

 Good Life. Great Mission. DEPT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES	POLICY		
	LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES		
	REVISION DATE December 31, 2019	NUMBER 207.01	PAGE 1 of 4
STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY <b>*This Policy is to be made available in law libraries or other inmate resource centers.</b>			

EFFECTIVE: March 1, 1980  
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### SUMMARY of REVISION/REVIEW

Changed from Administrative Regulation to Policy. Reformatted to match Policy 001.01.
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APPROVED:




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Scott R. Frakes, Director  
 Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

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PURPOSE

Viable programs of leisure time activities for inmates help meet the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services' (NDCS) objective of increasing opportunity for the inmate's responsibility and self/career development as well as helping create a humane environment for inmates. (4-4481)

GENERAL

Each institution, consistent with its function and the nature of its inmate population and programs, shall develop its own version of this Policy within the limits and guidelines that follow.

PROCEDURE

I. TYPES of ACTIVITIES

Institutional procedure shall provide for a comprehensive recreational program that includes leisure-time activities and outdoor exercise. These should include not only yard, library and auditorium functions in those institutions with auditoriums, but also pursuit of individual hobbies and development of individual talents. In addition to athletic activities, there should be opportunities to pursue such activities as music, painting, writing, handcrafts and similar pursuits. Inmates may also be allowed to form clubs and other associations subject to the permission of the Warden. Written procedure shall define the purpose and scope of each authorized activity as well as provide for supervision of leisure time activities.

II. STAFFING

With the exception of community facilities, each institution shall employ a qualified recreation supervisor who supervises all recreational programs. The supervisor shall have a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in recreation or leisure services, or the equivalent in combined education and experience. The supervisor's position shall be full-time in institutions with more than 100 inmates. (4-4482) Where applicable, each institution shall establish procedures for the selection, training and use of inmates as recreation program assistants. (4-4483)

III. MAINTENANCE AND AVAILABILITY OF FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND PROGRAMS

Each institution shall acquire and maintain facilities and equipment in good condition for leisure activities. Regular inspections of the facilities and equipment shall be made and repair and replacement recommended as necessary. The facilities and equipment should be available in proportion to the inmate population. Provisions shall be made for appropriate leisure time activities which are initiated by inmates and carried out under staff supervision. (4-4484, 4-4486)

Written procedure shall encourage leisure time interaction with the community. This may include bringing in volunteers to provide instruction and inviting local teams into the institutions to compete, (appropriate, well maintained recreational clothing will be worn by community participants). Inmates of the appropriate custody grade may participate in recreational activities in the community to the extent permitted by the resources of the institution. (4-4485)

IV. ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

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Recreational interests and needs of inmates shall be assessed on an annual basis through solicitation of suggestions from inmates and other appropriate means.

Personnel and financial requirements needed to support leisure time activities shall be determined and requested in order to attain and maintain a quality program. There shall be a systematic approach to determine the personnel requirements for the recreational program. This will provide inmates access to staff and services and assures needed support for inmate activities. The recreation and inmate activities program shall be evaluated annually to assess the effectiveness of the program against stated performance goals and objectives.

V. PARTICIPATION OF STAFF AND OUTSIDE TEAMS

Only the sports listed below may be authorized:

- A. Outside Teams-Softball, Volleyball, Power Lifting
- B. Staff Participation-Softball, Volleyball

VI. SOFTBALL BATS

The number of softball bats on the field and/or available at any given time shall be limited as follows:

- A. Inmate-to-Inmate Team Play-When two inmate teams are playing each other, a maximum of two bats will be allowed or available for use at any time.
- B. Inmate to Outside Team Play-When an inmate team is playing an outside team, a maximum of four bats will be allowed or available for use at any time. An outside team will be prohibited from bringing more than two bats into the institution at any time. This means that the inmate teams can only have two bats and the outside team can only have two bats for a total of four bats.
- C. Staff will be solely responsible for issuing softball bats. At no time shall any inmate(s), regardless of the job title or position, issue softball bats.
- D. When an inmate team(s) is/are practicing, a maximum of two bats will be allowed or available for use at any time.

REFERENCE

- I. STATUTORY REFERENCE – None noted
- II. NDCS POLICIES – None noted
- III. ATTACHMENTS – None noted
- IV. AMERICAN CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION (ACA) STANDARDS:
  - A. Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI) (4<sup>th</sup> edition): 4-4481, 4-4482, 4-4483, 4-4484, 4-4485, 4-4486

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- B. Performance Based Standards for Adult Community Residential Services (ACRS)  
 (4<sup>th</sup> edition): 4-ACRS-5A-21