



REQUEST FOR ACTION CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Date: 5/5/2026
Agenda Section: Consent Agenda

Department Origination: Administration

Agenda Item: Approve Special Event Application for Brainerd Baxter Baseball Association for their Battle at the Lakes Baseball Tournament on June 6-8, June 13-15, June 20-22 and MYAS Post Season Classic on July 24-26 at Oscar Kristofferson Park Ball Fields

Approval Required: Simple Majority Vote

BACKGROUND

Since 2021, the Brainerd Baxter Brainerd Baseball Association (BBBA) has annually hosted an event known as the Battle at the Lakes Tournament. The event, which occurs over multiple weekends, is a collection of several baseball tournaments that is held in various locations within the two communities (Forestview Middle School, Central Lakes College, Brainerd High School, and Oscar Kristofferson Park). Oscar Kristofferson Park is the designated location for the younger age group tournaments (11 and under, 10 and under, & 9 and under), which are scheduled to be held on the following weekends in 2026:

- June 6-8
- June 13-15
- June 20-22

In addition to the Battle of the Lakes Tournaments, the BBBA will host an additional tournament (MYAS Post Season Classic) in conjunction with Minnesota Youth Athletic Services - MYAS on July 24-26.

The BBBA is required to obtain a special event permit for the following reasons: utilization of the warming house, the ability to have selected food vendors, and the commitment from the City for the preparation of the fields prior to and between games each day. The BBBA does provide volunteers that assist with other field maintenance before and after games, as well as general daily trash pickup around the ball fields.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Parks budget includes the costs related to the services requested for Battle of the Lakes Tournaments. The BBBA has given an annual donation to assist with the costs affiliated with the tournaments. With the additional tournament weekend, Administration is projecting the City will incur an estimated additional \$2,000 to cover the services requested for the fourth weekend, which was not included in the 2026 budget. Attached is a summary of the historic financial data related to the tournaments.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends approval of the special event permit.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

Approve the BBBA's Special Event Application for the Battle at the Lakes and MYAS Post Season Classic Tournaments to be held on June 6-8, June 13-15, June 20-22, and July 24-26 at the Oscar Kristofferson Park Ball Fields.