

Solebury Township Athletic Field Use Discussion

Athletic Fields Discussion Points

- Does the TWP currently have a field shortage? If yes, how many and what type of fields are needed?
- Do we anticipate an increase or decrease in field needs over the next 5 years (demographics, new sports, etc...)? How does that impact the number and types of fields we need?
- What are the options to adjust our field inventory to bring it in line with our needs?

Definition of an Event

- We have adopted a standardized measure for use and capacity of fields and termed it an Event.
- An Event is defined as any game or practice that lasts between 1 and 2 hours.
- It is commonly accepted that the average grass turf fields can support up to 55 events before significant deterioration (see NHS School District field analysis).
- We have increased capacity from 55 to between 70 (baseball/softball) and 80 events (multi-purpose) to move from “best case” to a more “realistic” number.

Current TWP Athletic Field Capacity

(910 events)

- Laurel Park – (510 events)
 - 3 Baseball fields – 210 events
 - 1 Softball field – 70 events
 - 2 T-ball fields – 70 events
 - 1 Full size Multipurpose field – 80 events
 - 1 Half size practice area (under construction) – 80 events
- Pat Livezy Park – (240 events)
 - 2 Full size Multipurpose fields (1 with lights) – 160 events
 - 1 Half size Multipurpose field (with lights) – 80 events
- Canal Park – (160 events)
 - 1 Full size Multipurpose field
 - 1 Half size practice area

Sports Team Athletic Field Use 2010

(1,304 events)

- Soccer – 619 events
- Baseball – 461 events
- Football – 224 events
- Lacrosse – 0 events

Township Athletic Field Use 2010*

(987 events)

- Laurel Park – 490 events
 - 3 Baseball fields – 235 events
 - 1 Softball field – 64 events
 - 2 T-ball fields – 48 events
 - 1 Full size Multipurpose field – 143 events
 - 1 Half size practice field (under construction) – 0 events
- Pat Livezy Park – 305 events
 - 2 Full size Multipurpose fields (1 with lights) – 231 events
 - 1 Half size Multipurpose field (with lights) – 74 events
- Canal Park – 192 events
 - 1 Full size Multipurpose field – 152 events
 - 1 Half size practice area – 40 events

School Athletic Field Use 2009*

(317 events)

- Bridge Street Complex (can use portable lights)
 - High School Baseball Field – 60 events
 - Middle School Baseball Field – 80 events
 - High School Softball Field – 24 events
 - UES Field 11 – 28 events
 - PECO Field – 50 events
 - Hardy Bush Field – 27 events
- Sугan Road Complex
 - Rear Athletic Field – 32 events
- Solebury School – 16 events

Athletic Fields Discussion Points

- Does the TWP currently have a field shortage? If yes, how many and what type of fields are needed?
- The township is currently short 5 fields at minimum. The types of fields needed to offset that shortage are:
 - 1 Full Sized (120 yds X 80 yds) multipurpose game field
 - 3 Full Sized multipurpose practice fields – portable lights
 - 1 Full Sized baseball field – portable lights
- The township must allow portable lights at some fields to address practice field availability.

Athletic Fields Discussion Points

- Do we anticipate an increase or decrease in field needs over the next 5 years (demographics, new sports, etc...)? How does that impact the number and types of fields we need?
- While we are still playing catch up from previous years, current school enrollment figures do not indicate a surge in youth population over the next 5 years.
- There is currently an unmet demand for lacrosse in our township (est. 50 boys/girls). This is expected to grow.

NHS School Enrollment Data

	1991	2001	2011	Change	%
K	61	73	84	23	38%
1	59	85	94	35	59%
2	68	99	127	59	87%
3	69	100	139	70	101%
4	72	93	127	55	76%
5	71	109	128	57	80%
6	68	116	135	67	99%
7	52	99	143	91	175%
8	63	105	117	54	86%
9	57	115	128	71	125%
10	57	88	118	61	107%
11	65	94	133	68	105%
12	44	86	119	75	170%
Total	806	1,262	1,592	786	98%

October 27, 2010 updated September 2012

NHS School Enrollment Data

	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change
K	84	96	96	91	7
1	94	98	109	109	15
2	127	99	103	113	-14
3	139	130	102	105	-34
4	127	144	134	108	-19
5	128	133	140	141	13
6	135	131	137	152	17
7	143	138	134	140	-3
8	117	146	141	137	20
9	128	116	145	140	12
10	118	128	116	145	27
11	133	120	129	116	-17
12	119	129	116	124	5
Total	1,592	1,608	1,610	1,621	29

NHS School Enrollment Data

	1991	2001	2011		Change
K-2	188	257	305		117
3-5	212	302	394		182
6-8	183	320	395		212
Total	583	879	1,094		511
	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change
K-2	305	293	307	312	7
3-5	394	407	386	352	-42
6-8	395	415	411	429	34
Total	1,094	1,115	1,104	1,093	-1

Athletic Fields Discussion Points

- What are the options to adjust our field inventory to bring it in line with our needs?
- Roeser Park – utilize the 80 acres of space available at the Roeser property to develop a park with the 5 additional fields the township needs.
- North Pointe Park – utilize 30 acres to develop all or some of the 5 additional fields the township needs.

Athletic Fields Discussion Points

- What are the options to adjust our field inventory to bring it in line with our needs?
- School District – partner with the school district to invest in additional fields (Turf Field?) and identify those fields as reserved for use by the township during specific periods of time.