

Pelican Watch



Recreation District #1 of St. Tammany Parish

VOL. 7 NO. 4

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JULY 2007



From the Director...

Ethics in government....
The New Orleans headlines have recently been filled with stories of governmental corruption, bribes and misuse of taxpayers money.

For the past 18 years, I have had the pleasure of being the Director of Recreation District #1. One of the factors that I am most proud of is the way the Recreation District handles and treats the public's money.

Like all governmental agencies, the Recreation District's financials and purchasing records are audited yearly. The 2006 audit was completed by LaPorte, Sehr Romig & Hand, CPA's. This year, once again, the Recreation District received a clean report.

The State establishes purchasing guidelines for all governmental agencies. However, the Recreation District has established policies for purchasing that are much stricter than State guidelines. We do that to ensure the public's money is well spent and documented.

The Recreation District uses purchase orders, keeps double documentation of all expenditures, requires receipts for all purchases and obtains three price quotes for all purchases over \$250.00. Sealed bids are obtained for all purchases over \$5,000.00.

Gifts given to the District during the holidays are not kept by the director or division heads, but instead the gift basket is split up and a drawing held for the items with all staff members. The director and division heads do not even accept lunches from sales people.

Please know that you won't see Recreation District #1 in any headlines for corruption or misuse of governmental funds. The staff takes good ethics and financial accountability personally. You trust us with your tax dollars and we appreciate it and vow to never let you down.

Ms. Kathy Foley
Director

JIM COOK HIRED



Recreation District #1 is pleased to announce the recent hiring of James Cook as Recreation Supervisor. Jim will be working evenings and will be handling Adult Sports, the skate park and facility staff. Jim may be a familiar face to many as he has worked as an official for the past year at the Park.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Work continues on Phase 3 and 4 of the Park.

Phase 3 consists of 3 softball/baseball game fields, 2 new football/soccer games fields, roads, parking, infra-structure and a skate park. All are scheduled for opening this fall. The infra-structure is complete, the buildings are 90%, light poles are erected and sod is being laid. With new sod, the fields will need 6-8 weeks for the initial grow-in period.

Phase 4 is 6 multi-use practice fields with lighting, parking and pavilion. Presently, most of the earth work is complete with completion scheduled for the first part of 2008. The staff and Board are as anxious as the public for these facilities to be completed and used by the public. A dedication/open house will be held this September...watch for more information as the time gets closer.

ELECTION RENEWAL **NOVEMBER 17, 2007**

The Recreation District operates from two separate Operation and Maintenance millages approved by the voters over the past 19 years.

The first 3 mils for operation was approved by the voters in 1988. The Recreation District operated on this funding for the first 7 years. A second operation millage of 4 mils was voted upon in 1995 including debt service millage for the expansion of Phase 2 which included the addition of the Castine Center, blue complex, yellow complex, purple complex and 1 gray field. Both of the millages are for a length of 20 years.

Due to the growth of new homes and businesses in the area, the Recreation District started Phase 3 without asking for additional operational millage. Phase 3, consisting of 5 game fields and a skate park, is scheduled for completion this fall.

The total 7 mils provide the funding for 80% of the District's operating and maintenance (O and M) budget. The other 20% is self-generated by the District through rental fees for the Castine Center, fields, gyms, etc. The District's O and M budget pays for all costs incurred by the District which includes staffing, insurances, field care, electricity, major and minor park repairs, building upkeep, equipment, vehicles and office costs.

The Recreation District will be asking the voters to renew the initial 3 mils on November 17th. Renewing of these 3 mils will allow the District to continue operations at it's present

Pelican Park...Making a difference in the lives of children

Fall Sports Registration Dates are July 30 - August 14

Baseball, Softball & Volleyball are limited registration sports so the following will apply:

District Registration Dates: July 30th – August 14th

Non-District Registration Dates: August 6th – August 14th

** Please note for “Limited Registrations” play ups are not approved until after registration closes (if space is available).

