

Policy No. 9.4 (BP – Pemberton and District Recreation Service Facilities Code of Conduct)

Pemberton and District Recreation Service Facilities Code of Conduct

INTENT

The intent of this policy is to promote the safe, healthy and respectable use of the Pemberton and District Recreation Service facilities and prevent disrespectful and unsafe behaviour in parks, recreation facilities and programs through the development and implementation of prevention strategies.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Pemberton and District Recreation Service exists to provide residents with opportunities to participate in recreational activities in an environment where all individuals are treated with respect and where all activity is safe, promotes equal opportunities and prohibits discriminatory practices.

The Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (the "SLRD") is committed to creating supportive, positive environments for community residents participating in activities associated with the Recreation Service.

It is understood that organizations utilizing SLRD facilities must take **primary** responsibility for the behaviour of all associated with them, including but not limited to participants, staff, volunteers, officials, coaches and spectators.

APPLICATION

This policy applies to Pemberton and District Recreation facilities where programs, services and events are hosted.

Conduct within Pemberton and District Recreation Service parks and open spaces is regulated under the Pemberton and District Recreation Service Parks and Open Spaces Regulatory Bylaw No. 1425-2015.

GOALS OF THE POLICY

- 1. To provide safe facilities through the Recreation Service.
- 2. To prevent unsafe and inappropriate behaviour among participants, volunteers, staff, coaches, officials and spectators.
- 3. To increase the level of understanding of the importance of creating positive and supportive environments for Recreation Service activities.
- 4. To provide code of conduct guidelines for community organizations, staff, participants, volunteers and officials.

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5. To promote safe and healthy lifelong participation in Recreation Service activities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 1. Participation in Recreation Service programs are an important element in the human development process and contribute to a better quality of life.
- 2. A safe and positive environment provides maximum enjoyment and benefits from participation in Recreation Service activities.
- 3. The rules of fair play exist to protect all participants, staff, volunteers, officials, coaches and spectators. Everyone has a responsibility to ensure fair play exists through adherence to the SLRD Recreation Service Facilities Code of Conduct.
- 4. Violent or abusive behaviours such as verbal threats and insults, attempts to intimidate as well as physical assault and battery have no place in Recreation Service facilities.
- 5. Education and training to raise awareness of unsafe behaviour will promote positive and safe environments for all participants, staff, volunteer officials, coaches and spectators in Recreation Service facilities.

UNSAFE AND INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

Unsafe and inappropriate behaviours include but are not limited to the following:

- Verbal assaults, put-downs and name calling;
- Threats and attempts to intimidate;
- Throwing of objects in a deliberate or aggressive manner;
- Willful damage or destruction of Recreation Service property;
- Aggressive approaches to other individuals;
- Physical striking of other individuals;
- Engaging in horseplay causing unsafe conditions;
- In-line skating, skateboarding and/or bicycling, except where permitted at specific Recreation Service facilities;
- Unreasonably blocking corridors, thoroughfares, stairways, and/or exits;
- Attempts to provoke or incite violence in others;
- Engagement in a course of offensive comment or conduct;

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 Displaying abusive, offensive and/or indecent materials, words, images, signs and/or mannerisms.

These behaviours can be intentional or unintentional and can be between but are not limited to coach to participant, participant to participant, participant to volunteer, spectator to participant, participant to staff.

ENFORCEMENT

Individual(s) and/ or organizations (hereinafter called participant) who breach this Code of Conduct will be requested to leave the facility immediately. Depending on the severity of the incident, a further ban from all Recreation facilities for a period of time as determined by the Recreation Services Manager, or designate, may be imposed in accordance with the Suspension Procedures herein.

Enforcement Procedures:

Staff who witness a breach of the Code of Conduct or to whom a breach is reported will:

- 1. Assess the situation;
- 2. If the situation warrants, issue a verbal request to participant to refrain from the prohibited activity;
- 3. If the situation is not resolved by verbal request, issue verbal warning to participant to refrain from the prohibited activity or they will be asked to leave the facility;
- 4. If the situation is still unresolved after a verbal warning, issue verbal direction to participant to leave the property, citing the reason as failure to refrain from the prohibited activity;
- 5. Upon refusal by participant to leave, call RCMP;
- 6. Advise Recreation Services Manager of breach and action taken;
- 7. Prepare an incident report including: description of activity provoking enforcement, action taken, identification of participant including name, phone number, and address (if known).

Suspension Procedures:

1. Incident Reports will be submitted to the Recreation Services Manager, who is authorized to further suspend participants if an incident is deemed very serious or if the participant has been previously suspended within the last 14 days.

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- 2. Staff to meet with participant and where the participant is under the age of nineteen (19) to include parent(s), and explain Code of Conduct and breach. Ensure that expectations of the Code of Conduct are clear to participant and/or parent(s).
- 3. If participant is involved in a second breach of the Code of Conduct, the Recreation Services Manager will meet with the participant and/or parent(s) to discuss the breach, and where suspension is imposed, issue written notice to the participant and/or parent(s), with copy to the SLRD's Chief Administrative Officer.
- If participant is involved in a third breach of the Code of Conduct, staff will impose a suspension from the Recreation Services facilities ranging from a suspension of seven (7) days to an indefinite suspension.

Appeal:

Anyone disagreeing with a suspension exceeding 48 hours may appeal to the Recreation Services Manager and/or the SLRD Chief Administrative Officer.

Reference - Pemberton and District Recreation Service Parks and Open Spaces Regulatory Bylaw No.1425-2015. A Bylaw to establish regulations governing the use of Parks and Open Spaces in Pemberton and Area C on property owned or held by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District for recreation or community uses.

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