



**Item:** Resolution 10132 – Establishing Fees for the Multi Sports Softball Program

**From:** Park and Recreation Department

**Initiated By:** Park and Recreation Department

**Presented By:** Joseph Petrella, Park and Recreation Director

**Action Requested:** Conduct Public Hearing on Resolution 10132

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**Public Hearing:**

1. Mayor conducts public hearing, calling three times each for opponents and proponents.
2. Mayor closes public hearing and asks the will of the Commission.

**Suggested Motion:**

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission (adopt/deny) Resolution 10132, Establishing fees for the Multi Sports Softball Program.”

2. Mayor Kelly requests a second to the motion, Commission discussion, and calls for the vote.
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**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the City Commission approve Resolution 10132 establishing fees for the Multi Sports Softball Program. Resolution 10132 would repeal the fees in Resolution 8782 adopted by the Commission in 1996.

**Background:** Initially developed in 1966 by volunteers without financial support from the City, the Multi Sports Complex provided a high quality facility to host adult softball programs and tournaments in Great Falls. Due to the overall success of the facility and continued interest by the general public, the complex was expanded to an eight field facility with support from the City. Over the years the complex has seen successes and failures, but it has always played a major role in providing softball fields for the softball community. In 2010 the complex was leased out for three (3) years to a private group in the hopes of generating additional revenue for the complex. Unfortunately, they opted out of the lease in October of 2011 and the complex was returned to the City for the 2012 softball season with the understanding that the Park and Recreation Department would operate the facility without receiving any general fund subsidies.

As of 2012, user fees and concession sales have been the only source of revenue to support operations. During this time, the department has been able to establish a healthy fund balance, but has not been able to address major concerns with the facilities infrastructure.

Team registration fees will remain the same at \$700/team (\$450 for team registration and \$250 for team player fee). High school team fees will remain the same at \$700/team.

The softball complex is available to the public to host special tournaments. Resolution 10132 will change the current fees for field rental from \$300 per day for 4 fields to \$100 per day per field if using less than 8 fields; and from \$450 per day for 8 fields to \$720 per day. Resolution 10132 provides a fee structure for rentals for a partial day from 8:00am-2:30pm; proposed fee for partial day rentals are \$50 per field per day if using less than 8 fields, and \$360 per day for 8 fields. Staff will prepare the fields for tournament play once with additional requested field preparations at a fee of \$15 per field. If staff exceeds their 40 hour work schedule for the week, the tournament will be charged \$25 per hour for any overtime accumulated due to the rental.

In order to sustain current operations and address the deteriorating infrastructure at the Multi Sports Complex, fees need to be established that are fair and equitable to the public, but will also help provide funding for equipment replacement expenses, capital improvement expenses, and staff cost-of-living increases.

Currently the facility is home to the C.M. Russell High School Girls Softball Program, Great Falls High School Girls Softball Program, University of Great Falls Softball Program and the Park and Recreation Departments' Adult Softball Program. The complex also hosts a variety of tournaments organized by various private user groups that brings thousands of visitors to Great Falls from all over Montana and neighboring states. Recently, many of these groups have met in an effort to brain storm and find ways to work together in the hopes of raising funds to help improve the facility and get it back to being the premier softball destination in the State of Montana. The increase in fees will primarily affect the private user groups.

**Fiscal Impact:** The increase in fees is projected to bring in an additional \$3,000 to \$4,000 in revenue to be utilized to help fund much needed improvements to the facility.

**Alternatives:** An alternative would be to not increase Multi Sports fees.

**Concurrences:** The Park and Recreation Advisory Board recommended that the City Commission approve Resolution 10132 at their March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Attachments/Exhibits:**

Resolution 10132 Multi Sports Program.

Multi Sports Softball Field photos.

Current and proposed Multi Sports fee comparison.

**RESOLUTION NO. 10132**

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH FEES FOR THE MULTI SPORTS SOFTBALL PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Park and Recreation Department’s primary focus is to enhance the overall health and livability of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission adopted Resolution 8782 titled “Multi Sports Fees” on March 19, 1996. Said fees have not been adjusted since that time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Park and Recreation staff strives to provide quality facilities and programs at affordable prices so citizens can realize the personal and social benefit attributed to a softball program; and

**WHEREAS**, having considered the cost of operation, administration and maintenance of the multi sports complex, it is deemed necessary and appropriate to adjust fees associated with running a sports complex.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA, that the fee structure for multi sports programs and usage are established as follows:**

