



Round Table

Cricket, Baseball/ Softball & Rectangular Fields

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PLAYFIELD ALLOCATIONS

2023-2025 Observations

2025 Observation Results

Criteria for Included Statistics:

- Included observations were done on appropriate weather days.
 - Excessive rain and poor weather forecast days were excluded.
- Included observations were completed within the booked time.
 - Observations within 10 minutes of the start or end of the booking were removed.
- Included observations were between 10 and 30 minutes in duration.
- Included observations were completed between May 1 and August 17 in 2025.

2025 In Review

Sport	Total Observations	Total Times Used	Field Usage %
Soccer	358	54	15.08%
Baseball	273	111	40.66%
Cricket	15	14	93.33%
Total	646	179	27.71%

In collaboration with Recreation and Social Services, the City has completed an emerging sport review. The biggest thing to come from this was the need of a new allocations process. This will include groups having to justify the hours they book through a specific allocation filter.

- **Priority's will be changed and subdivided to separate governed community sports, academy's, adult's leagues and private non governed organizations.**
- **New intake process is also being considered to avoid splintering groups from being prioritized**
- **Hours will be allocated based on a formula from the sport own Long Term Athlete Development Plan**
- **Allocating the right field, for the right group**



Rules, Regulations and Conditions

2025-26 Changes

GENERAL RULES

Footwear allowed for fields: rubber-soled shoes with rubber screw-in cleats less than 1/2 inch, or running shoes. No metal cleats or cleats larger than 1/2 inch.

Please be considerate of community residents and all other park users.

Public disturbances and excessive noise, including vulgar language and honking of car horns, are prohibited.

All groups are required to have their permit with them at all times. It is impossible to double book a field or diamond. If approached by another user group or the party refuses to vacate, please contact 311 and request a bylaw officer to be dispatched.

City reserves the right to revise or cancel permits at any time, especially if permitted bookings are found not being used.

The group is responsible for any damage to the field (except normal wear and tear), and to surrounding residences, schools, cars, etc. Field users are required to carry insurance and are responsible for any damage their group may cause. This may include excessive damage to the field, damage to surrounding properties (residences, schools, etc.), or vehicles.

Field and parking areas must be left clear of garbage.

Only crushed dolomite or latex may be used to mark playfields. Marking fields is the responsibility of the user group.

All activities and equipment shall be contained to the booked playfield and avoid encroaching on other bookable playfields.

Vehicles are not permitted to drive on turf, including playfields.

No equipment is to be left on site after booking at a playfield. This includes nets, equipment storage, signage or any other inventory that is used.

Sea cans must be approved and assigned a permit to be placed at or near a playfield. Any sea cans that have not undergone this process may be subject to removal at the City of Calgary's discretion



Key Dates 2026 – Tournament

Following a thorough review, the booking dates for D and E playfields for the 2026 season have been adjusted to better accommodate all interested groups.

Tournament, Day Camp, and Community Event Applications

Submission Window: October 16 – November 14, 2025

Deadline: November 14 at 9:15 PM (or 11:59 PM – please confirm the correct time)

Late Applications: Will be denied and closed

Additional Submission Opportunity: February 4, 2026



Playfield Renewal Date

Renewal Notices Sent: December 15, 2025

Cancellation Period (No Penalty): December 15, 2025 – January 15/16, 2026

Amendment Dates

Permit Cancellation (add amendment tool link)

Cancel specific dates/times (add amendment tool link)

Reduce time (add amendment tool link)

Request Replacement Space for fields close to maintenance (done via email to facitliybooking@calgary.ca)

Correct for Accuracy by adding Missed dates/times/fields (done via email to facitliybooking@calgary.ca)

Public Day

Date: February 4th, 2026

Time: Requests accepted between 8:30am and 11:50pm
(One Day Only)

Important Note: If a field is not included in your renewal permit, a new application must be submitted on Public Day



