BARRE TOWN RECREATION BOARD
Meeting Agenda
Monday, May 4, 2020
Teleconference number: 802-861-2663, participant code 489078

1. Call to order…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..6:00 pm
2. Consider approving agenda.
3. Consider approving April 6 agenda items).
4. Consider facility requests, in needed.
5. Discuss Millstone Trails Association Corridor Management Agreement, including allowing ebike use.
7. Consider Rec Board recommendations regarding facility access restrictions.
8. Reconsider Disc Golf VT Tournament approval.
9. Other Business.
10. ‘Round the table.
11. Adjourn.
2. **Agenda** – Vote to approve the agenda: a) as presented; b) with additions, deletions or both; c) re-ordered; or d) combination of b) and c).

3. **Minutes** – Enclosed. Motion needed. I’ll attest to the vote.

5. **Facility Requests** – None at this time. This is kept on the agenda in case any come in between now and your meeting, so that no agenda change is needed.

6. **MTA agreement** – This was on your March 2020 agenda. It was postponed because MTA wasn’t ready, and the April agenda was focused on COVID-19. – For background on this agreement, please see the preamble statements (the “Whereas” paragraphs) in the agreement. The agreement revision has been reviewed by Peter Kopsco, the President, and me. Pete plans to call in to discuss, and provide a report per the agreement. The agreement is largely the same as before. There are, though, two noteworthy changes:
   - Section A, Paragraph 1: You had a discussion about e-bikes at your August and September meetings last year. You opted to wait on policy being developed by the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, one of the town forest easement holders. Enclosed is an update from Mark Martin, who is their Barre Town Forest person and is also responsible for their e-bike policy. What VHCB has now is in line with what Pete has proposed. I suggest you leave out this language since the agreement is for five years, and this topic may evolve within that time. However, I do recommend the language be your default, unofficial policy until VHCB has provided recommendations from their trial year. If you agree please indicate by consensus, so that MTA has that direction.
   - Section C, Paragraph 8: To remove Selectboard review of their fee schedule. MTA has not changed it in years and don’t plan to. Town staff do not have concerns with them setting their own fee schedule. If MTA ever changed the fee schedule enough to concern the town, the town could always request agreement changes then, or terminate the agreement.

Discuss any changes you’d like to see. If none or they are minor, vote to recommend that the Selectboard adopt this agreement with the Millstone Trails Association as presented, or as modified.

7. **MTA donation** – The last three fiscal years, the town budget has included a donation to Millstone Trails for its winter trail grooming efforts, and the Rec Board has based the donation on the actual winter expenses incurred by MTA. Last year’s Rec Board did not want the town on the hook for repairs to the groomer that were due to negligence. The budgeted amount for FY19-20 is $1,500. Please vote to donate an amount up to their actual cash expenses less any repair costs due to negligence, or $1,500, whichever is less, for MTA’s winter grooming efforts.

8. **Facility Access** – This is to review town recreation COVID-19 response:
   a. Advise if you’ve seen any rec facility uses with groups of people that seem unlikely to be related. As long as there doesn’t seem to be a problem the Town Manager is not inclined to restrict access further.
   b. Discuss whether you think 44 Brook St and East Barre Rec Area port-o-lets should be re-opened, at Doug and Dave’s request. Enclosed are the most recent CDC guidelines for recreation areas. Staff recommendation is to not re-open them because they cannot be disinfected nor restocked with hand sanitizer regularly. The 44 Brook St port-o-let has been locked for at least two weeks and the town has not fielded any complaints.
   c. Discuss whether you think the tennis/pickleball courts should be opened, at Dave’s request. Staff recommendation is no, since there is no way to ensure that people who don’t live together will not use it together, and respiratory droplets carry further the harder a person breathes, as during exercise.
d. Discuss whether you think the Rec Area gate should be opened to allow disabled people to access the dog park. Dave can describe the requests he has received. Staff recommendation is no, since disabled people may have a harder time avoiding or contracting infection in the park, whether due to mobility challenges or underlying conditions.