Returning Players – Can register on-line 24 hours a day at www.pelicanpark.com.

New Players – Must register in the office and bring a copy of child’s birth certificate and a current utility bill.

***Reminder** – All play-up requests must be done in the office



YOUTH FOOTBALL Boys Ages 7 - 12 Years Old



The youth football program is designed to teach and allow players to develop the fundamentals of the game of contact football. This program teaches the value of sportsmanship and teamwork while promoting self-esteem and confidence in a fun and safe environment.

- Players **MUST** be 7 years old by **7/01/07**
- Evaluation Dates: August 20th, 21st, & 22th
- All players **MUST** attend each day of evaluations to ensure equal team distribution
- Practices will begin the week of August 27th
- Games will begin on September 15th
- 7-game season with a single elimination tournament
- Rain-out games may be re-scheduled any day of the week, including Sundays

	<u>District</u>	<u>Non-District</u>
7/8's	\$ 63.00	\$ 113.00
9/10's	\$ 72.00	\$ 122.00
11/12's	\$ 75.00	\$ 125.00

Registration fees cover the cost of officials, a jersey, helmet decals (stripes & logos), socks, scorekeepers, secondary medical insurance and awards. Player must provide a helmet, pads, cleats, and pants. An estimated purchase cost for all equipment is between \$150 – \$200 depending on the store and quality of equipment.

** Parents, if your child is very large for his age, please talk with staff about placement. Football is a contact sport and safety of all players is the staff's utmost concern.

NEW LEAGUE COMING THIS FALL...

13/14 YR. OLD FOOTBALL

(AGE AS OF 7/01/07)

Registration Fee: **\$75.00 District** \$125.00 Non-District

Note: Registration for this league is extended an additional 2 weeks to allow for junior high football cuts.

Registration for this league ends August 28th.

FOOTBALL COACHES CLINIC

Coaching football this season? Coaches are **required** to attend the mandatory coaching clinic on August 18th, 2007 in the Castine Center conference rooms from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. The clinic will include age specific instruction, hands-on demonstrations, suggested practice routines, age group director/advisory board member introductions, etc.

FOOTBALL PARENTS MARK YOUR CALENDERS!

A **Parent/Player Orientation** will be held Sunday, August 26th in the Castine Center, Hall D. Players will meet with their team and parents will be given an overview of the upcoming season.

Orientation Times:

August 26, 2007

11/12's – 1 p.m. 9/10's – 2:30 p.m. 7/8's – 4 p.m.

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Cheerleading Registration Information:

Pelican Park offers a cheerleading program designed to teach the basics of cheer, stunts, and dance. Our program teaches teamwork, improves coordination, and physical fitness. Come join the fun!



- ☛ Age as of date 9/30/2007 – Must be 7 by September 30, 2007
- ☛ Girls will be drafted to a squad and will cheer for one of our football teams
- ☛ Football games begin September 15th
- ☛ All games are played at Pelican Park
- ☛ A cheerleading competition will be held at the end of the season on Sunday, November 4th, 2007 at the Castine Center
- ☛ All registrants must attend an evaluation on Aug 11th from 9am – 11am or Aug 15th from 5:30pm – 7pm
- ☛ Registrants only need to attend one evaluation
- ☛ 2 practices a week will begin the week of August 27th

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Non-District</u>
7 – 12	\$79.00	\$129.00

- ☛ It is **essential** that you bring your daughter to the Castine Center office to try on a uniform to ensure the proper fit. Sample sizes will be available in the office to try on. No refunds will be given once the uniforms are ordered and uniform sizes must be determined for registration.



GIRLS FALL FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL

Limited # of participants due to space availability

Non-District registration starts 1 week after District

The Fall Softball program is designed to teach the players sound softball fundamentals and promote sportsmanship within the team concept.

