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Memorandum

TO: City Council, Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Adam Huehnergath, Parks and Recreation Manager
RE: Monthly Directors Report June 2024
CC: Mick Michel, City Administrator
Date: July 15, 2024

Saturday Soccer:

We are starting to draft our youth soccer teams for this fall tonight already. The first games will be Saturday, August 17th and will culminate with our playoffs on October 5th. We have had another nice increase in our local participants to 476 before some of the late sign-ups. That is higher than the 444 from 2023 and the 413 from 2022. Dyersville will have 40 teams from kindergarten through 8th grade and we will welcome 38 more teams from Cascade, Farley, Epworth, Peosta, Guttenberg and for the 1st time Manchester. Also new for this year will be an all-girls league of 6th through 8th graders that will play a separate league on Wednesday nights. The introductory league will have 6 teams from Dyersville, Farley/Epworth and Guttenberg. In Dyersville, we have at least 10 girls that haven't played in the co-ed league last year decide to give recreational soccer a try again this fall. It will be informative receiving feedback about this new program.

Field of Dreams Tournaments:

Aside from the frequent downpours every weekend, the FoD tournaments have been running smoothly. There have been frequent delays because of rain but only one full day has been cancelled all summer. The fields are set up to have a large threshold for rain events and our summer intern Sarah Roling has been outstanding in maintaining the fields after the tournaments and during the week. All seven fields are used nightly for 2+ hours and then all day Friday-Sunday. We have weekly meetings to identify improvements for next year as the partnership will grow.

Tennis/Pickleball Courts:

The new surfacing and nets have been finished and installed in the courts by the Aquatic Center. Last weekend that area along with the pickleball courts at Candy Cane hosted a tennis/pickleball tournament that had good attendance. I am planning to meet with the organizers to see what worked and can be improved so the recreation department can start holding tournaments in the area. The improvements in the last two years always had the outlook of being able to hold tournaments. Over the winter I will investigate different apps to help with scheduling and organizing the times that all of the groups in town use those facilities.

Baseball/Softball Fields:

All the materials are in place and ready to put the lights up at the larger Westside field and the front Candy Cane diamond. The FoD tournaments will be done in two weeks and then we will start on the work. The Adult Softball League has resurged in the last two years and we are hoping to grow that programming. Also, FoD has mentioned using Westside field #1 more in the future so the new lights will be used more in the future. We are also looking into making more improvements to Field #1 to bring that area up to the quality of the other areas.