



STA Facility Profile

City of Regina

Optimist Ball Park



Name, location of facility.

The City of Regina has 43 athletic fields city-wide including seven sport field complexes that are used for higher level competition. These include Mt. Pleasant Sport Park, Optimist Park and the Rugby Centre which are venues for the 2005 Jeux du Canada Games hosted by Regina this summer.

General facility information.

Mt. Pleasant (6 fields), Rugby (4), Lakeridge (4), Optimist (2), Realtors (2), Rambler (12), Douglas (7), are all sport complex sites. All others are situated as single fields within a park.

What types of sports fields are on site?

Soccer, fastball, baseball, football and rugby. Ultimate Frisbee, field hockey and

lacrosse are also played on these sites.

How many employees are involved with turf care?

In addition to two fulltime employees, six seasonal staff maintain 43 fields. Their duties include mowing, aerating, fertilizing, topdressing, overseeding, turf repair and restoration, line painting, litter collection, bleacher and net moving, and field inspection.

How many acres of turf are maintained? How many acres of sports turf?

Our athletic field staff maintains 117 acres including 96 acres of actual play area. The other area is apron around some of the fields.

What percentage of this acreage is irrigated?

Ninety-nine percent of the 117 acres are irrigated. The irrigation is controlled by our computerized central control system.

What is the primary type of turfgrass? Name of varieties.

Our specification for grass seed has varied over the past years and sod suppliers have changed, but the majority of our turf is

Kentucky Blue. Our current seed specification includes 50% Crest Kentucky Blue; 20% Jasper Creeping Red Fescue; 15% Victory Chewing Fescue; 10% Sparton Hard Fescue; and 5% Fiesta III Perennial Ryegrass. We do allow alternatives on some of the varieties.

Is yearly overseeding part of your sports turf maintenance program?

We have two cycles of overseeding and topdressing per year. However, fall play schedules and early winter sometimes prevent the fall program.

How many times do you fertilize?

Our current fertilizer is a polymer-sulfur coated 40-0-0. We apply two pounds per 1000 square feet, three times per year. We usually apply at beginning of May, late June, and in mid August.

Do you aerate? Topdress?

Our heavy clay soils mean we must constantly work to prevent compaction, so our program is constant. We aerate all fields three to four times per year with two to three slicings to help thin out and generate new growth. We topdress up to two times per year.

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Rambler Park

Has your municipality banned the use of pesticides?

No, but reductions are being implemented. We have not needed to use herbicides on sports fields for several years with the exception of some glyphosate prior to reseeding or sodding an area.

Are community user groups involved or have they been involved in the construction/maintenance of facilities? In what manner?

Community sport user groups have varied levels of involvement in the ongoing maintenance of some ball diamonds, but all athletic fields are maintained by City of Regina staff. A number of these groups have contributed to many of the facilities which allows them priority use in some cases. Annual meetings are conducted with the Athletic Field Advisory Committee which is comprised of sport-user groups to discuss any issues, special events and identify potential future capital projects as they relate to athletic facilities. Ongoing communication between City

program and maintenance staff and user groups allows maintenance concerns to be addressed as required. Typically any improvements requested by the user group above the standards set for the level of the facility become the cost (both capital and operating) of the user group.

How many hr/yr are fields permitted? Who permits them? Are the fields ever closed during the season to give them a rest? How much input do you have in the amount and timing of use?

The City of Regina's Central Scheduling Office is responsible for providing all permits for sport and recreation facilities. In 2004, athletic fields, parks and ball diamonds were permitted for 70,819 hours of use from May 1 to October 31. Better quality sport fields are permitted based on 18-20 hours/week usage per field. Fields are closed as required or as time permits for extra maintenance. Groups are contacted or are asked to call the athletic field supervisor to get current information on field status or "rain outs." ♦

THE GREAT CANADIAN WEATHER QUIZ...



What fell from the sky during the freakiest shower in Belleville, Ontario?

- a) toads picked up by a whirling funnel of vapour
- b) snow blizzard in July
- c) three days of unrelenting rain
- d) fist-sized hail

Answer: a

Calendar of Events

March 23 & 24

*Ontario Parks Association
49th Annual Educational Seminar &
Explorations Trade Show*
Hamilton, ON
Information: (905) 864-6182
www.opassoc.on.ca

May 1-5

*Ontario Recreation Facilities
Association 50th Annual Professional
Development Program*
Guelph, ON
Information: (416) 426-7062
www.orfa.com

July 19-22

*Ontario Parks Association
Annual General Meeting*
Brampton, ON
Information: Steve Preston, City of
Brampton (905) 874-2918
www.city.brampton.on.ca

January 30 – February 24, 2006

*Guelph Turfgrass Institute
Turf Managers' Short Course*
Guelph, ON
Info: (519) 767-5000

GET ON THE LIST!

Contact the STA if you have an event you'd like to advertise in the next issue of the *Sports Turf Manager*.