

City of Kirkland Parks and Community Services Department League Compliance Statement for Gender Equity Act Compliance Agreement

In 2009, Washington State House of Representative Bill ESSB 5967 (the Gender Equity Bill) was passed. The City of Kirkland Parks Department has a vested interest in ensuring both City programs are operated with this law in practice and organizations receiving permitted field use from the City of Kirkland (for City of Kirkland athletic fields or Lake Washington School District athletic fields) are operating with the same law in practice as well.

As an element of the Field Use application process, all league Field Use Applicants are required to provide a statement of compliance regarding this law.

The Gender Equity Act, House of Representatives ESSB 5967

The Washington Constitution and statutory law prohibit discrimination based on sex. In 1972, Washington voters approved the Equal Rights Amendment to the Washington Constitution. The Equal Rights Amendment provides that "equality of rights and responsibility under the law shall not be abridged on account of sex. "

Cities, towns, counties and districts are prohibited from discriminating against any person on the basis of sex in the operation, conduct, or administration of community athletics programs for youth or adults. District means a metropolitan park district, park and recreation service area, or park and recreation district. A third party, receiving a lease or permit for a community athletics program on a City of Kirkland site or a Lake Washington School District site the City manages allocations of, also may not discriminate against any person on the basis of sex in the operation, conduct, or administration of the program.

______ (organization name) requests use of the following facilities for the following dates and purposes:

Use Date(s) (or Range of Dates)	Type of Activity	Facility(ies) (Parks and Fields or Schools and Fields)

Requirement

To complete the Athletic Field Permitting process, the City of Kirkland Parks and Community Services Department requires league presidents, or an approved representative, attest to the following regarding the Gender Equity Act:

______, a private non-profit sports group, verifies receipt of the attached Gender Equity Act, ESSB 5967 <u>https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Assets/Parks/Parks+PDFs/Parks_Features/Gender+Equity+Agree ment.pdf</u>.

I confirm our league does not discriminate against any person (or group) on the basis of gender in the operation, conduct, or administration of our league's program(s). I confirm our league is operated in a manner that promotes equal opportunities.

Signed:

Print Name and Representative Title:

Representative of League Listed Within

Date:

Note: Access to facilities is not granted until all requirements of the application process are complete and until approved and permitted by the City of Kirkland.

Attachment: Washington State 2009 House of Representatives Bill, ESSB 5967

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5967

61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 21, 2009 YEAS 44 NAYS 3

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 8, 2009 YEAS 67 NAYS 31

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Secretary

Approved

FILED

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is ENGROSSED

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5967 as passed by the Senate and the House

of Representatives on the dates

hereon set forth.

Secretary of State State of Washington

Governor of the State of Washington

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5967

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2009 Regular Session

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By Senate Government Operations & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Kohl-Welles, Fairley, Fraser, McAuliffe, and Kline)

READ FIRST TIME 02/24/09.

AN ACT Relating to prohibiting unfair practices in public community athletics programs by prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex; adding new sections to chapter 49.60 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.21 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.61 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35A.21 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 6 36.01 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 36.68 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 36.69 RCW; and creating a new section.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

9 NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds and declares: On June 23, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law Title IX 10 11 of the Education Amendments of 1972 to the 1964 Civil Rights Act. This 12 landmark legislation provides that: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be 13 14 denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving 15 Federal financial 16 assistance...." Title IX has expanded opportunities for males as well as females in educational programs and activities, including ensuring 17 access to athletic opportunities for girls and women in educational 18 19 institutions and to male and female staff to coaching and athletics

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1 administrative positions in educational institutions. The dramatic 2 increases in participation rates at both the high school and college 3 levels since Title IX was passed show that when doors are opened to 4 women and girls, they will participate.