- Age as of 12/31/2007 – Must be 7 by December 31, 2007
- Practices begin the week of August 27th
- Games begin week of September 8th
- 2 games/week (1 weekday game & 1 Friday night game) & 1 practice per week
- 12 game season followed by a single elimination tournament
- Age groups must have a 4 team minimum in order to have a league

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Non-District</u>
7/8	\$ 49.00	\$ 99.00
9/10	\$ 49.00	\$ 99.00
11/12	\$ 53.00	\$ 103.00
13/14	\$ 53.00	\$ 103.00



GIRLS FALL VOLLEYBALL

Limited # of participants due to space availability

Non-District registration starts 1 week after District

The objective of the volleyball program is to provide players with the fundamentals of volleyball, teach teamwork, and build character.

- Age as of 9/30/2007 – Must be 9 by Sept. 30, 2007
- Practices begin the week of August 27th
- Games begin Saturday, September 8th
- 2 games per week (1 weekday game & 1 Saturday game) & 1 practice per week
- 10 game season with a single elimination tournament.
- Minimum number of teams 4

	<u>District</u>	<u>Non-District</u>
Ages 9 – 16	\$35.00	\$85.00

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

Board of

Commissioners:

Nixon Adams
Chairman

Stephen R. Meyer, M.D.
Vice Chairman

Commissioners:

Joe FitzPatrick, D.D.S.
Tony Oramous
Bill Matthews
M. Todd Richard
Rick Danielson

Staff:

Kathy Foley
Director

Kim Breath-Duncan
Office Manager

Tamara Newman
Secretary

Melissa Lemoine
Concession Supv.

Doug McLemore
Park Superintendent

Harris LaGrange
Turf Supervisor

Ron Johnson
Construction Foreman

Ann Keyes
Recreation Supt.

Jason Walker
Recreation Supervisor

Julie Stempel
Recreation Supervisor

Myles Brown
Recreation Supervisor

Jim Cook
Recreation Supervisor

Kia Knight
Castine Center Mgr.

Becky Bazile
Castine Center Supv.

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.

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*Reminder – All play-up requests must be done in the office



BOYS FALL BASEBALL

**Limited number of participants due to space availability
Non-District registration starts 1 week after District registration**

This developmental league is designed to prepare the players for our primary spring season. The players will learn the basic fundamentals and skills with an emphasis placed on having fun. This is a limited registration so please register early.

- Age groups: 7/8, 9/10, 11/12, 13/14, and 15-17
- Age as of Date 4/30/08– **must be 7 by April 30, 2008**
- 4 team minimum required for each league
- Practices begin the week of August 27th
- Games begin the week of September 8th and end late October (2 games/week)
- 12 game season with a single elimination tournament
- All games are played at Pelican Park

Age Group	District	Non-District
7/8	\$ 49.00	\$ 99.00
9/10	\$ 53.00	\$ 103.00
11/12	\$ 57.00	\$ 107.00
13/14	\$ 62.00	\$ 112.00
15-17	\$ 62.00	\$ 112.00

***ALL PLAYERS WHO DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN 2007 SPRING BASEBALL AT PELICAN PARK WILL NEED TO ATTEND FALL BASEBALL EVALUATIONS ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 16TH.**

ATTENTION FOOTBALL PLAYERS!!

The Football Advisory Board is conducting a **FREE Speed and Agility Clinic** for all athletes. This clinic is for potential football players who want to get in shape and are interested in playing football this season.

PARENTS – Football Advisory Board members will be present to answer any questions about the upcoming fall season.

Clinic Dates:

Thursdays, August 2, 9, & 16

Tuesdays, August 7 & 14

All sessions will be held from 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. and are open to all age groups on the orange fields. Players need to bring a pair of cleats and athletic shoes. Parents must sign a waiver before participating. Participants may attend as many clinics as they choose.

