

Community Partner Interest Assessment

Recreation Baseball/Softball Youth Program at Canyon District Park

Issued by: Palm Beach County / Parks and Recreation Department

Issue Date: January 7, 2026

Response Deadline: January 30, 2026

Contact Person: Kathy Bolander, Recreation Services Division Director, kbolande@pbc.gov, 561-966-6628]

1. Purpose of Community Partner Interest Assessment

Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation is conducting an informational outreach to better understand community interest and organizational capacity relating to local non-profit organizations, leagues, or program operators and to assess interest in establishing and operating a recreation baseball and/or softball program at the newly developed Canyon District Park Phase II, located at 8788 Senator Joseph Abruzzo Avenue. Boynton Beach, FL 33473.

This **Community Partner Interest Assessment (CPIA)** is intended solely for planning and informational purposes to gather information for, program planning, field scheduling, operational considerations, and identify potential partners capable of providing a safe, inclusive, and developmentally appropriate baseball/softball experience for youth in the community. Participation is voluntary and no contract or agreement will be awarded as a result of this CPIA. It is not a solicitation or request for proposals and does not obligate Palm Beach County to enter into an agreement.

2. Park and Facility Overview

Canyon District Park Phase II is a newly constructed public park featuring:

- 4 diamond fields - 2 baseball field(s) and 2 softball fields
- Field dimensions suitable for youth recreational play (See Attachment #1)
- On-site parking
- Restrooms and water access

- Spectator seating and viewing areas
- Lighting, concession space, batting cages, etc.

Canyon District Park Phase 2 is expected to open on or around March, 2026.

3. Program Goals and Expectations

The recreation baseball/softball program is expected to:

- Serve youth participants within the community (anticipated ages: 4-18)
- Emphasize sportsmanship, skill development/fundamentals, teamwork, character development, and fun
- Support positive youth development, physical activity and healthy lifestyles
- Provide inclusive access regardless of skill level – everyone plays and no player cuts
- Promote safety and injury prevention while maintaining a safe environment for participants, spectators, and volunteers/staff
- Have a volunteer board with adopted non-profit by laws specific to youth sports administration
- Comply with all Florida State Statutes governing youth sports administration including but not limited to background check and concussion legislation.
- Operate in alignment with County and Department rules, policies and procedures while working collaboratively as partners to support shared goals and positive outcomes for the community.

4. Requested Information from Respondents

Interested organizations are invited to submit information addressing the following:

A. Organization Overview

- Provide the name of your organization, sanctioning body, charter or affiliation if applicable and primary contact information to include name, title, email address and phone number.
- Are you a nonprofit (501(c)3), for-profit business, community association, youth sports organization or other entity? Please provide current by-laws if applicable.

- What experience does your organization have in operating recreational youth baseball/softball or similar programs?
- Is your program primarily structured as a youth recreation program with a focus on inclusive participation, skill development and fundamentals, and if so, do you also operate or affiliate with any competitive or travel programs for higher-skilled players that are administered and registered separately from the recreation program?
- What is your mission and how many years have you been in operation, and at which public and/or private facilities, parks, or other amenities is your program currently established or operating?
- Do you maintain a formal governing board with elected or appointed officers, are any board members, officers, coaches, staff or volunteers compensated, and if so what standards of conduct, background screening, training, fiduciary responsibilities, and accountability requirements apply to paid and unpaid roles?

B. Program Structure & Developmental Model

- What is your best approach to ensure access for participants of all skill levels, through a no-cut, everyone-plays model, and what methods do you recommend promoting balanced teams, appropriate competition, skill development, equal playing time and sportsmanship?
- What ages would you recommend offering, would it include baseball, softball, or other sports and/or and what would be the expected number of teams and participants given the size of the facility and its location?
- What is the recommended length of your season, including number of weeks, practices, and games per week, would multiple seasons be offered annually and would camps, clinics, or tournaments be offered in addition to season-ending playoffs?
- What program sanctioning, chartering, or affiliation with a governing body do you have and does that affiliation impose rules, participation requirements, geographic boundaries or facility-locations restrictions that would affect where or how the program may operate? Provide sanctioning, charter or affiliation name and contact information, if applicable to your program.