As explained at the last meeting, the town manager is authorized to enact any regulations he deems necessary to protect life, which is the authority he is making use of to restrict access to recreational facilities. However, as the Rec Board, which oversees recreational facilities, you may recommend changes. For items b through d above, if you disagree with current restrictions, the motion would be to recommend to the town manager a lighter (specific, if you wish) restriction or removal of a restriction.

9. **Disc Golf VT Tourney** – See enclosed email from Chris Young, tournament organizer. You approved this before the pandemic. It is scheduled for May 30, 2020 and he needs to make a decision before May 20 whether to proceed or cancel. Chris is considering modifications that would make the tournament safer. However, the town manager has decided the tournament will not be allowed because it is too soon after the Governor’s Stay Home order is likely to be lifted (May 15). At minimum, gatherings of 30-40 people would have to be allowed for this tournament to be allowable. Further, the proposed 3-person teams are likely to be from different households, so we would be creating an opportunity for transmission within the teams, if not between teams in the parking area, or on the course. As above, if you disagree with this the motion would be to recommend to the town manager that the tournament be allowed. If you go this route and have other changes to propose you can add those as conditions to your approval.

**Other Notes:**

a. Iron ranger for donations to the Disc Golf Course and maybe MTA at the town forest: The Town DPW Shop could “probably” construct something. The Shop Foreman needs to review to see whether it would end up costing the town a similar amount to the retail price of $900.

b. Liability waiver for leagues: Mike Monte hasn’t responded yet to my email about this dated March 16.

✔ **Member attendance:**

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P = present; a = absent

If you can’t attend, please send an email to Doug (dfarnham2@gmail.com) and Elaine.

Call or email if you have any questions or comments.

Elaine Wang
Assistant Town Manager
ewang@barretown.org
479-9331 (o) 249-5978 (c)
The Town of Barre Recreation Board held a public meeting on Monday, April 6, 2020 in the Municipal Building at 149 Websterville Road. Board members present were Doug Farnham; and by videoconference, Dave Rouleau, Terry Smith, Stacey Lynds, Amanda Gray, and Moriah Fraga. Absent was Rolland Tessier due to COVID-19 related work obligations. Also present were assistant town manager Elaine Wang, town manager Carl Rogers, and by teleconference: Roger Gillies, Abbey Fusco and Dan Kiniry.

1. Chair Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. Rouleau moved that the agenda be approved as presented. Gray seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved the vote.

3. Rouleau made a motion to approve the March 2, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Lynds seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

4. No guests were present for non-agenda items.

5. Facility Requests – a) Green Mountain Community Fitness requested use of the outdoor pickleball courts for a tournament May 23-24. Wang advised the Board not approve the request given the projected COVID-19 infection peak forecasted in mid-April to early May, with a gradual rather than sharp drop-off of anticipated infection rates after the peak. The Board indicated pickleball tournaments would be welcome in the future. Rouleau made a motion to approve the request conditioned on insurance, compliance with executive orders, and that the facility be left in the same state it was found. Smith seconded. The vote was 0 to 6, so the Board denied the request.
b) There were no other requests.

6. Field Scheduling for Spring and Summer – The town received 6 league requests.

Soccer: The Northeast Kingdom Women Warrior Soccer Team requested Sunday evenings, June 21 to July 26, 5:45pm to 8pm. There were no conflicts. Farnham asked Wang to clarify which soccer field they wanted. Smith made a motion to approve the use, conditioned on receipt of a certificate of insurance naming the town as an additional insured, that the use not conflicting with any executive orders, and clarification on whether they wanted the upper or lower field. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Baseball: Dan Kiniry presented two requests coordinated under the Babe Ruth banner, the Barre Black Sox and the Bombers. Rouleau made a motion to approve the uses, conditioned on receipt of a certificate of insurance naming the town as an additional insured and that the uses not conflicting with any executive orders. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Softball: The three leagues from last year all submitted requests which did not conflict with each other. Smith made a motion to approve the Barre Men’s Over 30 Softball League request conditioned on receipt of a certificate of insurance naming the town as an additional insured and that the use not conflicting with any executive orders. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Rouleau made a motion to approve the Barre Co-Ed Softball League request conditioned on receipt of a certificate of insurance naming the town as an additional insured and that the use not conflicting with any executive orders. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Smith made a motion to approve the Men’s Softball League request conditioned on receipt of a certificate of insurance naming the town as an additional insured and that the use not conflicting with any executive orders. Lynds seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

