



Respect and Responsibility (RZone) Policy

Policy Number: G-CR-005

Authority: 225/20, 244/22

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Department Responsible: Culture and Recreation

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Review Date: July 2024

Status: Active

1. Policy Statement

- 1.1 The Town of LaSalle (hereby referenced as “the Town”) wishes to promote the principles of respect and responsibility towards all persons and property in Town-owned facilities and activities to maintain an environment that is free from mischief, vandalism, and other inappropriate behaviour. Using the RZone branding and messaging, this policy will also serve as a guideline to address inappropriate behaviour in Town-owned facilities.

2. Scope

- 2.1 This policy applies to all persons attending Town facilities.

3. Definitions

- 3.1 **Activities** shall refer to single-occurrence and registered activities.
- 3.2 **Adult Leagues** shall refer to any group whose majority of participants consists of persons aged nineteen (19) years and above.
- 3.3 **Community Youth/Minor Sport Groups** shall mean a User/User-group that provides youth activities with an elected, volunteer executive that is not-for-profit. Minor sports groups shall mean any User/User-group whose majority of participants consist of persons eighteen (18) years of age and below.
- 3.4 **Executive** shall mean any person who sits on a Board of Directors (Governors) and is responsible for governance of a User Group or organization.
- 3.5 **Facility** shall refer to any Town-owned or operated building or outdoor amenity, including parks and trails.

- 3.6 **Harassment** shall mean engaging in a course of vexatious comment or conduct that is known or ought reasonably to be known to be unwelcomed. It is further defined within the Town of LaSalle Harassment and Discrimination Policy.
- 3.7 **Town** shall mean the Corporation of the Town of LaSalle.
- 3.8 **User/User Group** shall mean any individual, organization, committee, event or other designation that has been approved to use Town facilities or participates in Town activities.
- 3.9 **Vandalism** shall mean malicious, willful and deliberate destruction, damage or defacing of property. Vandalism may also be considered criminal mischief under the Criminal Code of Canada.

4. Policy

4.1 Prohibited Behaviour

4.1.1 Respectful behaviour is an important element of everyone's enjoyment in recreation facilities. The Town is committed to providing enjoyable and safe experiences for everyone. To establish guidelines for this policy, some examples of prohibited inappropriate behaviour are outlined below. The following list is considered inappropriate behaviour, including but not limited to:

- a. Vandalism
- b. Possession, consumption or impairment of illicit substances
- c. Non-licensed alcohol consumption
- d. Refusal to follow established rules
- e. Failure to comply with direction of Town employees
- f. Inappropriate language or gestures
- g. Verbal assault or threats
- h. Harassment or sexual harassment
- i. Discrimination
- j. Physical violence or assault
- k. Abuse
- l. Any other behaviour deemed inappropriate by Town employees, or in violation with Town policies and by-laws

4.1.2 All matters pertaining to harassment, discrimination, violence and non-licensed alcohol use shall be handled accordingly based on the parameters outlined in corresponding Town policies.

4.1.3 A full list of rules are included in Schedule 'A', attached hereto.

4.2 Reporting Procedures

- 4.2.1 If prohibited or inappropriate behaviour, as defined within this policy, is witnessed by Community Youth/Minor Sport Groups, user groups or patrons, and in accordance with the Occupiers' Liability Act, the Occupational Health and Safety Act, the Trespass to Property Act, the Criminal Code as well as Town by-laws and policies, the incident shall be reported to Town employees or law enforcement immediately.
- 4.2.2 Reports can be made online through the customer service portal or in-person to Town employees at the facility.

4.3 Criminal Acts

- 4.3.1 All acts that are criminal in nature shall be immediately reported to law enforcement. It is not the Town's expectation that employees or patrons at Town facilities place themselves at risk or jeopardize their safety in dealing with any perceived or real threat. If at any time employees or patrons feel threatened or fear for their safety or the safety of others, they are not to intervene and contact law enforcement immediately.

4.4 Education and Enforcement

- 4.4.1 The Town, in consultation with Community Youth/Minor Sport Groups, user groups and other Users will conduct educational campaigns with the goals of raising awareness of this policy. Use of the RZone logo will be made available in signs, print, online and social media materials.
- 4.4.2 All incidents pertaining to individuals and organizations shall be kept on record for the appropriate retention period and be used as reference for appropriate enforcement procedures for any future incidents.
- 4.4.3 Where possible, Town employees and stakeholders of this policy should work to educate patrons of Town facilities on the purpose of this policy and demonstrate appropriate behaviour.
- 4.4.4 Town employees are authorized to request the individual(s) leave Town property.
- 4.4.5 The Town may issue a written notice of warning to patrons or user groups who exhibit behaviour that is contradictory to this policy, or other Town policies and by-laws, as well as federal or provincial laws.
- 4.4.6 The Town may seek compensation for the cost of damages, including materials and labour, as well as an administrative charge for damage to the facility, property, or equipment. If the individual responsible is

attending on behalf of a user group, the user group that they represent shall be billed directly.

