Town of Rosetown – Parks & Recreation Department Zero Tolerance Policy

Policy Statement:

The Town of Rosetown facilities including the: arena, sports grounds, swimming pool and associated properties; exist to provide residents with the opportunity to participate in sport and recreation activities. With the development and implementation of this policy, the Town of Rosetown shows its commitment to providing such facilities for community members to utilize in a safe and positive environment.

In the implementation of this policy it is important to understand that the user groups utilizing the Town of Rosetown's facilities and property must take the *primary* responsibility for the behavior of all individuals associated with their usage of the facility: athletes, coaches, officials, renters, spectators, volunteers and users.

Guiding Principles:

Community facilities are a privilege not a right. Abuse of and damage to these facilities will not be tolerated.

Violent, abusive or anti-social behavior, such as verbal threats and insults, attempts to intimidate as well as physical assault and battery have no place in the Town of Rosetown's facilities.

Sport and recreation activities in the Town of Rosetown exist due to the time and effort of committed volunteers and staff in our community. These individuals should have the ability to volunteer and work in a safe and positive environment.

Promotion of this policy and positive user behavior will assist in the reduction of violent behaviors and contribute to a safer and fun experience for all.

Definition of Violence:

In the case of violence on the field of play; the behaviour will be handled through the rules and regulations of the governing sport body and it's officials. For sport situations outside the field of play or involving others that are not meant to be on the field of play then the following definitions and consequences will be in place.

Violence is seen as, but is not limited to, the following behavior:

Loud verbal assaults

Threats and attempts to intimidate

Throwing of articles in a deliberate or aggressive manner

Aggressive approaches to another individual

Physical striking of another individual

Vandalism to building or property

Racial or ethnic slurs

Illegal consumption of alcohol or drugs

Attempts to incite violence in others

Outright disrespect of facilities, workers, volunteers or other spectators

Consequences:

Individuals who engage in any of the above behaviors will be subject to immediate ejection from the facility and/or associated property and a mandatory suspension from all facilities/properties for a period of time as outlined below.

Incidents of a verbal nature may be tolerated initially with a warning from facility staff, but will be noted and reported. Serious and physical assault incidents will be reported to the R.C.M.P. Criminal charges may follow.

<u>First offence</u> – 30 day suspension from all recreational facilities within the Town of Rosetown

Second offence – 365 day suspension

It is up to the renter or user group to enforce the policy and if they cannot control the situation, where possible, the Town of Rosetown facility staff will be asked to step in. In the event that staff are not available (ie. Sports grounds use in the summer months), renter or user group will contact the local R.C.M.P.

The above suspension time frame is a minimum only and may be extended by the Town of Rosetown. Individuals' who are identified and suspended in accordance with this policy, may be prohibited from holding any positions within the Town's affiliated sport community for a period of one year.

There will be no reconsideration by the Town with respect to the length of a suspension or prohibition. Where new information is available, a suspended individual may request reconsideration of the facts on which the suspension is based. Such facts must be forwarded to the Recreation Committee. All decisions of this Committee are final.

A pardon to attend a special event during a suspension such as graduation or a wedding may be applied for in writing to the Recreation Committee. Once the written proposal has been submitted a meeting involving the Recreation Committee, the suspended individual and their parent or guardian, if under the age of majority, will result. The pardon will be at the discretion of the Recreation Committee.

An appeal may be made no sooner than 30 days after the suspension of the second offence. At which time the individual may submit in writing their appeal for reinstatement to the facilities. A meeting with the Recreation Committee, the suspended individual and their parent or guardian, if under the age of majority, will outline all provisions of the reinstatement. The decision of the appeal will be at the discretion of the Director. If after being reinstated the individual is involved in another incident during the remainder of their probation they will be suspended for 365 days with no chance of appeal.

An individual will resume good standing after 365 days of good behavior and no incidents.

Where vandalism has been perpetrated, not only will the individual be subject to the above suspension, but will reimburse the Town of Rosetown for any damages incurred for the total cost of repairs plus \$100.00 for administration fees.

The Town of Rosetown authorizes the Rosetown R.C.M.P. detachment full jurisdiction over all municipal facilities within the Town of Rosetown. The R.C.M.P. have the right to remove individuals not complying with this policy and implement any suspensions.