

PARK AND RECREATION BOARD POLICY

- SUBJECT:** Unrestricted Public Access to Parklands
- BACKGROUND:** Requests are occasionally received to restrict public access to an area of parkland for special use.
- DEFINITION:** "Restricted public access" shall mean any action or barrier which limits use of outdoor public park areas by the general public, including but not limited to admission fee, request for donation, fence, rope or parking restriction for the special use.
- PURPOSE:** In order to ensure maximum public use of parkland, this policy is established to assure unrestricted public access to outdoor public park areas.
- SCOPE:** This policy applies to all non-water public parkland in the City of San Diego, including designated and dedicated parkland and open space. This policy shall not affect existing lease agreements or preferential non-exclusive use permits.
- POLICY:** In order to ensure that public parkland is available and accessible for free public use and enjoyment by the greatest number of people, it is the policy of the Park and Recreation Board to assure unrestricted public access to public parkland.
- PROCEDURES:**
1. Requests for special use which restrict free public access to outdoor public park areas may be granted by staff in areas that have been designated for controlled admission. User fees and cleaning deposits to cover partial City of San Diego costs will be charged. Restricted access will also be permitted when it is necessary to ensure public safety.
  2. Designated areas where special uses that restrict free public access to outdoor public park areas may be allowed include:
    - A) Mission Bay Park: portions of Mariner's Point, Ski Beach and South Shores;

B) Balboa Park turfed area adjacent to War Memorial Building, turfed area at Park Boulevard and President's Way; and, turfed areas on the east side of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Marston Point; and

C) Other park sites that may be approved on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Park and Recreation Director

3. Appeal of staff denial under this policy will be directed to the Park and Recreation Board and its appropriate committees.

4. Approved Recreation Council-conducted events at community parks may restrict access of not more than 50% of the park site. Only Recreation Council-conducted events may restrict access.

SUBSTANTIATION:

Park and Recreation Board Minutes of December 19, 1985  
(page 2846).

Public Facilities and Recreation Committee approved Policy on February 12, 1986 with the caveat that the restricted event, Annual Unlimited Hydroplane Races in Mission Bay, be excluded from the Policy.

Park and Recreation Board Minutes of May 21, 1992 (two year trial on Items 2a and 4).

Park and Recreation Board Minutes of 11/15/01 (page 4).