

**Needham Park and Recreation Commission**  
**Field Summit Meeting**  
**July 13, 2009**

Brian S. Nadler, Chairman  
Philip V. Robey, Vice Chair  
Cynthia J. Chaston, Member  
Christopher R. Dollase, Member  
Thomas M. Jacob, Member  
Patricia M. Carey, Director  
Karen A. Peirce, Assistant Director

The Field Summit meeting convened at 7:03PM at the Broadmeadow School Performance Center.

Mr. Nadler welcomed the guests to the meeting and he introduced the Park and Recreation Commissioners and staff. The participants introduced themselves indicating the sport group they represented. He briefly explained the purpose of the meeting was to communicate the needs of the groups for the fall sport season and to look at possibilities and priorities of the new synthetic turf fields and lights.

Mr. Nadler asked the user group representatives to give a brief overview of their experiences using the new synthetic turf fields.

Anne Cimini from Needham Girls Lacrosse and Chris Lynch from Needham Boys Lacrosse both shared the benefits of the synthetic turf, particularly in April and in inclement weather. The teams adjusted to the heat by continually hydrating and using wet towels to cool down. Major concerns were related to dogs and trash.

John Hrones, Needham Track Club - The Track Program used the synthetic turf for warm ups and some training and found it very useable.

Mike Retsky, Junior Football - The teams loved the fields. They worked out great for the Junior Football Program. Mr. Retsky noted that the fields have hose hook-ups that can held cool down the fields for short periods of time.

Janice Berns, Director of the Needham Health Department - She indicated two dog bites have been reported at Memorial Park. She shared the field temperature charts and the Health Department will continue to take field temperatures for a full year. She also encouraged the coaches to become trained in QPR suicide prevention training. Environmental Health Agent Tara Gurge encouraged everyone to educate the public to increase water breaks, have players stretch off the field and schedule practices later in the day.

Commissioner Jacob noted that the reports list the temperatures are taken at the ground, elbow and knee levels. He asked what level causes the most concern. Janice Berns noted they are looking for a pattern. She asked that the temperature charts be given to all coaches and have everyone use common sense when dealing with hot fields. She also asked that people report any issues related to synthetic turf fields and encourage good hygiene to all users.

Ms. Carey noted that approval for field names have been approved.

DeFazio 1- Don Brock Field

DeFazio 2- Founders Field

Inside Track – Bobby Conroy Field

DeFazio South 90 ft Diamond- Bart Warner Diamond

DeFazio South Multipurpose Field- Healy Field

She reported that the parking lot at DeFazio will not be upgraded until a decision is made regarding the possibility of a new school and or senior center being located at the park. The Town Manager is working on a plan to pave the parking lot if a building is not scheduled to be located at DeFazio in the near future.

The field inventory is the same as the spring. The Bobby Conroy Field located inside the track is not available this fall.

Young Girls' Soccer started 4 years ago and they currently have 132 players playing 5 on 5 at the Hillside School on Sundays from 3:30-6:00PM.

Boys' Lacrosse plays Sunday afternoons and needs a multipurpose field for the fall season. Last year, they used Broadmeadow from noon until dusk on Sundays. The program is for 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> graders and they have games, practice skills and have tryouts for spring. They can accommodate 100-150 boys.

Girls' Lacrosse is looking for one field for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders on Sundays for 1-1.5 hours. In the fall they will not have games but will be working on skills only. The program is open to 40 girls. They are working with the High School Girls' Lacrosse coach.

Fall Softball is hoping to host a one week Softball Camp in August at Claxton Field from 1:00- 5:00. They would like to play in a league on Sundays and all the games are scheduled in Sharon. They are trying to schedule pick up games with other towns at Claxton. U14 and U16 skills training will be offered, possibly at Avery, after school. Janice Berns noted that a camp permit is required for something held more than 4 days.

The number of Wellesley players has continued to grow, so Needham-Wellesley Junior Football is moving towards separating the two programs. There will be 6 teams playing from Needham. They would like Memorial Park and Claxton from 5:15-8:00PM weekdays and Memorial Park for games on Saturdays. In August Junior Football could use Broadmeadow for younger squads and Memorial Park for older.

The groups will continue to discuss field sharing, and will submit their requests. Mr. Nadler thanked everyone for coming and the meeting adjourned at 8:19PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Karen A. Peirce

Assistant Director, CPRP, CTRS

Name	Organization
Lee Garf	Young Girl's Soccer
Alan Glaser	Young Girl's Soccer
John Hrones	Needham Track Club
Jennifer Kelly	Charles River YMCA
John Hirliman	Charles River YMCA
Tara Gurge	Health Department
Janice Berns	Health Department
Bob Cohen	Neighbor DeFazio
Mike Retzky	Junior Football Needham Sports Council
Anne Cimini	Needham Girl's Lacrosse
Julie Yandow	Needham Girl's Lacrosse
Chris Lynch	Needham Boy's Lacrosse
Bill Paulson	Needham Girl's softball
Micah Hauben	H.S. Athletic Department
Phil Robey	Park & Recreation Commission
Chris Dollase	Park & Recreation Commission
Phil Robey	Park & Recreation Commission
Tom Jacob	Park & Recreation Commission
Cindy Chaston	Park & Recreation Commission
Patty Carey	Director, Park & Recreation
Karen Peirce	Assistant Director, Park & Recreation