

MVPA RULES AND REGULATIONS

(Amended 01/09/2023)

INTRODUCTION

Mount Vernon Park Association Rules & Regulations are for the protection of Members, their families, guests and the Association. Enjoyment of the Park facilities will be maximized through mutual respect for the rights of others and the observance of these rules. It is the responsibility of management to enforce the rules and regulations as set forth by the Board of Directors. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the rules and regulations of MVPA, please address them directly to the Board of Directors. Please note that while enforcement is the responsibility of park management, the safety and security of person and property within Mount Vernon Park is the responsibility of each and every member and user of the Mount Vernon Park Association facility.

Any infraction of these rules and regulations will be deemed to be prejudicial to the best interests of MVPA and shall be considered sufficient cause for disciplinary action by the Board of Directors, up to and including suspension of Park privileges or the revocation of the privileges of Membership. **The Park Manager has the authority to suspend Park privileges of any Member for infractions of these rules for a period of up to one week. Notice shall be given to the President of MVPA within 24 hours of such action.**

Mount Vernon Park Association By-laws Excerpts:

Article VII:

Section 10. All members of the Association and their guests shall be accorded use of the facilities of the Association subject to such rules and limitations as are applicable to the use thereof and contained in the published rules and regulations of the Association, these shall be placed at all times in conspicuous places in the Club area.

Section 11. The Board of Directors is authorized to approve and schedule use of the Park facilities for Park sponsored activities.

Article X:

Section 6. The Rules and By-laws Committee shall prepare rules of health and good conduct in connection with the operation of the pools and grounds and shall in conjunction with the Operations Committee see that the rules and regulations of the Association are enforced.

GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Members are required to submit MVPA photo identification for admittance to the Park. Members will not be admitted without MVPA photo identification. (effective 6/27/96)
2. SPEED LIMIT - 5 miles per hour on entrance road and parking areas. (7/08)
3. The use of bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades, scooters, or other similar wheeled devices (including wheeled shoes or roller skates) within the Park is prohibited. (effective 2/5/01)
4. Smoking or vaping of any product is prohibited on the grounds (inside the park fence or parking lots) of MVPA. (effective 7/1/21)
5. Private vehicles are not permitted within the fenced area except as approved by the Park Manager.
6. Entrance to MVPA grounds is not allowed except during the posted hours of operation or as approved by management or the Board of Directors.
7. Pets are prohibited within MVPA grounds.
8. Swimming in or throwing debris in the pond is prohibited.
9. Disturbing wildlife within MVPA grounds is forbidden except that fishing in the pond is allowed.
10. Refuse is to be placed in the receptacles provided. (Recycling is strongly encouraged)
11. Maintaining the facilities of MVPA in a clean and orderly condition is the responsibility of all users of MVPA.
12. Parties involving more than ten guests must be approved in advance by the Park Manager and/or President. Parties in excess of 50 people must be approved by the Board of Directors. All such requests must be submitted in writing. Guest fees and/or other charges must be paid at the gatehouse at conclusion of party. (Refer to Party Reservation Rules)
13. Sponsors and participants of parties and activities at MVPA will be liable for any damages sustained as a result of these activities.

