

Date: November 8, 2006
Location: Central Junior High School
Attendees: Attached

A meeting was held to gather the needs of the local sports community. The following questions were asked and discussed with each participant.

- a) What venues do you use for practice and competition?
- b) Do you have enough fields/courts to play on THIS YEAR? If not, number of additional needed for THIS YEAR.
- c) Please rate the condition of the sports venues your organization utilizes:
 - 1. 3 = Excellent/State-Of-The-Art/Varsity/Competitive/Tournament
 - 2. 2 = Adequate/Recreational/Local Play
 - 3. 1 = Poor/Sub-standard
- d) What improvements are needed at each venue?

The following is a summary, by sport, of the responses.

I. Tennis

A. Participants

- 1. Lawrence Tennis Association
- 2. LHS
- 3. FSHS

B. Current:

- 1. 5 FSHS (no lights)
 - a) Need lights, parking is an issue
 - b) Rating - 3
- 2. 8 LH (lights)
 - a) Poor playing surface, Surface cracks
 - b) Rating - 1

II. Football

A. Participants

- 1. LHS
- 2. FSHS
- 3. Lawrence Youth Football

B. Lawrence High School

- 1. Would LHS play at a new (neutral) field? yes
- 2. 2 practice fields at LHS
 - a) Only (1) irrigated
 - b) No lights
- 3. Varsity Games at HINU Stadium
 - a) No ADA access to press box, concessions, restrooms, or seating
 - b) Limited Restrooms- no restrooms on visitor side

- c) Limited Locker Rooms (would need 4, (LHS/Visit Haskell M+W))
 - d) Additional paved parking required
 - C. Lawrence Free State High School
 - 1. Practice at FSHS
 - a) Limited parking, seating
 - b) No restrooms or concessions
 - 2. Varsity games at HINU stadium
 - D. Lawrence Youth Football
 - 1. Practice around Lawrence (schools, parks, etc)
 - 2. Games at YSI
 - a) Schedule Issues- limits participation
 - b) Limited amenities: restrooms, concessions, access control for ticketing
 - c) Parking & Traffic flow
 - d) Game Fields
 - (1) (8) is acceptable
 - (2) Rating of fields go from 3...2...1 over course of season
 - (3) Needs / Improvements
 - (a) Need better irrigation/grass
 - (b) Need Lighting
 - (c) No support bldgs
 - (d) Restrooms
 - (e) Improved parking and circulation

III. Soccer

- A. Participants
 - 1. LHS
 - 2. FSHS
 - 3. Adult Soccer
 - 4. Kaw Valley Soccer
- B. Lawrence High School
 - 1. Practice at Holcom park
 - a) No lights
 - 2. Games at YSI
 - a) Rating: 1
 - b) Needs:
 - (1) Press box with PA system
 - (2) Fence for ticket control
 - (3) Restrooms
 - (4) Concessions
- C. Lawrence Free State High School
 - 1. Practice at FSHS
 - a) Field is $\frac{3}{4}$ size field
 - 2. Games at FSHS
 - a) Rating: 1
 - b) No lights
 - c) Often practice on competition field
- D. Kaw Valley Soccer
 - 1. All games at YSI

- a) Rating:
 - (1) All fields except high school fields- 1
 - (2) High school fields- 2
- b) Current:
 - (1) 15 fields
 - (2) (2) Lighted fields
- c) Needs:
 - (1) Restrooms
 - (2) Concessions
 - (3) Shelters
 - (4) Turf upgrades- irrigation
 - (5) More lights
 - (6) Needs are presented in the "Clinton Lake Master Plan"
 - (a) 4 dedicated game fields
 - (b) 4 Practice with Artificial Turf and Lights

- 2. Overview
 - a) 1300 kids fall spring
 - b) Ages 4-17
 - c) Practice in gyms (winter)

E. Adult Soccer

- 1. Indoor Season
 - a) Games at Bishop Seabury
 - b) Limited practice and game space
 - c) Indoor facility needs
 - (1) 5 Indoor
- 2. Outdoor Season
 - a) 2 Fields at Clinton Lake Outlet Park
 - b) Need 4 fields to support demand
 - c) No lights needed

IV. Baseball

A. Participants

- 1. DCABA
- 2. LPRD
- 3. LHS
- 4. FSHS
- 5. Lawrence Amateur Baseball Association
- 6. Holcom Amateur Baseball Association

B. DCABA

- 1. 400 games / 30 teams in 2006
- 2. Games played at:
 - a) DG Fairgrounds
 - (1) 3 Fields
 - (2) Rating: 1
 - (3) Poor + Inadequate
 - (4) Fields used for games and practice
 - (5) Maintained by parents/coaches

