

Town of Barre  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
Policy  
Fields Unfit for Play

The Town of Barre Parks and Recreation Commission believes athletic competition and practice on soggy, soft, wet fields can damage fields by tearing up sod and by creating rough and uneven surface. Attempts to fix wet fields on the spot can lead to further damage.

The Commission recognizes that everyone, including athletes who use the Town's fields, are busy and have full schedules. Postponing games is an inconvenience and can change the outcome of a season. The Town of Barre recreation staff will make every effort to make fields suitable for practice and games. Despite that effort there will be days when ground conditions and weather result in prohibitive field conditions. Therefore it is the policy of the Commission to authorize the Recreation Maintenance Supervisor to deem fields unfit for play following the guidelines listed below.

1. Standing water on the field.
2. An average sized participant in that day's or night's activities would make a 1" or more deep footprint.
3. Sod can be pushed up with foot pressure.
4. The presence or impending inclement weather including but not limited to; lightning, hail, severe rain or wind.
5. Determination by umpire to cancel game due to inclement weather.

The Recreation Maintenance Supervisor will inspect field(s) when it is suspected the field(s) might not be fit for play. The Recreation Maintenance Supervisor shall inspect fields even if no game or practices are scheduled. If he/she determines the field(s) are unfit, he/she will post a sign conspicuously on the field or fence gates. If games or practices are scheduled for later that day or evening, he/she shall attempt to communicate with the leagues, associations or team's contact person.

The Recreation Maintenance Supervisor shall make a decision about field(s) condition and communicate with the appropriate contact person approximately two (2) hours before scheduled activities. Some weather conditions may require less than two (2) hours notice.

The policy shall apply to the soccer field, baseball field, softball field, little league field, and multi-purpose field at the Barre Town Recreation Area, to the East Barre Park, and to the South Barre ball fields.

Anyone playing on a field posted closed or unfit for play shall leave immediately when directed by any Town Recreation Division employee, police officer, or town management

If a league, association or team violates the decision to prohibit play, the Recreation Maintenance Supervisor shall note the date, time and offending party(s) and notify the Recreation Board chairperson. The Supervisor shall contact the leagues; associations or teams responsible party to confirm the violation. When a violation is confirmed the league involved shall be assessed a \$50 penalty per violation. The Recreation Board may impose more penalties for multiple offenses or in cases of severe damage.

Barre ~~Town~~ Recreation Board  
Adopted: *D. C. Fawcett*

06/16/2014

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