



## **AGENDA REPORT**

### **City Council Meeting**

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**TODAY'S DATE:** January 5, 2026

**MEETING DATE:** February 18, 2026

**TO:** Mayor Grimm, Sandpoint City Council

**FROM:** Jason Welker, Planning & Community Development Director

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing – Membership Pause Fee and Membership Reactivation Fee for the James E. Russell Sports Center (2026 Fee Schedule)

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

Staff are proposing the introduction of a membership pause fee of \$15 and a membership reactivation fee of \$100 at the James E. Russell Sports Center (JERSC), which will allow annual members who may wish to pause their membership to do so without cancelling it fully and allow such members to reactivate their membership at their discretion should they choose to do so. Rationale for the proposed fee changes is provided below.

#### **RATIONALE FOR NEW FEES:**

Currently annual members are unable to pause their membership if there is a month or multiple consecutive months during which they are unable to play at the facility. As a result, they either must pay their full monthly membership due or cancel their membership altogether. In the former scenario, the members pay for a facility they are not actively using, which may lead to many choosing to cancel instead. Members canceling the annual memberships rather than simply pausing them deprives the facility of needed revenue while creating a barrier to the members ability to return to the facility when they wish to resume play.

Industry best practice to avoid the frictions and revenue challenges described above is the use of member pause fees and reactivation fees. Unlike most private racquet sports facilities, JERSC does not charge an "initiation fee" when new members sign up. However, to create an incentive for existing members to remain members, even when a month or two period arises where they will not use the facility, the member pause and reactivation fees creates a reason for them to stay JERSC members, rather than just canceling their membership.

The pause fee allows JERSC members to maintain their membership while traveling or living seasonally out of Bonner County for up to seven months before the \$100 reactivation fee becomes the cheaper option. Any JERSC member who lets their membership expire or lapse or cancels their membership without opting for the pause fee will be required to pay the \$100 reactivation fee at which time they rejoin the facility.

**ACTION:**

Staff recommends approving the addition of four new fees to the fiscal year 2026 City of Sandpoint Fee Schedule:

- Membership Pause fee: \$15 per month
- Membership Reactivation fee: \$100

**WILL THERE BE ANY FINANCIAL IMPACT? N HAS THIS ITEM BEEN BUDGETED? N/A**

**ATTACHMENTS:**