

JPRD Playground Participation Selection Policy

Beginning January 2021 – Revised 2025 – 2B

The Goal of the Playground Participation Selection Policy is to:

1. Increase participation in youth sports at playgrounds throughout Jefferson Parish.
2. Give Jefferson Parish families a choice in which playground their child will participate in youth sports.
3. Elevate the quality of youth sport programming at playgrounds across the parish and introduce new and diverse sport programming options.
4. Provide an alternative to “travel ball” that offers children a more competitive, instructive and organized environment for league play at playgrounds.
5. Evaluate the allocation of staff and financial resources based on participation clusters.
6. Look for ways to repurpose playgrounds with low or declining participation based on current needs and desires of the public.
7. “All-Stars” include any Intramural Playground, Franchise, or JPRD East /West teams. Any new Franchise JPRD enters shall be included if not listed below. With this detailed breakdown, it should be easier for everyone to understand which teams and players qualify as All-Stars across different sports. All-Stars are defined by each sport below:

- **Basketball:**

- Bidy Leagues
- JPRD East / West
- Rec- All Stars

- **Track:**

- District Meets
- East / West Bank Meets
- Parish Meets

- **Soccer:**

- Playground All Stars
- Parish All Stars (including JPRD)

- **Baseball / Softball:**

- Little League / Diamond Youth / Dizzy Dean / Dixie / Dixie Majors
- Babe Ruth / Cal Ripken
- JPRD East / West
- All Rec All-Stars

- **Tackle Football:**

- Rookies / Minors / Juniors / Seniors
- JPRD Football

- **Flag Football:**

- Rec - All Stars

- **Volleyball:**

- Rec All-Stars

- **Cheerleading:**

- Spirit Bowl – All American Division

Jefferson Parish Parks and Recreation

Playground Participation Selection Policy

The Jefferson Parish Parks and Recreation Department has established a Playground Participation Selection policy whereby participants select a playground to participate in youth sports. The policy allows participants to select a playground, regardless of residency in Unincorporated Jefferson Parish, while attempting to maintain a competitive balance between recreation centers.

General Playground Participation Selection Guidelines:

- Playground Participation Selection for a given sport will be completed through the Jefferson Parish Recreation Department's online registration system.
- All participants in JPRD youth athletic programs will be asked to show residency. Based on residency, an In-Parish or Out of District Participation Fee will be assessed. A current Driver's License or State Issued ID will be required for residency verification.
- Participation in youth sports by children living in Kenner, Gretna, Harahan, and Westwego are allowed to participate at Jefferson Parish playgrounds so long as the annual Out of District Participation Fee is paid to JPRD.
- All Out of District (Out of Jefferson Parish) buffer zones will be eliminated and a new Out of District Participation policy will be enacted as described in this document.
- Proof of past participation in youth sports at Jefferson Parish playgrounds will be required for all Out of District participants in order to avoid any all-star "sit-out" requirements.
- **Waivers will not be accepted for the current sport once registration closes for that sport. Dates are located in the seasonal rule books.**
- **Participant must register and participate in the sport that the waiver is being requested or applied. Failure to participate in the sport of the waiver application and request, the waiver will be rescinded.**
- **E-3 – Any participant that is seasonal waived for 3 consecutive sports to another playground due to low participation, will be allowed to establish the playground they were seasonally waived to as their new HOME playground with no sit out restrictions.**

Playground Participation Selection Process

Participants from Unincorporated Jefferson Parish

- Participants who have never played in Jefferson Parish
 - If a participant has never participated in youth sports in Jefferson Parish, the participant will be allowed to choose a HOME playground under the following conditions:
 - Once the HOME playground is chosen for the participant, the participant must remain at the HOME playground for both intramural and all-star competition in all youth sports offered in Jefferson Parish.
 - EXCEPTION: If the participants HOME playground does not offer a particular youth sport that the participant wishes to participate in for either intramural play or all-star competition, the participant may be able to participate in that sport ONLY at another playground as determined by the Area Coordinator of Athletics.
 - If after the HOME playground is established, the Participant wants to choose another playground as his/her HOME playground, the following will apply:
 - 1st HOME Playground re-assignment – \$25 processing fee and a one-year participant “sit-out” for all-stars, , beginning from the first sport of the approved re-assignment.
 - 2nd HOME Playground re-assignment - \$25 processing fee and one-year participant “sit-out” for all-stars, beginning from the second sport of the approved 2nd re-assignment.

Participants who have played or are currently playing at a playground in Jefferson Parish

- If a participant has previously participated in youth sports at a playground in Jefferson Parish, the participant will be allowed to choose a new HOME playground under the following conditions:
 - Once the new HOME playground is chosen for the participant, the participant must remain at the HOME playground for both intramural and all-star competition in all youth sports offered in Jefferson Parish. In addition, the participant will be excluded from participating in All-Star competition for one-year beginning from the first sport of the new HOME playground selection.
 - EXCEPTION: If the participants HOME playground does not offer a particular youth sport that the participant wishes to participate for intramural play, the participant may be able to participate in that sport ONLY at another playground as determined by the Area Coordinator of Athletics.
 - If after the new HOME playground is established, the Participant wants to choose another playground as his/her HOME playground, the following will apply:
 - 2nd HOME Playground re-assignment – \$25 processing fee

- and a one-year participant “sit-out” for all-stars, beginning from the second sport of the approved 2nd re-assignment.
- 3rd HOME Playground re-assignment – \$25 processing fee and a one-year participant “sit-out” for all-stars, beginning from the third sport of the approved 3rd re-assignment.

