

## **Policy: Scheduling Priorities for Field Use**

Because of the nature of the Instructional Group and Open Practices, assignment of field time for these two categories will be made without a roster. All other requests for field time will be honored only upon submission of a roster that shows the names of the people who are expected to participate during the requested field time. Priorities for assignment of field time will be in accordance with the following hierarchy. Deviations from this hierarchy can be made only by the majority vote of the Executive Board.

1. League Games – League games will have first priority over all non-league games or practices, regardless of prior historical use of the time slot. Thus, league games that are rained out and need to be re-scheduled will displace any scheduled practices, invitational groups or traditional use of said time period. League games are the only scheduled item that will displace other scheduled items, unless specifically agreed to by a majority vote of the Executive Board.
2. League Practices – League practices will have secondary priority only to league games. League practice in the 3 weeks prior to the start of the Spring or Fall season will have first priority and will supersede all other field use in those time periods. NOTE: failure to use assigned practice times when the field is open for use will result in a reduction of the practice times for that league in future scheduling (both preseason and regular season).
3. Instructional Group – The instructional group is important for the introduction of new players into the various Sun City leagues and programs, instruction and skill improvement for said players, and rehabilitation of injured players. As such, it takes priority over all non-league activities unless the Instructional Group Director cedes use voluntarily, or unless it is superseded for league use for a preseason schedule as noted above.
4. Open Practices – Open Practices will be scheduled on Sunday mornings during Spring and Fall seasons to provide opportunity for ALL players to play. Off-season scheduling of Open Practices will be scheduled Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings. These practices may result in impromptu scrimmages at the discretion of those at practice.
5. Travel Team Practices – While travel teams are essentially invitational groups, they will be given priority over other invitational groups in the three week time window leading up to a scheduled tournament or friendly, for which they are preparing. At all other times of the year, field use priority for invitational groups will be determined as noted in rule #6.
6. Invitational Groups – Invitational groups will be prioritized based on number of people who are expected to participate, except as noted in rule #5. Where possible, scheduling for a particular group will remain consistent from week to week to facilitate personal scheduling for participants.
7. Special Events – Special Events will generally be restricted to times outside of the normal Spring and Fall seasons (when significant blocks of time are freed up). Examples of Special Events include, but are not limited to, One Pitch Tournaments, Military Games, Friendlies with teams from outside Sun City, Tournament of Five, Golden Bat Tournament, Reverse Game and any other similar limited duration uses. The only current exception to limiting Special Events to off season is the Veterans Day Games. The Board, at its discretion may make exceptions to use of the field for Special Events, but will coordinate any exceptions with impacted groups.
8. Open Slots – Open slots are left in the schedule to allow the opportunity for all to gain some field time. Requests for use of some of the open time must be made in advance to the Softball Club Vice-President. Requests will be honored on a first come, first served basis as long as they meet the proviso of providing a roster.

**April 17, 2020**