| <b>RESOLUTION 10132 – MULTI SPORTS FEES</b>    |                      |  |                                 |
|--|----------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>Non Tournament Rates</b>                    |                      |  |                                 |
| <i>Fee type</i>                                | <i>No. of Fields</i> | <i>Fee</i>                             | <i>Damage Deposit</i>           |
| Field Rental                                   | Per Field            | \$12/hr                                | 50% of total rental up to \$500 |
| Field Preparation                              | Per Field            | \$15/prep (after 1 <sup>st</sup> prep) |                                 |
| Staff Fees                                     | NA                   | \$25/hour on overtime                  |                                 |
| <b>All Day Tournament Rates 8:00 am-dusk</b>   |                      |  |                                 |
| <i>Fee type</i>                                | <i>No. of Fields</i> | <i>Fee</i>                             | <i>Damage Deposit</i>           |
| Field Rental                                   | Per Field            | \$100                                  | 50% of total rental up to \$500 |
| Field Rental                                   | 8 Fields             | \$720                                  | 50% of total rental up to \$500 |
| Field Preparations                             | Per Field            | \$15/prep (after 1 <sup>st</sup> prep) |                                 |
| Staff Fees                                     | NA                   | \$25/hr on overtime                    |                                 |
| <b>Partial Day Tournament 8:00 am -2:30 pm</b> |                      |  |                                 |
| <i>Fee type</i>                                | <i>No. of Fields</i> | <i>Fee</i>                             | <i>Damage Deposit</i>           |
| Field Rental                                   | Per Field            | \$50                                   | 50% of total rental up to \$500 |
| Field Rental                                   | 8 Fields             | \$360                                  | 50% of total rental up to \$500 |
| Field Preparation                              | Per Field            | \$15/prep (after 1 <sup>st</sup> prep) |                                 |
| Staff Fees                                     | NA                   | \$25/hr on overtime                    |                                 |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>                           |                      |  |                                 |
| <i>Fee type</i>                                | <i>No. of Fields</i> | <i>Fee</i>                             | <i>Damage Deposit</i>           |
| Team Registration                              | NA                   | \$450                                  |                                 |
| Player Registration                            | NA                   | \$250                                  |                                 |

|                                    |    |       |  |
|------------------------------------|----|-------|--|
| High School Team<br>Regular Season | NA | \$700 |  |
|------------------------------------|----|-------|--|

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GREAT FALLS,  
MONTANA**, that Resolution No. 8782 is hereby repealed.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City Commission of the City of Great Falls, Montana, this 15<sup>th</sup> day  
of March, 2016.

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Bob Kelly, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Kunz, City Clerk

(CITY SEAL)

APPROVED FOR LEGAL CONTENT:

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Sara R. Sexe, City Attorney



**MULTI-SPORTS CURRENT AND PROPOSED FEE STRUCTURE**

| Fee Type                            | Number of Fields | Fee to be used for         | Current Fee Amount | Proposed Fee | Current Damage Deposit | Proposed Damage Deposit         | Comments   |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Field Rental                        | 4                | Facility Operations        | \$300              | Eliminate    |                        |                                 |  |
| Field Rental                        | 8                | Facility Operations        | \$450              | Eliminate    |                        |                                 |  |
| <b>Non-Tournament Rates</b>         |                  |                            |                    |              |                        |                                 |  |
| Field Rental                        | Per Field        | Facility Operations        |                    | \$12/hr      | 0                      | 50% of Total Rental up to \$500 |  |
| Field Preparations                  | Per Field        | Facility Operations        | 0                  | \$15/prep    |                        |                                 |  |
| Staff Fees                          | N/A              | Facility Operations        | 0                  | \$25/hr      |                        |                                 | For staff on overtime  |
| <b>All Day Tournament Rates</b>     |                  |                            |                    |              |                        |                                 |  |
| 8:00am to Dusk                      |                  |                            |                    |              |                        |                                 |  |
| Field Rental                        | Per Field        | Facility Operations        | 0                  | \$100        | 0                      | 50% of Total Rental up to \$500 |  |
| Field Rental                        | Entire           | Facility Operations        | 0                  | \$720        |                        | Same                            | 10% Discount   |
| Field Preparations                  | Per Field        | Facility Operations        | 0                  | \$15/prep    |                        |                                 | After the first prep (first one included)                            |
| Staff Fees                          | N/A              | Facility Operations        | 0                  | \$25/hr      |                        |                                 | For staff on overtime  |
| <b>Partial Day Tournament Rates</b> |                  |                            |                    |              |                        |                                 |  |
| 8:00am to 2:30pm                    |                  |                            |                    |              |                        |                                 |  |
| Field Rental                        | Per Field        | Facility Operations        | 0                  | \$50         | 0                      | 50% of Total Rental up to \$500 |  |
| Field Rental                        | Entire           | Facility Operations        | 0                  | \$360        |                        | Same                            | 10% Discount   |
| Field Preparations                  | Per Field        | Facility Operations        | 0                  | \$15/prep    |                        |                                 | After the first prep (first one included)                            |
| Staff Fees                          | N/A              | Facility Operations        | 0                  | \$25/hr      |                        |                                 | For staff on overtime  |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>                |                  |                            |                    |              |                        |                                 |  |
| Team Registration                   | N/A              | Softball League            | \$450              | \$450        |                        |                                 | Fee used for GFPR Softball League                                    |
| Player Registration                 | N/A              | Softball League            | \$250              | \$250        |                        |                                 | Fee used for GFPR Softball League                                    |
| High School Teams Regular Season    | Per Field        | High School Softball GFPSD | \$700              | \$700        |                        |                                 | For Great Falls Public School District High School Softball Programs |