- b) YSI (4 Fields)
 - (1) Share fields with LPRD
 - (2) Limited tournament play available
 - (3) Amenities limited
 - 3. Needs:
 - a) 6-8 game fields
 - (1) Lights
 - (2) Ticket control
 - b) 2 practice fields with lights
- C. Lawrence Parks and Recreation (YOUTH)
 - 1. Games played at:
 - a) Holcom Park
 - (1) Ranking: 2
 - b) Broken Arrow
 - (1) Ranking: 1
 - c) YSI
 - (1) Ranking: 2
 - d) LHS
 - (1) Ranking: 1
 - 2. Overview:
 - a) 10 game fields / 5 practice fields
 - b) 110 teams
 - c) Need to decrease number of games to accommodate the number of participants
 - 3. Needs:
 - a) Upgrades at all game facilities to include lights, amenities, parking, control
 - b) 2 Small (200' fence) Practice Fields
 - (1) Dirt Infield
 - (2) Backstop
 - (3) Mounds
 - (4) Fencing
 - c) 8 Game Field complex
- D. Lawrence Parks and Recreation (Adult)
 - a) Games at Clinton Adult Sports Complex
- E. Lawrence High School
 - 1. Current
 - a) 1 game fields at Holcom Park (Ice Field)
 - b) 1 Practice (Holcom)
 - c) Schedule conflicts between practice and games
 - 2. Needs:
 - a) (1) game field and (1) practice field
 - b) Amenities
 - (1) Lights
 - (2) Grandstand (protected for fans)
 - (3) Pressbox with PA
 - (4) Ticket Control
 - (5) Concessions
- F. Free State High School
 - 1. Current

- a) Game and practice fields at FSHS
- b) Ranking: 1-2

2. Needs:

- a) Amenities
 - (1) Parking
 - (2) Restrooms

G. LHABA

1. Current

- a) Games at Holcom (4 fields)
- b) 13 - 18 year old participants

2. Needs

- a) Practice facilities- currently practice on game fields
- b) (2) Additional practice fields
- c) (1) Additional game field

H. LABA

1. Overview

- a) 5 teams, could grow to 6 teams
- b) No practice fields, utilize batting cages for practice

2. Current

- a) Games at Holcom (Ice Field) and FSHS

3. Needs

- a) (2) Practice field
- b) Upgrades at Holcom similar to LHS
- c) Upgrades at FSHS similar to FSHS

V. Basketball

A. Participants

- 1. Salvation Army
- 2. LPRD
- 3. Hoopster
- 4. LHS
- 5. FSHS
- 6. Lawrence Athletics

B. Salvation Army

1. Current

- a) Use Elementary Schools
 - (1) Prairie Park
 - (a) Ranking: 2
 - (2) Deerfield
 - (a) Ranking: 2
 - (3) Cordley
 - (a) Ranking: 1
 - (4) Salvation Army Gym
 - (a) Ranking: no ranking
- b) Limited seating
- c) No scoreboards or clocks
- d) Must coordinate with individual school for access
- e) Limited or no control in school from school to gym.

C. Lawrence Parks & Recreation

1. Overview

- a) 900 participants
- b) Practices at local elementary schools
- c) Time for practice reduced by the growing need of schools to provide after-school programs
- d) Games at venues below

2. Current

- a) Community Building
(1) Ranking: 2
- b) East Lawrence Center
(1) Ranking: 2
- c) Langston Hughes
(1) Ranking: 2
- d) Holcom
(1) Ranking: 2

3. Needs:

- a) 10-12 "cross" courts
- b) Need Central Youth B-Ball location

D. Hoopster

1. Overview

- a) 34 teams, ~300 participants
- b) Use LPRD and School facilities
- c) (1) practice and (1) game a week
- d) Will be adding a Junior High program, 14-20 teams

2. Current

- a) Langston Hughes
(1) Ranking: 3
- b) East Lawrence Center
(1) Ranking: 3

3. Needs

- a) 8-10 "cross" courts

E. Lawrence High School

1. No major issues

F. Free State High School

1. No issues

G. Lawrence Athletic

1. 3rd - 12th grade

2. Tournament competitions:

- a) Rent facilities (23 courts)
- b) Need (6) full courts at same time
- c) Currently use courts outside Lawrence

VI. Softball

A. Participants

- 1. LPRD
- 2. Lawrence Girls Fast Pitch Association
- 3. Phenix Fast Pitch
- 4. LHS
- 5. FSHS