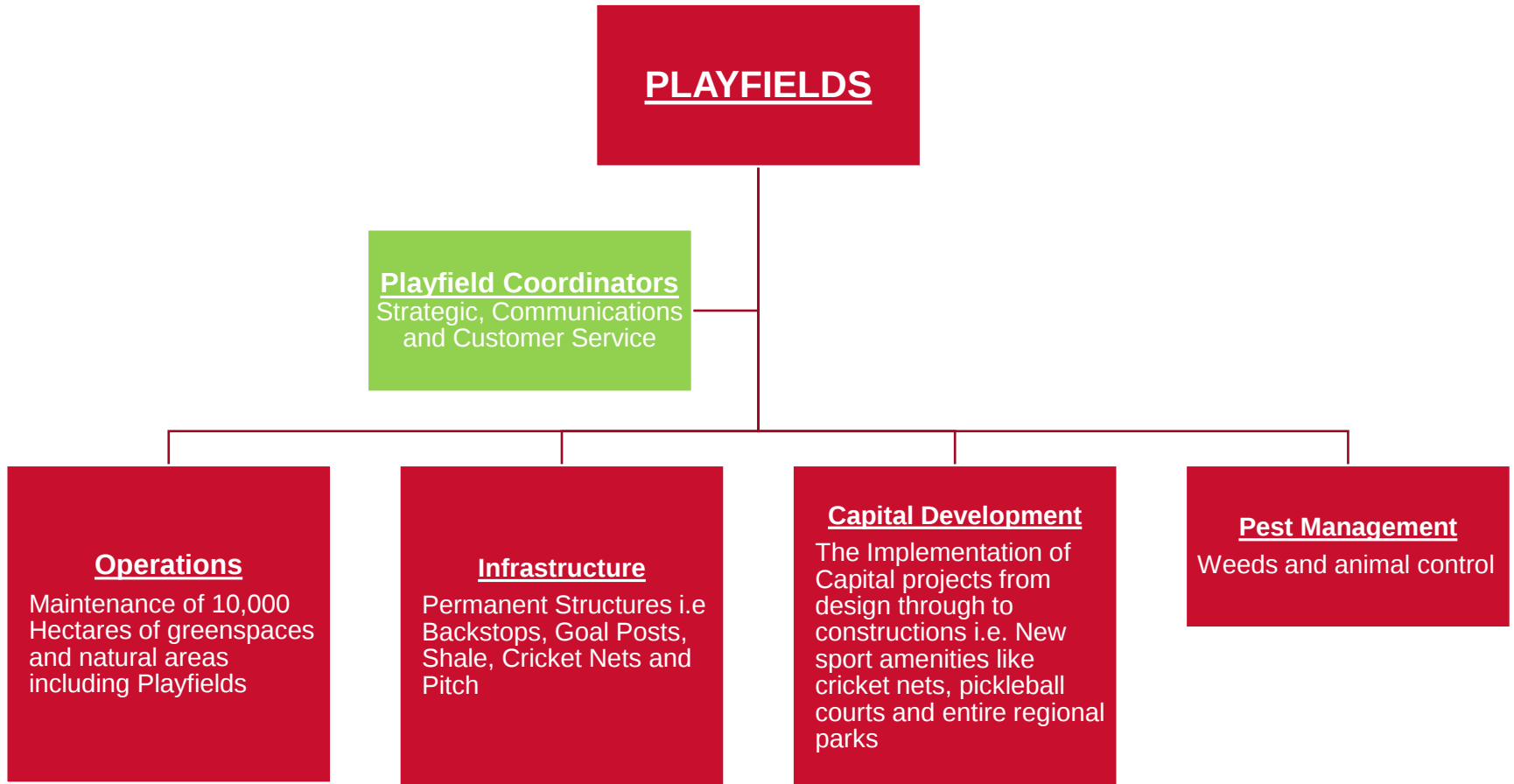
Field Standards and Expectations

- Calgary Parks and Open Teams has put a task team together to clearly outline standards and expectations for Parks Class C, D & E fields across Calgary.

