



# *CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT*

---

MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 19, 2008

ITEM NUMBER:

**SUBJECT:** PACIFIC COAST GIRLS FAST PITCH SOFTBALL "GROUP ONE" FIELD USER STATUS

**DATE:** FEBRUARY 7, 2008

**FROM:** ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT/RECREATION DIVISION

**PRESENTATION BY:** JANA M. RANSOM, RECREATION MANAGER

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** JANA RANSOM AT (714) 754-5654

---

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Parks and Recreation Commission recommends that City Council designate Pacific Girls Fast Pitch Softball as a "Group One" field user under the Field Use and Allocation Policy.

Further, if Group One status is approved, the Parks and Recreation Commission recommends that City Council authorize fee waiver for field rentals, field preparation and lights usage for this group.

## **BACKGROUND**

On December 5, 2007 representatives from Pacific Coast Girls Fast Pitch Softball (PCGFS) attended the bi-annual User Groups Three-Six allocation meeting at City Hall. President Tim Owen and Field Representative Mike Perry were in attendance at the meeting. PCGFS (currently a Group Three organization) requested and were allocated two softball fields on Saturdays at the TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. beginning February 9 through May 10, 2008. After the meeting, they inquired from staff the process for PCGFS to apply for "Group One" status.

On December 15, 2007, Pacific Coast Girls Fast Pitch Softball President Tim Owen officially submitted a request to be considered for "Group One" status (Attachment A). With this proposal, PCGFS included their non-profit youth group status through the Amateur Softball Association (Attachment B), their State of California non-profit status 501 3c (Attachment C), a list of their board of directors (Attachment D), their certificate of liability insurance and additional insured endorsement (Attachment E) and copies of their enrollment rosters as verification of residency.

PCGFS softball has seen their participant numbers starting to grow in Costa Mesa over the past few years. PCGFS currently uses fields in Newport Beach. The newly renovated fields at TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex provide a great opportunity for the City to partner with a youth girl's fast pitch softball league. Field number three at the TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex was specifically designed to accommodate a girls' softball program.

At the current time, Costa Mesa has no youth girl's softball leagues operating in the city.

## **ANALYSIS**

Pacific Coast Girls Fast Pitch Softball (PCGFS) is a non-profit, volunteer driven, recreational youth softball league for girls between the ages of 5 to 16 from the communities of Costa Mesa and Newport Beach. PCGFS is in its sixth season of affiliation with the Amateur Softball Association (ASA), the national governing body of softball in the United States. The PCGFS mission is to provide a means for all girls of the community to develop, learn, and teach other girls skills, sportsmanship and team leadership through the recreational activity of softball.

PCGFS meets all the requirements to become a Group One field user under the Field Use and Allocation Policy except for having 90% residency. PCGFS is comprised of 201 girls of which 124 (61%) reside in the city of Costa Mesa. PCGFS has an open registration process that allows for all skill levels, turns no child away and has an "everyone plays" philosophy.

On their own, the number of Costa Mesa girls enrolled would not be sufficient to have a league. Staff is recommending that given this circumstance, along with the significant number of Costa Mesa girls enrolled in the program, that this program, similar to Newport Harbor Baseball Association and AYSO Region 97 soccer, be granted Group One status despite not meeting the resident criterion. Neither Newport Harbor Baseball Association nor AYSO Region 97 meet the resident criterion, but were "Grandfathered" in when the Field Use and Allocation Policy were first implemented in 1999.

In September 2004, the California State Assembly Bill No. 2404 was signed and approved by Governor Schwarzenegger adding Section 53080 to the Government Code, relating to discrimination in athletic programs. This law requires that cities, counties and special districts not discriminate against any person on the basis of gender in the operation, conduct or administration of community youth athletic programs and activities or in the allocation of parks and recreation facilities and resources that support or enable these programs and activities.

Assembly Bill No. 2404 also requires that local governmental agencies effectively accommodate the athletic interests and abilities of both genders and that this accommodation shall be assessed by the State in any one of the following ways: 1) The community youth athletics program opportunities for boys and girls are provided in numbers substantially proportionate to their respective numbers in the community; 2) Where the members of one gender have been and are unrepresented in community youth athletics, the local government agency can show a history and continuing of program expansion; and, 3) Where the members of one gender are unrepresented in community youth athletics, the agency can demonstrate that the interests and abilities of the members of that gender have been fully and effectively accommodated by the present program and allocation of resources. Although the effective date on Assembly Bill No. 2404 is not until January 1, 2015, staff believes that this program will help show efforts by the City in meeting the requirements of this law.

## **FISCAL REVIEW**

Group Three softball field users are charged \$20/hour per field (without lights) and flat fee of \$25 for field preparations. Currently, PCGFS is allocated two softball fields on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., which totals eight hours of field use for each field. PCGFS has twelve Saturdays allocated in the Spring 2008 allocation period. The field rental fee per field would total \$185 including field preparation for a total of \$370 each Saturday for both fields. The twelve week total for field rental fees would equal \$4,440.

## **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

Do not approve Pacific Coast Girls Fast Pitch Softball as a “Group One” field user and do not waive fees for field rental, preparation and light use. The group would remain a Group Three user organization.

## **CONCLUSION**

As there are no youth girls’ softball programs in Costa Mesa, nor sufficient numbers to field an entire league, the Parks and Recreation Commission recommends that City Council designate Pacific Girls Fast Pitch Softball as a “Group One” field user under the Field Use and Allocation Policy.

Further, if Group One status is approved, the Parks and Recreation Commission recommends that City Council authorize fee waiver for field rentals, field preparation and lights usage for this group.

---

**JANA M. RANSOM**  
Recreation Manager

---

**STEPHEN N. MANDOKI**  
Director of Administrative Services

DISTRIBUTION:           PCGFP President  
                                  Lisa McPherson, Recreation Supervisor  
                                  Michael Brandenburger, Assistant Recreation Supervisor

ATTACHMENTS:        A    [Proposal from PCGFS](#)  
                                  B    [National Non-Profit Status \(ASA\)](#)  
                                  C    [California 501 3c Non-Profit Status](#)  
                                  D    [PCGFS Board of Directors](#)  
                                  E    [Liability Insurance and Endorsement](#)