The question of alcohol use was raised. Smith made a motion that the Barre Men’s Over 30 Softball League be permitted to use alcohol in the Rec Area, except at the picnic shelter, noting that the Rec Area does not include the school parking lot. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 6-0. Smith made the same motion for the Barre
Co-Ed Softball League. Rouleau seconded and the motion passed 6-0. Smith made the same motion for the Barre Men’s Softball League. Lynds seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

7. COVID-19 – By the Barre Town code of ordinances, the town manager has the authority to enact any regulations they deem necessary to protect life and preserve critical resources. Town manager Carl Rogers has enacted some so far. Between those and the Governor’s Executive orders, most recreation activity has been curtailed:

Facilities – At least until the Governor’s stay-home executive order has been lifted, the Rec Area gate and restrooms will remain locked; all playgrounds and the dog park are posted with usage warnings; and the tennis and pickleball courts will remain locked.

   The reasons being: Where we can, restrict access to, and use of, facilities that are not being disinfected; not create a situation where our police officers would need to kick people out of facilities, especially if they were being used in a relatively safe manner; and tennis and pickleball cannot be played by oneself.

Events – the Egg Hunt has been postponed until further notice. Wang recommended Spring into Summer Fest and the fall kickball tournament be delayed and revisited at each Board meeting. Staff will monitor non-Rec Board events and be in touch with requestors to make sure they cancel consistent with executive orders.

Smith noted the first Saturday of June date was to make it soon after school let out and before volunteers and families were lost to summer vacation plans, so it would make more sense to cancel. The Board agreed by consensus. Also by consensus, the Board agreed to revisit the kickball tournament at each meeting.

Alternatives – The Board discussed activities they could provide and/or promote on Facebook while the Stay Home order was in effect. A few volunteered for specific activities.

8. Other Business – Wang asked Farnham and Gray to confirm they were interested in continuing to serve, as their terms are up this year. Both said yes.

9. Round the Table: Lynds noted the end of the town forest parking lot was quite muddy.

   Rouleau reported a $5,400 donation to the skatepark from the February fundraiser, and that he was asking the designers for a plan to replace the wooden structures. He reported not seeing as much dog waste in the town forest as before.

   Farnham asked whether the town should consider removing basketball hoops. He saw two people playing together. Gray said she saw 4 teenagers playing basketball together at Trow Hill. After some discussion those present agreed it would be better to avoid taking down hoops for as long as possible, and for staff to educate the public on a regular basis about social distancing. The Board agreed to report any usage they see to staff. If it reaches problematic levels then staff would consider closing down rec facilities. Farnham also requested another trash receptacle be added to the end of the Rec Area road.

   Gray said one of the Upper Graniteville basketball hoops needed adjusting.

At 7:02pm on a motion by Lynds, seconded by Gray, the board voted 6-0 to adjourn.

Recreation Board Members
___________________________________
___________________________________
___________________________________
___________________________________
Corridor Management Agreement
between the Town of Barre and Millstone Trails Association, Inc.

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into this ___ day of ____________, 2017-2020 by and between
the Town of Barre and Millstone Trails Association (hereinafter MTA).

WHEREAS: on February 5, 2013, the Town of Barre created a Barre Town Forest Management Plan for
the Barre Town Forest which requires Corridor Managers to enter into Corridor Management
Agreements; and

WHEREAS: MTA is a non-profit trails association dedicated to creating and maintaining high quality
publicly accessible and affordable non-motorized recreational trail opportunities in the Millstone Hill area
of Barre Town; and

WHEREAS: The Barre Town Forest contains nearly 20 miles of established recreational trail
opportunities that complement and enhance the other uses of the Forest; and

WHEREAS: the Conservation Easement on the Barre Town Forest allows recreational use of the trail
system if managed in accordance with the restrictions in the Conservation Easement and in accordance
with the Town Forest Management Plan; and

WHEREAS: the Town of Barre and MTA consider it mutually advantageous to cooperate with the
development and maintenance of network of recreational trails on the Barre Town Forest.

