

2017 Annual Report



The System

- 2,715 Acres of parkland
- 53 Soccer fields
- 46 Parks
- 40 Baseball fields
- 35 Miles of natural trail
- 27 Miles of paved trail
- 24 Softball fields
- 13 Football fields
- 3 Splash pads
- 3 Golf courses
- 2 Disc golf courses
- 2 Beaches
- 2 Dog parks

Our Mission

We create places to Live, Laugh and Play.

- Live – We help create a great community by providing great parks.
- Laugh – We provide programs and places for people to enjoy life.
- Play – We provide opportunities to play and improve health.

Our Vision

To have everyone connected to a great park

Our Core Values

- Safety
- Innovation
- Stewardship
- Teamwork
- Partnerships
- Resourcefulness
- Wellness
- Creating a sense of place
- Quality

Partners

Government Partners

- Knox County Schools
- Knox County Sheriff's Office
- State of Tennessee
- Tennessee Valley Authority
- City of Knoxville
- Town of Farragut
- University of Tennessee

Non-Profit Partners

- First Tee of Knoxville
- First Tee of Williams Creek
- Concord Yacht Club
- Ijams Nature Center
- Legacy Parks Foundation
- Foothills Land Conservancy
- Seven Islands Foundation
- Appalachian Mountain Bike Club
- Knox County Remote Control Society

Business Partners

- Riversports Outfitters
- Concord Marina
- PetSafe
- U.S. Cellular

Sports/Recreation Partners

- Knoxville Track Club
- Knox Area Disk Golf League
- Knox Fastpitch Softball
- FC Alliance
- Smoky Mountain Middle School Soccer
- AYSO 275
- AYSO 337
- AYSO 1390
- Smoky Mountain Athletic Club
- Bearden Youth Athletics
- Christian Youth Athletics
- Carter Youth Athletics

Sports/Recreation Partners (continued)

- Catholic Youth
- Cedar Bluff Farragut Optimist Club
- Center City Youth Sports Program
- Central Football
- Oak Ridge Football
- Fulton Falcons Football
- Grace Football
- Gibbs Youth Athletics
- Halls Recreation
- Hardin Valley Football
- Karns Ruritan Club
- Northwest Football
- Pilot Football
- Powell Recreation
- EKAA
- New Breed Football
- FBA
- Roadrunners Football
- Seymour Optimists
- South Knox Youths Sports
- West Youth Sports



Three Ridges Golf Course

Letter from the Director



Doug Bataille

Senior Director,
Knox County Parks
and Recreation

Knox County Parks and Recreation is pleased to present the 2017 Annual Report. This report provides a high-level overview of participation and many of the department's significant accomplishments during the past year.

Our mission is to create places and opportunities to live, laugh and play. Parks and Recreation provides numerous benefits including improved health, increased property values, tourism, attracting and growing businesses, and a sense of community for our residents.

On behalf of the 60 full-time employees, more than 100 seasonal workers, and almost 3,000 youth coaches and volunteers, we are all proud to present the 2017 report to the community. Our team is fortunate to receive support from our Mayor, County Commission, the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and, of course, the residents of Knox County. We look forward to 2018 and the opportunity to serve each and every one at the highest level possible.

Sincerely,

Doug Bataille

Senior Director, Knox County Parks and Recreation

Park Board Members

Parks Citizen Advisory Board Members

Chair Jason Altman
Vice Chair Sue Stuhl
Parks & Greenway Committee Chair Eugene Fitzhugh
Program & Policy Committee Chair Tim Seaton

Scott Bacon
Liliana Burbano
Darren Cardwell
Dawn Coe
Chad Culver
Bob Dixon
Brian E. Hann
David Long
Amber Parker
Marion Quinn
Joe Walsh

Knox County Commission Representative

Bob Thomas

Ex-Officio Members

Steve Clabaugh
Carol Evans
Dr. Steven Waller
Alex Zendal

Knox County Mayor

Tim Burchett

Administrative Staff

Senior Director Doug Bataille
Deputy Director Parks Chuck James
Deputy Director Recreation Jay Smelser
Park Maintenance Superintendent Brad Jones
Concord Park Maintenance Superintendent Randy Thompson
Parks Community Relations Manager Mike Donila
Parks Planning & Development Manager Shauna Godlevsky
Landscape Architect Jessica Taylor
Superintendent of Parks & Trails Joe Inman
Executive Assistant Rob Blake
Sports Operations Manager Jennifer Gentry
Tournament Superintendent Andy Bengé
Office Manager Sandra Burton
Recreation Coordinator Deana Dillon
Administrative Assistant Elaine Hudgens

