

Memorandum

TO: City Council, Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Adam Huehnergarth, Parks and Recreation Manager

RE: Monthly Directors Report June 2023 CC: Mick Michel, City Administrator

Date: July 17, 2023

Saturday Soccer:

I have been busy setting up our fall soccer season. The teams will be finalized this Friday and most teams will start practicing after August 7th. First "soccer Saturday" will be August 19th. This year we have seen a good uptick in registrations and we will have over 500 participants playing with Dyersville on the front of the jersey. That is a 7% increase YOY. With 39 teams from Kindergarten to Middle School it has been a challenge at times to find enough volunteer coaches, but many parents have stepped up. I did use a group of Beckman soccer players to coach a 5th/6th grade team this year and am excited to see how that progresses.

Flag Football:

I just had a meeting with the representatives from Monticello, Anamosa and Cascade to set up the NFL Flag Football league that we have joined this fall. We will compete in the 3rd/4th grade division and will play a six game schedule. The games will be played in the outfield of the baseball diamonds at Westside park so we can utilize the lights on Mondays. Our initial season with feature 4 teams. I talked to Coach Mather at Beckman Catholic to maybe borrow his football players to help coach. I understand that is how it might have been a long time ago when Dyersville had flag football and I think both groups of kids would enjoy it.

Tennis/Basketball Courts:

The surface of the tennis courts by the swimming pool along with the basketball court at Westside Park are getting close to their expected life and are in need of repair. In addition, the surface area of the tennis courts has settled and when resurfacing there needs to be a solution to raise the level. Currently, there are large gaps between the fence and the surface to let balls leave the facility. Those courts still see a decent amount of tennis players, but with the growing popularity of pickleball those courts see a lot of traffic. City staff will work on different solutions.

Baseball/Softball:

Our Prairie League schedule ended last week. With the dry spell we didn't have any rainouts all year. The two changes of shortening the C & D seasons and playing more games against local teams was enthusiastically received. The decision to move B division to Candy Cane worked and after the improvements to Westside, it was nice to use those fields for league games again. With opening up the schedule and good organization, all teams had places to play and practice without

any problems. Special thanks to the summer help Connor Grover and Ben Westhoff on having all seven diamonds ready to go every day.