NOW THEREFORE:

A. The TOWN OF BARRE HEREBY AGREES TO:
   1. Grant permission for the building, maintenance, and use of the non-motorized trails (designated
      on the attached map) on the Barre Town Forest. For the purposes of this Agreement, Class 1
      pedal assist bikes (defined as pedal assist only, no throttle, with a max assisted speed of 20 mph)
      do not constitute a motorized vehicle. MTA, in consultation with the town, shall determine when
      and where such Class 1 pedal assist bikes may be used.
   2. Work with and provide pertinent information to aid MTA in locating, developing, maintaining
      and encouraging appropriate use of the designated trails, provided that the Town shall not be
      obligated to provide assistance beyond that allocated in its budget.
   3. Notify MTA when it is determined that trails are in need of repair or maintenance that should be
      addressed, provided, however, that the Town shall not be obligated to inspect the trails, and shall
      not be liable except for its own actions.
   4. Notify MTA when timber harvest, events, or other activities may necessitate temporary closure of
      some trails.
   5. The Town of Barre shall from time to time amend the existing Management Plan. Said plan shall
      provide for the recreational access, use and management of the Barre Town Forest. The Town of
      Barre shall provide MTA with a copy of these plans and shall inform MTA of any proposed
      changes to the Plan.

B. MTA HEREBY AGREES TO:
   1. Act in an independent capacity and not as officers or employees of the Town of Barre. MTA shall
      indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Town of Barre from all claims, suits, or demands for
      payment for all members, affiliates, or agents of MTA and any other users of the trails. Further,
      MTA shall annually provide the Town of Barre a Certificate of Insurance showing liability
insurance coverage of at least two million dollars ($2,000,000), and that such coverage shall name the Town of Barre as an additional insured.

2. Obtain and maintain, at its own expense, all permits or licenses required to construct, install, maintain, and manage the non-motorized recreational trails and shall not violate the terms or conditions of any of those permits, licenses or regulations.

3. Be responsible for the construction of any approved new non-motorized trails on the Town Forest property at its own expense. Excavation, filling, grading and the reestablishment of vegetation will be done to the Town of Barre's satisfaction. No excavation, filling or grading on the Barre Town Forest will be done unless it is approved in writing, in advance, by the Recreation Board or other designated agent of the Town of Barre.

4. Conduct all maintenance and construction projects using the best available management techniques and practices such as those described by the International Mountain Biking Association. Trails will be maintained in a condition satisfactory to the Town of Barre Recreation Board or other designated agent of the Town of Barre.

5. MTA shall not use herbicides, pesticides, growth inhibitors, or other toxic chemicals on the property.

6. Submit an annual (during May) trail conditions report and proposed yearly work plan for the network of non-motorized trails on the Town Forest property to the Town of Barre's Recreation Board annually (during May).

7. Educate trail users about personal safety, sustainable usage and above all, discourage illegal trail building.

8. Provide the Town of Barre with a current trail map in mutually agreed upon digital format and hard copy with appropriate user information, when available.

9. Acknowledges that any trail development on adjoining parcels of private forest land are at the sole discretion of those property owners. Development and management of trails located outside of the Barre Town Forest is the sole responsibility of MTA and is conducted with permission of the landowners.

10. Notify the Town of Barre Recreation Board 45 days in advance of any events or activities that it proposes within the Town Forest for approval by the Recreation Board. A seasonal schedule of events can be submitted and approved.

11. Use the following standard language when promoting or publicizing an event or service centered at the Town Forest: "The (event name or service) will be held in the Town of Barre Forest in Websterville, VT."

