
THE FIELDS

at RFK Campus

Permitting Policy, Procedures, and Fee Schedule

Amateur sports organizations, community groups and individuals from DC and beyond may request field time using the following permitting process.

Field time will be allocated for sports activities, community activities, such as pick-up games and informal recreational use, and events, including programming organized by Events DC. In allocating field time, preference will generally be given to organizations that serve local youth.

CRYSP, a nonprofit organization, is the operator of The Fields at RFK Campus, which were built and are owned by Events DC. Events DC is the official convention and sports authority for the District of Columbia, and owns and/or manages several key facilities in the District, including the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, RFK Campus, Nationals Park. CRYSP was formed in 2010 to advocate for more playing space in DC — particularly for youth sports.

About The Fields at RFK Campus

The Fields at RFK Campus includes three high-quality lighted turf fields, a covered pavilion, a playground, restrooms, and a parking lot. Fields 1 and 3 are identical fields that contain one full-sided soccer field measuring 110 x 70 yards. Inset are two small-sided soccer fields measuring 75 x 50 yards. These two fields can be rented for a variety of sports, including soccer, football, and kickball. Under special circumstances, fields 1 and 3 may also be rented as half-fields in order to ensure optimal field usage and accommodate as many participants as is feasible. Field 1 is the farthest north, and Field 3 is the farthest south, closest to RFK Stadium.

Field 2 includes two baseball diamonds and a full-size soccer field with two small-sided inset soccer fields with the same dimensions as Fields 1 and 3. The overall space available on Field 2 is about 190 yards x 90 yards. Field 2 can be rented as a whole field, or divided into two little league baseball fields — 2a and 2b — as marked on the signage.

The Fields provide patrons, especially local communities and DC residents, with a quality and reasonably-priced venue for sporting activities and programming, such as soccer, baseball, lacrosse, and other sports. Events DC, the owner of the fields, envisions a vibrant destination offering an array of sports, entertainment, cultural, and recreational programming and, together with CRYSP (operator of The Fields) plans to take innovative and creative approaches to better serve Washington, DC.

Fee Schedule

The Field Use Hourly Rates published below are subject to change at any time.

Field Use Hourly Rates During Peak Periods

Field Number	Qualified Community Rate	Youth DC Rate	Youth non-DC Rate	Adult – DC Rate	Adult non-DC Rate
1 or 3	\$20 per hour	\$75 per hour	\$140 per hour	\$125 per hour	\$175 per hour
2a	\$15 per hour	\$40 per hour	\$80 per hour	\$70 per hour	\$95 per hour
2b	\$15 per hour	\$40 per hour	\$80 per hour	\$70 per hour	\$95 per hour
2a and b	\$30 per hour	\$80 per hour	\$160 per hour	\$140 per hour	\$190 per hour

Field Use Hourly Rates During Non-Peak Periods

Field	Qualified Community Rate	Youth DC Rate	Youth - non DC Rate	Adult – DC Rate	Adult non-DC Rate
1 or 3	\$12 per hour	\$45 per hour	\$80 per hour	\$75 per hour	\$100 per hour
2a	\$9 per hour	\$24 per hour	\$50 per hour	\$42 per hour	\$60 per hour
2b	\$9 per hour	\$24 per hour	\$50 per hour	\$42 per hour	\$60 per hour
2a & 2b	\$18 per hour	\$48 per hour	\$100 per hour	\$84 per hour	\$120 per hour

Rate Period Definitions

All information relating to Peak and Non-Peak Periods will be published at RFKfields.com. However, as a general guide, Peak Periods include the Fall season, which generally runs the last two weeks of August through November, and the Spring season, which will generally be March to mid-June. Non-Peak Periods include the Winter season will generally be from December through February, and the Summer season, which will generally be from mid-June to mid-August.

