

November 19, 2020

**PALOS HEIGHTS PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
UPDATES RELATED TO COVID-19**

Beginning November 20, 2020 the State of Illinois will be in Tier 3 Mitigations. These mitigations will require some changes, postponements, and cancellations to our services and programs.

*Please note below some updates to programs and operations:*

**FITNESS CENTER:**

The Palos Heights Fitness Center will remain open to members and track pass holders. The following changes will be made to keep our operation in line with Tier 3 Mitigations:

*-Reservations will continue to be **mandatory** for use of the fitness center and track. **No walk-in** use will be allowed by members or track users, this means you must make a reservation online or over the phone **before** arriving to the fitness center, if you arrive with no reservation unfortunately staff will need to turn you away.*

*-Face masks must be worn at **all times**, including while engaged in individual exercise regardless of person or machine spacing*

*-Additional capacity limits will be in place*

*-The showers and lockers will remain closed*

Group Fitness Classes will be moved to virtual classes starting Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> and will stay virtual for the remainder of the session. The fall session ends December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Recreation Programs and Events:**

Recreation Programs that are currently running will all be moved to virtual classes. This includes Miss Angie's Music Class, Master Chef Jr, Music Lessons, Dance, and Group Fitness Classes. All participants that are currently registered for these classes have been emailed the Zoom links. Youth Athletic classes will resume outdoors for the remainder of the session. Indoor Soccer League has been postponed until further notice. The December 5<sup>th</sup> Indoor Farmers Market has been postponed. The Recreation Department will be sending an update on the Indoor Farmers Markets in early 2021. The remainder of the special events scheduled for 2020 are being planned and will continue to run outdoors following the new mitigation plan.

### **Fun Day-Care E-Learning and Little Learners Preschool:**

These programs will continue to run while following the state guidelines.

### **RECREATION CENTER:**

The Recreation Center will be closed to the public with the exception of fitness center members with reservations, Little Learner Preschool Students, and Fun Day Care E-Learning Students.

### **Registration:**

Registration for virtual and future in person programming will continue to be available through online registration 24/7. Should you need assistance with online registration please call the Rec Center 9a-4pm at 361-1807. Winter/Spring 2021 Playbook will be available online starting Wednesday November 25<sup>th</sup>. Registration will begin for Residents on December 7<sup>th</sup> and open registration will begin on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Registration for all programs and events can be made online if in-person registration is not available at that time.

### **PARK SITES:**

All parks currently remain open to take a walk, jog or run. Our parks offer great open space opportunities to get outside and connect with nature. We have paths located at Community Park, Crawford Park, Meyers Park, Palmer Park, and Walsh-Westgate Park. We also have access to the Cal-Sag Trail via Lake Katherine. While outside practice proper social distancing and wear a face covering.

### **PLAYGROUNDS AND BASKETBALL COURTS:**

Playgrounds and Palmer Park basketball courts will remain open

### **TENNIS / PICKLEBALL COURTS:**

Tennis and Pickleball courts will remain open. The lights at the Community Park Tennis courts will be available 4:30p-10p until we receive a snowfall of 2 or more inches.

### **PARK SHELTERS, FIELD PERMITS AND FACILITY RENTALS:**

Currently, we are not accepting any reservations for park shelters, field permits or Recreation Center room rentals. Once we have further guidance on when these areas of operation can resume, will be informing you via our website and social media.



Our Mayor, Aldermen and Staff are committed to keeping our community safe and doing our part to properly maintaining outdoor recreation areas, as well as, continue to bring some virtual fun to your home. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your patience, understanding and cooperation. You can connect with us via e-mail at [Recreation@palosheights.org](mailto:Recreation@palosheights.org) or give us a call at **708-361-1807**. Please continue to check out updates as they become available on our [website](#) and Facebook.

Best Regards,

Matthew Fairbanks, CPRP  
Director of Parks and Recreation