12. Ensure that all of their activities are in compliance with the Conservation Easement. MTA shall hold the Town of Barre harmless from any failure to comply with the Conservation Easement, and take such action as shall be requested by the Easement Holders to maintain or restore compliance, except to the extent that such noncompliance was caused by the Town of Barre. Nothing contained in this Corridor Management Agreement shall create any liability on behalf of the Fee Owner or the Easement Holder to any third party or create any right, claim or cause of action on behalf of any party other than the obligations to each other set forth herein.

C. IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED THAT:

1. MTA will serve as Barre Town's Trail Corridor Manager (TCM) for the Barre Town Forest.

2. Permission to perform work on the Town's Property under the terms of the agreement and any authorization supplemental hereto does not in any way convey to MTA, its members, officials, or persons volunteering work with MTA in the performance of said work, employee status or any other status that would extend to them the benefits of Town employees.

3. Any improvements constructed under the terms of this Agreement on Town property will be the property of the Town. Nothing contained herein or in the said Management Plan shall grant MTA any leasehold or other interest in the Barre Town Forest property.
3.4. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as obligating the Town of Barre to expend labor and funds in excess of allotments or appropriations authorized or available.

4.5. The Barre Town Forest will be closed to mountain biking non-pedestrian use from the second Saturday in November through the end of muzzle loader season of each year. Any request to keep the trails open for non-pedestrian uses mountain biking during this period shall require prior written approval from the Town of Barre.

5.6. The Town of Barre maintains the right to close the trails to public use when any of the following are true:
   - Weather conditions make the trails unsuitable for their intended use.
   - Use of the trails is resulting in degradation of surface waters, wildlife, vegetation, soils, or other forest resources.
   - Damage to the trails may occur from recreational use due to heavy rain, mud, or other conditions.
   - Use of the trails is resulting in unauthorized uses on the property.
   - Use of the trails has resulted in conditions that violate the Conservation Easement or Community Forest Plan.
   - Any other reason, which in the sole discretion of the Town of Barre would cause public safety or environmental concerns sufficient enough to close the trails to mountain bike and cross country ski use.
   - The TCM does not abide by this Agreement.

6. MTA and the Town of Barre will give adequate and appropriate recognition to each other in publications or news releases regarding the Barre Town Forest trails.

7. All new trail development must be pre-approved by the Town of Barre and the Vermont Land Trust.

8. Any fee schedule must first be approved by the Barre Town Select Bboard and attached to this agreement. MTA shall not harass, berate, lecture, or eject individuals or groups from the Forest or trails for failure to pay fees.

9. This agreement does not grant exclusive rights and privileges to MTA. The Town of Barre reserves the right to use or allow others to use any part of the trail system.

10. This agreement may be terminated at any time by any party by giving sixty days written notice to the other parties or by mutual agreement.

11. This agreement is between the Town of Barre and MTA herein named, and is not assignable or transferable unless mutually agreed upon by all parties. Nor shall MTA subcontract to any individual or organization to fulfill any of MTA's management responsibilities without the advance written permission of the Town of Barre, which may be withheld at the sole discretion of the Town of Barre. (This requirement shall not apply to school groups and other organizations and individuals that have volunteered to work on the trails under the direction and supervision of MTA.)

12. This Agreement shall commence on the date of signing for an initial period of one five years. It will be reviewed annually and renewed for additional terms of one to five years provided that MTA has fulfilled its duties as the non-motorized recreational Trail Corridor Manager in accordance with this Agreement, the Barre Town Forest Conservation Easement, and the Management Plan for the Barre Town Forest. The CMA may be renewed by mutual written consent of the Parties, sixty days prior to the expiration date.

13. Termination of this Agreement shall not relieve MTA of its duties hereunder, including but not limited to Sections B.1 and B.10, above.

