



Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: Monday, July 18, 2022

TO: PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: JOSE BARRERA, RECREATION SUPERVISOR
IMELDA NEGRETE, RECREATION SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: SPORTS PROGRAMMING REPORT

STATEMENT OF ISSUES:

Sports programming report.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive the report on Sports Programming.

DISCUSSION:

With the decline of COVID cases and the hiring of a Sports Recreation Supervisor, the Sports Unit has been busy offering an array of programming for the community to participate in.

Aquatics

To the delight of many, our aquatics program is back this summer! Prior to the commencement of our aquatics program, the City of Watsonville became an authorized provider for the American Red Cross, meaning that we could not only certify our aquatics teammates in lifeguarding, CPR/First Aid and bloodborne pathogens, but we can also offer CPR/First Aid certification to the general public as a class. Partnering with the Watsonville YMCA, we were able to train aquatic teammates during the off-season to prepare them for the summer.

As in previous summer seasons, through a collaboration with the Pajaro Valley Unified School District, we are offering our aquatics program at the Watsonville High School pool. Monday, June 13 served as the first day of swim lessons. Each swim lesson is 30 minutes long and each session is two weeks long. Lessons are available for babies ages six months old to youth up to 12 years of age. Recreational swim is also offered daily for 1.5 hours and is open to the general public. Swimmers can choose to pay daily for recreation swim or purchase a family pass for the entire summer season. Wibit swim (inflatable in the pool) is available on Fridays during recreational swim to the enjoyment of swimmers. Since the commencement of our swim lessons, we have served 360 youth and are on track to break 500 youth served in our swim lessons.

Adult Sports

We are offering Men's Adult Softball and Co-Ed Softball for the Spring and Fall seasons. We had a successful Spring Season serving 10 teams during the 8 week season.

Currently, the sports team is looking into a new facility to offer Adult Basketball and Adult Volleyball as the previous location, the Veterans Memorial Building, is currently not available, as well as looking into offering a women's soccer league. The sports team is also working on implementing a variety of tournaments throughout the year including a dodgeball, corn hole, softball, and kickball tournaments to name a few.

Soccer

Recreational Youth Soccer

Our recreational soccer spring season was fun and exciting, serving 160 youth participants ages 3 to 12 years old during the course of this 10 week program. What made the spring season successful was the involvement of parent volunteer coaching, as the sports team was able to successfully recruit 18 parent volunteer coaches for each of the 18 teams (u6, u8, u10, u12).

Competitive Soccer

We continue to partner with the Breakers FC to offer competitive soccer programs. Our teams are currently playing in the Nor-Cal Summer League and we are prepping for our fall season. There are 4 teams, based out of Watsonville, participating in the competitive soccer program with the intention of adding an additional two teams through the PAL program. Participants in the competitive soccer team have to try out in order to be part of a team. This is a great pathway to our recreational soccer participants who are looking into expanding into the competitive field.

Itty Bitty

Itty Bitty continues to serve as an introductory course to the world of sports, specifically t-ball, soccer, flag football and basketball. On a rotating basis, each month a new sport is introduced. Participants between the ages of 3 to 5 year old learn the fundamentals of each sport during these 4 week sessions. Due to the popularity of this program, each sport offers two different session times for parents to choose from, helping eliminate the number of the waiting list. A positive element that will be coming back in the world of Itty Bitty Sports is the Itty Bitty Triathlon where our Itty Bitty Athletes will not only compete in a running course, but enjoy swimming and biking at Callaghan Park.

Tennis/Pickleball

Pickleball

We are currently piloting pickleball at the Callaghan Tennis Courts. We have contracted Michael Loleng, a USPTA instructor, to offer pickleball lessons for ages 5 through

55+. Pickleball camps have been held since early June with lessons currently being offered. Since the start of the program, 53 participants have registered for pickleball with the majority of our registrations being ages 55+.

Tennis

Our tennis lessons continue to be a success at the Ramsay Tennis Courts. John Tarr, one of our current tennis instructors, leads the lessons at Ramsay Park, teaching 44 participants between the ages of 9 to adults. Levels of lessons range from beginners to advanced.

Michael Loleng, will also be offering tennis instruction at Joyce McKenzie, Callaghan and Crestview courts to expand our tennis program and service outreach.

Pump Track Lessons

With the completion of the pump track at Ramsay Park, we have brought on Abby Hippley to offer pump track lessons for youth and adults. Each class is offered on 4 Saturdays a month at 2 hours per class. We are currently working with Abby to plan our fall, winter and spring lessons.

Youth Basketball

We are currently working with 831 Hoops and the Watsonville YMCA to offer a youth basketball program for ages 3-17 years olds. This program will run November through January for a total of 10 weeks. Practices will be held at the GHWR Youth Center, Watsonville YMCA and Watsonville High School. This partnership will bring the 3 recreation organizations together to offer basketball to our community.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

The Sports program support the following Council priorities of:

- Community Engagement & Well Being - our programs promote engagement and well being
- Public Safety - provide a positive outlet for member of all ages

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Expenses for programming allowed in sports is included in the adopted fiscal year budget.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

None

ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (If any):

None