



# 2008 Annual Report

## General Overview

The Recreation Department went through another reorganization process in 2008. We identified the employees and their strengths along with the programs we offered and their strengths or weaknesses.

## 2008 Recreation Full Time Staff:

Lu Draper, Superintendent recreation/community and facilities  
 Pat Wright, Recreation Administrative Supervisor  
 Mike Gallaher, Facility Operation Manager  
 Kristine Greer, Inventory & Registration Controller  
 Cody Wright, Ice and Maintenance Technician

## 2008 Recreation Part Time Staff:

Dee Yoxtheimer, Clerk

## 2008 Seasonal Staff:

Nicole Flugga, Marketing and Special Events  
 Jay Simko, Programs  
 Jeremy Horne, Asst. Facility Supervisor  
 Jay A. Simko, Concessions Supervisor

## Summer Day Camp:

130 students attended the 8-week session of Camp Hi-Ho O-H-I-O at Riverside Park. Bus Transportation (Findlay City School bus) to and from camp was scheduled at only 2 stops in 2008, the stops were determined per capita and the riders paid an additional \$25 fee for the season. The attendees enjoyed the “theme” weeks and field trips, especially the grand finale trip to a Toledo Mud Hens game.

## 2008 Seasonal Employees:

Qty.	Position	\$ Average Pay/Each	Day Camp	Year End Actual
2	Playground Director	\$5,230	<b>2008 Revenue</b>	\$8,720
1	Playground Activities Director	\$3,433	<b>2008 Expense</b>	\$7,002
12	Playground Supervisor II	\$1,886		

**Riverside Pool and Concessions:**

The season began on Memorial Day Weekend and opened every weekend until school was out in June, then operated 7 days a week through mid-August when the school year was about to begin. Despite a rough start to the season due to the 2007 August flood, we recovered with just a few minor interruptions to daily operations. Pumps/filters went down and the pool was closed approximately 4 days, also many nights were spent watching over and backwashing the pool after the numerous thunderstorms we experienced in 2008. The season was a short season (8 weeks) due to Findlay City and Hancock County school calendars.

New in 2008 at the pool/park, we hosted a couple special events;

- Time Warner Pool Patrol
- Time Warner Dive in – Drive in Theatre
- Time Warner Starlight theatre at the Band Shell
- Safety Day in cooperation with many City entities and Day Camp
- City wide Swim Meet

Annual Events at the Pool continued:

- Red Cross Swim Lesson
- Findlay Area Swim Team – Flag City Swim Meet

In 2008 City employees were charged a fee for season passes and 1 day admissions. The cost was 50% of the normal rate. The use of admission bracelets at the pool was well-received and a useful tool for monitoring admissions.

Police security at the pool proved to be a much needed and welcomed addition to the recreations daily operations. Loitering and horseplay were kept to minimum, with our zero tolerance policy in place.

The recreation department took over total operations of the pool in 2008. The Parks Department prepared the pool for opening and assisted in closing the pool in the fall.

Renovations to the Bathhouse continued with the entire bathhouse floor now with non-slip rubber flooring. Office renovations, a first aid room and an employee lounge were also part of the renovations for 2008. The employee restrooms are now usable and the area is no longer used as storage. The basement has been cleaned and a storage shed was donated to Findlay Area Swim Team for their storage.

A safety – evacuation plan was implemented for Riverside Pool and Park.

**2008 Seasonal Employees:**

<b>Qty.</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Average Pay/ Per Season</b>		<b>2008 Riverside Pool</b>	<b>Actual</b>
1	Pool Manager	\$8,311 each		<b>Revenue</b>	\$83,543
3	Head Life Guard	\$2,377 each		<b>Expense</b>	\$168,163
20	Life Guard	\$1,650 each		<b>General Fund Subsidy</b>	\$85,000
11	Frontline Staff (Admissions & Concessions)	\$784 each			

**PROGRAMS, SERVICES, AND FACILITIES**

**Department Programs** directly administered by the Recreation Department

**Adult Slow Pitch Softball:** After reviewing the Adult softball program from previous years, we audited the program and made some much needed changes, which proved to be more beneficial to the program and to the Recreation Department. Rawson Park an adult lighted softball field was under construction, so the teams had to be shuffled to the Marathon Diamonds – National Lime and Stone Field. The outfield fence and neighboring yards were a target for the big sluggers, so a permanent netting was erected to encourage a “good neighbor” atmosphere.

