

# Pelican Watch



Recreation District #1 of St. Tammany Parish

VOL. 8 NO. 3

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MAY 2008



## *From the Director...*

I recently had a long time volunteer coach whose children played for years at the Park and are now in high school/college ask me "Are the coaches today as overly competitive as we were back then?" I told him that we still had a few coaches who are overly driven and competitive, but thanks to coaches clinics and workshops and education, most coaches really realize it's about having fun for the players.

The goal of the Recreation District is for players to learn new skills, improve their self esteem, make new friends, be part of a team and to have fun.

This man offered to come talk with today's young coaches to let them know that everything he thought was important when his children were playing...really wasn't!! He used to believe that winning mattered over playing kids fairly, everything hinged on the team's record, and officials caused the game to be lost, etc. He said he now knows how wrong he was with these beliefs and hopes today's coaches are not repeating his mistakes.

Parents, if you have one of the few remaining overly competitive coaches, please call the office and talk with the Recreation staff so we can observe the coach and hopefully educate them.

Parents also need to look at their own behavior and beliefs. If you are blaming the officials for a loss or focusing only on winning your child will mimic it.

Let kids be kids....kids just want to have fun!!

## PHASE 4 FIELDS OPEN

The Phase 4 construction project which consists of 6 multi-sport fields, pavilion and parking lot was opened to the public on May 1<sup>st</sup>. This summer the fields are available on a first-come first-serve basis unless reserved by the Recreation District. Fields will be closed to the public if fields are too wet for safe usage.

Lights on the field operate on a new push button system that allows the District to save money by not having the field lights on if a group is not using the fields. Once lights are needed, the user group pushes the button on the field and they will have lights for 1 hour. Just as time is expiring, a verbal message is projected on the field telling users that if the button is not pushed again lights will automatically shut off.

The Board of Commissioners will decide this summer how the Silver Complex will be scheduled this fall.

## NEW PLAYGROUNDS ADDED

### Green Triplex Fields

The District recently replaced and upgraded the playground at the Green Triplex. The playground upgrade cost was \$35,000. The playground features equipment for 2-12 years olds and has safety matting to help prevent injuries.

### Red Complex

With the opening of the Red fields for softball use, came the opening of a new playground for this complex. The equipment will provide fun and entertainment for children ages 2-12. The cost for the equipment and safety matting was \$35,000.

## OPENING DAY FOR BASEBALL & SOFTBALL 2008!

April 19<sup>th</sup> marked the opening day for the Spring baseball/softball season at Pelican Park. 2,013 boys and girls are participating in the baseball and fastpitch softball leagues. This requires 513 coaches and multiple volunteers such as scorekeepers, team moms, age group directors, and two advisory boards. This army of volunteers makes Pelican Park sports such a success. Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup> marked the grand opening for the Red Complex for softball. Girls from ages 7-14 are breaking-in the new fields this season. It's not just the new fields that are popular this season at the park, however. New playground equipment at the Red and Green Complexes have been a hit with the kids! "Parker Pelican" greeted the children and the young at heart on opening day. Thank you Cindy "Parker" Jackson for making the day special!



## GIRLS SUMMER VOLLEYBALL CLINIC

This one week volleyball clinic will be a great opportunity for participants to learn the skills of volleyball. This clinic will provide participants with knowledge of the game, basic skills, combination drills, and game experience. Toby Schultz will be the instructor for the clinic.

**Where:** Brown Pelican Gym, Ct 1 & 2

**Hours:** 10:00 am-12:00 pm

**When:** June 23rd—27th (ages 8, 9/10)

July 21st—25th (ages 11/12)

**AGE AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2008**

**COST: \$34.00**

The clinic will be limited to a minimum of 10 participants and a maximum of 16 participants so be sure to register early. Participants **MUST** come into the office to register for the volleyball clinic.

**Registration Dates:** June 2nd—June 17th



Pelican Park....making a difference in children's lives

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

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Recreation Supervisor  
  
Kia Knight  
Castine Center Mgr.  
  
Andrew Thomas  
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.