C. Staffing and Volunteers

- What coaching and officiating model do you use (adult or minors, volunteer or paid, certified or hybrid, etc.)?
- What background screening, concussion education, safety or other training and/or certifications, or prior experience are required for individuals serving in coaching/officiating/league operations or administration roles?

D. Safety and Risk Management

- What safety and risk management protocols and training should be in place?
- What emergency and injury response procedures does your organization have?
- Do all players, coaches and volunteers sign and agree to comply with a formal Code of Conduct?

E. Community Engagement

- What are your strategies for outreach and enrollment. What fees and charges do your organization currently charge for recreation-based programs? What would you recommend for this location?
- How does your organization make sure that every player is included? Do you have a scholarship program?
- How would you collaborate with the adjacent Middle School teams who will have access during the day and afternoon?

F. Facility Use Needs

- What would the anticipated field and batting cage usage time be?
- What storage or operational support needs would your organization have, if any?
- During permitted facility use hours, do you recommend selling or distributing food, beverage or merchandise, and if so, please describe the types of items, and whether you recommend operations

be conducted in-house or outsourced, and any storage, utility, or other facility amenities required to support those activities.

- Would you recommend live-stream or recording games and if so, what facility accommodations or resources are required to support this?

G. Additional Comments

- Are there barriers or challenges you commonly face when operating leagues at public facilities?
- Please share any additional information, ideas, or considerations that may help the Department better understand community needs related to baseball/softball public park field use.

5. Submission Instructions

Responses should be submitted electronically in PDF format to:

Kathy Bolander kbolande@pbc.gov

Subject Line: **(CPIA)** – Recreation Baseball/Softball at Canyon District Park

Submissions must be received no later than January 30, 2026 at 5:00pm EST.

6. Next Steps

Following review of CFIA responses, Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation may:

- Invite potential partners to participate in further discussions,
- Issue a formal Request for Proposals (RFP), and/or
- Choose to operate a program directly or pursue other options.

7. Disclaimer

This **(CPIA)** is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a commitment to select or contract with any respondent. Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation reserves the right to modify or cancel this **(CPIA)** at any time and for any reason.

Attachment #1

Canyon District Park Baseball & Softball Field Dimensions

NW Field Dimensions – Field 1

- **Field type:** Clay Diamond with infield grass
- **Classification based on measurements:** Highschool/College/Pro/Ages 14U and Up
- **Base Path (Home to First):** 90ft
- **Pitching Distance (Home to Rubber):** 60ft
- **Outfield Distance:** 325ft

NE Field Dimensions – Field 2

- **Field type:** Full Clay Diamond
- **Classification based on measurements:** T-Ball/Coach Pitch/8U – 13 U
- **Base Path (Home to First):** 75ft, 70ft, 65ft, 60ft
- **Pitching Distance (Home to Rubber):** 46.5ft, 43.5ft
- **Outfield Distance:** 300ft

SW Field Dimensions – Field 3

- **Field type:** Full Clay Diamond
- **Classification based on measurements:** T-Ball/Coach Pitch/8U – 13 U **Base Path (Home to First):** 70ft, 65ft, 60ft
- **Pitching Distance (Home to Rubber):** 50.5ft, 46.5ft, 43.5ft
- **Outfield Distance:** 225ft

SE Field Dimensions – Field 4

- **Field type:** Clay Diamond with infield grass
- **Classification based on measurements** T-Ball/Coach Pitch/8U – 13 U **Base Path (Home to First):** 70ft, 65ft, 60ft
- **Pitching Distance (Home to Rubber):** 50 ft , 45.5ft
- **Outfield Distance:** 225ft