- Tri County Umpire Association – We contracted for umpire services with the Association versus Independent Contracts with the individual umpires. We agreed upon new rates under this contract:

Men Softball	2 umpires	1 scorekeeper	\$ 44 per game
Women Softball	2 umpires	1 scorekeeper	\$ 44 per game
Co-Ed Softball	1 umpire	N/A	\$ 23 per game

- Adult Softball Fees were also adjusted in 2008, along with adding a season ending tournament to determine the City Champions in each division. The new fee structure and tournament play was a much different season then in the past. The woman’s division chose not to have a City Tournament and play a few less games. As a result, their fees were pro rated.

**2008 Summer Adult Softball Fee Structure and Teams**

Division	# Of Teams	Team Fees		2008 Revenue	2008 Expense
Men’s B	10	\$600		\$6,000.00	\$4,207
Men’s C	12	\$600		\$7,200.00	\$5,048
Men’s D	13	\$600		\$7,800.00	\$5,469
Men’s D-2	8	\$600		\$4,800.00	\$3,365
Co-Ed A	12	\$450		\$5,400.00	\$2,992
Co-Ed B	13	\$450		\$5,850.00	\$3,241
Co-Ed C	16	\$450		\$7,200.00	\$3,988
Women	8	\$585		\$4,680.00	\$3,805
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>			<b>\$48,930.00</b>	<b>\$32,115</b>

- Fall of 2008 we introduced a pilot Adult Fall Softball Season The concept was well received, with limited advertising and a short frame of time for registration. The fall session was officiated with 1 umpire only (under the Tri-County Umpire Association Agreement) for a total cost of \$23 per game. The program will continue in 2009.

**2008 Fall Adult Softball Fee Structure and Teams**

Division	# Of Teams	Team Fees		2008 Revenue	2008 Expense
Men’s	9	\$300		\$2,700	\$822
Co-Ed	5	\$300		\$1,500	\$592
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>			<b>\$4,200</b>	<b>\$1,414</b>

- **Tennis Lessons at Riverside Park** – 18 community youth participated in tennis lesson in 2008, the fee for the lessons are set at \$50 per person, City of Findlay employees pay \$25 per person for the lessons. Total revenue of tennis lessons in 2008 was \$820
- **Shuffle Board League** - Shuffleboard continued throughout the spring, summer and fall months at the shuffleboard courts at Riverside Park. During inclement weather and/or the winter months – portable shuffleboard courts were purchased by the Recreation Department for play at the CUBE on Tuesday mornings. This Senior Citizen program is a service to our community and does not have a fee structure.
- **Punt, Pass and Kick** – Participation: 49 boys and 3 girls for a total of 52 participants, this youth program is a service to our community and does not have a fee structure.
- **“Eggstravaganza”** – The annual Easter egg hunt, which is co-sponsored by the Optimist Club, had a “new” concept in 2008. The 285 attendees were treated to snacks, magic shows, craft, cookie decorating, carnival games, a visit and photo with the Easter Bunny; everyone was a winner and went home with goodie bags of Easter eggs, filled with candy and toys! The weather turned out to be extremely cold and snowy so the new venue inside the CUBE was very welcoming. The event was free to the public and is considered a service to the Community. Optimist financial contribution of \$300 helps offset the cost of the event.
- **Skate with Santa Claus** – The second annual holiday event at the Huntington Bank Arena at the CUBE, was attended by 39 youth and a nominal fee of \$7 was charged to the attendees, which helped offset some of the expenses. The attendees were treated to a light lunch, games, skate rental and an hour of skating time and photo’s with Santa Claus.
- **First Night Out Celebration** – The CUBE was the location of ringing in the New Year, including a balloon drop in the lobby and a Giant Size lighted CUBE in the Huntington Bank Arena at midnight. The New Years Eve celebration began at 7pm and ended at 12:30am. The fee to attend this event was \$10 per person, which included, skating, skate rental, Music by a DJ, games, and a light snack, the event was attended by 361 paid admissions.
- **Birthday Parties at the CUBE** – In 2008, 56 birthday party packages were sold at the CUBE, which included private party room, pizza, soda, skate rental and ice skating generating revenue of \$1676.
- **Meeting Room Rentals** - 29 rooms were rented by community groups at the CUBE in 2008, generating \$2,751 revenue. Recreation Partners also use the meeting rooms for monthly meetings and special events free of charge as a service to our partners. In 2009 we will be requesting \$75 annually for an administrative fee which will include, usage of rental rooms and processing of field permits.
- **Shelter House Rentals** – The recreation department was charged with the duties of securing shelter house reservations and fee collections in 2008. The parks department completed a capital project at Shelter House #15, which included new overhead door, flooring, ceiling, lighting, ceiling fans, counter top and electrical needs, the shelter rental was \$50 before July1, 2008 \$75 after July 1. The 16 other Riverside Shelter Houses are rented for \$35. Total number of rentals = 281 totaling \$9940.