14. There shall be no manipulation of natural watercourses, wetlands, or other water bodies, nor shall there be activities conducted on the property which would be detrimental to water quality, or which could alter natural water level or flow, except as is minimally necessary to carry out the uses permitted on these lands under this Agreement and the Conservation Easement.
15. The Town of Barre and MTA further agree that:
   a. If the Town agrees to rent a part of the Brook Street garage to MTA, the rental agreement will be attached to this CMA and will be considered a provision of this CMA.
   b. MTA shall cooperate in notifying its members and trail users if and when the Town or another entity holds a special event in the Town Forest.
   c. MTA shall post trail signs as directed by the Town of Barre Recreation Board or other town designated board or official.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this agreement.

Town of Barre

Chair of Select Board    Date

Witness    Date

MTA

Authorized representative    Date

Witness    Date
Hello Elaine,

It was good chatting with you at the Barclay Rd. kiosk the other day. While VHCB will not have our new Outdoor Recreation Policy completed for several more months, I wanted to let you know that today we have issued an approval for a 1 year test period for Class 1 e bikes on the West Windsor Town Forest. Should Barre Town Forest request an approval through VLT, VHCB would issue one. Additionally, we have approved Class 1 e bikes on the Catamount Community Forest without the 1 year trial period.

I hope this helps guide you in your work.

Best,

Mark

Mark Martin  
Conservation Stewardship Coordinator  
Vermont Housing and Conservation Board  
58 East State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602  
(802) 828-5068
About Day Passes

Mountain biking on the Millstone Trails requires the purchase of a Day Pass if you are not a Member (http://www.millstonetrails.org/membership/).

- Members (http://www.millstonetrails.org/membership/) do not have to purchase Day Passes
- Walking, running and hiking on the trails is always free (no Day Pass or Membership required)

Purchase Online

A Day Pass costs $10. Purchase online here and your Paypal receipt serves as your Day Pass (digital receipt in your device is okay).
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Guidance for Administrators in Parks and Recreational Facilities

Parks, trails, and open spaces can provide opportunities for physical activity while also providing opportunities for respite, health, and wellness. Individuals are encouraged to use parks, trails, and open spaces safely as they are able while following current guidance to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The following offers guidance for the use and administration of local, state, and national parks.

Post information to promote everyday preventive actions.

Park administrators should consider displaying posters and signs throughout the park to frequently remind visitors to take steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These messages may include information about:

- Staying home if you are sick or do not feel well, and what to do if you’re sick or feel ill.
- Using social distancing and maintaining at least six feet between individuals in all areas of the park.
- Covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throwing the tissue in the trash.
- Washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Using hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Maintain restrooms that remain open. Ensure they have functional toilets, clean and disinfected surfaces, and handwashing supplies.

If possible, restrooms should remain open if a park remains open for public visitation. If restrooms will be closed, notify visitors ahead of time so they can prepare appropriately. Ensure that open restrooms are:

- Operational with functional toilets.
- Cleaned and disinfected regularly, particularly high-touch surfaces such as faucets, toilets, doorknobs, and light switches. Clean and disinfect restrooms daily or more often if possible. The EPA-registered household disinfectants listed here are recommended. Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep products away from children.
- Regularly stocked with supplies for handwashing, including soap and materials for drying hands or hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Oftentimes restroom facilities without running water, such as portable toilets and vault toilets, are not stocked with hand hygiene products. Encourage visitors to be prepared to bring their own hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol for use in these facilities.

Keep swimming pools properly cleaned and disinfected.
Proper operation, maintenance, and disinfection (with chlorine or bromine) of swimming pools should kill the virus that causes COVID-19.

- Maintain proper disinfectant levels (1–10 parts per million free chlorine or 3–8 ppm bromine) and pH (7.2–8).
- CDC's Model Aquatic Health Code has more recommendations to prevent illness and injuries at public pools in parks.

Be prepared to cancel or postpone large events and gatherings.

- Monitor and adhere to guidelines issued at the national, state, and local levels related to limiting the size of gatherings.
- Continually assess current conditions and engage with the National Park Service, state, and local public health officials when deciding whether to postpone, cancel, or significantly reduce the number of attendees (if possible) for mass gatherings.
- Consider CDC guidance and White House guidance as you make decisions about whether to proceed with, postpone, or cancel an event.

Make sure people are social distancing in popular areas of the park.

