



Odcombe Recreation Ground: usage and access policy

Issue 2, adopted 21st October 2024
Minute reference 132/24 refers

This policy applies to the entire area of the recreation ground, excluding the car park and the premises of the Village Hall. A separate policy applies to the use of the car park.

1. Ownership and management arrangements

Somerset Council own the land known as Odcombe Recreation Ground.

Odcombe Parish Council are solely responsible for managing, insuring and ensuring the safety of all aspects of the recreation ground through a lease agreement with Somerset Council.

The Parish Council is responsible for the general maintenance of the recreation ground, including regular mowing, cutting back and repairs. It will engage contractors and volunteers to do this, where appropriate. The Parish Council will take reasonable steps to ensure that the recreation ground is fit for the purpose intended.

2. Usage

Odcombe Recreation Ground is a fully open-access multi-use public area that welcomes all users who wish to enjoy the facilities safely and responsibly.

3. Sports and activities clubs

Sports and activities clubs who wish to use the recreation ground may be able to do so after agreement with the Parish Council.

This is to ensure that appropriate risk assessments and insurance cover is in place as well as consideration given to the needs of other users.

4. Dog walking

Dog walkers are welcome at Odcombe Recreation Ground under the following conditions:

- owners take responsibility for their dogs and maintain control at all times;
- all dog waste must be removed immediately and deposited in the dog waste bin provided. In the event that the dog waste bin is full - waste should be deposited in the black refuse bin or removed from site.
- dogs are not permitted in or around the BMX track and children's play area;
- owners should exercise especial care when walking their dogs on the football pitch.

5. Conditions and restrictions

1. No individual, group or organisation enjoy privileged or exclusive access to any area of the recreation ground without the express written authority of the Parish Council
2. Private hire of all or part of the recreation ground is not permitted without the express written authority of the Parish Council.
3. Activities for the purpose of personal or commercial financial gain are not permitted without the express written authority of the Parish Council
4. The BMX track is solely for the use of unpowered bicycles and scooters. All other use is prohibited
5. The following activities are prohibited:
 - camping - including the erecting of any kind of tent structures;
 - the use of powered vehicles;
 - golf practice;
 - flying of model aircraft or drones;.
 - horse riding or exercising;
 - shooting or archery;
 - bonfires or fireworks;
 - Any illegal or offensive event, as defined by the Parish Council, which may create a nuisance to neighbours or other recreation ground users;
 - Model vehicles of any kind are not permitted to be used in any area of the recreation ground or car park