



Waukeee Parks and Recreation Department Ball Field Reservation System

In 2004 the Waukeee Parks and Recreation Department needed to make a change in the use of our ball fields for practice. The rapid growth in the Waukeee School District and surrounding areas were causing problems with the lack of ball fields for the kids to practice on. With more than 150 Waukeee area Little League, Girl's Recreation Softball, and AAU teams looking for practice time on 3 Centennial Park Ball Fields and 4 Warrior Park Ball Fields it was very difficult to find a field to practice on. Prior to 2004 practice times were on a first come first serve basis. In addition, all of the Girl's Recreation League Softball games were played on the Centennial Park Fields. Therefore, in 2004 the Parks and Recreation Department implemented a new ball field reservation system.

The new system was developed to give all teams an equal chance for practice time on our limited number of fields. The only way to reserve a ball field for practice is to call in by telephone. We do not take reservations through email or in person. We use the call-in procedure to reserve ball fields every other Monday morning. We begin the ball field reservations on the second Monday of March and run through the first week of June. Coaches can begin calling on the designated Monday mornings for practice time at 8:00 A.M. We allow a coach to schedule one 1-hour practice per week giving them a total of 2 practices per call-in. In addition, we allow coaches to call back on Thursday of the call-in week to schedule an additional 1-hour of practice during the two week period after everyone has had a chance to reserve practice time. For example, our next call-in for practice time is Monday, April 21st and coaches can reserve an hour practice for the week of April 28th and an hour practice for the week of May 5th. Coaches can call-in again on Thursday, April 24th to schedule an additional hour of practice for either the week of April 28th or the week of May 5th.

Many of you might be asking yourselves how much we charge to reserve a ball field for practice. Believe it or not we do not charge coaches or teams to schedule practices on our fields during the 2 ½ month time period that we have the call-in reservations. We also do not let coaches or teams rent field space during the 2 ½ month call-in time frame. We feel that renting the fields is an unfair advantage over recreational teams that are not as competitive as the traveling AAU teams and that is why we do not allow rentals during this time. There are a couple of other things that we do not offer to teams wanting practice time. One is we do not turn on the lights for practices and two we do not schedule practice time on Saturday or Sunday. Weekends are first come first serve for field time. I know this may sound like a lot of rules and regulations to reserve a simple ball field practice, but we believe that this is the fairest way to work with the 150 plus teams in our area. If anyone has questions about our ball field reservation system, do not hesitate to contact Matt Jermier or Josh VandeKamp. Visit www.waukeee.org or call 515-978-0006