**The CUBE:**

A new partner was added to the CUBE – **Findlay Grrrowl** – a Junior A Hockey Team. The Mayor of the City of Findlay entered into a 3-year agreement with the organization to practice and skate their home schedule in Huntington Bank Arena at the CUBE. The addition of the Grrrowl has brought a new level of hockey to Findlay, Ohio.

Additionally negotiations with **Findlay High School Hockey** program took place in 2008. Findlay High School hockey does not pay for rental of ice for practices or games or locker room facilities, due to an agreement with the County Commissioners when they owned HRC. In 2008 it was agreed upon that the Findlay Recreation Department would receive 4% of the gate at home games in 2008, with an opportunity to re-negotiate the agreement in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2009.

**Public Skating** at the CUBE has taken a leap in attendance at both evening and afternoon sessions. Average attendance during the evening sessions is 330 and the afternoon sessions 150. Admission prices were reviewed by the recreation staff and adjusted in accordance with the trends.

**Evening Skate Sessions** Admission rates in 2007 were \$4.50 with a monthly DJ night admission of \$5 – Admission in 2008 for evening skate is \$5, music is always playing. The demographics for evening skates are mainly junior high and high school teenagers. Skate Rental remained the same at \$2.

**Afternoon Skate Sessions** the demographics consist of younger youths and family skaters. 2007 fee was \$4.50 admission and \$2 skate rental, in 2008 the fee structure was \$4 admission and \$1skate rental fee.

**Wee Skate Learn to Skate** sessions were re-organized in 2008 to be consistent with the Ice Skating Institute, which we joined in 2008. The new “wee skate”, learn to skate program now follows the ISI teaching and testing guidelines.

**Off Season Ice** brought in a few new dry floor events to compliment our anchor events of ***WFIN/WKXA Leisure Living Home Show*** and ***Hancock Wood Electric Co-Op Annual Meeting***. The events include a 3-year agreement with the ***Hancock Handlebars*** – Hancock 100 event, for registration and an ice cream social for the bicyclists.

For the extreme sports lover, ***Phantom Sports Mixed Martial Arts*** put on a show during the summer. The ***Noon Rotary Club***, once again held their annual event at the CUBE, VIVA Las Vegas theme. The event was well attended by the Business Community.

**Ice Fee Schedule**

Classification	Prime Hours M-F 4p-10p, Sat-Su 8a-10p Holidays & Weekends	Non – Prime Hours (M-F 10p-12a)
Ice Partners (300 plus rental hrs.)	\$180	\$160
Ice User Groups (225-299h)	\$200	\$180
Ice Renters (Less than 225)	\$220	\$200
Findlay Growl (per contract)	\$100 per hour practice ice	\$200 per hour game ice
User Groups Public Skate	10 or more \$ 5.00	
<b>Ice Partner</b>	<b># of Contracted Hours</b>	<b>Total Revenue</b>
Findlay Amateur Hockey Assoc.	144.25	\$28,850

Silver Blades Figure Skating Club	321		\$57,780
Findlay Men's Hockey League	339		\$57,249
Findlay Growl Junior A Hockey	210		\$33,000
Perrysburg High School	18		\$3,600
Other *	16		\$4,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1048.25 hours</b>		<b>\$184,479</b>

\*Other includes – Just Say No – City and County Schools – Special Groups

<b>Special Event Vendors</b>	<b>Date of Event</b>		<b>2008 Rental Revenue</b>
WFIN/WKXA Leisure Living Show	Mar 28-30		\$6,000
Hancock Handlebars	Sep 6-7		\$1,250
Hancock Wood Electric Annual Meeting	Sep 13		\$2,238
Phantom Mixed Martial Arts	Aug 30		\$2,500
Gus Macker 3 on 3 Basketball	July 26-27		\$3,550
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$15,538.</b>

