

Track and Field Use Policy:
Revised Draft 3/24/03
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I. Objectives: (no order of priority implied)

A Maximize Yarmouth’s return on investment in facilities and the opportunities for Yarmouth students, citizens, and teams to practice team sports, play competitive games and meets, and host tournaments, championships, and leagues, and to enjoy both organized and unorganized (pick-up) fitness and recreational use of facilities.

B Preserve and protect Yarmouth’s investment from excessive use, misuse, or neglect; and to provide scheduling limitations that allow proper, efficient, and regular maintenance of the facilities.

C To limit facility schedules and activities in order to reduce undue impacts on neighboring properties and life styles through noise, light, traffic, and trespass; including residential and commercial properties as well as other school functions and activities..

D To prioritize use and scheduling to meet the needs of Yarmouth based sports activities in the following order:

1. Yarmouth High School Sports Teams and officially sanctioned school club sports
2. Yarmouth Physical Education Programming
3. Yarmouth Middle School sport teams
4. Yarmouth Community Services sponsored activities, teams, and sport camps.
5. Yarmouth based and operated youth sports programs designed to primarily provide development and competitive athletic programming for Yarmouth youth (such as Yarmouth Colts, Royal River Ramblers)
6. Yarmouth based and operated adult sports programs designed to primarily provide recreational and competitive athletic programming for Yarmouth adults.
7. Unscheduled individual and “pick-up” use of the facilities for fitness and recreational activity by Yarmouth residents.
8. Hosting of Maine Principal Association sponsored tournaments, championship games, meets, and showcases where Yarmouth teams may be eligible to play if their regular season win-loss or play-off results provide Yarmouth teams an equal (or better) opportunity to compete in such tournaments, championships, or meets. Generally such hosting commitments will be made at the beginning of the “regular” season before Yarmouth’s eligibility to compete in any “post-season” play can be established.
9. Daytime (only) games and exhibitions by and between teams not necessarily from or associated with the Yarmouth School Department, Yarmouth Community Services, or Yarmouth based adult or youth sports programs only with the express permission of the Yarmouth Athletic Director and Director of Community Services.

10. Daytime scheduled use of the track and related facilities for North Yarmouth Academy track and field teams practices and hosted meets, subject to prior general arrangements and approvals of the Yarmouth School Department and Town Council.

II. Limitations on Use of Facilities- when field lights are not used.

Limitations on scheduled uses and activities which do not utilize the field lighting system shall be determined by cooperative efforts between Yarmouth Community Services, and the Yarmouth School Athletic Director consistent with the priority list above and the requirements of this policy.

Further, no scheduled uses or activities will be permitted to begin before 8:00 AM on any regular business day Monday through Friday, (not including holidays), nor be permitted to continue after 8:30 PM. No scheduled uses or activities will be permitted to begin before 9:00 AM on Saturdays or 10:00 AM on Sundays or holidays, nor be permitted to continue after 6:00 PM.

Notwithstanding this provision, Yarmouth High School Physical Education (first academic period of each school day), and adult fitness programs may use the facilities prior to 8:00 AM for non-competitive activities.

III. Limitation on Use of Facilities- When Use of Field lights is required:

Nighttime or evening activities and use of the lights places additional concern regarding impacts on neighboring properties and private, quiet enjoyment of nearby homes. Therefore, the following limitations are established for activities, events, games, and meets that are scheduled for those hours where use of the lights may be required. Any schedule that may reasonably be expected to continue beyond sunset or 8:30 PM, whichever is the earlier, shall be included in this category.