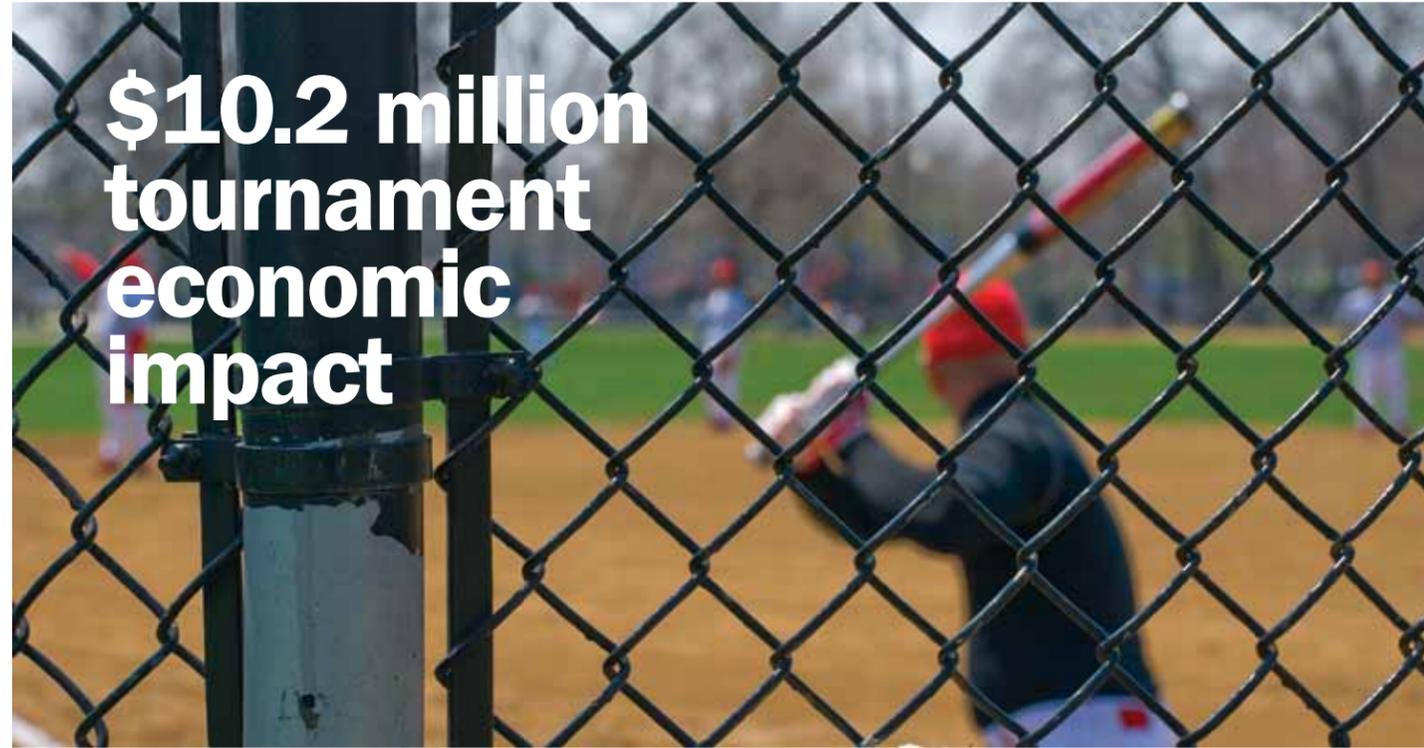
Three Ridges Golf Board

Roy Kruse	Tony Norman	Billy Tindell
Curtis Pique	Doug Bataille	Penny Kleinschmidt
Mark Brown	Chuck Severance	Howard Russell
Dick Moran	Charles Busler	Michele Carringer
Perry Benshoof	Sam Bounds	Jim Jennings
David Watson	Steve Clabough	Rich Wilson



1 out of every 3 residents is a regular park user

\$10.2 million
tournament
economic
impact



80,000 parents and spectators



3,000
volunteers



42,000 organized
sports participants



38,000
recreation
participants



2.5 million
visits to parks

Organized Sports

- Youth Football
- Adult Flag Football
- Youth Softball
- Adult Softball
- Cheerleading
- Youth Soccer
- Adult Soccer
- Lacrosse
- Kickball
- Disc Golf
- Picnicking
- RC Planes

Recreation

- Boating
- Fishing
- Tennis
- Pickle ball
- Volleyball
- Mountain Biking
- Dog Parks
- Walking
- Running
- Splash Pads
- Swimming
- Golf
- Skateboarding



