



Park District of Oak Park Longfellow Park Basketball Area

General Information

As part of the Park District of Oak Park's Capital Improvement Program, a site master plan was developed for Longfellow Park in 2006. The final site master plan for Longfellow Park includes many new park features including a full court basketball area. This feature was incorporated into the plan to offer a new recreational opportunity that could benefit the park neighborhood and community at large.

In the fall of 2008, the Park District began Phase I development of the Longfellow Park Master Plan. This project, funded by the "Renew Our Parks" referendum and a matching grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, included a new playground, splash pad and the renovation of the north end of the park to construct a new entry plaza into the building and a full court basketball area.

The park renovation project has been completed and the park is open to the public. The basketball court at Longfellow Park is the first and only of its kind in the Park District. While other basketball areas exist or have existed, Longfellow is the first full sized, outdoor, regulation court offered to the community in a long time. As such, the Park District will be in a position to provide the community with new programming, activity and use benefits at this facility.

Court Uses

The court will be utilized to support four distinct, yet equally important, functions.

1. Programs & Classes
2. Special Events & Activities
3. Rentals
4. Drop-in

Programs & Classes: These activities will be formal in nature and listed in our seasonal program brochures. Registration will be required and can be accomplished through our online system at www.oakparkparks.com or in-person at the Administrative Center (218 Madison) or Ridgeland Common (415 Lake Street.)

Special Events & Activities: Events and activities will be offered periodically throughout the spring, summer and fall. Most of these events will also require pre-registration and will also be listed in the seasonal program brochures.

Rentals: The Longfellow Basketball Court provides an opportunity to serve groups wishing to have private outings. Persons interested in obtaining more information on rates and procedures can contact the facility rental hotline at (708) 725-2722.

Drop-in: A portion of each day will be set aside for drop-in community access to the court free of charge. Whenever the court is open for free/drop-in play, a court attendant will be on duty to supervise the behavior of users and to enforce court regulations.

Schedules & Hours of Operation

Longfellow Park Basketball Court will be used and available for drop-in play by the community approximately seven months per year (April through October) weather and conditions permitting. The schedule will change seasonally to adjust to use patterns and to daylight hours.

Spring (early April through early June)
Hours to be determined

Summer (June 8 – September 5)
Mondays 3:00 to 8:00pm
Tuesdays 3:00 to 7:00pm
Wednesdays 3:00 to 8:00pm
Thursdays 3:00 to 8:00pm
Fridays 3:00 to 8:00pm
Saturdays 1:00 to 6:00pm
Sundays 1:00 to 6:00pm

Fall (September 8 – November 1)
Mondays 3:00 to 6:00pm
Tuesdays 3:00 to 6:00pm
Wednesdays 3:00 to 6:00pm
Thursdays 3:00 to 6:00pm
Fridays 3:00 to 6:00pm
Saturdays 1:00 to 6:00pm
Sundays 1:00 to 6:00pm

General Behavior Objectives

The basketball court at Longfellow Park shall provide a recreation venue where people of all ages can compete and enjoy the sport of basketball. To assist in making everyone's use an enjoyable experience, court attendants (staff) will be present working to uphold the following objectives.

- ❖ To create a welcoming environment for patrons to utilize their recreational free time.

- ❖ To create a safe, fun filled environment by offering convenient drop-in hours as well as new program opportunities.
- ❖ To create a neighborhood environment where staff are known to patrons for their friendliness and fairness.
- ❖ To create an environment where respect for others as well as quality recreation opportunities are top objectives.
- ❖ To create an environment where rules are clearly understood and enforced.
- ❖ To create an environment that the neighborhood can be proud of and fully support.
- ❖ To create an environment that is aesthetically pleasing with high quality equipment.

Equipment Check-Out Procedures

The Park District will provide basketballs to patrons. A supply of basketballs will be kept on site in Longfellow Center for access and distribution by the Court Attendant. It will be the responsibility of the Court Attendant to enforce the equipment loan procedures and to monitor the use of the basketballs. The following procedures will be followed:

1. A patron who requests to borrow a basketball must provide a valid photo identification card (Drivers License, School ID Card) to the Court Attendant.
2. The Court Attendant logs all necessary information (name, date, time) on the appropriate form and has the patron sign out the equipment.
3. The Court Attendant informs the patron that it is their responsibility to return the basketball prior to departing the site or at the end of the session otherwise their photo ID will be retained.
4. Upon return of the basketball, the Court Attendant will log the return information (name, date, time) on the necessary form and return the patron's identification card.

Note: It is at the discretion of the Court Attendant whether to loan out a basketball to individuals that do not possess or are too young to possess an identification card.

Rules & Regulations

To assure that the behaviors and conduct of the court users remain within acceptable standards and that all participants have the opportunity to have a quality experience, the following rules and regulations have been established. These regulations are posted at the court and shall be reinforced and stressed

by staff at all times. Violators will be subject to warnings, discipline, removal, suspension or arrest.

- ❖ The basketball court is open only when a court attendant is on duty.
- ❖ The court area is designed for basketball and other approved activities only. Other uses such as roller hockey, skate boarding, rollerblading, and bicycling are strictly prohibited.
- ❖ The court area was installed for the use and enjoyment of all ages and skill level. Fair and equitable use on the courts needs to be exercised so all players are provided an equal opportunity to play.
- ❖ Please exercise fair play and proper behavior. Offensive and/or vulgar language, gestures or acts as well as disruptive behavior will result in suspended park privileges and/or legal action.
- ❖ The use of amplified devices (radios, boom boxes, car stereos, etc.) is strictly prohibited.
- ❖ Alcohol and illegal substances are prohibited. Violators are subject to arrest.
- ❖ Please keep the courts clean and litter free by using trash receptacles provided. Glass containers are prohibited on the court.
- ❖ The court area is in close proximity to residential homes. The Park District expects your support in exercising neighborly behavior and in respecting their property.
- ❖ Violators of these or any other Park District or Village regulations shall be subject to penalties, fines and/or arrest.
- ❖ Call 911 to report illegal activity or suspicious behavior.

The Park District reserves the right to exclude park and/or court usage to anyone violating Park District rules. To report concerns, call (708) 383-0002.

The basketball area was built by the Park District for the community's use and enjoyment. However, the community must also play a role in making the court work for everyone's benefit. Through this collaboration and the adherence of the procedures, rules and regulations, this new activity area promises to be popular and beneficial to the community at large.