14. The distribution of handbills, circulars or other special interest on Park property is prohibited unless expressly sanctioned by the Board of Directors.
15. MVPA is not responsible for the theft or loss of personal property belonging to members or guests.
16. Radios, stereos, or other audio devices shall not be played at a volume or in a manner that disturbs other members or guests. The use of headphones is encouraged.
17. Any infraction of these rules, as well as any inappropriate conduct or language will not be tolerated at the Park. Such conduct may result in suspension or expulsion. (Please report any such activity immediately to the Management or the gatehouse so appropriate action can be taken). If the Manager imposes a suspension, the Manager or any Member may request that the Board impose a longer suspension or expulsion. As soon as practicable after the Board receives a request to impose a different sanction, a subcommittee of the Board comprised of the President, the Membership Chair and the Rules Committee Chair shall investigate the matter and make a recommendation to the Board, which will determine the appropriate sanction. Any member of the Board may serve on this subcommittee in the event that the President, the Membership Chair and/or the Rules Committee Chair is unable to serve. (amended 6/27/96, 1/6/14)
18. Hours of operation for the Park and/or Pool will be posted. (7/1/08)
19. Walking or standing on the brick walls in the pool area is not permitted. (6/7/99)
20. Underage children must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or babysitter/responsible person while on Park grounds. **Members may not "drop off" underage children (age 12 and under) and leave the park. Underage children must be under supervision by a responsible person as defined in #20b.** (Approved 6/00, eff. 1/1/01, amended 2/15/02)
 - a. Underage children is defined as children who are less than 12 years of age and not eligible to enter the 7th grade in the fall of the present calendar year.
 - b. "Babysitter/responsible person" is defined as being a person who is at least 14 years of age or eligible to enter the 9th grade in the fall of the present calendar year.
 - c. In order to establish eligibility for a babysitter/responsible person as defined at 20b of this rule to accompany an underage child, parents or legal guardians are required to submit (1) written permission for the underage child to be accompanied by a babysitter/responsible person, and (2) proof of the babysitter/responsible person's age or grade level in a form that is satisfactory to park management.
 - d. The parent, legal guardian or babysitter/responsible person must exercise continual supervision of the child(ren) while they are on MVPA grounds.
 - e. An exception to this rule will be made for children participating in organized, supervised activities such as swim or tennis team practices. However, upon conclusion of such organized activities, the child must promptly return to the continual supervision of a parent, legal guardian or babysitter/responsible person.
 - f. An underage guest (i.e. playmate) can accompany a member's underage child in the company of a caregiver (who qualifies as a babysitter/responsible person under these rules) if:
 - i. Written permission of the member for the guest to be admitted is presented to the gatehouse.
 - ii. Guest fees are paid.
 - iii. The babysitter/responsible person supervises both children while on MVPA grounds.
21. If, in the judgment of the manager-on-duty, a babysitter/responsible person is not providing proper supervision of an underage child who is in their care, the underage child's parents or legal guardians will be notified, and the underage child and their babysitter/caregiver may be instructed to leave the facility. (Approved 2/15/02)
22. Athletic coaching may only be conducted by MVPA staff and Board-approved contractors.

SWIMMING / POOL AREA RULES

1. Swimming is not allowed unless lifeguards are on duty for that pool.
2. The full attention of the lifeguards must be directed towards the safety of those using the pool at all times. (Lifeguards are not to be engaged in social conversation "while in the chair".)
3. All children who (a) are under 14 years old, or (b) will not enter the ninth grade in the current calendar year will observe a 15 minute rest period hourly, remaining outside the roped area during that time. (8/1/2011)
4. Use of the wading pool is limited to adult supervised children under 7 years of age. Children are not to be left unattended in the wading pool.
5. Children in diapers must wear rubber or similar protective pants, secured at the waist and legs, before entering the pools.