Concord Park, kayak/canoe launch

2017 Completed Projects

- Sportspark, regrading
- Nicholas Ball Park, trail repairs
- John Tarleton Park, scoreboards and concessions building repair and repaint
- U.S. Cellular Soccer Complex, steps
- Powell Levi Park, dugout repair
- Halls Community Park, steps and drainage
- House Mountain, trail repairs
- Concord Park, new trail
- Plumb Creek Park, grading
- New Harvest Park, shed and playground repair
- East Knox Park, concessions repairs, new fence and new light poles
- Gibbs Ruritan Park, new light poles



The Cove

Concord storm clean-up



Clayton Park memorial swing



Ball Camp Park



Dock, fencing and parking lot at Mead's Quarry



Civil War redan



Plumb Creek Park



New slope and fence repairs, scoreboards and lights at Bower Field



Plumb Creek Park

2018 Ongoing Projects

- Beaver Creek Greenway corridor study
- Plumb Creek Park
- BMX Track/South-Doyle Middle School fields
- I.C. King Park addition and entrance
- McBee Ferry Park
- Updated public maps for county and city parks/trails
- Mead's Quarry parking lot
- East Knox Park light poles
- Annual background checks
- Bower Field scoreboards
- Concord Park lighting
- Concord Park trails



BMX Track/South-Doyle Middle School fields



Plumb Creek Park



From left: Jennifer Gentry, Joe Braden, Jimmy Cooper, Ryan Reuss, and Andy Bengé

Knox County Sportspark Receives State Recognition

The World Sports League has named Knox County's Sportspark as its "Complex of the Year for Tennessee."

The park, nominated by the organization's state board of directors, was picked over roughly 40 complexes, including finalists including the Summit in Chattanooga, and Cane Ridge in Nashville.

The World Sports League (WSL) is a national organization that hosts thousands of adult slow-pitch softball tournaments across 34 states each year.

The Knox County Sportspark, located at 8050 Oak Ridge Highway in Karns, features four baseball/softball fields, one field exclusively for baseball, and three practice football fields. The park also has a playground, a walking trail, concessions, a kayak launch and a pavilion for picnics.

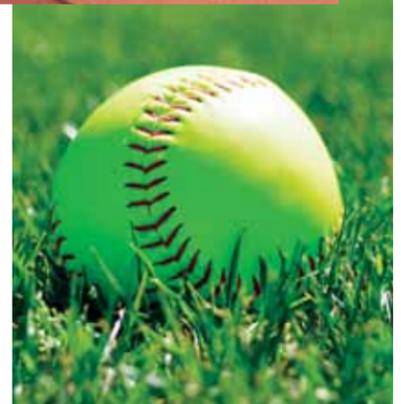
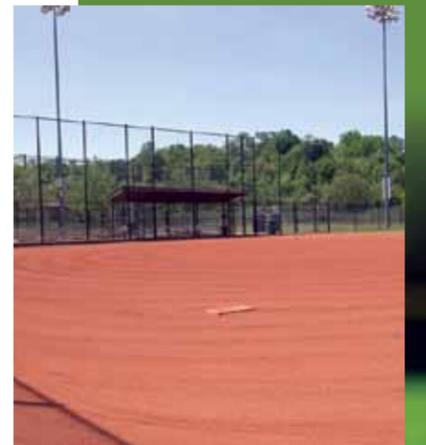
"Each year we recognize a 'complex of the year' whose staff has gone above and beyond, and we've always had a great partnership with Knox County," said Casey McClure, a regional director with WSL. "There were 39 complexes in the state of Tennessee used last year, so it's a big deal, and working with (the Knox County Parks & Recreation Department) is always great."

The Sportspark will now compete against four others – ones in Virginia, Florida, Alabama and Ohio – for national honors.

"It took all of us to get this recognition, so I want to say 'thank you' for everyone doing their part," said Jennifer Gentry, sports operation manager for the Knox County Parks & Recreation Department. "When the team is rowing together, anything is possible."

In Tennessee, the WSL typically hosts about 500 tournaments each year, including six "key dates" in Knox County, which "are pretty much staples in the community," McClure said. "This is a big deal. There's not a lot of slow pitch softball places left in Knoxville. But people know Karns is the place to go to play in nice parks."

The next major tournament is set for early May 2018, when more than 120 teams from across the nation will compete at the Sportspark.





Knox County Parks & Recreation

This report compiled by
Doug Bataille and Mike Donila.

You can contact the
Parks & Recreation
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