
6-21-05

PETITION

The undersigned petition the city of Alexandria to enforce the Special Use Permits governing Bishop Ireton, in particular to restrain Bishop Ireton—a private school—from converting its athletic field into a public sports complex.

The aggressive promotion by Bishop Ireton of its athletic field for use during non-school hours by individuals not enrolled in its school and/or not competing against one of its teams has caused excessive noise, congestion, trash and public urination to the great and unnecessary distress of the residential community within which the school resides.

This new pattern of Bishop Ireton making available its private school athletic field to non-students for public, commercial purposes began last summer and has continued without meaningful restraint to the present.

Since the school was carved out of an existing community, all the homes of which were in place before the school was constructed, this new use pattern has not gone unnoticed.

The use by non-students is contrary to the 38-year Bishop Ireton athletic field use pattern to which the community has adapted and come to expect; that is, an athletic field dedicated solely to Bishop Ireton teams whether practicing during the school week or playing an opponent on an occasional Saturday afternoon.

Bishop Ireton, by enticing and by otherwise allowing use by non-students of its athletic field without approval by the city or even a courtesy forewarning, consultation or tacit approval by all the homes bordering or facing the athletic field, has unilaterally broken a 38-year use precedent.

Respectfully, the undersigned petition to have the city enforce the Bishop Ireton Special Use Permits and to require it to reinstate its 38-year athletic field use precedent so the residents of the community, especially of the homes bordering the athletic field, can again enjoy the serenity of their homes and yards when Bishop Ireton is not in session.

June 10, 2005

USE PROTOCOL
Bishop Ireton Athletic Field

1. **SCHOOL USE NOT PUBLIC USE:** The BI field is only to be used for athletic events when at least one team on the field is a BI team.
2. **CANCEL:** The Summer lacrosse leagues, previously scheduled to take place on the BI field on June 20-23; June 26; June 27-30; July 10; July 11-14; July 18-21; July 24 and July 31 cannot occur at BI. They will not be re-scheduled and will not be held at BI.
3. **EXCEPTION:** The kid's summer camps scheduled for June 27-July 1 and July 18-22 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. and the one scheduled July 11-14 from 8 a.m. until Noon will be allowed this Summer, under a one time exception, and will not again be held on the BI athletic field.
4. **BI TEAMS:** Acceptable are the two summer camps at which BI claims only BI students participate, which are the camps scheduled June 15-22 and July 6-15 from 8 a.m. until Noon and the July 25-29 camp from 9 a.m. until Noon. There cannot be activity however on June 19, which is a Sunday.
5. **NEVER EVER ON SUNDAY:** BI will not have any activities on its athletic field on Sundays.
6. **USE:** Both during the school year and during Summer time, the schedule for the athletic field will be during business hours, 8 - 5, but on Saturdays the hours will be 10 - 5. This schedule provides nine hours of field time each weekday and seven hours on Saturday, for a total of fifty-two (52) hours of field use allowable each week.
7. **HOLIDAYS:** The field will not be used on holidays.
8. **SOUND:** The Public Address system will be used for only 15 minutes during only varsity team sports events and only at a volume that recognizes that the sports event is occurring within a community of homes whose residents expect and deserve peace and quiet.

June 20, 2005
Erik Barnett
Jim Fishback
Jim Roberts