6. Diapers/pampers are to be disposed of in the proper receptacle. (Do not flush down the toilet)
7. Swimmers must take a soap shower before entering the pool.
8. Running or roughhousing on the pool deck is prohibited.
9. Persons having any open sore or wound, sore or inflamed eyes (i.e. pink eye), cold, nasal discharge, or other evidence of communicable disease are not permitted to enter the pool.
10. Bandages, of any kind, are not permitted in the pool.
11. Spitting and blowing the nose in the pool are prohibited.
12. Food, drink containers, glass bottles and chewing gum are prohibited in the pool area.
13. Wearing of street shoes on the pool deck is prohibited.
14. Swimmers must wear appropriate attire to enter the pool. (Cut-offs with frayed legs or similar attire is prohibited in pools.)
15. Flotation devices including but not limited to inner tubes, beach mattresses, beach balls, noodles, and other toys are not permitted in the 25 and 50 meter pools except as approved by the Board of Directors.
16. Use of swim assist devices (water wings, swimmies, etc.), swim masks, swim fins, and snorkels must be under the direct supervision of an adult. For MVPA purposes a "noodle" is classified as a flotation device and its use is governed by Rule 17.
17. Park owned chairs and lounges are not allowed on the hill behind the diving area of the 50 meter pool.
18. No chairs, strollers or similar devices are allowed on the 25 or 50 meter pool decks.
19. Instructions of the MVPA Managers and lifeguards are to be obeyed promptly.
20. Diving is not allowed in designated "No Diving" areas of the pool except under the direction of a swim meet official or coach. (eff. 3/5/01)
21. **Diving Board Rules:**
 - A. Only one person is allowed on the diving board at any time.
 - B. No diving until the previous diver has cleared the diving area.
 - C. Running or excessive bouncing on the diving board is prohibited.
 - D. Dive in a forward direction only, no back dives, cutaways, back flips, or Gainers.
 - E. No flotation devices of any kind are allowed on the diving board.
 - F. All divers must begin at the red line or closer to the diving edge of the board (effective 2/04)
22. **Lap Swimming Rules:**
 - A. Hours are not guaranteed for lap swimming. Park Management has the discretion to open either or both of the pools depending on the amount of swimming and diving usage, and the availability of lifeguard staff. Check with lifeguards for use of lap pool lanes in 25m or 50m pool.
 - B. No swimming without a lifeguard in attendance at that pool.
 - C. No jumping into swimming lanes while occupied.
 - D. No sunbathing, sitting, dipping, or cooling-off in the lap pool with or without lifeguards present.
 - E. Lap swimming should be done swimming the length of the pool only. Lanes are to be shared as necessary to accommodate all swimmers wishing to lap swim.
23. **Water Slide Rules – 50 meter pool:**
 - A. You must be at least six years old and 44 inches tall to use the slide. (No exceptions)
 - B. The slide will be open only when adequate supervision is available as determined by management. Parental supervision is strongly recommended for children under 8 years of age.
 - C. Sliding must be one person at a time, feet first and in the sitting position. No sliding while standing or sliding on the stomach is allowed. (9/9/08)

TENNIS / TENNIS COURT RULES

1. Appropriate attire including shirts and tennis shoes are required. (Swim suits are not considered appropriate attire.)
2. Players must check in at the gatehouse during regular park hours. while using the tennis courts.
3. Appropriate conduct for use of tennis courts shall be maintained by all players and spectators.
4. Members 18 years and older may reserve courts 1-4, except as outlined for court 1 in rule 6 below. Members under 18 years of age may reserve court 2 only.
5. Court 1 is an open court, not subject to reservation, on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays, and after 5 p.m. on weekdays. During these times priority will be given to members 18 years or older.
6. Reservations are made by requesting a court number and time done via your online member account.
7. The maximum time which may be reserved for any court is one hour for singles, and one and one-half hours for doubles per day.
8. Reservations will be forfeited and the courts awarded to any waiting members at 15 minutes past the scheduled start time unless both players (singles) or at least two of the four players (doubles) are present

at the courts and ready to play.

9. Courts will be locked at all times when not in use. Note: If junior players who have no key are still on the court when the last adult players leave (regardless of the time of day), it is up to the discretion of the adult whether to permit the juniors to continue to play or to have them leave before locking the gate.
10. The last players using the courts are responsible for switching off the lights and locking the courts. Security lights are provided for your safety.
11. Reserving the backboard is limited to one-half hour per player per day.
12. The courts may be reserved for special events with the approval of the Board of Directors or the Tennis Committee Chairperson.

PICNIC AREA RULES

1. Open fires are not permitted except as approved by the Board of Directors or Park Manager. All fires must be extinguished before leaving the area.
2. Charcoal and self-contained gas grills may be used only in the designated picnic areas. Charcoal and ashes are to be disposed of properly either by emptying them into the permanent grills or a fire-proof container. Charcoal is not to be dumped on the ground or in non-metal trash cans.
3. Grills are not permitted on picnic tables or where they may be a fire hazard.

