

**CITY OF CHARLOTTE**  
**COUNCIL POLICY**

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<b>CONDUCT WITHIN AND USE OF CITY PARKS</b>	<b>2017-02</b>	<b>09/25/2017</b>	<b>1 of 6</b>

**1. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to set forth rules and regulations regarding conduct within and use of the various park facilities of the City of Charlotte.

**2. AUTHORITY**

This policy is adopted pursuant to Section 38-6 of the Charlotte City Code.

**3. RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL PARKS**

The following rules and regulations are applicable to all City parks:

**3.1 Commercial Activities.** A person may not sell, or offer for sale, any merchandise, article or thing in City parks without having first obtained written permission from the manager or his/her designee. A person may not practice, carry on, conduct or solicit for any trade, occupation, business or profession without first obtaining written permission from the city manager or his/her designee.

**3.2 Disorderly Conduct.** A person may not indulge in riotous, boisterous, threatening or indecent conduct, or use abusive, threatening, indecent, profane or obscene language or gestures.

**3.3 Handbills and Advertising.** A person may not distribute any handbills or circulars or post, place or erect any bills, notices, paper or advertising device or matter of any kind.

**3.4 Noise.** Except in cases of concerts or similar events approved by the city manager or his/her designee, no person shall play a radio or other sound amplification device so loud as to be an annoyance to other people in the park or to nearby residents.

**3.5 Smoking.** No person shall smoke any tobacco product within fifty (50) feet of any playground.

**4. RULES APPLICABLE TO SPECIFIC PARKS**

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**4.1 Rules applicable to Oak Park.** The following rules and regulations are applicable to Oak Park

**4.1.1 Park hours.** Oak Park shall be open to public use between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and dusk.

**4.1.2 Moving of park equipment.** No person shall move any picnic table, bench, trash container or other fixture or equipment without first obtaining the permission of the Director of Public Works.

**4.1.3 Loitering in or on gazebo.** No person shall loiter in or on the gazebo.

**4.2 Rules applicable to Lincoln Park Skate Park.** The following rules and regulations are applicable to Lincoln Park Skate Park.

**4.2.1 Generally.** The Lincoln Park Skate Park is a sports facility open to children and persons of all ages. It is a “Use At Your Own Risk” park and will not be supervised by onsite park personnel. Skateboarding and skating are hazardous recreational activities. Parents should be in attendance and supervise their children at all times. All participants should wear protective equipment while using this facility. Failure to wear protective equipment while using this facility may result in death, paralysis, brain damage or concussion, broken bones or other serious injury. The City of Charlotte does not assume any responsibility for injuries.

**4.2.2 Skate Park rules of conduct.**

**4.2.2.1** Skate at your own risk.

**4.2.2.2** Safety equipment is strongly recommended. This is a non-supervised facility. (Your sport, your skull, your choice.) Use of the skate facility may expose the skate athletes to serious injury.

**4.2.2.3** Skate within your means. Be honest about your skill level and use this facility at your own risk.

**4.2.2.4** Only skateboards, roller-skates, in-line skates and bicycles are permitted.

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- 4.2.2.5** Skate respectfully. This is a smoke-, alcohol- and drug-free facility.
- 4.2.2.6** Be respectful of other patrons and of the park. No profanity.
- 4.2.2.7** Amplified music is not allowed.
- 4.2.2.8** Standing, sitting or hanging out on the ramps is prohibited.
- 4.2.2.9** Waxing the rails is prohibited.
- 4.2.2.10** Littering and possessing glass containers, food or beverages on the skating surface is prohibited.
- 4.2.2.11** The Skate Park is not a designated picnic area.
- 4.2.2.12** Fires are prohibited with the park.
- 4.2.2.13** Glass containers are prohibited within the Skate Park.
- 4.2.2.14** Modifications to any element or area within the Skate Park are prohibited. Mobile ramps or other skating structures of a makeshift nature are prohibited.
- 4.2.2.15** Graffiti must be approved by the Park Board Subcommittee prior to placement.
- 4.2.2.16** The City of Charlotte reserves the right to close this facility at any time without notice.
- 4.2.2.17** De-icing products such as salt will damage the skating surface and are prohibited.
- 4.2.2.18** Bicycles may be used on even-numbered days, skates on odd-numbered days, if necessary.