Field Rate Category Definitions

In order to determine the applicable patron rate category, the following definitions shall apply to the terms contained in the Fee Schedules:

- **Qualified Community Rate:** applies to organizations that meet the criteria of all three of the following: DC Organization, Local-to-RFK Organization, and Nonprofit Organization.
 - **DC Organization:** organizations must be based in Washington, DC, **and** over 75% of its patrons/players must reside in the District. Rosters or other proof of residency for players and other supporting documentation for the organization may be required. The location of the organization itself cannot be used to determine the residency of its participants.
 - **Local-to-RFK Organization:** organizations, clubs or teams that draw a significant number *or* a significant percentage of players from the neighborhoods surrounding The Fields at RFK Campus.
 - **Significant number** is defined as at least 100 participants.
 - **Significant percentage** is defined as at least 51% percent of players or participants.
 - **Neighborhoods surrounding The Fields at RFK Campus** include the following zip codes only: 20002, 20003, 20019, and 20020.
 - **Nonprofit organization:** organizations designated as tax-exempt under IRS Code 501(c)(3).
- **Youth Rates:** *apply to organizations that primarily include participants 18 years of age and under.*
- **Adult Rates:** *apply to organizations that primarily include participants over the age of 18 years old.*

Additional Fee Schedule Information

- Generally, Fields 1 or 3 will be rented as full fields. Patrons requesting rental of half a field will be considered. Such usage when granted will be billed at half of the full field rate.
- The minimum field purchase time is one hour. Patrons may purchase additional time in 30-minute increments, which will be charged at half of the hourly rate.
- Multi-season permits will not be offered during the Fall 2019 season, but will be considered for future seasons.
- Fee waivers or reduced rates can be requested and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Eligibility criteria include, but are not limited to: financial hardship, an expressed or documented need for the activity, and/or the activity is free and open to the public to participate. Other examples include organizations that apply for fee waivers or wish to hold a clinic to train umpires or referees. All information on fee waivers may be found online at RFKfields.com.

- Additional areas of the facility/complex can be rented as follows:
 - Pavillion - exclusive use: \$50/hour
 - Pavillion - partial use: \$25/hour
 - Other uses of space between fields or parking lots for events will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis.
 - Additional fees may apply if additional staffing, custodial, security, or other services are required.

Field Use Allocation

Field time will be allocated for permitted amateur sports activities and for community activities, such as pick-up play and informal recreational use. Some time will also be reserved, as needed, for events, including programming organized by Events DC and third-party events. A schedule showing times allocated for each type of access is posted online at RFKfields.com.

The key priorities for use of The Fields are to provide scheduling and play-time opportunities as follows:

- **Amateur Sports Programs** (including league/team practices), 60 percent of the time, with priority being given to teams/leagues that qualify as Local-to-RFK as defined above, and teams/leagues from around the District. For these programs, youth leagues will have greater priority than adult leagues.
- **Community Uses**, 20 percent of the time, which include less formal, non-league sports and recreational activities sponsored by area community organizations, groups and individuals, including “pick-up games” and other hosted activities. Fields are available on a first-come-first-served basis during these times.
- **Events**, 20 percent of the time, which include third party events and programming sponsored by Events DC. Events DC is responsible for determining/reserving these field use times.

The application review process is designed to provide equitable access to field time, with an emphasis on time for local and youth programming, and an effort to balance applications for large blocks of field time with time for smaller requests.

Application Process/Requirements

Season schedules will be published regularly at RFKfields.com, including the dates for the quarterly Permit Application Windows, when organizations and individuals can apply for permits, and when permits will be issued. Field patrons may sign up for emails about permit windows and important dates at RFKfields.com.

Application Process -- How to Apply

In order to apply for field use, please visit RFKfields.com to complete the online application process. Please include information about your organization, including: youth/adult, DC-based/outside of DC, time and date of event, etc. Organizations should provide as much detail as possible about the amount of time they request, their preferred dates/times, and any flexibility, as many applicants will likely request some of the same time slots. Specific instructions pertaining to applying during the Permit Application Window and during the Post-Application Window can be found below.