Participants residing in Kenner, Gretna, Harahan, Westwego

- Participants from Kenner, Gretna, Harahan, and Westwego who have never played in Jefferson Parish
 - If a participant in this category has never participated in youth sports in Jefferson Parish, the participant will be allowed to choose a HOME playground under the following conditions:
 - The HOME playground is chosen for the participant. The participant must remain at the HOME playground for both intramural and all-star competition in all youth sports offered in Jefferson Parish.
 - EXCEPTION: If the participants HOME playground does not offer a particular youth sport that the participant wishes to participate in for intramural play only, the participant may be able to participate in that sport ONLY at another playground as determined by the Area Coordinator of Athletics.
 - A \$150 Out of District Participation Fee will be assessed annually per household plus any insurance fees assessed by JPRD.
 - The participant will not be eligible for Jefferson Parish all-star teams for one year after the participant signs up to play in Jefferson Parish for the first time. In addition to the one year “sit-out” from All-Stars, the participant may be excluded from certain all-star teams based on individual sport franchise rules that are out of the control of JPRD.
 - If the Participant wants to choose another playground as his/her HOME playground after the HOME playground has been established, the following will apply:
 - 1st HOME playground re-assignment - \$150 Out of District Participation Fee will be assessed annually per household plus any insurance fees assessed by JPRD. There will be a one-year participant “sit-out” for all-stars, beginning from the first sport of the approved re-assignment.

Participants from Kenner, Gretna, Harahan, and Westwego who have played or are currently playing at a playground in Jefferson Parish

- If a participant in this category has participated or is participating in youth sports in Jefferson Parish, the participant will be allowed to continue to play at his/her current playground without any sit-out requirement for all stars as long as the \$150 Out of District Participation Fee is paid annually. However, the participant may choose a new HOME playground under the following conditions:

- If a new HOME playground is desired, the participant must remain at the new HOME playground for both intramural and all-star competition in all youth sports offered in Jefferson Parish.
 - EXCEPTION: If the participants HOME playground does not offer a particular youth sport that the participant wishes to participate in intramural play only, the participant may be able to participate in that sport ONLY at another playground as determined by the Area Coordinator of Athletics.
- A \$150 Out of District Participation Fee will be assessed annually per household plus any insurance fees assessed by JPRD.
- The participant will not be eligible for Jefferson Parish all-star teams for one year after the participant chooses a new HOME playground. In addition to the one year “sit-out” from All-Stars, the participant may be excluded from certain all-star teams based on individual sport franchise rules that are out of the control of JPRD.

Participants residing in Parishes outside of Jefferson Parish

- Participants from Parishes outside of Jefferson Parish who have never played in Jefferson Parish
 - If a participant in this category has never participated in youth sports in Jefferson Parish, the participant will be allowed to choose a HOME playground under the following conditions:
 - The HOME playground is chosen for the participant. The participant must remain at the HOME playground for both intramural and all-star competition in all youth sports offered in Jefferson Parish.
 - EXCEPTION: If the participants HOME playground does not offer a particular youth sport that the participant wishes to participate in intramural play only, the participant may be able to participate in that sport ONLY at another playground as determined by the Area Coordinator of Athletics.
 - A \$150 Out of District Participation Fee will be assessed annually per household plus any insurance fees assessed by JPRD.
 - The participant will not be eligible for Jefferson Parish all-star teams for two years after the participant signs up to play in Jefferson Parish for the first time. In addition to the two year “sit-out” from All-Stars, the participant may be excluded from certain all-star teams based on individual sport franchise rules that are out of the control of JPRD.
 - If the Participant wants to choose another playground as his/her HOME playground after the HOME playground has been established, the following will apply:
 - 1st HOME playground re-assignment - \$150 Out of District Participation Fee will be assessed annually per household

plus any insurance fees assessed by JPRD. There will be a two-year participant “sit-out” for all-stars, beginning from the first sport of the approved re-assignment.

Participants from Parishes outside of Jefferson Parish who have played or are currently playing at a playground in Jefferson Parish

- If a participant in this category has participated or is participating in youth sports in Jefferson Parish, the participant will be allowed to continue to play at his/her current playground without any sit-out requirement for all stars as long as the \$150 Out of District Participation Fee is paid annually. However, the participant may choose a new HOME playground under the following conditions:
 - If a new HOME playground is desired, the participant must remain at the new HOME playground for both intramural and all-star competition in all youth sports offered in Jefferson Parish.
 - EXCEPTION: If the participants HOME playground does not offer a particular youth sport that the participant wishes to participate in for intramural play only, the participant may be able to participate in that sport ONLY at another playground as determined by the Area Coordinator of Athletics.
 - A \$150 Out of District Participation Fee will be assessed annually per household plus any insurance fees assessed by JPRD.
 - The participant will not be eligible for Jefferson Parish all-star teams for two years after the participant chooses a new HOME playground. In addition to the two year “sit-out” from All-Stars, the participant may be excluded from certain all-star teams based on individual sport franchise rules that are out of the control of JPRD.