**SUMMER BASKETBALL  
REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

**LIMITED # OF PARTICIPANTS - REGISTER EARLY!!!**

**DISTRICT REGISTRATION DATES: JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup>-JUNE 17<sup>th</sup>**

**NON-DISTRICT REGISTRATION DATES: JUNE 9<sup>th</sup>-JUNE 17<sup>th</sup>**

**PLEASE NOTE: DURING LIMITED REGISTRATION PLAY UPS ARE NOT APPROVED UNTIL AFTER REGISTRATION CLOSES AND ONLY IF SPACE IS AVAILABLE.**

Office registration hours:

Monday – Friday 8am-6pm  
Saturday 9am-5pm

Online registration:

Returning District players may register 24 hours a day beginning at 12:01am on June 2nd. Online registration ends at midnight on June 17th.

General Registration Information

- First time players must register in the office & bring a copy of their birth certificate and a current utility bill.
- Online registration available for returning players only. **Due to the limited registration, play-ups will only be considered after registration has ended and only if openings are available in that age group.**



**GIRLS SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUE**

This recreation league is intended to help the players further develop skills, promote sportsmanship, and emphasize individual as well as team skills.

- ♦ Age Groups – 7/8, 9/10, 11/12, 13/14, & 15/16
- ♦ Age as of date – 8/31/2008
- ♦ No evaluations are held for Summer Basketball
- ♦ Practices begin the weekend of June 28th
- ♦ 10 game season followed by a single elimination tournament
- ♦ Games begin the week of July 7th
- ♦ 2 games per week, one weekday & one weekend
- ♦ Pre-season practices only unless coach requests season
- ♦ **LIMITED REGISTRATION—ALL AGE GROUPS ARE LIMITED TO 48 REGISTRANTS WITH SIX TEAMS PER AGE GROUP.**

**SUMMER GIRLS BASKETBALL REGISTRATION FEES**

<u>AGE GROUP</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>NON-DISTRICT</u>
7/8	\$51.00	\$101.00
9/10	\$70.00	\$120.00
11/12	\$70.00	\$120.00
13/14	\$80.00	\$130.00
15/16	\$80.00	\$130.00



## BOYS SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUE

- ◆ **Ages 7—17**
- ◆ **LIMITED REGISTRATION** —All age groups are limited to 48 registrants, 6 teams per age group.
- ◆ Age as of date is 8/31/2008
- ◆ Games begin the week of July 7th.
- ◆ Ages 8 & up will have a post-season single elimination tournament.
- ◆ 10 game season
- ◆ Ages 13 & up will play 8 minute quarters. All other ages play 6 minute quarters.
- ◆ Pre-season practices only. Season practices upon coaches request—limit one per week.
- ◆ Player evaluations are not conducted during summer basketball. A blind draft is held in order to form teams, with previous league evaluations taken into consideration. If a child has never played before the age group director may call and ask that your child attend an evaluation.
- ◆ A MINIMUM OF 4 TEAMS IS REQUIRED FOR A LEAGUE
- ◆ With the exception of the 7 year old age group, age groups MAY be combined in order to form a league.

### SUMMER BOYS BASKETBALL REGISTRATION FEES

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Non-District</u>
7 year-olds	\$46.00	\$ 96.00
8, 9, 10, 11, & 12 year-olds	\$69.00	\$119.00
13, 14, & 15 year-olds	\$81.00	\$131.00
16/17 year-olds	\$87.00	\$137.00

### SCOREKEEPERS NEEDED

If you're interested in earning a few extra bucks, come to the scorekeeper training for basketball on **Monday, June 30th** at **6:00 PM** in the Castine Center Conference Room. Ages 14 and up are welcome. You create your own schedule for scoring games. The public is welcome to participate in the training even if you're not interested in the scorekeeper job.

### SCRAPBOOKING CLASS/WORK TIME

Anyone interested in learning about scrapbooks or looking for a place to enjoy your scrapping hobby? Recreation District #1 will be offering "Pelican Crop," 10 weeks of cropping in the Castine Center at Pelican Park. Each session will include some instruction and idea sharing, and allow for open time to work on your scrapbook projects.

- The sessions will be from 6-10 PM on Friday Nights from July 18th—September 19th.
- Registration will be held in the Castine Center office from 8AM-6PM Monday-Friday only. June 30th—July 11th. The program is limited to 12 participants so register early! The cost is \$40.00 per participant.