**The Marathon Diamonds:** The Grand opening of the Marathon Diamonds was delayed until late June. All five-fields were deemed playable, just in time for Young Miss Softball and Findlay Youth Baseball to hold their City-Wide tournaments at the new baseball/softball, lighted five-plex. Limited ball playing on the fields after the youth tournaments was the decision made in unison by the City Administration, the Recreation Department and the Engineers office, to allow the outfield grass to get stronger and more established. Some adult softball games, a few high school age games, and the University of Findlay's fall baseball and softball games rounded out the season at Marathon Diamonds.

Findlay Youth baseball in cooperation of Time Warner Cable built a batting cage on sight at the Marathon Diamonds. The University of Findlay were building benches, bat racks and helmet storage shelves in each of the 10 dugouts along with providing carpet for the batting cages, as a trade for using the complex for Men's baseball and Woman's softball.

The recreation department dedicated much of 2008, to fill tournament schedules at Marathon Diamonds for the spring, summer and fall of 2009.

**Findlay City Council Ad-Hoc Committee:**

Findlay's City Council formed an Ad-Hoc Committee in 2008, chaired by councilmen Bill Shadel to explore the recreation departments, partners and their short and long-term facility needs. The committee was established by the request of Superintendent Lu Draper, as a result of a pending contract with Hancock Soccer Association in cooperation with the Findlay Noon Rotary Club to build two-premier lighted soccer fields at Emory Adams- west.

The ad-hoc committee, interviewing recreation partner's board members, City of Findlay School officials and special event sponsors in the City to ensure, any changes to Emory Adams Park would not conflict with their programs, completed the 8-week study. It was agreed upon, that the Mayor should enter a contract with Hancock Soccer Association for the 2-premier lighted soccer fields at the southern most point of Emory Adams Park - West. Other changes to Emory Adams Park will not proceed until (4) replacement softball fields are established at another site in Findlay.

The Recreation Department concluded the spring, summer and fall seasons with a "Fall Sports Festival" held at Flag City Sports Complex. The event featured the annual Punt, pass & kick competition, along with exhibition youth baseball/softball games at the Marathon Diamonds and introductions to new

programs planned for 2009 including “Pickleball” and dodgeball. Registration forms were available at the festival.

**Volunteer Organizations:** These groups operate independently under the direction of private volunteer boards. The Recreation Department issues facility permits, use of meeting rooms, offers coaches’ training, parent education, and provides scheduling assistance if requested. The Recreation Office serves as a convenient central location for registration forms and phone inquiries for all volunteer organizations listed.

**Volunteer Organizations**

Hancock Soccer Association	Young Miss Softball	Adult Flag Football
Findlay Youth Baseball	Girls’ Fast-Pitch Softball	City Church Softball League
Findlay Area Swim Team	Northwest Ohio Football League	Co-Ed Volleyball
Silver Blades Figure Skating Club	Findlay Amateur Hockey Association	Women’s Volleyball
Findlay Men’s Hockey League	Gliding Stars	

**Other Recreation/Community Partners**

Hancock Park District	Fifth Third Bank	Time Warner Cablevision	The University of Findlay Men’s Baseball
Findlay Noon Rotary Club	WFIN/WKXA	Ice Skating Institute	The University of Findlay Soccer Camp
American Red Cross – Findlay Division	Craig and Mary Lou Anderson	Huntington Bank	The University of Findlay Women’s Softball
Hancock County Convention & Visitors Bureau	Marathon Oil Company	Gus Macker Basketball	Findlay City Schools
Findlay Optimist Club	Rettig Brothers Enterprise	Cincinnati Reds Baseball Camp	Ohio High School Athletic Association
Hancock Youth and Adult Leadership Program	National Lime & Stone Company	Phantom Sports Mixed Martial Arts	Findlay Growl Junior Hockey Team
The Arts Partnership of Hancock County	Huntington Bank		Y.M.C.A

The Recreation Department had a very busy year, with adding 2 new facilities to manage (Riverside Pool and the Marathon Diamonds), while maintaining a full schedule of programs and special events.

Respectively submitted:  
 Lu Draper  
 Recreation, Facility & Community Superintendent