

City of Findlay Recreation Department – Annual Report 2015

2015 Recreation Full Time Staff:

Lu Draper, Superintendent Recreation/Community and Facilities

Lisa Mansfield, Assistant Recreation Supervisor (4th quarter)

Mike Gallaher, Operations/Scheduling

Dee Yoxtheimer, Clerk

2015 Season Staff CUBE and Diamonds:

13-Customer Service Attendants

4-Skate Guards

4-Skate Instructors

4-Casual Labor (field and facility maintenance)

Extra, Extra Read all about it: Findlay Ohio will be hosting the 10 year old USA/ASA National Tournament at the Marathon Diamonds in 2017! Lu Draper and Lisa Mansfield traveled to Louisville to pitch Findlay, Ohio to the USA/ASA voting members as a site for a National Tournament in USA. Lu Draper presented the members voted and we won this prestigious week long tournament...more to come next year!

Adult Slow Pitch Softball: For over 30 years, the city has offered a fun and competitive adult slow-pitch softball program. The City provides two sessions each year, spring and fall. The Amateur Softball Association (ASA) sanctioned league hosted 166 games in 2015 in Men's and Co-ed divisions. A year end tournament and City Champs are crowned with each session.

Spring and Summer Season – (73 teams) – 36 men's teams, 37 co-ed teams

Fall Season (41 teams) – 16 men's teams, and 25 co-ed teams

District 19 Umpire: The City of Findlay contracted with District 19 for umpire services to the adult softball games.

Skate with Santa: The ninth annual holiday event at the Huntington Bank Arena. Children and their parents enjoyed ice skating with Santa to Christmas music, cookie decorating, crafts and pictures taking with Santa.

Birthday Parties at the CUBE: In 2015, 50 birthday party packages were sold and enjoyed by approximately 550 party attendees at The CUBE, packages include private party room, pizza, soda, skate rental and ice skating.

Meeting Room Rentals: Community groups at the CUBE rented 116 rooms in 2015.

Shelter House Rentals at Riverside Park: The Recreation Department continued with the duties of securing shelter house reservations and fee collections in 2015. 416 shelter houses were reserved in 2015 and over 58 shelters were used by non-profit organizations – which chose the comfort and ambience of Riverside Park, band shell and shelter houses for their fund raising events.

The **Allen P Dudley Memorial Band Shell** continued to host Wednesday evening FREE Concerts in the Park during the summer months in cooperation with the City of Findlay, Hancock Park District and local area businesses.

THE CUBE: The CUBE exceeded all expectations during the 2014-2015 season-more visitors enjoyed the CUBE's activities both on and off the ice for youth, adults and families. The CUBE has 2 ice seasons per year. September through March followed by an 8 week summer session in May and June.

Off ice the CUBE plays host to the Whitetail Unlimited Annual Meeting, Findlay Publishing Bridal Showcase, MMA – Ultimate Fighting and various other community activities. Annually the CUBE opens its doors to numerous volunteers involved with the Backyard Missions for breakfast and them a pizza party at the end of the day. The CUBE parking lot even was on loan to the Arts Partnership as a makeshift home for the Riverside Wine Festival in 2015, due to extreme wet conditions at Riverside Park.

Learn to Skate: WeSkate Learn to Skate program instructed by Skate Pro Shelly Bressler and Tracy Haines-Koehler and their coaching staff is always a very popular event at The CUBE. The sessions are created to be affordable for all and a great learning experience for youth and adult alike. Rather, it is recreational skating introduction to figure skating or ice hockey; we tailor the program to needs of each individual. Free Public Skate immediately following the skate lesson is also included.

The CUBE offered several sessions of their Learn to Skate programs. The programs included drills and skills, summer and holiday camps. The summer camp was based on the movie Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. The winter camp theme was all about Charlie Brown on Ice.

Silver Blades Figure Skating Club: Silver Blades is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing quality figure skating to the Findlay-Hancock County region. Silver Blades began in 1974 when the Hancock Recreation Center, now the CUBE, was built to house events that promoted skating and other recreational activities. Since that day, the Silver Blades Figure Skating Club has continued to grow due to the support of the community, the Recreation Department, and by the excitement generated by club members. Silver Blades is the only figure skating club in Northwest Ohio that has an annual ice skating show "Ice Classics".

Silver Blades Figure Skating Club along with the Findlay Recreation Department is affiliated with the Ice Skating Institute (ISI). Silver Blades Figure Skating Club, currently has approximately 100 members, ranging between the ages of 4 and 18. Silver Blades Figure Skating Club hosts the annual Silver Blades Ice Classic, a Holiday Ice Show and ISI competition in November. This year's competition hosted 150 skaters from the tristate area for the weekend.

Gliding Stars – Findlay Chapter: Gliding Stars, Inc. was originally founded in 1994 by Elizabeth M O'Donnell. Ms. O'Donnell is an accomplished figure skater who turned her talents toward providing an extensive program of adaptive ice skating for people of all ages and challenges. She did this so they could experience a part of normal life and the life-changing effects of regular exercises, social interaction, teamwork, family sharing, and a few hours of fame during the end-of-season Ice Extravaganza performance, a fan favorite.

Findlay Amateur Hockey Association: The Findlay Amateur Hockey Association (FAHA) was established in the 1960's as the area's youth hockey organization. The Hancock Recreation Center, or THE CUBE, as it is known today was not built at this time and players skated out of Bowling Green, Ohio's ice arena. The following year, players traveled to Lima, Ohio to use their ice facility. Finally, the Hancock Recreation Center was open. Currently, FAHA uses the CUBE for their ice needs. FAHA is sanctioned through the USA Hockey organization.