4.4.7 Patrons or user groups who fail to abide by this policy or other Town policies may be issued a trespass notice at the discretion of the Town. This notice is not subject to preceding of a notice of warning and may come at any time when deemed appropriate by the Town. The length of the trespass shall be determined by the Town.

4.4.8 Where applicable, assistance from the LaSalle Police Service may be required to address a situation or remove individual(s) from the facility or property.

4.5 Responsibilities of User Groups

4.5.1 Users including Adult Leagues and Community Youth/Minor Sport Groups making use of Town-owned and operated facilities are responsible for:

- a. Educating their members about this policy
- b. Educating their members about appropriate behaviour
- c. Complying with the requirements of Town contracts and permits
- d. Addressing policy violations (in a safe and appropriate manner) with their members
- e. Providing compensation to the Town for vandalism and damages caused by members of their organization

5. Roles and Responsibilities

5.1 The Director of Culture and Recreation is responsible to oversee and administer this policy and may delegate authority to other employees to oversee and administer this policy.

6. References and Related Documents

- 6.1 Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2001
- 6.2 Occupational Health and Safety Act, R.S.O. 1990
- 6.3 Town of LaSalle Harassment and Discrimination Policy
- 6.4 Town of LaSalle Violence Prevention Policy
- 6.5 Town of LaSalle Municipal Alcohol Risk Management Policy
- 6.6 Trespass to Property Act, R.S.O. 1990

7. Attachments

Schedule A: Rules for attending Town Facilities and Activities

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Town of LaSalle Parks, Facilities, Playgrounds, Sports Fields and Program Rules

The Town is committed to providing a safe, comfortable, and enjoyable experience for everyone using our parks, facilities, playgrounds, sports fields or programs. Everyone should expect and help to promote an environment where people are treated in a courteous, professional, considerate, and respectful manner. The Town will not tolerate unsafe, abusive, unlawful, or offensive conduct. Patrons who engage in this type of behavior are subject to being ejected and potentially banned from Town parks, facilities, playgrounds, sports fields and programs and may be subject to arrest by local police.

General Rules for Parks, Facilities, Playgrounds, Sports Fields and Programs

- Smoking/vaping is not permitted at any time in Town parks, facilities, playgrounds, sports fields and programs.
- Children must be supervised in Town facilities. Patrons aged 10 and under must be accompanied by a guardian aged 14 or older in Town facilities.
- Please show common courtesy to fellow patrons and staff by not using profanity or engaging in unsafe, illegal, disruptive, or offensive behavior.
- Horseplay including chasing, pushing, wrestling etc. will not be tolerated and will result in the patrons being removed from the park, facility, playground, sports field or program. For your safety and the safety of others, running in facilities will not be permitted.
- Items left unattended will be disposed of appropriately

Prohibited Items in Parks, Facilities, Playgrounds, Sports Fields and Programs

- Firearms, ammunition, knives, and weapons of any kind.
- Bear repellent spray or any other deterrent spray.
- Objects or toys that appear or resemble firearms or weapons.
- Fireworks or other similarly explosive and/or flammable objects.
- Alcoholic beverages and drugs.
- Recreational devices such as drones, remote-control toys, bicycles, skateboards, scooters, inline skates, or shoes with built-in wheels are not permitted in Town facilities or programs.

Prohibited Activities in Parks, Facilities, Playgrounds, Sports Fields and Programs

- The sale of goods or services, or the display of goods or services, unless approved by the Town.
- The distribution of printed or recorded materials of any kind unless prior written approval has been obtained.
- Engaging in any unsafe act or other act that may impede the operation of parks, facilities, playgrounds, sports fields and programs.
- Unauthorized events, speeches, or use of any flag, banner, sign, or other material for commercial purposes, or as part of a demonstration.
- Photography, videotaping or recording of any kind, or otherwise engaging in any activity, for unapproved commercial purposes.
- Unauthorized solicitations of any kind, whether commercial, religious, educational, or otherwise, or conducting any unauthorized commercial activities, including solicitations of money or other contributions or donations.
- Obstructing walkways, entrances, driveways, or exits.

Rules for Patron Attire in Facilities and Activities

- The Town reserves the right to deny admission to or remove any person wearing attire that is considered inappropriate or attire that could detract from the experience of other patrons.

Rules Regarding Animals in Facilities and Programs

- Service animals, defined under the Town of LaSalle Accessible Customer Service Policy, are permitted in Town facilities and programs. Animals or pets that are not service animals are prohibited from entering facilities or programs.
- Service animals should always remain on a leash or in a harness and under the control of the owner. Service animals may not be permitted or may be prohibited in some areas and programs.