
F Recreation Facility Standards

Recreation Facility Standards

Recreation facility standards are prepared by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) as a guide to minimum park facility sizes, space requirements, number facilities per population, and service radius. A modified version of the standards, which takes into account changing recreation trends and demands (for example, increased participation in soccer and lacrosse) is summarized in Appendix F. The standards are presented as a reference resource and should be used as a rule of thumb for minimum facility needs but should be considered flexible to account for local residential densities, local demands and specific conditions.

Recreation Facility Standards

Facility	Space Requirements SF = square feet	Recommended Size and Dimensions	Recommended Orientation	Minimum Number of Units Per Population	Service Radius	Location Notes
Basketball	3,000 – 6,000 SF	Full court: 50' x 84'-94' with 5' unobstructed space on all sides Half court: 40' x 40'	Long axis north- south	Full court: 1 per 5,000 Half court: 1 per 2,500	¼ to ½ mile	Safe walking or bike access. Outdoor courts in neighborhood & community parks and school sites.
Ice Hockey	22,000 SF including support area plus shelter and parking	Rink 85' x 200' (minimum 85' x 85') additional 5,000 SF support area	Long axis north- south	Outdoor - 1/5,000	2 mile	Lighted facility. Best as part of multipurpose neighborhood or community park.
Free Skating	Minimum 20,000 SF	Varies	None	Outdoor - 1/5,000	2 mile	Typically associated with outdoor hockey rink.
Tennis	Minimum of 7,200 SF for single court	36' x 78' with 12' clearance on both sides; 21' clearance on both sides (60'x90' per court)	Long axis north- south	1 court per 2,000	2 mile	Best in batteries of 2 or more. Located in neighborhood / community park or adjacent to school site.
Volleyball	Minimum of 2,000 SF	30' x 60' Min. 6' clearance on all sides	Long axis north- south	1 court per 5,000	2 mile	Typically sand surface. Same as basketball
Baseball: 1. Official	Minimum 3.0-3.85 AC	Base lines = 90' Pitching dist = 60 ½' Foul lines = min. 320' Center field = 400'+	Locate home plate so pitcher throwing across sun & batter; not facing it.	1 per 15,000 plus lighted.	1 mile	Informal fields, pony league field size will vary. Full size lighted fields part of community complex.
Baseball: 2. Little League	Minimum 1.2 AC	Base lines = 60' Pitching dist. = 46' Foul lines = 200' Center field= 200'-250'	Line from home plate through pitcher's mound run SSW to NNE.	1 per 15,000 1/10,000 or 1/2,500 when developed for dual use as softball field	½ -1 mile	Little league as part of neighborhood and community parks.
Field Hockey / Lacrosse	Minimum 1.5 AC	180'-210' x 300' with a minimum of 6' clearance on all sides	Long axis north to south.	1 per 20,000	15 minutes travel time	Usually part of athletic complex in community park or adj. to high school.
Football	Minimum 1.5 AC	160' x 360' with a minimum of 6' clearance on all sides	Long axis north to south.	1 per 20,000	15 minutes travel	Usually part of athletic complex in community park or adj. to high school.
Soccer	1.7 to 2.1 AC	Fields vary based on age group from 100' x 200'to195'- 225' x 330'-360' with a 10' min. clearance on all sides	Long axis north to south.	Youth – 1/3,500 or based on participation Full size 1/5,000	1-2 miles	Number of units depends on popularity. Youth soccer on smaller fields adjacent to schools or in neighborhood parks.
Softball	1.5 to 2.0 AC	Base lines = 60'-65' Pitching dist. = 35'-50' Fast pitch field radius from plate= 200'-225' Slow pitch = 275' (men) 265' (women)	Same as baseball	1/5,000 or 1/2,500 if also used for youth baseball	¼ - ½ mile	May also be used for youth baseball.
Archery Range	Minimum 1.5 AC	300' length x min. 10' between targets. Clear space and buffers to side and rear. Min. of 90' x 45'with buffer	Archer facing north plus/minus 45 degrees	1 per 50,000	30 minute travel time	Part of a regional/metro park complex or special use facility
Golf (18 hole standard)	Minimum 110 AC	Average length = 6,500 yds.	Majority of holes on north/south axis	1/25,000	30 minute travel time	Mix of public and private facilities.
Golf Driving Range	13.5 AC for minimum of 25 tees	900' x 690' wide, add 12' width for each additional tee	Long axis south- west-northeast with driving toward northeast	1 per 50,000	15-30 min. travel time	Part of golf course complex.