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**Policy Number:** 204.080  
**Title:** Recreation/Leisure Programs  
**Effective Date:** 6/18/19

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**PURPOSE:** To provide an offender recreation/leisure program that includes a variety of activities to meet the needs, physical space, and interests of offenders, consistent with the program and security considerations applicable to each facility.

**APPLICABILITY:** All adult facilities

**DEFINITIONS:**

Recreation/leisure areas – includes outdoor yards, gymnasiums, day rooms, activities rooms, and common areas in living units.

**PROCEDURES:**

- A. Adult facilities must offer comprehensive recreation/leisure programs for offenders to ensure the availability of constructive leisure time activities. Recreational opportunities must include a range of activity levels, including active sports, table games, and other approved leisure programs.
1. Offenders are provided access to recreation/leisure areas and equipment, including outdoor activities when weather permits.
  2. Community resources and volunteers may be used for community interaction purposes consistent with each facility's security level.
  3. An offender recreation/leisure representative group may meet at least quarterly to assess the recreation/leisure needs and interests of offenders (see Policy 303.102, "Offender Representative Group").
    - a) Meeting minutes must be retained by the recreation supervisor/designee at the facility.
    - b) Offender representatives are named from each living unit and approved by the recreation supervisor/designee.
  4. Each facility may implement procedures to cover:
    - a) Offenders with disabilities for requesting accommodations for recreation/leisure interests.
    - b) Recreation/leisure rules for offender conduct, dress, etc.
    - c) The use of community resources and volunteers.
    - d) Referee recruitment and training. Offender pay is \$1.00 per event (i.e., game, match) or other sponsored programs as determined by the recreation supervisor/designee.
- B. Each offender, unless on a restricted status, has daily access to recreation/leisure areas.

- C. Each area supervisor/designee must ensure that all facility recreation/leisure equipment is inventoried, maintenance issues are addressed, and all equipment is inspected with the inspection dates logged. Area supervisors/designees must ensure activity areas (e.g., exercise yard, gymnasium, etc.) are maintained in good condition and inspected with maintenance issues addressed as needed. Recreation supervisors/designees at each facility must maintain recreation/leisure inventory sheets.
- D. Offenders may be selected and trained by recreation/leisure staff to serve as recreation/leisure workers. The procedures for training offenders that are trained by staff/contract staff are contained in Policy 105.125, "A Workplace Accident and Injury Reduction Program (AWAIR)." Offender training records must be retained by the recreation supervisor/designee.
- E. Full contact sports, such as tackle football, boxing and martial arts, etc., are not permitted.
- F. Tournament and league awards, if used, are monetary (limited to a maximum of \$5.00 per offender) and/or a certificate. Monetary awards must be deducted from the facility offender social welfare account.
- G. Offenders participate in recreation/leisure activities at their own risk.

**INTERNAL CONTROLS:**

- A. Recreation supervisors/designees at each facility retain minutes from quarterly recreation/leisure group meetings per Policy 303.102, "Offender Representative Group."
- B. Recreation supervisors/designees at each facility retain recreation/leisure inventory sheets.
- C. Recreation supervisors/designees at each facility retain training records for offenders (who serve as recreation/leisure workers) per Policy 105.125, "A Workplace Accident and Injury Reduction Program (AWAIR)."

**ACA STANDARDS:** 4-4481, 4-4485, 4-4486, 1-ABC-5C-01, 1-ABC-5C-05, 1-ABC-5C-06

**REFERENCES:** [Minn. Stat. § 241.01, subd 3a](#)  
[Policy 300.040, "Volunteer Services Program"](#)  
[Division Directive 204.010, "Offender Assignment and Compensation Plan"](#)  
[Policy 303.102, "Offender Representative Group"](#)  
[Policy 105.125, "A Workplace Accident and Injury Reduction Program \(AWAIR\)"](#)

**REPLACES:** Division Directive 204.080, "Recreation/Leisure Programs," 5/17/16.  
All facility policies, memos, or other communications whether verbal, written, or transmitted by electronic means regarding this topic.

**ATTACHMENTS:** None

**APPROVALS:**

Deputy Commissioner, Community Services  
Deputy Commissioner, Facility Services  
Assistant Commissioner, Operations Support

Assistant Commissioner, Facility Services