



PARRAMATTA PARK

POLICY ON VISITOR USE AND ACTIVITIES IN PARRAMATTA PARK

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Objective

To effectively manage the use of lands under the care and management of Parramatta Park Trust (the Trust) by Park visitors.

Introduction

The Trust recognises the important contribution that access and use of open space has to the community. It actively welcomes, supports and provides opportunities for visitors and the community to participate in a variety of activities within the Park.

Increasing numbers of visitors using the Park has raised a number of issues of concern for the community and the Trust including:

- a) Equity of access – e.g. potential conflict with users, management of demand, domination and monopolisation of areas and use of public land;
- b) Impact on facilities – e.g. large groups causing undue wear and tear to recreational facilities and spaces;
- c) Public safety and liability concerns – e.g. participants running onto road ways; and
- d) Impacts upon nearby residents, stakeholders and the public e.g. noise or litter.

The need to manage and balance the use and enjoyment of the Park by visitors has been identified and this policy responds to that need.

Aims

In implementing this policy, the Trust aims to:

- Ensure equity of access to the Park;
- Ensure safety of participants;
- Ensure visitor activities do not impact on turf and facility condition and maintenance;
- Minimise safety and public liability concerns;
- Appropriately manage the Park to prevent conflicts; and
- Minimise the impact on nearby residents, stakeholders and other park users.

Scope

This policy covers all lands within Parramatta Park under the care and management of the Trust for all:

- a) Visitor's activities and functions.

Groups Excluded from this Policy

This policy excludes management of:

- Leased or tenanted sections of Parramatta Park.

Parramatta Park Trust Act & Regulation

The *Parramatta Park Trust Act 2001* identifies the aims, role and responsibilities of the Trust. The *Parramatta Park Regulation 2012* identifies how the Trust manages the use of Trust lands.

Permissible Activities Not Requiring Approval

The following types of activities are permitted:

- **Socialising & dining** - picnicking, meeting friends & family, having a meal break, visiting a one of the parks café's / restaurants or attending social / family functions.
- **Passive recreation** - bush walking, bird watching, enjoying the environment, meditation, reading, relaxing, drawing, painting, studying or sightseeing.
- **Active recreation** – visiting playgrounds, cycling, exercising, jogging, playing ball games, rollerblading, skateboarding, Tai Chi or other casual sports.

These activities are permissible and do not require prior approval or a booking when:

- The activity is undertaken by an individual / private group.
- When the group size is less than 40 people.
- When the sporting activity is of a social nature and is not part of an organised competition / group.
- No one is being instructed (eg by a trainer or instructor).
- Fishing is undertaken only in Parramatta River with a valid NSW Fisheries Licence.

Permissible Activities Requiring Approval

The following types of activities are only permitted within the Park with prior written approval of the Trust:

- **Commercial Activities** – any type of commercial operations including personal training, selling products / services, operating mobile food vans, ticketed concerts or any other type of commercial undertaking.
- **Fundraising Activities** – all types of fundraising activities including walkathons, fun runs, charity stalls and BBQs.
- **Community Events** – all community events that are advertised, open to the general public, ticketed or any function that has more than 40 people attending.
- **Private Functions** – all wedding ceremonies, wedding photography, or any function that has more than 40 people attending.
- **Filming & Photography** – all commercial, student, corporate, professional or other type of filming and/or photography excluding private photography (eg taking photos of yourself, family or friends).
- **Function with Additional Items** – use of animals, petting zoos, amusements, onsite caterers, generators, amplified music, public announcement systems, musical performances, directions signs, banners or displays, marquees, stall or shade structures.

Activities That Are Not Permissible

The following types of activities are not permitted within the Park:

- **Motor / Dirt Bikes** – are not permitted in any area within the Park other than public roadways and car parks.
- **Motorised Equipment** – fuel and/or battery driven motorised bicycles, scooters, remote control cars, planes, helicopters, drones or other like equipment is not permitted in area of the Park.
- **Horse Riding** – horse riding of any kind is not permitted. Except for a single historical rider.
- **Pegging** – pegging of nets, stumps, structures or other items is not permitted.
- **Hunting** – hunting or use of any weapons of any kind is not permitted.
- **Dogs Off Leash** – is not permitted in the Park.
- **Kite Fighting** – is not permitted in the Park.
- **Fishing** – is not permitted in any water way within the Park excluding Parramatta River. This river can be fished in with the relevant NSW Fisheries Licence.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years or as determined by the Trust.

Responsibility

The Director, Operations & Visitor Services is responsible for the overall management of this policy.