

Main Statement: As of August 1, 2023, dogs are not allowed (except for certified service animals) at any outdoor maintained sports fields, stadiums, arenas, or spectator areas located at Mercyhealth Sportscore One, Mercyhealth Sportscore Two, or Clarence Hicks Memorial Sports Park. Dogs are also not allowed on golf courses, putting greens, or practice areas during the operational season at any Rockford Park District golf course (Aldeen Golf Club, Ingersoll Golf Course, Sandy Hollow Golf Course, Sinnissippi Golf Course).

The update to the Rockford Park District's Code of Ordinances Per Rockford Park District Ordinance 10.01 is for the safety of athletes, guests, and overall longevity of the fields. By playing it safe and enforcing a dog-free safety rule at these outdoor facilities we are protecting the health and welfare of the athletes who use the fields, limiting unwanted behaviors in dogs, and making sure that everyone feels welcome to utilize these outdoor facilities.

Dogs on a leash can still utilize the recreational path and other appropriate areas of those facilities. The updated ordinance does not interfere with our commitment to compliance of welcoming service animals. Thank you for helping us play it safe!

Additional Points:

- This change is consistent with industry standards for outdoor sports facilities and continues to enhance the District's philosophy for playing it safe.
- Hundreds of thousands of youth and teens utilize these facilities every year and some are intimidated by dogs or have had a negative experience.

Additional Questions?

- Contact Amy McIntyre, Operations Director, 779-771-2404 or amymcintyre@rockfordparkdistrict.org
- Contact Louis Mateus, Sportscore Complexes General Manager, 708-990-0182 or loouismateus@rockfordparkdistrict.org
- Contact Derek Papich, MHSC1 Manager, 815-670-8173 or derekpapich@rockfordparkdistrict.org

Information above to be utilized on the following:

- Website
- Provided to tournament operators, vendors, and partners (EX: Raptors, RACVB)
- E-blasts / Social Media Post on MHSC1, MHSC2, Youth Sports
- RecConnect to all registered participants for Fall Programs
- CE Team and Sportscore Complex Teams
- Public information piece for team to handout to upset patrons
- District-wide email