GUEST RULES

1. All guests must be registered at the gate by a sponsoring member at least 14 years of age. Guests must provide identification upon request and will only be admitted upon payment of the appropriate fee. (amended 6/27/96)
2. Each member of the member family is allowed three guests per calendar month. (Guest fees apply)
3. House guest privileges are not restricted. (House Guests are defined as persons living outside the boundaries of zip codes 22306, 22307, 22308 or 22309, and remaining overnight at the member's house.)
4. Guest fees apply to all the Park's properties and facilities.
5. Senior citizens (65 or older) will not be charged a guest fee when entering the Park for viewing purposes only.
6. Guest fees apply to any guest one year of age or older.
7. Neighborhood guests are restricted to using the Park a maximum of two days per week regardless of their sponsor. (approved 2/21/96)
8. The Park Management and Board of Directors reserve the right to exclude any guest who violates the Rules and Regulations of the Association. (approved 2/21/96)
9. Sponsoring members must accompany their guests in the Park at all times. Guests must enter and leave the Park with the sponsoring member. (approved 6/27/96)
10. Guest fees are waived for children under 1 year of age (eff. 4/01)
11. Childcare providers such as babysitters, nannies or au pairs are not members and therefore do not have guest privileges.

PARTY RESERVATION RULES

MVPA desires to accommodate its members' utilization of the Park facilities. So that facilities are not over-taxed and members denied the use of the Park because of special party usage, the rules listed (approved by the Board 5/2/94) are published for the information of the general members. Early reservation requests are suggested for timely approval. Please review the MVPA schedule of events prior to making applications in order to prevent requests being denied.

1. A Park Facility Reservation Form must be submitted to the Park Manager, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, or member of the Board of Directors for any party or activity requiring approval or reservation as stated in the MVPA General Rules and Regulations #11. This may be obtained from the forms page of the park web site.
 - a. This reservation form requires the membership names and signatures of the sponsoring members, as well as the number of guests. (Unless an exception is granted by the Board of Directors, parties are limited to three guests per sponsoring member, i.e. five sponsoring members will be allowed a limit of 15 guests for a total of 20 persons at the party.)
2. Approval is required for any party with more than ten guests.

- a. A party with less than 50 persons must be approved by the Park Manager or President.
 - b. A party with more than 3 guests per sponsoring member must be approved by the Park Manager or President.
 - c. Any party in excess of 50 persons requires approval by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors meets the first Monday of each month. Applications for parties for over 50 persons are to be submitted for consideration prior to the first Monday of the month in which the party is to be held.
 - d. Guest fees will be assessed for each non-member guest and must be paid at the conclusion of the event.
 - e. For events with 50+ guests, there is a \$150.00 cleaning deposit due at beginning of party that will be returned if the pavilion/party area is left in the same condition as prior to event. (All trash in trash cans, pavilion floor and/or picnic tables (if used) clean.)
3. Member sponsors must be present at the events they are sponsoring. As sponsors, they share an equal responsibility for the event, the conduct of those attending and any damage/liability incurred as a result of the event. Underage children/party guests (12 and under) must be supervised by the sponsoring party families in the pool area at all times!
4. MVPA reserves the right to limit the number of parties using the Park at one time.
5. Pavilion use must be requested in advance and its use may be limited.
 - a. Requesting member must submit a Park Facility Reservation Form.
6. Reservation of picnic tables requires submission of a Park Facility Reservation Form.
 - a. The number of tables needed must be stated in the request.
7. Parking is a priority consideration at MVPA; car-pooling is highly recommended and may be required for larger parties.
8. Parties such as reunions, office functions and other such parties are discouraged.
9. Party reservation dates are to be submitted with first and second choices. Rescheduling of parties cancelled due to inclement weather may be requested but is not guaranteed.
10. Party participants and sponsors are liable for damages caused to MVPA property as a result of the sponsored activity. Each participant and sponsor acknowledges this responsibility and liability by signature of the application and/or participation in the activity.
11. Fires are limited to the Park grills. Additional cooking equipment other than personal charcoal or self-contained gas grills is not permitted without prior approval of the Park Manager.
12. Park sponsored activities take precedence over party reservations including confirmed reservations. Applicants will be notified of conflicts and rescheduling of the conflicting party reservations performed as possible.
13. Requested party activities not in compliance with the above rules require review and approval by the Board of Directors before being scheduled as an exception to the rules.
14. Guest fees must be paid prior to completion of the event. A list of guests attending must accompany the reservation form.