FAHA hosts a "Winter Freeze House Tournament" for three divisions: Min-Mite/Mite/Squirt, over two weekends in February. Many teams from in and around Ohio and surrounding states to The CUBE compete in this USA Hockey sanctioned tournament.

Findlay's Men's Hockey League: The Findlay Men's Hockey League is a non-profit association that brings together Adult players from all over Northwest Ohio to play organized spring, fall and winter league hockey games at the CUBE. The Findlay Men's Hockey League offers four levels of play, which allows everyone, from the experienced player down to the first time skater, the chance to play the great game of ice hockey.

Public Skating: Public skating continues to be very popular with teens and families alike. The CUBE promotes family and youth participation during the afternoon public skate sessions, while evening sessions cater to the teenagers. Admission remains the same since 2006, \$5 admission/skate rental \$2 (free skate rental during the weekend afternoon family sessions).

Monday thru Friday Daytime Ice Rink Schedule

Mom & Tot 10am-11am

Adult Only Skate 11am-12pm

Drop-In Adult Hockey 12p-1:30pm

Weekend Public Sessions

Friday and Saturday Evening (time varies due to FHS home hockey games)

Saturday afternoon – 1pm --2:50pm

Sunday afternoon – 3:00 pm – 4:50 pm

School Holidays – 2pm – 4pm

The Marathon Diamonds: Take me out to the ballgame! Over 900 games were played at this premier facility for league play, tournaments, and The University of Findlay's spring and fall seasons of baseball and softball at the Marathon Diamonds. Coaches, teams, and fans enjoy five lighted infields (four skinned, one grass) separate admission gates, built-in bleachers, concessions and exceptional grounds keeping. The tournament must go on: Some of the tournaments mentioned below may have shortened their tournament due to inclement weather, however the Recreation Staff went out of their way to prepare the fields for play – sometimes even "burning the midnight oil".

2015 Highlights at the Marathon Diamonds Include

USA Softball National Team: 2 day clinic & doubleheader against College All Stars from the area. Over 1000 spectators.

Youth Baseball - Diamond Dawg Travel Teams

Home Games and Tournaments
Flag City Challenge
Baseball Blast

Girl's Fast-Pitch Softball

Home Games and Tournaments
Flag City Fire Cracker
Greg Miller Memorial Tournament
ASA – U14 Eastern Nationals
ASA – U-16 State Softball Tournament

Young Miss Softball Association

Regular Season games

Baseball Players Association Tournament (BPA)

Timberwolves Tournaments

King of the Mound - Wolves
Around the Horn - Wolves
Summer Slugfest - Wolves
Sunset Showdown -BPA
I-75 Tournament- BPA

Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA)

District Baseball Tournament

Findlay Youth Baseball

Regular Season Games
 City League Championship tournament
 All-Star Games

University of Findlay

Men's Baseball spring and fall programs
 Ladies' Softball spring and fall program
 GLIAC year-end Women Softball Playoffs

Other Activities included

Special Olympics Regional Competition

Nations World Series Ultimate Baseball Tournament (Findlay Youth Baseball): Over 32 travel baseball teams gathered to represent their community and to play a schedule that included over 75 baseball games during the Great Lakes Regional Ultimate World Series Tournament at Marathon Diamonds. The activities began with the annual parade of teams, followed by a skills contest and players social and pin trading event. Many of the teams participating are from a distance and approximately 75% of teams utilize area hotel and motel rooms.

Hancock County Girls Fast pitch Softball League: The Marathon Diamonds is also home to ASA U-16 Girls STATE Fast Pitch Softball Tournament, where 60 of the best teams from throughout Ohio took to the field in Findlay Ohio for this annual event.

Flag City Youth Football Complex: Conversations began in early 2010 between private and public entities to establish a timeline for the construction of a Youth Football Facility to be located in the northeast corner of the Flag City Multi-Sports Complex, near the CUBE. Construction started in the spring of 2011, with opening the field in the fall of 2013. Construction costs for this facilities were provided by private funds. The finished product was gifted to the City of Findlay.

Rotary Arena and Soccer Complex: The Rotary Arena and Soccer Complex is a grand example of how public and private investors can work seamlessly to build a facility locally. After the relocation of four softball fields to other areas within the city, this soccer facility became a reality. The complex consists of two premier lighted soccer fields in concert with 18 auxiliary soccer fields.

Hancock Soccer Association currently hosts the Fall Classic Recreational Soccer Tournament and Flag City Classic Tournament. Additionally, several large soccer tournaments are in the works to be held at Rotary Arena. This in turn will go a long way in making Findlay an outstanding destination to host soccer events and continue to impact our local economy.

Swale Park: Due to the relocation of 4 softball fields from Emory Adams Park to Swale Park, the Swale took on a new look and gained new primary users. Young Miss Softball in cooperation with the City of Findlay Parks and Recreation Department gave Swale Park a small over- haul with some much needed clean-up, minor fence repairs, relocation of fences and base anchors, bleachers and dug out repairs which has now created a nice, usable, safe facility for girls slow pitch softball during their regular season and baseball during special tournament.

Facility Inventory: The City of Findlay has numerous fields and facilities that are utilized by our recreational partners and visitors alike year around. From in-line skate parks, sand volleyball courts, tennis courts, walking tracks, playgrounds, baseball, softball, football and soccer fields to an ice rink and swimming pool – the City of Findlay’s Parks and Recreation has many facilities to be proud of. For a complete listing of parks and facilities visit our website at www.findlayohio.com

Park and Recreation Rules: “Rules and Regulations Governing the Recreational Use of City Park Properties and Recreation Facilities” are available on the Findlay City website: www.findlayohio.com under Recreation.

Contact Us: Recreate@Findlayohio.com or by calling 419-424-7176

Recreation Office and Hours Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm

Location: 3430 North Main Street located inside the CUBE
