

Pelican Watch



Recreation District #1 of St. Tammany Parish

VOL. 6 NO. 1

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Phone: 626-7997 Fax: 626-9028 Hotline: 626-1444

JANUARY 2006



From the Director

It is with mixed emotions that we welcome the year 2006. We are all very happy to have the year 2005 and Hurricane Katrina in the past. However, for many people, the struggles, challenges and problems associated with or caused by the Hurricane remain a daily part of life, even in this new year.

Watch your children and yourself for signs of stress and depression. Sports and family activities are a wonderful way to reduce stress for both adults and children. Take the time to walk or bike ride with the family. Take the time to play with your children and not just give them a toy or computer to play with.

While participating in sports, remind children that winning is not everything, and if they had fun and tried their best during the game, that was all that should count. Make sure that *your* behavior and *your* attitude toward officials and the other team is serving as a positive role model. Clap for the other team if a good play is made. Yelling at the officials or blaming the team's loss on the official is unacceptable. Children learn from their parents, family and friends. Parents must serve as a positive role model.

May 2006 bring you less stress, happiness, joy, laughter and love.

Ms. Kathy Foley

Director

OBTAINING SPORTS OFFICIALS DIFFICULT

Recreation District #1 and Tri-Parish Officials Association are having major problems with obtaining officials since Hurricane Katrina. The Park contracts with Tri-Parish for officials for all sports. Tri-Parish is responsible for recruitment, training and scheduling of all officials.

The day basketball games started, the Park was informed that only 1/3 of last year's officials would be returning. Park officials held an emergency meeting with the Basketball Advisory Board presidents and Tri-Parish management to determine how to solve the problem. Unfortunately, we had to eliminate officials from boys age 7 and girls ages 7-8 programs and have coaches officiate the games. In boys ages 8,9,10 and 11 and girls 9-10, we reduced the number of officials from two to one official.

Please know that we understand these decisions were not desirable but it was the consensus of all involved that it was the only option. Even with the reduction in the number of officials needed, the basketball season was affected by officials not showing up.

If you are interested in learning to officiate for Tri-Parish, call Walt Barron at 649-1340. Pay ranges from \$20-\$30 per game depending on age and sport.

Update on Hurricane Katrina Repairs at the Park

The Park sustained over \$500,000.00 worth of damages due to Hurricane Katrina. The Park staff has worked extremely hard these last 4 months to make minor repairs and to coordinate contractors for the major repairs. We appreciate the public's patience and understanding up until now and for the next 3-4 months as we complete the repairs.

The Park has insurance and is working, like most of you, through the challenges of insurance claims and adjusters. Hopefully, items not covered by insurance such as tree/debris removal, field light damages, etc. will be covered by FEMA.

Special recognition and thanks to staff members Marie Dupre and Doug McLemore for their patience and dedication. They are working countless hours with the insurance companies and FEMA.

PART-TIME HELP NEEDED

Pelican Park is seeking part-time employees for the concession operations and for facility staff. Concessions applicants must be 14 years and older. They work evenings and weekends. Facility staff applicants must be 21 and older and have experience working with the public. Call the Park at 626-7997 for more information.

STAFFING ADDITIONS



Melissa Lemoine has recently joined the staff as Administrative Supervisor. Melissa will be responsible for all insurance, concession operations, assisting the Director with construction issues, board issues and the website. Melissa lives in Slidell and is the proud mother of Rikki and Tori.

Michie de Gruy joins the staff as a Secretary. She is the first voice that the public hears on the phone and the first one they meet when they visit the office. Michie lives in Mandeville with her husband Richard and their two sons Beau and Clay. The boys currently play soccer and in the past have played all sports at the Park.

Marie Dupre rejoins the staff as Castine Center Supervisor. Marie worked for one year for the Recreation District but left in 2005 to pursue a masters in Special Education. Hurricane Katrina and other family responsibilities created a change in plans thus we are fortunate to have Marie back with the Castine Center. Marie works with the groups/clients who are renting the Castine Center before, during and after their events.

Recreation District #1
of St. Tammany Parish
Pelican Park
63350 Pelican Dr.
Mandeville, LA 70448

**Board of
Commissioners:**

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Chris Keller
Bill Matthews
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Staff:

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Director

Kimberly Breath
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Michie de Gruy
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Melissa Lemoine
Administrative Asst.

Doug McLemore
Park Superintendent

Harris LaGrange
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Construction Foreman

Ann Keyes
Recreation Supt.