PELICAN PARK ADULT SPORTS TEAM REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION BEGINS MONDAY, JULY 30TH FROM 6PM-8PM
NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE PROCESSED PRIOR TO 6PM ON 7/30/07

REGISTRATION HOURS FOR JULY 31ST – AUGUST 10TH
MONDAY - FRIDAY, 8 AM – 6 PM IN THE CASTINE CENTER OFFICE

TEAM REGISTRATION IS LIMITED DUE TO SPACE AVAILABILITY
FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVE UNTIL FILLED

REGISTRATION IS DONE ONLY BY TEAM; HOWEVER, INDIVIDUALS MAY CALL THE PARK AND PLACE THEIR NAME ON A LIST OF INTERESTED PLAYERS.

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 are played on Thursday nights
- Minimum of 4 teams, Maximum of 8 teams
- 7 games with a single elimination tournament
- Games begin Thursday, August 23rd

Cost is \$395/team

Women's Recreational Softball

This program is designed for players who want to have fun while socializing. 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 are played late Sunday afternoons
- Maximum of 8 teams, Minimum of 4 teams
- 9 week season
- Games begin Sunday, August 19th

Cost is \$200/team

Men's Recreational Softball

This program is designed for players who still like to play with the emphasis 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 are played late Sunday afternoons
- Minimum of 4 teams, Maximum of 16 teams
- 9 week season
- Games begin Sunday, August 19th

Cost is \$200/team

Co-ed 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 are played Friday evenings
- Minimum of 4 teams, Maximum of 8 teams
- 10 week season
- Games begin Friday, August 24th

Cost is \$220/team

Men's Over-35 Basketball

This league is for men over 35 years of age. Must have photo ID at all games. Two officials and a scorekeeper are provided.

- Games are played on Wednesday nights
- Minimum of 4 teams, Maximum of 8 teams
- 7 game season with a single elimination tournament
- Games begin Wednesday, August 22nd

Cost is \$415/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 nor keep standings.

- Games are played on Thursday nights
- Minimum of 4 teams, Maximum of 8 teams
- 11 game season
- Games begin Thursday, August 23rd

Cost is \$85/team

\$\$\$\$\$ RECREATION DISTRICT #1'S NON-DISTRICT FAMILY FEE \$\$\$\$\$

Participants that do not live within the boundaries of Recreation District #1 are required to pay an additional fee of \$50 each time they register a child in our youth sports leagues. This additional fee offsets the taxes that the Recreation District #1 residents pay each year and is charged per child, per sport, for each registration.

Recreation District #1 now offers non-district families the option to pay a yearly "Family Fee" of \$200 that covers all participants of the family for all sports played at Pelican Park for one year. This fee is valid from July 1st of the current year through June 30th of the following year. Regardless of when the fee is paid it will cover participants for all youth leagues played at Pelican Park including Mandeville Soccer Club sports. Once the Family Fee has been paid, returning players will be able to register on-line with no non-district fees incurred. Please remember that sign up for the Family Fee must be done in the Castine Center Office **ONLY** and is not available on-line.

If you paid the "Family Fee" last year for the July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007 period, your fee has expired and your records again reflect non-district status whereby you will be charged \$50 for each sport for each child that you register. Please come in to our office to sign up for your money savings again!!

Pelican Park...Making a difference in the lives of children

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

PRSRT STD
 US Postage
 PAID
 Custom Mailer



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.

CASTINE CENTER IN AUGUST
 August 4 & 5 – Deep South Dog Obedience
 August 9-11 – McGrain Antiques Show
 August 25 – Renaissance Mixed Martial Arts Competition
Watch our website for upcoming events each month at www.castinecenter.com.



VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED!
 Our youth sports leagues are dependent on volunteer coaches. Each sport offers a coaches training session that will prepare you to teach the fundamental skills and organize practices. Coaching is a very rewarding experience and makes a difference in children's lives. Our staff and sports advisory boards are more than willing to help you to become the best coach possible. Please register to coach on-line at www.pelicanpark.com or in our office.

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 District 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.

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR OUR UPCOMING SPORTS !!
COMING NEXT: WINTER BASKETBALL
SEPTEMBER 17TH - OCTOBER 2ND



The official soft drink of Pelican Park and the Castine Center.