

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB453

(Question Serial No. 6096)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Department is responsible for developing and managing leisure facilities such as sports centres, parks and gardens, swimming pools, gazetted beaches and holiday camps. Please provide the following information:

- a. The loans of outdoor pitches/playgrounds in various districts by the Department over the past 3 years. Please provide information in the table below by the 18 districts in the territory:

Name of venue	Name of applying organisation	Name of event	Start date of loan	End date of loan	Whether rentals were charged

- b. How does the Department monitor the loans of outdoor pitches/playgrounds in various districts? Are there any restrictions on loaning period/hours of outdoor pitches/playgrounds at various venues?
- c. How can organisations apply for loans of outdoor pitches/playgrounds in various districts?
- d. Given that some outdoor pitches/playgrounds are relatively close to residential areas, does the Department have any plan to reduce the loans of these outdoor pitches/playgrounds? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 114)

Reply:

- a. & b. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) currently manages over 230 outdoor hard surfaced pitches, which are available for booking for sports and recreation use by organisations and individual users free of charge. To balance the needs of different users, no more than one-third of the total peak-hour sessions available in the month may be allowed for block bookings by organisations (excluding the Home Affairs Bureau and LCSD). Sessions not taken up by block bookings are opened for booking by individual users. The remaining sessions after block and individual bookings are opened for use by walk-in users. In addition, these venues are also available for non-designated uses such as cultural events, charitable activities and festive celebrations, etc. Applications for non-designated uses are considered on a case-by-case basis. LCSD does not keep the list of bookings made by organisations.
- c. Applications for block booking are processed by the respective venue management according to the priority of applicant stipulated in the established procedures. If more than one application for the same session from applicants of the same booking priority are received, the allocation will be determined by ballot. Details can be found at LCSD website –
- <http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/facilities/facilitiesbooking/procedure/nonfeeorganisation.html>
- d. LCSD encourages the public to participate in sports and recreation activities. The opening hours of most outdoor pitches are from 7am to 11pm daily. To avoid causing nuisance, floodlight is not available at the venues concerned during non-opening hours. All hirers must ensure that users of the facilities observe the General Conditions of Use of LCSD Non-Fee Charging Facilities and the noise level of their activities should be kept at a reasonably low level so as to avoid causing any unnecessary disturbance to residents in the neighbourhood. The venue staff may refuse any person from using the facility if he/she is in breach of the Conditions of Use of that facility.

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