



JEROME TOWNSHIP, UNION COUNTY, OHIO

RULES FOR TOWNSHIP PARKS

SECTION 1 PURPOSES & APPLICABILITY.

These rules are adopted in accordance with the powers and purposes of Section 505.261 of the Ohio Revised Code, in order to provide for the care, protection, and maintenance of the parks under control of the Board of Township Trustees and for such other purposes as may be provided by applicable law. These rules are applicable to all visitors to the parks. The Board may designate such officials of the Township to enforce these rules for the purposes provided herein. The Board or its designee(s) may use any lawful means to compel compliance with these rules. Nothing in these rules should be interpreted as modifying any applicable laws of the State, including laws pertaining to controlled substances, or to restrict the power of a law enforcement officer to take any lawful action to protect the safety of the public. Nothing in these rules should be interpreted as restricting the powers of the Board to maintain and make improvements to the grounds of the parks or any portion thereof.

The Board may, from time to time, grant waivers from the provisions of these rules or authorize other actions or activity within the grounds of the parks. Such waivers or authorizations may be granted when the proposed actions or activities are consistent with the general purposes and intent of these rules and will not negatively impact public health, safety, or general welfare. Such waivers or authorizations shall typically be granted in writing.

These rules may be amended from time to time by the Board in accordance with any applicable provisions of Chapter 505 Ohio Revised Code without other specific notice except as may be required by law.

SECTION 2 OPERATION.

Township parks will be open for public use between sunrise and sunset. No person shall be on or about the grounds of a park except during those hours. The Board or its designee(s) may, for good cause and in the interest of public safety, restrict access to the hours or restrict access to certain portions of the grounds of a park without notice. Such restriction will be posted at the appropriate location of the restriction if practicable. Any persons found to be on or about the grounds of a park except as provided by this section shall be considered to be trespassing.

SECTION 3 USE OF PARK FACILITIES.

Picnic shelters, picnic areas, picnic tables, athletic fields, and play areas are available on a first come, first served basis. The Board may, at its discretion, issue written authorization to a person for exclusive use of a particular park facility. Such written authorization shall indicate the type of activity authorized, and the Board may exercise its discretion to provide for additional conditions and safeguards or to otherwise modify these rules as applicable to a specific use or activity. The Board may, at its discretion, adopt a schedule of fees that shall be required as payment for issuance of the written authorization.

SECTION 4 PRESERVATION OF PROPERTY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

No person shall injure, deface, defoul, or disturb any part of a park or any building, sign, equipment, or other property found therein; nor shall any tree, flower, shrub, rock, or other mineral be removed, injured, or destroyed. No park fixtures or equipment shall be moved to other locations within a park or removed from the grounds of a park without written authorization of the Board. No person shall place any sign, obstruction or markings on any trail, structure, or natural feature except with written authorization from the Board. No person shall establish or maintain any camp, lodging, or place of habitation within a park, without the written authorization from Board.

SECTION 5 PRESERVATION OF GOOD ORDER IN THE PARKS.

No person shall recklessly engage in any boisterous, disorderly, or indecent conduct that annoys, inconveniences, or alarms visitors to a park.

No person shall engage in any noisy, boisterous conduct nor shall any person use any sound amplification device without specific written permission of the Board.

No person shall hit any type of golf ball within a park. No person shall use skates, skateboards, rollerblades, bicycles, motorized models, including model aircraft and drones, or any other objects or devices with wheels recklessly or in a manner to inconvenience the public. No person shall engage in ice skating, boating, or swimming, diving or wading within any body of water located within a park.

No person shall sell or offer for sale any article, thing, privilege, or service without written authorization from the Board, and no person shall do any peddling, or soliciting within the grounds of any park.

No person may sell, give away, or use any beer or intoxicating liquors within a park without written authorization from the Board.

No individual or organization shall conduct, sponsor, or promote any concert, theater, athletic event, or other public activity in a park without prior written authorization of the Board.

SECTION 6 GARBAGE, REFUSE, ASHES, AND WASTE MATERIAL.