Jason Walker
Recreation Supervisor

Julie Stempel
Recreation Supervisor

Matt Mulkey
Recreation Supervisor

Kia Knight
Castine Center Mgr.

Marie Dupre
Castine Center Supervisor

Recreation District #1 is a free standing governmental agency. The District is supported by a property tax paid by the residents and businesses of Recreation District #1.

The general boundaries of the Recreation District are Lake Pontchartrain on the south side, the Tchefuncte River on the west side, Big Branch on the east side and I-12 on the north side.

The District, which operates Pelican Park, is under the direction of a 7 member administrative board and staff.



PELICAN PARK ADULT SPORTS TEAM REGISTRATION



REGISTRATION DATES FEBRUARY 6th – 17th

February 6th registration is held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. only to accommodate working adults.
February 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, & 17 registration is 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Registration is conducted in Pelican Park's office in the Castine Center.
Please note space is limited and is on a first-come first-serve basis.

*Adult sports are registered by teams only;
however, individuals may call the Park and have their name placed on a list of interested players.*

Men's Over-35 Basketball

This league is for men over 35 years of age. Must have photo ID at all games. Two officials will be provided.

- Games on Wednesday nights
- Maximum of 8 teams
- Maximum 10 players per team
- 7 game season with a single elimination tournament
- Season begins March 1st.

Cost – \$405 / team

Men's Competitive Basketball

This league is designed for men 18 and over. Must have photo ID at all games. Two officials will be provided.

- Games on Friday nights
- Maximum of 8 teams
- Maximum of 10 players per team
- 7 game season with a single elimination tournament
- Season begins March 3rd.
- No Games on April 14th (Good Friday)

Cost – \$405 / team

Co-ed Just-For-Fun Volleyball

This league is designed for fun, exercise and socialization. This is a very non-competitive league. Teams consist of 3 men and 3 women. This league does not have an official or keep standings.

- Games on Thursday nights
- Maximum of 8 teams
- 11 game season
- Season begins March 2nd.

Cost – \$80 / team

Women's Just-For-Fun Volleyball

This league is for females only and is designed for fun, exercise and socialization. This league does not have an official or keep standings.

- Games on Wednesday nights
- Maximum of 8 teams
- 11 game season
- Season begins March 1st.

Cost – \$80 / team

Men's Competitive Softball

This league is designed for those possessing a high skill level and who play at a competitive level. All players must be 18 years old. Must have photo ID at all games. This league plays according to ASA Men's B rules. Games will have two officials and a scorekeeper. Maximum of 6 home runs per team per game. Make up games may be played on days other than Thursday.

- Games on Thursday nights
- Maximum of 8 teams
- 7 games with a single elimination tournament
- Season begins March 2nd.

Cost – \$345 / team

Men's Recreation Softball

This program is designed for players who still like to play but emphasis is put on fun, sportsmanship and socialization. This league does not keep standings but does have one official. Make-up games may be played on days other than Sunday. Depending on the number of rainouts, all games may not be made up.

- Games late Sunday afternoons
- Maximum of 16 teams
- 9 week season
- Games begin March 5th.
- No games Sunday, April 16th (Easter).

Cost – \$180 / team

Co-ed Recreation Cabbageball

This league is designed for people who want exercise, fun and socialization. It is non-competitive and does not keep standings. One official will be provided. Make-up games may be played on days other than Friday. Depending on the number of rainouts, all games may not be made up.

- Games Friday evenings
- Maximum of 8 teams
- 10 week season
- Games begin March 3rd
- No Games April 14th (Good Friday)

Cost – \$200 / team

Breakfast with Santa

Pelican Park hosted Breakfast with Santa on December 17th. In attendance were 100 children ages 9 and under. The children decorated cookies, made reindeer food and candy cane ornaments. Santa Claus was available for pictures and was busy updating his list! A special thanks goes to our local McDonald's on Florida St. for doing a wonderful job in catering this event.



Pictured with Santa is Kyi Starr

REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR BOYS BASKETBALL AGES 13 – 18 AND GIRLS VOLLEYBALL AGES 9-18 January 23rd – February 4th

Returning Players : Can register on-line 24 hours at www.pelicanpark.com

New Players : Must register in the Pelican Park office at the Castine Center.

A BIRTH CERTIFICATE IS REQUIRED FOR ALL NEW PLAYERS.