Expectations will never be iron-glad. What can impact field maintenance;

- Heavy rain will always delay mowing cycles. To prevent further damage to the field i.e. damage to irrigation lines and tire marks across the field the crews and contractors cut mow fields
- 2024 / 2025 are the only two years since 2000 to receive more the 540ml of rain.
- Only one other year since 2000 has Calgary received more that 540ml of rain – 2020 (Covid-19 Year)
- Crews and contractors have never had to combat the weather conditions that have been forced upon in the last two years

311 Inquiries





Conflicting Priorities

- Our crews just don't look after playfields, they look after Regional Parks, Playgrounds & Neighbourhood Greenspaces
- In 2025 we had over 250 Tournament Applications, most which asked for mowing prior to their tournament

SPORT BREAKDOWN



CRICKET



BASEBALL/ SOFTBALL



SOCCER



CRICKET

Cricket – SWOT Analysis

Strengths

1. Increase unity in cricket
2. Participation rates increasing across all ages

Weaknesses

1. Need more Cricket fields
2. Field standards need to improve
3. Conduct still a concern

SWOT

Opportunities

1. Continue to unite and come together
2. Junior and adult cricket to come together to establish a Athlete Development Plan

Threats

1. Splinter leagues continue to pop up – more now for tournaments
2. Drop-in cricket groups caused more concerns that sanctioned leagues in 2025
3. Poor conduct i.e. parking, music, & driving on fields

CRICKET



In 2025 we received 27 311's about cricket.

- 8 were in relation to drop in cricket at Riley Park and Cornerstone & Arbour Lake
- 17 were in relation to conduct; music, garbage and vehicles on the ground

Tournaments and Special Events

- Any tournaments must go through the appropriate tournaments / daycamp applications process
- Historical tournaments are always a consideration when approving tournaments
- Conditions of approval must always be read and followed otherwise future applications can be denied on the dates they are approved for
- Tournaments applications are for the protection of the sport groups



Things we are work on

- **Cricket pitch standards**

- Standard of matting is not up to standards. Artificial turf has been cut and joint in the wrong places (just short of length). Working with Operations and Infrastructure to have these fixed
- Ware and tear around cricket pitch
- Catch: This work could result in field closure if we are going to do the work

- **Allocations**

- There is no evidence of hoarding with cricket
- By far the best utilisation vs booking rate

Things we are work on

NEW DEVELOPMENTS:

1. Northeast Athletic Park
2. Big Marlborough Redevelopment
3. New Cityscape Cricket Field Plans

INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Cricket net specifications
2. Cricket pitch standards
3. Pre-planned developments that avoid conflict



Baseball/ Softball

Baseball – SWOT Analysis

Strengths

1. Baseball participation rates
 - Blue Jays success will boost this rate
2. Excess amount of baseball diamonds to work with

Weaknesses

1. There appears to be a consensus that D Class is no longer meeting expected standards
2. Cooperations between leagues to facilitate a more cohesive governed competition
3. Field hoarding

SWOT

Opportunities

1. Calgary Parks and Open Spaces Collaboration Framework
2. Exploring the appetite to upgrade certain fields to C Class
3. Unity and establishing clear LTAP

