

Utilization of Available Capacity

The following analysis provides an evaluation of current usage patterns compared to established capacity estimates, helping to determine whether sports fields are being overused, underused, or utilized efficiently. Information is from City of Vernon Recreation Services.

Table 1: Field Capacity Assumptions

Field Type	Annual Capacity (hrs)	Assumption
Artificial Turf	2,024	Unlike natural surface fields, capacity for artificial turf is not limited by field condition. The total annual capacity was calculated by estimating the annual weeks that play could occur on the field (46 weeks) by the number of prime hours available each week (44 hours). *Prime time hours are 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM on weekdays and 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM on weekends.
Class A	600	600 hours of capacity represents an industry standard for the intensity of use a natural surface field can typically accommodate before field surface deterioration and damage is likely.
Class B	400	Considered to support around 400 hours of use, reflecting a moderate maintenance schedule and potentially fewer amenities compared to Class A fields.
Class C	200	Located on school district sites, which limits their availability for public bookings. Due to shared use with school programs, these fields are assumed to have a maximum capacity of 200 hours to account for limited public access

Note: Several factors can impact the assumed annual capacity of each field class, either increasing or decreasing it. While the capacity estimates are based on industry standards, real-world capacity may vary depending on these elements and site-specific conditions (e.g. sand based field, the quality of drainage systems, maintenance frequency and intensity, and the availability of lighting for extended play hours).

Table 2: 2023 Sports Field User Groups

Jurisdiction	Rectangle Fields		Ball Diamond	
	# of User Groups	Total Hours Booked	# of User Groups	Total Hours Booked
City of Vernon	22	2,446	15	3,612
Neighbouring	20	1,099	2	468
School District	8	1,038	0	0
Total		4,583		4,080

Table 3: 2023 User Group Age Demographics

User Group	Rectangular Fields	Ball Diamonds
Youth Bookings	3,993	1,953
Adult Bookings	563	1,981
Misc Bookings	27	146
Total	4,583	4,080

Table 4: 2023 Utilization of Available Capacity

Utilization	Rectangular Fields	Ball Diamonds
City of Vernon		
Number of Fields	11	19
Hours Available	5,800	10,000
% Booked	42%	36%
Neighbouring Communities		
Number of Fields	11	6
Hours Available	6,024	2,400
% Booked	18%	20%
School District		
Number of Fields	37	15
Hours Available	7,400	3,000
% Booked	14%	0%