**Office hours are 8am – 6pm Monday – Friday
Saturday hours are 9am – 5pm. Closed Sundays**

Reminder: PLAY UP REQUESTS CAN ONLY BE DONE AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION AND IT CANNOT BE DONE ON-LINE. YOU WILL HAVE TO COME INTO THE OFFICE AND ASK FOR A PLAY-UP REQUEST FORM AND REGISTRATION WILL BE DONE AT THAT TIME.

BOYS AGE 13-18* BASKETBALL REGISTRATION



(*18 yr. olds must be a current High School Student with a valid I.D. They must register in the office and bring their I.D. with them.)

This is an unlimited registration so game days will not be determined until after registration

- Age groups: 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
(Determination of age grouping will not be

made until after registration)

- Age of 8/31/2005
- Practices begin 2/11/06
- 10 game season with a single elimination tournament
- Games begin week of 2/20/06
- No evaluations held for these age groups

REGISTRATION FEES:
ALL AGE GROUPS
DISTRICT: \$71
NON-DISTRICT: \$96

****UPCOMING REGISTRATIONS****

Please watch for our next newsletter with baseball and softball information.
Registration typically begins the 3rd week of February.

GIRLS SPRING VOLLEYBALL REGISTRATION



This is an unlimited registration so game days will not be determined until after registration.

Age Groups – 9/10, 11/12, 13/14, 15/16, 17/18
Age as of 10/1/2006

- Practices begin Saturday, February 11th.
- Games begin week of Monday, February 20th.
- 10 game season with a single elimination tournament.
- Teams will have a minimum of 3 preseason practices.
- Regular season includes 1 weekday practice and 2 games per week.

Evaluations for all ages are Monday, February 6th

OR Tuesday, February 7th in the

Brown Pelican Gym from 6:00pm – 8:00pm.

Players need to attend only **ONE** evaluation session.

Evaluations are **very important** in the formation of fair and equal teams.

Play-up requests will be approved or disapproved after the evaluation process is complete and if space is available in the requested age group. It is **highly recommended** that all players attend evaluations and evaluations are mandatory for any player requesting to play-up.

REGISTRATION FEES:

Age 9/10, 11/12 – District \$42

Non-District \$67

Age 13/14, 15/16, 17/18 – District \$36

Non-District \$61

RECREATION DIST. # 1
63350 PELICAN DRIVE
MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

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FOR FIELD CONDITIONS, CALL THE PELICAN PARK SPORTS HOTLINE 626-1444

INTERESTED IN SOCCER?
The soccer program in Mandeville is run by a private non-profit group called **Mandeville Soccer Club**. For information about their program please call **624-8080**. Recreation District #1's Board of Commissioners has granted Mandeville Soccer Club (MSC) "exempt" status at the Park. *This "exempt" status saves MSC over \$18,000 per year.* Up until the "exempt" status was granted in 2000, MSC paid the direct cost of field lighting and field painting for game use. "Exempt" status is granted to large non-profit organizations within the District because without their existence the Recreation District would have to provide that sport.

DIRECT YOUR UNITED WAY DONATIONS TO THE PARK!
The "Friends of Pelican Park" is a 501C3 non-profit organization that is an approved agency by the United Way. People making donations to the United Way can mark on their donation cards, **FRIENDS OF PELICAN PARK**, and the donation will be passed on by the United Way to the Friends organization. Please consider directing your donation to the "Friends of Pelican Park". For more information call 626-7997.

THE CASTINE CENTER
Need a place to hold your next banquet? Thinking of hosting a trade show? Holding a seminar? Getting married?
Come tour The Castine Center! 28,000sq. Feet of clear-span arena that can Be subdivided. Two conference rooms. Let us host your next event!
Come by or call us at 626-7997.

As part of your registration fee, Pelican Park has purchased secondary, excess, accident insurance for your child for potential injuries sustained while playing in our programs. This insurance helps pay for what your primary insurance doesn't. Please be advised that in the event of an accident/injury, you must file your accident claim within 30 days of the injury. You may contact our office manager at 985-626-7997 for further details.

Scholarships Available
The Park believes all District children should be able to play sports regardless of their ability to pay. If you need assistance, ask the office staff for a form to determine eligibility. Scholarships are available to District residents only and you must register in the office.

Worthless Check Policy
The District has established a \$22.50 fee for worthless checks received.

LET'S AVOID DUPLICATE MAILINGS
If you receive duplicates of the same newsletter with different names or addresses, please send the newsletter to us at 63350 Pelican Drive, Mandeville LA 70448 or email us at pelicansec@nternet.com. Please indicate the incorrect information and we'll change our records for the next mailing. You may receive some duplicates for a while. Thanks!