Threats

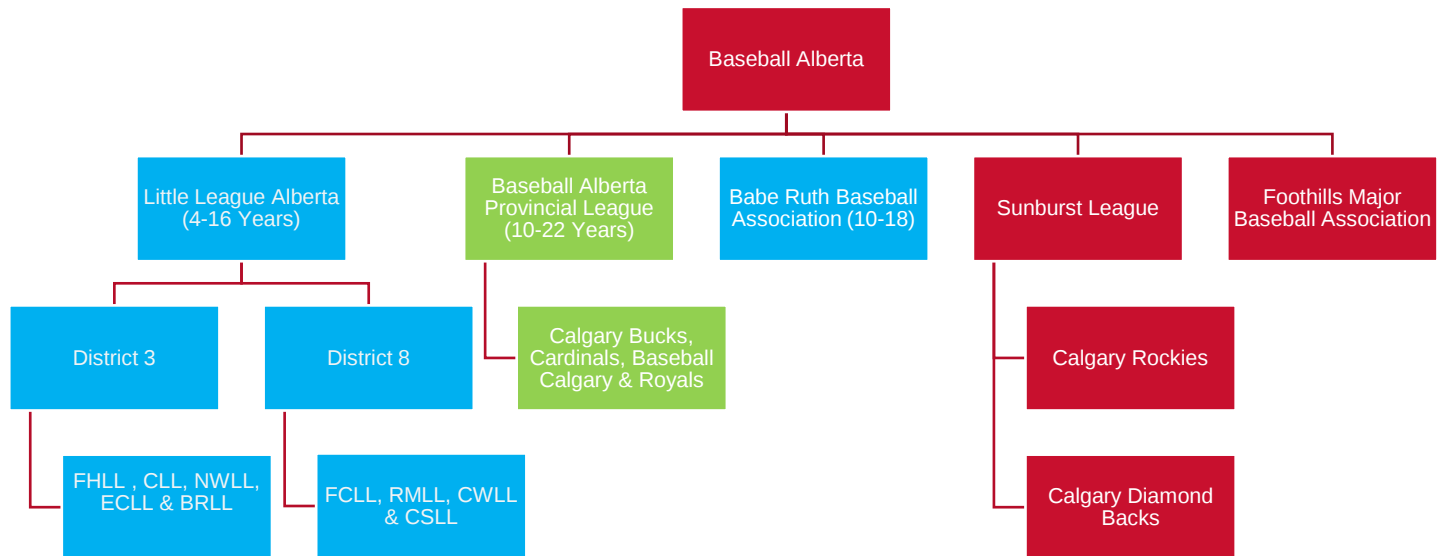
1. Continual field hoarding threatens the growth of all leagues
2. Consensus that groups can host events with music, tents, commentary on a weekly basis
3. Conduct of parents i.e. parking

GOVERNANCE

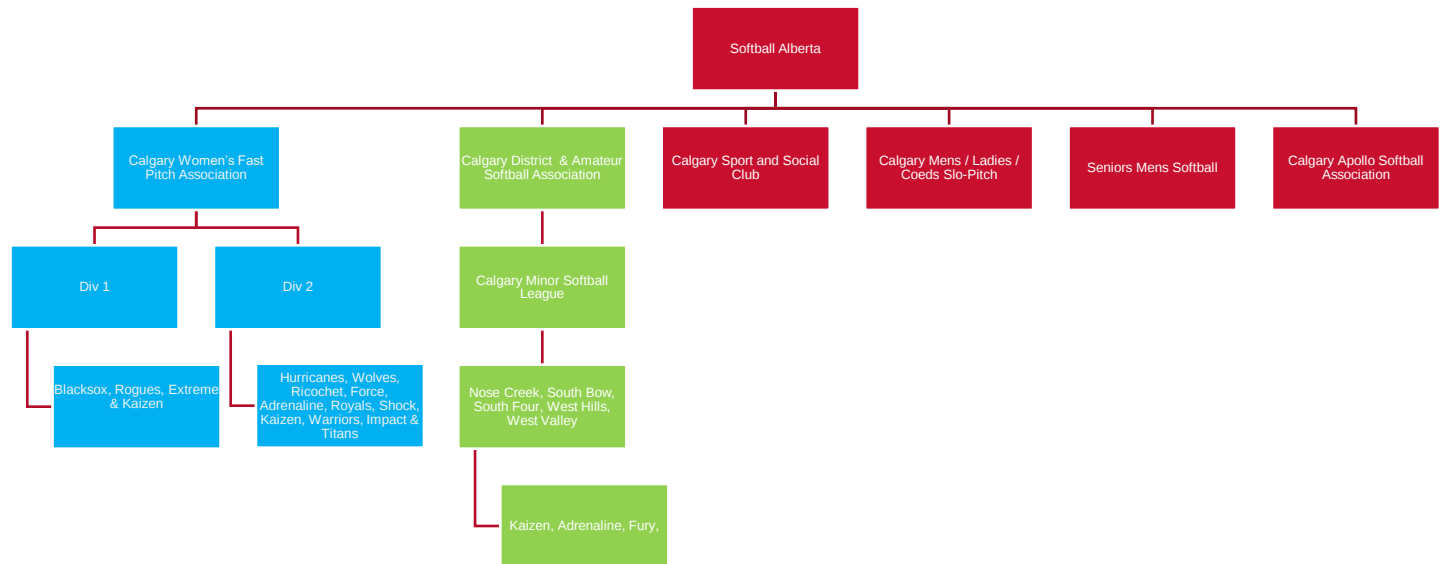
BASEBALL GOVERNANCE

In addition:

