Britain Township Board of Supervisors. These fees may be changed from time to time. A team/group/organization's liability is not limited to the amount of this fee.
- B. The sponsors of any gatherings (not sponsored by the Township) which require police, maintenance or other personnel and/or equipment shall be responsible for all associated costs as determined by the Township.

## **8. PERSONAL CONDUCT**

- A. No person shall conduct themselves in any violent, loud, boisterous, abusive, immoral or otherwise disorderly fashion tending to create a breach of peace, or disturbing or annoying others while in or on any Township property.
- B. No person shall commit any indecent or immoral act tending to corrupt the morals or manners of the public while in or on Township property.
- C. No person shall operate any amplification equipment within the Park Systems unless otherwise authorized by the Township.

## **9. FIREARMS, HUNTING, FIREWORKS**

- A. Possession or use of any type of firearms is prohibited where such possession or use in violation of the Pennsylvania Uniform Firearms Act, 18, Pa.C.S. §1601, *et seq.* Archery equipment may only be used in special areas provided by the Township for such use.
- B. Hunting, shooting, trapping, injuring, killing or otherwise disturbing of any birds or animals in any Township park, and the damaging, destroying or removal of any nest or habitat is strictly prohibited.
- C. The discharge or possession of any rocket, firecracker or other fireworks or any explosive substance within the Park System is prohibited unless authorized by a permit.

## **10. DRUGS AND ALCOHOL**

The possession, consumption or distribution of any alcoholic beverages or any controlled substance as defined by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or the United States of America within the Park System is prohibited.

## **11. FIRES, SMOKING**

- A. Unless otherwise authorized by a Park use Permit, open fires are prohibited within the Park System.
- B. Fires are permitted in the Township owned grill in Pavilion # 1, or in patron supplied charcoal/gas grills (the patron shall be responsible for clean-up and removal of all ash, charcoal, etc.). No fire shall be left unattended at any time.
- C. Matches, cigarettes, cigar and pipe ashes must be completely extinguished before discarding into appropriate containers.
- D. Smoking is prohibited in all wooded areas and areas specifically designated by the Township.

## **12. LITTERING AND TRASH DISPOSAL**

- A. The discarding, dumping, or littering of refuse of any kind is prohibited. All refuse shall be disposed of in trash containers provided for such purpose.
- B. Disposal of any type of trash, refuse or debris within the Park System whether disposed of in receptacles or not, and if such refuse did not result from park usage, is prohibited.
- C. For safety reasons glass containers are prohibited within the Park System.

## **13. PETS**

- A. Dogs are permitted within the Park System but must be kept on leash no longer than eight (8) feet, and under control at all times.

- B. Persons with dogs shall be required to immediately clean up and dispose of all fecal material.
- C. Dogs are restricted from any playing field and areas specifically designated by the Township.

**14. HINDERING EMPLOYEES**

No Person shall interfere with, use profanity towards, or in any manner hinder any Township employee, official, or agent who is performing their official duties within the Park System.

**15. BICYCLES, ROLLERBLADES AND SKATEBOARDS**

- A. The use of bicycles and roller blades are permitted within the Park System except in areas specifically designated by the Township.
- B. Helmets and appropriate safety equipment are required at all times.
- C. The operation of bicycles and roller blades on any grass area is prohibited.
- D. The jumping of curbs, tables and/or other objects is prohibited.

**16. PLAYGROUNDS**

- A. Playgrounds shall be limited to use by pre-school and school-age children.
- B. Supervision of all children shall be the sole responsibility of parents/legal guardians or designated adult supervisor.

**17. BASKETBALL COURTS**

- A. Basketball courts are available for public use on a first come, first served basis.
- B. Court time is limited to the activities of basketball only.
- C. All wheeled vehicles including but not limited to bicycles, rollerblades, skateboards, etc. are strictly prohibited.
- D. Rubber sole shoes must be worn at all times.
- E. Trash must be removed from court areas and placed in designated containers.
- F. At peak use times when individuals may be waiting, consideration shall be given and playing time limited.

**18. TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY**

- A. The Township has the right, as deemed necessary, to supersede all or any of the rules and regulations set forth herein in conjunction with any Township sponsored event, maintenance activity or emergency situation.

- B. Township sponsored events shall take precedence over any approved or non-approved Park System.
- C. The Township has the right to revoke and/or cancel any approved or non-approved activity at any time.

**19. PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT**

- A. Any person who violates any of the rules and regulations set forth shall upon conviction in a Summary proceeding before any District Justice be liable for a fine or penalty not to exceed three hundred (\$300) dollars for each and every offense; or if failure to pay is not caused by indigence or lack of sufficient assets, shall be subject to imprisonment in the Bucks County Prison for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days. All prosecutions shall be brought in the name of New Britain Township, and all fines shall be paid to New Britain Township.
- B. The New Britain Township Police Department and any other law enforcement agency shall have such authority as is conferred upon them pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Township herein authorizes any member of its Police Department to enforce these rules and regulations.
- C. Violations of any of the rules and regulations herein may result in the revocation of any permits or approvals granted for the use of any portion of the Township's Park System.
- D. Playing fields are to be used only for their intended purpose and a permit holder may not transfer, set-over or permit any other individual and or users to make use of the rights and privileges afforded to the permit holder as a result of the issuance of the permit by the Township. Furthermore, no portable lights shall be utilized in any of the Township's fields and/or parks without written approval by the Township. There shall be no installation of equipment or alterations to the existing playing fields without said alterations or installation of equipment being specifically approved by the Township.