**4.3 Rules applicable to Lincoln Park Hockey Rink**

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**4.3.1 Generally.** The Lincoln Park Hockey Rink is a sports facility open to children and persons of all ages. It is a “Use At Your Own Risk” park and will not be supervised by onsite park personnel. Hockey and skating are hazardous recreational activities. Parents should be in attendance and supervise their children at all times. All participants should wear protective equipment while using this facility. Failure to wear protective equipment while using this facility may result in serious injury. The City of Charlotte does not assume any responsibility for injuries.

**4.3.2 Hockey Rink Rules of Conduct**

**4.3.2.1** This is a smoke-, alcohol- and drug-free facility.

**4.3.2.2** Be respectful of other patrons and of the park. No profanity.

**4.3.2.3** Except as provided in 4.3.2.7, only equipment typically associated with ice skating, rollerblading or hockey is permitted within the hockey rink.

**4.3.2.4** Standing on, sitting on, or climbing over the boards is prohibited.

**4.3.2.5** Littering, glass containers, food or beverages on the skating surface are prohibited.

**4.3.2.6** The City of Charlotte has the right to close this facility without notice.

**4.3.2.7** Radio control car drag races may be conducted on the hockey rink when authorized by the city manager or his/her designee.

**4.4 Rules applicable to Lincoln Park Raceway**

**4.4.1 Generally.** Lincoln Park Raceway is a radio control car track located in Lincoln Park south of Shepherd Street between the hockey rink and the street. It is a dirt track with drainage tile barriers constructed in accordance with generally accepted construction standards for tracks of this nature. Lincoln Park Raceway will be open to the public for use during regular park hours.

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**4.5 Rules applicable to Lincoln Park Open Space south of Shepherd Street.**

The following rules and regulations are applicable to the open space in that portion of Lincoln Park that lies south of Shepherd Street:

**4.5.1 Generally.** The open areas of Lincoln Park south of Shepherd Street may be used for special events organized and operated by recognized nonprofit organizations. The events must be approved in advance by the City Council which may require proof of liability and property damage insurance naming the City as an additional insured. Event organizers shall specify which portion or portions of the open space they intend to occupy and shall, during the dates and times approved by the Council, have control of all activities, sales, entertainment, games and the like occurring within said areas, subject to any limitations imposed by state laws and regulations and local ordinances and policies.

**4.5.2. Sale and Consumption of Alcohol.** The Council may authorize the sale and consumption of alcohol in conjunction with special events approved pursuant to 4.5.1 subject to the following conditions:

**4.5.2.1.** Application for a permit authorizing the sale and consumption of alcohol in City parks shall be made and the application approved pursuant to the provisions of Section 38-2 of the Charlotte City Code.

**4.5.2.2.** The sale and consumption of alcohol shall take place only within the confines of a tent or similar enclosure surrounded by a fence or other barrier designed to limit ingress and egress.

**4.5.2.3.** Event organizers shall provide and pay for security personnel in numbers judge adequate to maintain order for the anticipated crowd size. Said personnel must be present within the tent at all times that alcohol is served therein.

**4.5.2.4.** The sale of alcohol shall cease not later than 10:00 p.m. and all patrons, security personnel, employees and volunteers shall vacate the premises not later than 11:00 p.m.

**4.6 Rules applicable to Dean Park.** The following rules and regulations are applicable to Dean Park.

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**4.6.1 Park hours.** Dean Park shall be open to public use between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and dusk.

**4.7 Rules applicable to Southridge Park.** The following rules and regulations are applicable to Southridge Park.

**4.7.1 Park hours.** Southridge Park shall be open to public use between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and dusk

**5. POLICY REPLACED**

This policy replaces Council Policies 2012-03 and 2013-03.

**6. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This policy shall be effective upon its approval by the City Council.