Once the Permit Application Window closes, CRYSP will begin the evaluation process. During that process, organizations may be asked to provide additional documentation to establish their fee category. Additional fees may be required, or access denied or revoked, if it becomes clear that the permitted patron does not meet the criteria for the fee category that is indicated in its application. If a club or league does not have its membership roster at the time the permit application is made, it should provide a best estimate of participant membership, which may be required when the club or league has completed its sign ups. We will make every effort to complete permit decisions within 14 days after the application window ends.

Once field time is approved by CRYSP, applicants will receive notice of such approval and must pay their invoice in full and sign the use agreement within three (3) business days of being notified that their time has been approved – notification will be sent via email. Payment must be made by credit card. If the invoice is not paid within 3 business days, the applicant may lose the assigned time slot and that field time will be made available to fulfil other use requests.

Permitted patrons are expected to notify CRYSP in the event that paid-for time will not be used. CRYSP reserves the right to re-allocate that time to other patrons. At no time will patrons receive a refund.

CRYSP reserves the right to revoke permitted time at any time, for any reason whatsoever.

Post-Application Window

After the Permit Application Window ends and permits are issued and paid, CRYSP will publish a calendar showing permitted uses, scheduled Community Uses, and remaining available field time. CRYSP will then accept additional permit applications, including from applicants that missed the Permit Application Window deadline, on a rolling basis, awarding permits on a first-come-first-served basis, subject to availability. During this time, applicants may apply for one individual time slot or multiple time slots.

Event/Tournament Applications

For organizations seeking field time for events or tournaments, please email thefields@cryspdc.org at any time to inquire about availability. Depending on the size and scope of these events, they may be referred to Events DC.

For events, especially larger events, rates, terms and conditions may vary from the published rate structure on a case-by-case basis due to the additional staffing, maintenance, medical, security and other services that may be required.

Requirements for Permitted Patrons

Permitted field patrons will be required to submit proof of insurance for players, coaches and any other participant engaging in activity at The Fields, prior to beginning any activity on the field. Specific insurance requirements will be emailed to applicants at the time of permit approval and may also be posted online at RFKfields.com.

Community Use of The Fields

- Community Use times will appear on the schedule of field time at RFKfields.com.
- Generally, fields are available on a “first-come-first-served” basis during scheduled Community Use time. Community Uses are less formal, non-league sports and recreational activities sponsored by area community organizations, individuals, CRYSP and other groups including “pick-up games.” Requests for fee waivers will also be scheduled as Community Use time.
- Patrons can expect to see a mix of sports and activities during Community Use times. Patrons do not have a right to demand the use of a full field if other patrons also want to use the fields. Generally, patrons are expected to work in good faith to share the field with others. Patrons should bring conflicts to the attention of field staff.
- Within Community Use, CRYSP will schedule time reserved for recurring sport-specific pickup play. Pick up play will be free and open to the public.
- Community Use time and any specific activities scheduled during that time may be publicized by Events DC and/or CRYSP to encourage public participation. Organizations receiving permits for activities during Community Use times may be expected to publicize the activity, including notifying the local ANC commissioner.
- Fee waivers or reduced rates can be requested and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Eligibility criteria include, but are not limited to: financial hardship, an expressed or documented need for the activity, and/or the activity is free and open to the public to participate. Other examples include organizations that apply for fee waivers or wish to hold a clinic to train umpires or referees. All information on fee waivers may be found online at RFKfields.com.

Weather policy

In the event that lightning is observed at or near the Fields, the entire park area will be closed for 30 minutes; the 30-minute clock will be restarted after each subsequent observance (if applicable). The Fields may also be closed due to snow/ice accumulation and other emergencies at the discretion of CRYSP or Events DC. Field staff will announce field closures via the public announcement system and on the weather line, (202) 539-9555. All players, spectators and others must follow the instructions of The Fields staff and vacate the fields. Staff

may reopen the park after lightning or other weather hazards have passed, but all decisions of The Field staff are final and within their sole and absolute discretion.