### SUMMER CAMPS & CLINICS

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| • May 27th-May 30th     | Mandeville Soccer Club Summer Camp        |
| • May 30th-June 1st     | Urban Youth Inc. Louisiana Supershootout  |
| • June 2nd-June 6th     | Jared Montz Pro Soccer Camp               |
| • June 2nd-July 25th    | Kidcam Summer Camp Programs               |
| • June 2nd-June 6th     | Dotson-Priola Fundamental Basketball Camp |
| • June 9th-June 13th    | Mandeville Soccer Club Summer Camp        |
| • June 9th-June 13th    | By You Guru Invitational Baseball Camp    |
| • July 14th-July 18th   | Dotson-Priola Fundamental Basketball Camp |
| • July 28th-August 1st  | Mandeville Soccer Club Summer Camp        |
| • August 4th-August 8th | Mandeville Soccer Club Premier Camp       |

**All camps & clinics are conducted by rental groups and are not sponsored by Pelican Park. For contact information, please visit our website at [www.pelicanpark.com](http://www.pelicanpark.com).**



### Jr. NBA/ Jr. WNBA SKILLS CHALLENGE UPDATE

Pelican Park's own **Elizabeth Manuel** (13/14 girls), **Zoe Perrin** (7/8 girls), **Daniel Garraway** (13/14 boys), **Jordan Alfred** (9/10 boys), and **Austin Hales** (7/8 boys) recently placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the New Orleans Hornets Jr. NBA/WNBA skills challenge! The regional competition took place on Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at the Dryades YMCA in New Orleans. Twenty-four athletes competed in front of an audience of 100+ spectators. The participants were awarded t-shirts, plaques, and Hornets tickets. These athletes qualified for the regional competition after finishing 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Pelican Park's local competition. After comparing the regional scores with 25 other NBA markets, **Elizabeth Manuel** qualified to compete at the National Finals in Orlando, Florida! Elizabeth will compete at the Orlando Magic basketball facility, attend an awards dinner at NBA City, and visit Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure theme parks. Congratulations to all of the Pelican Park top place finishers and we wish Elizabeth the best of luck at Nationals!!!

RECREATION DIST. # 1  
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 MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

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


**CASTINE CENTER UPCOMING EVENTS**

- June 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> **St. Tammany Home Builders Association Home Show**  
Over 60 vendors to showcase at this Home Show.
  - June 13 & 14 **AbunDance Recital**  
This local dance school holds their annual show.
  - June 16<sup>th</sup> **S.A.L.T. Council – Elder Abuse Awareness Day**  
Informative sessions and luncheon.
  - June 20 **Renaissance Mixed Martial Arts**  
They're back!!! Ultimate Fighting at it's best. Showcasing local and national fighters. Special performance by Lillian Axe's guitarist, Steve Blaze.
  - June 29<sup>th</sup> **Northshore Bridal Show!!!**  
If you missed this last year, you missed the best bridal show held. Over 50 vendors and a runway show. Prizes and giveaways.
  - July 11 & 12 **Bougalie Rebels Cat Club**  
Come be a spectator or find out how you can join and participate.
  - July 17 **Senior Resource Festival**  
Over 70 vendors catering to the seniors in our area. Health screenings, lifestyle information and much, much more! This is much more than a trade show. There's always fun and food on hand, as well.
  - July 26<sup>th</sup> **Castaway Party**  
Are you from the St. Bernard area and looking to reconnect with friends lost after Katrina? This event has doubled in size since last year and they expect 1,200 + in attendance to this informal dance. Sorry, no tailgating!
- If you would like information about any of these events, please call The Castline Center at 626-7997. You can always check out the current month's calendar online at [www.castlinecenter.com](http://www.castlinecenter.com).

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

**DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER**  
 Fall Sports..... July 28th-August 12th  
 Adult Sports..... July 28th-August 8th  
 Winter Basketball ..Sept. 22nd-Oct. 7th

**Scholarships Available**  
 The Park believes that 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.

**AVOID THE BITE OF THE MOSQUITO!**  

 It's that time of year to remember to always use mosquito repellent while at the Park. Apply repellents that contain DEET or Picaridin because the Center for Disease Control has proven these last longer than other repellents.

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.

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