Night time use of the facility shall be permitted only when

- A. A Yarmouth High School team is directly participating in an interscholastic competition during the athletic season for that sport during the MPA established season, pre-season, and post-season play period. No high school sports team may be allowed to schedule nighttime interscholastic games at the facility for more events than equates to the number of "home" games in the regular season for that team plus any post season play-off games or meets in which that Yarmouth teams shall compete, or
- B. Official practices of Yarmouth School Teams, or

- C. A Yarmouth Middle School team is directly participating in an interscholastic competition during the athletic season for that sport during the MPA established season, pre-season, and post-season play period. No middle school sports team may be allowed to schedule nighttime interscholastic games at the facility for more events than equates to the number of “home” regular season games or meets for that team plus any post season play-off games or meets in which that Yarmouth teams shall compete, or
- D. Not more than a total of eight events (an “event” may include a series of games on a particular day) scheduled between January 1 and July 31 and not more than a total of eight events (an “event” may include a series of games on a particular day) scheduled between August 1 and December 31, annually which shall qualify as hosting events under priority I.D.(8), above, [i.e. MPA Tournaments] or
- E. Not more than a total of twelve events per calendar year to be for Yarmouth Community Services activities which qualify under priority I.D. (4), above, [i.e. YCS Events], or
- F. Not more than a cumulative total of twelve events per calendar year to be for Yarmouth based youth sports which qualify under priority I.D. (5), [e.g. Colts, Ramblers] above, with the express written prior authorization of the Yarmouth Athletic Director and Director of Yarmouth Community Services.

IV General Rules- Night Scheduling.

- A. Any night games or activities authorized under this policy shall be scheduled such that they may reasonably be expected to be completed by 9:00 PM. All athletes and spectators should be asked to leave the facilities immediately following the games, meets, or practices, and the field lights should be turned off within 20 minutes of the completion of the game or meet.
- B. Any school team practices shall be completed by 9:00 by and the lights should be turned out no later than 9:20 PM. Night practices shall be permitted Monday through Friday (inclusive), only.
- C. Any public address system shall be used for official games and events only and shall not be used for practice sessions. Public address systems shall be used by adults only and for pre- or post-game or meet announcements, playing the national anthem, and similar uses only; the system shall not be used for “play-by-play” announcing or “color comments”. There shall be no permanent Public Address system installed and the speakers shall be aimed away from the Village Brook neighborhood. (This entire policy subsection shall apply to daytime activity as well.)
- D. No night games shall be scheduled for Saturday or Sunday nights for any teams or events. However, the Yarmouth Athletic Director may authorize make-up or rain-out games for Saturday evenings when no practical alternatives or locations are available.

V General Rules- Other

General Limitations

The Facility will not be rented out for use by use by any organization, company or person provided that his will not prevent (1) arrangements with North Yarmouth Academy which may include the payment of use fees or other consideration for it use of the track and field event facilities or (2) arrangements with the organizations sponsoring the games described in priorities I (D) (6) and (8), above which may include the payment of use fees or the sharing of ticket revenues with the Town. The Facility will not be used for concerts or other non-athletic events or non-academic events directly supervised by the Yarmouth School Department.

Track Use Limitations.

The track and the facilities for the field events may be used by Yarmouth School teams, Yarmouth Youth Teams and (with appropriate local approvals) the North Yarmouth Academy track team, and may also be used by Yarmouth residents and their guests or relatives who are not affiliated with a track team. State Meets, Regional Meets or other track meets involving more than four teams will not be held at the Facility more than three times each year.

Additional Instructions to Users, Coaches, and Spectators.

Coaches, spectators, and participants should be made aware of the following:

Trash, gum and soda are not permitted on the field or track.

Absolutely no unauthorized vehicles on the field or track. Gear must be carried not dragged.

Scoreboard consoles, scorer's table, public address system and lighting are under the strict control of the Athletic Director and use shall be strictly limited.

No metal or screw-in cleats are allowed.

Track spikes limited to ¼ inch maximum.

Keep storage shed and concession/toilet facilities locked when not in use; and supervised whenever open.

NO DOGS

Roadway gate must be kept locked at all times access is open for maintenance and emergency vehicles only. Carry, do not drive, equipment to the field.

No painting or marking on the field- use of cones for corner markers only.

NO SMOKING on any school grounds- this facility is no exception.

Phone service is not available at the field- coaches are advised to carry a cell phone.

Athletes intending to use the field should cross the track only at designated location (on mat).

Teams and spectators are responsible to patrol areas, including the bench areas, to remove all trash, debris....please use trash receptacles.

Bikes, skateboards, and in-line skates will mar or deform the track surface and are prohibited.