With the exception of lightning, snow/ice accumulation, and other extreme weather conditions, decisions about playing during inclement weather are up to permitted patrons, at their own discretion and their own risk. Patrons may not shovel snow off the field at any time.

Schedule Adjustments

If playing fields are closed due to inclement weather or other emergencies, the permitted patron may request to reschedule league games. In the event that permitted field time must be rescheduled at the sole and absolute discretion of CRYSP or Events DC, the patron will receive credit toward future field time and CRYSP will make every effort to reschedule the patron during the applicable season. At no time will CRYSP issue refunds to any patron.

Field Conditions and Cleaning Deposit

If a permitted patron arrives to its designated field and finds it in a substandard condition due to trash, other items/equipment on or off the field, or any damage to the field, please inform field staff immediately. Failure to do so may result in the patron being held responsible for the substandard condition.

Once a permitted patron takes possession of the field, the patron is responsible for cleaning up after their activities or event and leaving the field in as-good or better condition than when they arrived.

On occasion, CRYSP may require the patron to pay a cleaning deposit prior to engaging in any activity on the field or other areas of the facility. The circumstances under which a cleaning deposit will be required shall be made on a case-by-case basis. In the event that CRYSP requires the patron to provide a cleaning deposit, the deposit will be refunded as quickly as possible after the event, assuming the field(s) is/are in the same condition after the event as before it. A deposit will not typically be required for routine amateur sports.

Facility Use Policies - The Fields at RFK Campus

Unless otherwise provided, the following Use Policies are in effect:

- The Fields at RFK Campus are open to the public during published hours of operation as shown on RFKfields.com and posted on site at the Field Office
- During Community Use hours, designated fields are available on a first-come-first-served basis for youth/families OR adults as published schedule indicates
- If you wish to reserve time for league play, apply for a permit at RFKfields.com
- Permit holders are responsible for adhering to all field and campus policies and may use the playing fields ONLY during their designated time; Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of permits
- Leashed dogs are allowed on the campus, but please keep dogs off the playground. Dogs are NOT permitted on the turf playing fields
 - Please pick up after your pets
 - Pet watering fountains are provided -- Please keep pets out of the people fountains!
 - Only guide dogs are allowed on the turf and in the playground area
- Enjoy the entire site as a smoke-free, tobacco-free, drug-free destination.
- Alcohol — in any container — is prohibited on site except by specific permit
- Barbequing and open fires are prohibited
- Food is allowed in all areas except the playing fields. Chewing gum, sunflower seeds and beverages, other than water, are prohibited on the playing fields
- Wear sneakers or rubber cleats -- bare feet and metal cleats are prohibited on the playing fields and playgrounds
- Protect the turf: Keep bikes (motorized and non), ATV's, in-line skates, skateboards, scooters and heavy equipment off the playing fields; Tape, paint, and adhesives are prohibited on the turf
- Respect our neighbors' ears: amplified music is prohibited except by specific permit
- Sales and vending are prohibited, except by permit
- Signs or other posted materials are prohibited, except by permit
- Keep The Fields clean! Remove all refuse from seating areas and playing fields before departure, deposit all trash and recyclables in cans provided or take it with you
- Please enjoy bathrooms during posted hours of operation; dispose of diapers in trash receptacles
- Leave equipment where it is, please do not move or remove field equipment (goals, corner flags, etc.)
- Park only in designated spaces
- Take lots of photos and videos, but not with drones – drones are prohibited
- Commercial, political or religious solicitation is prohibited
- Field closures due to weather or other reasons will be announced on RFKfields.com; if a field is closed, no use is permitted; CRYSP will attempt to notify permitted patrons by email or other means if a field is closed unexpectedly
- Campus patrons are responsible for adhering to these Use Policies and all applicable federal and District of Columbia laws at all times; Failure to do so may result in being asked to leave the campus