- B. Lawrence Parks & Recreation
 - 1. Need more fields on weekends
 - 2. June/July
 - a) Share with other
 - b) 2 more fields
 - C. LGFPA
 - 1. Overview
 - a) Use LPRD and LHS fields
 - b) Limited availability for practice
 - 2. Current
 - a) LHS
 - (1) Ranking: 1
 - (2) No Bathrooms
 - (3) Safety concerns
 - b) Broken Arrow
 - (1) Ranking: 1
 - (2) May not be able to use next year
 - (3) Limited amenities
 - c) Holcom
 - (1) Ranking: 1
 - 3. Needs:
 - a) (4) Fast Pitch fields - Possibly Two 4-plex's for 8 total
 - (1) Concessions, Restrooms, etc. to get to Tournaments
 - b) Batting cages needed
 - c) (4) Practice fields
 - D. Phenix Fast Pitch Softball
 - 1. Overview:
 - a) Competitive league
 - b) Scramble for fields; practice wherever they can, whenever they can.
 - c) Use Kaskell batting Cages
 - 2. (8) Fields for tournaments and used for games and practice
 - E. Lawrence High School
 - 1. Game and practice at Holcom
 - 2. Schedule and field conflicts with baseball
 - 3. Need practice fields
 - F. Free State High School
 - 1. Only (1) field for practice and games
 - 2. Use Sport 2 Sport fields for JV
 - 3. Fields needs:
 - a) Lights
 - b) Parking
 - c) Amenities: restrooms, concessions, control, etc
- VII. Volleyball
- A. Participants: general comments from attendees
 - B. No dedicated court space, very limited availability
 - C. Participation is limited due to court space

D. Additional information provided by organization

VIII. Miscellaneous High School Sports

A. Swimming

1. LHS-

- a) General maintenance and timing issues
- b) Large spectator events problematic

B. Track

1. LHS

- a) No lights limits events to be held
- b) Need press box, PA, restroom, concessions, etc

2. FSHS

- a) Need lights, press box, restrooms, concessions, etc.

C. Golf

1. LHS: No needs

2. FSHS: No needs

D. Wrestling

1. LHS: No needs

2. FSHS: No needs

E. Cross Country

1. LHS: No needs

2. FSHS: No needs

F. Gymnastics

1. LHS: No needs

2. FSHS: No needs

G. Volleyball

1. LHS: No needs

2. FSHS: No needs

H. Bowling

1. LHS: No needs

2. FSHS: No needs

IX. Lawrence Parks & Recreation "Other Activities"

A. General

- 1. All activities are limited by space
- 2. Causes internal conflict among LPR programs for space

B. Gymnastics

1. Limited space

2. Uses a smaller gym space

C. Swimming

1. Conflicts with FSHS in gym for meets

D. Aerobics / Dance

1. Need dedicated space

The following additional questions were discussed:

I. Would your organization be willing to pay rental/maintenance costs for additional fields/courts if they were available?

A. Responses:

1. Currently pay at YSI
 2. We have memberships and participants would not want to pay more
 3. Renting facilities now- carry this costs over
 4. Reasonable increase in expenses okay
- II. What capital funding source(s) would you support to build additional venues?
What operational/maintenance funding source(s) would you support to operate additional venues?
- A. Comments
1. Individual groups cannot fund capital improvements alone or they would have by now.
 2. Maintenance fees okay
 3. Sports groups giving towards capital improvements would “price themselves out.”
- B. Responses
1. Private donors
 2. Corporate sponsorships
 3. Sales tax
 4. Bond Issue
 5. Combination of above...
- III. Are there existing fields/courts that could be better utilized? If so, how?
- A. Municipal Stadium
1. Upgrades to create a competitive stadium
- B. General upgrades to other discussed facilities
- IV. Where would you suggest new fields/courts be built and how many?
- A. Centennial Elementary (Virtual) School Site- land behind the school
- B. Clinton Lake
- V. How many additional tournaments with out-of-town participants can REALISTICALLY be added with additional fields/courts?
- A. High Schools- rotating schedule, if improvements made could get onto rotation
- B. Youth Baseball:
1. Participate in 2-3 tournaments per month
 2. Could attract tournaments to Lawrence (perceived destination point)
- C. LABA- Have been asked to host tournaments and are not able due to faculties
- D. Tennis
1. Currently (2) tournaments
 2. Could host (1) additional
- E. Youth Soccer
1. Host (2) tournaments
 2. Improved facilities would increase the number of participants
 3. Could host (1) additional
- F. Adult Soccer
1. Could host (2) tournaments

G. Other issues / comments:

1. Limited hotel space
2. Sunflower State games looking for future sites
3. Lawrence has hosted National Sports Tournaments in previous years

VI. Should both High Schools share varsity game venues and schedule around each other? Can certain venues be at one high school site or must it be a neutral location?

A. Comments:

1. "Whose home field is it...?"
2. National trends is to share faculties
3. Upgrade existing versus build new- cost impact
4. Combine resources to make better facilities instead of piecing facilities together.