
RECREATION COMMITTEE 2009

The charter of the Recreation Committee is "To plan and execute programs of recreation and leisure activities for people of all ages in the town". We always welcome suggestions and assistance from the members of the community on how we can better serve the town.

South Commons Recreation continued to contract with a local landscaper to provide a maintenance program on the field areas. This continued commitment has gradually improved the condition of the South Commons complex over the recent years. Thru the rental of the field complex to several different organizations we were able to generate \$8100 in revenue last year. Recreation is responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the children's playground and last year we spent \$2800 to maintain the playing surface of the playground. Currently we are considering options on what can be done to improve the condition of the tennis and basketball courts and hope to make these improvements this summer. We would like to thank the Highway Department for their ongoing assistance with many tasks that are required throughout the year at the South Commons complex.

NEFC Field The condition of the playing surface of the full size soccer field in the back corner of the complex continues to improve. There is a five year contract in place thru the fall of 2011 ensuring that NEFC will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of this area in exchange for shared usage with our town programs during the year. Recreation, Berlin soccer, Berlin Baseball and NEFC continue to work cooperatively on maintenance plans, equipment, and scheduling in order to keep South Commons busy and well organized.

Adult Basketball Recreation currently sponsors Men's basketball on Monday nights and Women's basketball on Sunday evenings in the BMS gymnasium. Both groups have experienced very good turn out over the last year.

The following notes are from the town sports programs currently offered in Berlin.

The Berlin Baseball Association (BBA) offers Little League baseball to 5-12 year olds in town. In 2010, we merged our girl's softball program with Boylston to provide an enhanced playing experience. This is our third consecutive year offering softball and the participation continues to grow. We have approximately 75 players registered this year, and expect to field 8 teams to play against local towns. The Minor League baseball field recently received a makeover reshaping the infield and improving the playing surface.

Berlin Youth Soccer is open to all children ages 5 to 18 interested in playing soccer and is organized, coached, and supported by parent volunteers. Games are played both in the spring and fall. The youngest players, under the age of 6, play strictly in town in a format designed to engage them in the sport while having recreational fun. Players between ages 6 and 8 play against each other and similar teams from Boylston. Ages 9 to 18 play in the Nashoba Valley Youth Soccer league, which has participation from many Central Mass towns. Approximately 120 children were registered both in the fall 2009 and spring 2010.

Berlin Youth Basketball provides children in grades one through six the opportunity to learn the sport of basketball. The season typically begins in November and runs through mid-March. Teams are organized by school grade levels and a typical roster consists of anywhere from seven to twelve players per team. Berlin participates in the Nashoba Basketball League, which includes teams from grades three through six from the towns of Bolton, Lancaster, Harvard, Stow and Maynard. There were 80 boys and girls enrolled for the 2009 season.

The Recreation Committee Revolving Account had an opening balance on 7/1/08 of \$10,758. During the year we received \$8195 mostly from the usages fees associated with the athletic fields. From this account during the year around \$6683 was spent on field and playground maintenance. The 6/30/09 balance was 12,270. As of 12/31/07 the year-end balance was 13,286.

Members

Robert MacKay

Matt Grady

Mike Willis

Greg Smith