During periods of sustained community transmission, park administrators should:

- Monitor areas where people are likely to gather and consider temporary closure to support social distancing practices. These areas might include sports fields, playgrounds, skateparks, basketball courts, tennis courts, and picnic areas. In the event of facility closures, park administrators might want to place physical barriers in these areas and post signs communicating that the area is closed.
- Post signs discouraging groups from gathering in larger numbers than are currently recommended or allowed.

If organized sports activity has been suspended within the park, communicate with sports team coaches that unofficial sports practices are also prohibited within the park.

Postpone or cancel organized activities and sports.

In general, most organized activities and sports such as basketball, baseball, soccer, and football that are held on park fields, open areas, and courts are not recommended during times in which individuals are encouraged or required to practice social distancing. These activities and sports typically require coaches and athletes who are not from the same household or living unit to be in close proximity, which increases their potential for exposure to COVID-19.

Park administrators should monitor directives issued at the national, state, and local levels related to limiting the size of gatherings. These directives can inform decisions about limiting participation for those sports and activities that exceed the maximum number allowed. Until local public health officials have coordinated with organizers to determine if/when it is safe to participate in such activities, all should be postponed or canceled.

Use flexible sick-leave and telework policies, especially for staff at higher risk for severe illness.

- Be as flexible as possible with staff attendance and sick-leave policies.
- Remind staff to stay at home if they are sick.
Identify staff whose duties would allow them to work from home and encourage teleworking when possible.

Consider offering revised duties to staff who are at higher risk of severe illness with COVID-19.

Keep your park staff informed about COVID-19 and preventive actions.

When there is ongoing transmission of COVID-19 in the community where the park is located, consider implementing the following strategies:

- Provide staff with up-to-date information about COVID-19 and park policies on a regular basis.
- Communicate to park staff the importance of practicing healthy hygiene habits such as washing hands often, covering coughs and sneezes, and social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- If staff develop a fever, cough, or shortness of breath while at work, have them immediately put on a face mask (if available), isolate them, and have them return home from the park as soon as possible, and ask them to follow CDC-recommended steps for persons who are ill with COVID-19 symptoms.
- If a staff member has a confirmed COVID-19 infection, inform other staff about their possible exposure to the virus, while maintaining confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act; see Public Health Recommendations for People in U.S. Communities Exposed to a Person with Known or Suspected COVID-19, other than Health Workers or other Critical Infrastructure Workers.

Review CDC’s guidance for businesses and employers.

- Review CDC’s guidance for businesses and employers to identify additional strategies to protect park staff during an outbreak of COVID-19.
- For additional questions or guidance, contact your state or local health department public health officials and in the case of the National Park Service, contact public health officials in the Office of Public Health.
I hope this email finds you both well and safe. I wanted to touch base in regards to the Quarries Throwdown DG tournament scheduled for May 30, 2020. As we all know we are living in very uncertain times but I have put a lot of thought into how I can host a safe event at the end of May if the governor, the Rec Board and the Town of Barre allow for it. The typical event the past 5 years has seen right around 85 players in a 1 day format. The first thing I would do is split that into a 2 day event (Sat and Sun) and have approx 40 players at the course per day. This would allow for everyone to have safe space and allow for a safe amount of players on the course throughout each day. The Players Meeting and Awards that we typically do would be adjusted to a virtual players meeting (done via video the day before the event) and the award payouts would be done with an online voucher. These 2 things would avoid the gathering of larger groups. Typically we would have groups of 4-5 players per card. I would adjust to groups of 3 max to help with social distancing. Typically we would use paper scorecards and everyone on the card takes turns keeping score. I would adjust this and we would have 1 player the entire round keep score via the new PDGA online scoring ap. If necessary I am also open to the idea of having this be a Vermont residents only event if the travel of players is a concern. All players will be required to maintain social distancing throughout the rounds and throughout the day.

I will need to make a decision by May 20th as to if we host the event or if we need to cancel. I am open to any ideas or suggestions that I have not covered so please let me know what you think.

Thanks!

Chris Young
Disc Golf Vermont