- There is 6 baseball academy's
- There are at least 6 corporate leagues (mainly adult softball)



BASEBALL GOVERNANCE



Demographic	% of Bookings
Minor	89%
Adult	11%

Minor leagues have done an excellent job in promoting and growing the sport in Calgary

We are experiencing conflict,
particularly during season
transitions (Spring to Summer &
Summer to Fall)

Portable Toilets

- Portable toilets
 - Application form and FAQ (can be found at www.calgary.ca/playfields)
 - Must provide City of Calgary approval e-mail with map to portable toilet company
 - Portable toilet must be placed according to the map provided
 - City of Calgary reserves the right to remove any non-compliant portable toilets
 - Groups/ portable toilet companies are responsible for any costs associated with turf damage due to portable toilets



City of Calgary D and E Playfield Portable Toilet Application Process FAQ

- All portable toilets at a D or E Playfield must complete the **Portable Toilet D and E Playfield Application Form** and be approved by the City of Calgary before placement
- The Sport Group/ Organization must inform us of the portable toilets through the Portable Toilet D and E Application form. Once the approval e-mail is received from the Playfield Coordinators the Sport Group/ Organization may proceed with the portable toilet company of their choosing. The Sport Group/ Organization is responsible for booking and payment themselves to the Portable Toilet company they choose. The Sport Group/ Organization must provide the Portable Toilet Company with the approved e-mail from the City of Calgary which contains the approved map locations

Playfields Newsletter

- The Playfields newsletter is distributed with various information throughout the year and provides you with important updates and reminders for the City of Calgary playfields
- Four newsletters have been released. Currently have 34 subscribers
- Subscribe at www.calgary.ca/playfields



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Welcome to the Playfields Newsletter Fall edition. We're here to help support and inform you with all your playfield needs.

This newsletter will be distributed with various information throughout the year and provide you with important updates and reminders for the City of Calgary playfields



Playfields close October 15th, 2025 (weather dependent)



Rectangular Fields

Rectangular Fields – SWOT Analysis

Strengths

- Soccer participation rate
- Soccer programs all over the city. Great accessibility

Weaknesses

- Bookings not actually being used (field hoarding)
- New groups can't find bookings
- Sense of ownership of fields
- Booking tournaments but using as regular bookings

SWOT

Opportunities

- Calgary Parks and Open Spaces Collaboration Framework
- Exploring the appetite to upgrade certain fields to C Class
- Returning booked fields that are not being used

Threats

- Continual field hoarding threatens the growth of all leagues
- Consensus that groups can host events with music, tents without appropriate application form
- Conduct of groups
- Conduct of parents i.e. parking
- No soccer governance group

Rectangular Fields Observations

Quadrant	Total # of Observations	Total # of Times Used	Total Field Usage
NW	224	33	14.73%
NE	8	4	50%
SW	121	14	11.57%
SE	5	3	60%

Sport	Total # of Observations	Total # of Times Used	Total Field Usage
May	74	16	21.62%
June	118	22	18.64%
July	80	14	17.5%
August	87	2	2.30%

9 main groups were observed in 2025

Rectangular Fields

Minor leagues have done an excellent job in promoting and growing the sport in Calgary

However, there is a growing consensus out there that once children grow out of junior and youth programs that it's no longer important them to be able to continue playing recreation as an adult

Rectangular Fields Issues

- Goal post netting
- Equipment being left on site (there is a process for this)
- Sea cans and storage bins (there is a process for this)
- Field maintenance (groups are only permitted to line. All mowing and weeding is conducted by the city)
- Driving on turf
- Noise complaints (noise bylaw)
- Incorrect use of tournament/ day camp/ event booking form

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