No person shall deposit any garbage, refuse, ashes, or other waste materials whatsoever within the grounds of a park including in waterways other than in receptacles provided for such purposes. No person shall bring in or cause to be brought into the parks from outside the boundaries of the park grounds any garbage, ashes, refuse, appliances, furniture, brush, landscape materials, soil, or other waste materials for disposal within a park. This includes pet waste.

SECTION 7 HUNTING, FISHING, AND WILDLIFE.

No person within the confines of a park shall hunt, pursue with dogs, trap, harm, harass, injure, or kill any wild bird, animal, fish, reptile, or aquatic life found within the confines of a park, or disturb, harm, or touch any bird nest or animal den. Fishing shall be permitted within the pond located at Harry Wolfe Park in accordance with applicable law.

SECTION 8 ANIMALS.

No person shall bring any animal to the grounds of a park except dogs, and they shall be kept on a leash. Pet waste shall be the responsibility of the pet owner to be collected and properly disposed of.

SECTION 9 FIRES, WEAPONS, & EXPLOSIVES.

No person shall start a fire other than within an established firepit, a fixed grill or fireplace. No firepits may be constructed, and no portable grills, fireplaces, or similar equipment may be placed or utilized within the grounds of a park. All fires shall be extinguished thoroughly by the person starting or using the same before leaving the immediate vicinity of the fire. The Board may, at its discretion, prohibit fires or smoking for limited periods at any location or for any purpose when necessary for the protection of the grounds of a park or the public. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to modify any provision of any other applicable fire regulations enforced by the Township Fire Department.

No person shall discharge any firearm, fireworks, explosives, or missile-throwing device, including slingshots and archery equipment without written authorization from the Board.

SECTION 10 MOTOR VEHICLES & PARKING.

Motor vehicles must remain on designated drives.

All motor vehicles shall be parked in designated parking areas. No person shall leave any motor vehicle in a park during the hours when a park is closed. No person shall drive, park, or store any commercial car or truck, trailer, semi-trailer, bus, recreational vehicle, boat, watercraft, commercial tractor, or any other similar vehicle within a park.

SECTION 11 ENFORCEMENT & PENALTY.

These rules may be enforced by the Board, its designee(s), or any law enforcement officers. Any person violating any provision of these rules, or any amendments thereto shall be fined a sum not exceeding \$100.00 for the first offense, nor more than \$500.00 for a second or further offense. Violations of any of these regulations shall be considered prima facie grounds for immediate dismissal from a park and revocation of previously granted authorization to same by any official designated by the Board to enforce these rules.

SECTION 12 DEFINITIONS.

The term "park" as used herein means any parkland or public grounds owned, leased, or controlled by the Board of Trustees of Jerome Township, Union County, Ohio, but shall not include the cemeteries under the control of the Board, the Township Hall, or other public buildings for which the Board has provided other regulations for use.

The term "person" includes persons, corporations, partnerships, and limited liability companies.

SECTION 12 SEVERABILITY.

Should any provision of this Resolution be declared by a court having jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the Resolution as a whole, or any part thereof, other than the provision so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid.

SECTION 13 REPEAL OF PRIOR RULES & REGULATIONS.

The existing rules for parks under the control of the Board or any parts thereof that were previously adopted by the Board are hereby repealed.

SECTION 14 OPEN MEETINGS ACT COMPLIANCE.

It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of these rules were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action,

were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 15 EFFECTIVE DATE.

These rules shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Adopted this 16th day of May, 2023. (Res 23-055)



Chairperson, Board of Township Trustees



Fiscal Officer

JEROME TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNION COUNTY, OHIO

MOTION TO APPROVE & ADOPT THE RULES FOR TOWNSHIP PARKS

I move to approve and adopt the revised Rules for Township Parks as presented.

MOTION: Wezlynn Davis

SECOND: Megan Sloat

ROLL CALL:

Barry Adler:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
Wezlynn Davis:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
Megan Sloat:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO

Res. 23-055