5 Further, ensuring equality in the state of Washington, the legislature passed an amendment to the state Constitution, ratified by 6 the voters in November 1972, providing "Equality of rights and 7 8 responsibilities under the law shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex." In 1975, Washington continued to be at the forefront 9 of this issue by adopting legislation that established our own 10 statutory version of the federal Title IX law that prohibited 11 12 "inequality in the educational opportunities afforded women and girls 13 at all levels of the public schools in Washington state."

14 opportunities provide innumerable Athletic benefits to participants, including greater academic success, better physical and 15 16 psychological health, responsible social behaviors, and enhanced interpersonal skills. Athletic scholarships make it possible for some 17 18 young people to attend college. The Washington state legislature, 19 recognizing the importance of full participation in athletics, has passed numerous bills directed at achieving equity and eliminating 20 21 discrimination in intercollegiate athletics in the state's institutions 22 of higher education.

23 Despite advances in educational settings and efforts by some local 24 agencies to expand opportunities in community athletics programs, 25 discrimination still exists that limits these opportunities. It is the intent of the legislature to expand and support equal participation in 26 27 athletics programs, and provide all sports programs equal access to 28 facilities administered by cities, towns, counties, metropolitan park 29 districts, park and recreation service areas, or park and recreation 30 districts.

31 Nothing in this act is intended to affect the holding in the 32 Washington state supreme court's ruling in *Darrin v. Gould*, 85 Wn.2d 33 859, 540 P.2d 882 (1975) and its progeny that held it is not acceptable 34 to discriminate in contact sports on the basis of sex.

35 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. (1) No city, town, county, or district may 36 discriminate against any person on the basis of sex in the operation, 37 conduct, or administration of community athletics programs for youth or

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1 adults. A third party receiving a lease or permit from a city, town, 2 county, district, or a school district, for a community athletics 3 program also may not discriminate against any person on the basis of 4 sex in the operation, conduct, or administration of community athletics 5 programs for youth or adults.

6 (2) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this 7 section.

8 (a) "Community athletics program" means any athletic program that 9 is organized for the purposes of training for and engaging in athletic 10 activity and competition and that is in any way operated, conducted, 11 administered, or supported by a city, town, county, district, or school 12 district other than those offered by the school and created solely for 13 the students by the school.

14 (b) "District" means any metropolitan park district, park and 15 recreation service area, or park and recreation district.

16 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 3. (1) By January 1, 2010, each city, town, 17 county, or district operating a community athletics program or issuing 18 permission to a third party for the operation of such program on its 19 facilities shall adopt a policy that specifically prohibits 20 discrimination against any person on the basis of sex in the operation, 21 conduct, or administration of community athletics programs for youth or 22 adults.

23 (2) It is the responsibility of each city, town, county, or 24 district operating a community athletics program or issuing permission to a third party for the operation of such program on its facilities to 25 26 publish and disseminate this policy. At a minimum, the 27 nondiscrimination policy should be included in any publication that includes information about the entity's own athletics programs, or 28 29 about obtaining a permit for operating athletics programs and on the appropriate city, town, county, or district web site. 30

(3) School districts issuing permission to a third party for the operation of a community athletics program on its facilities shall also follow the provisions of this section but may modify and use existing school district policies and procedures to the extent that is possible. Nothing in this section may be construed to require school districts to monitor compliance, investigate complaints, or otherwise enforce school district policies as to third parties using school district facilities.

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1 (4) Every city, town, county, or district covered by this section 2 should also publish the name, office address, and office telephone 3 number of the employee or employees responsible for its efforts to 4 comply with and carry out its responsibilities under this act.

5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 35.21 RCW 6 to read as follows:

7 The antidiscrimination provisions of section 2 of this act apply to 8 community athletics programs and facilities operated, conducted, or 9 administered by a city or town.

10 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 35.61 RCW 11 to read as follows:

12 The antidiscrimination provisions of section 2 of this act apply to 13 community athletics programs and facilities operated, conducted, or 14 administered by a metropolitan park district.

15 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 35A.21 RCW 16 to read as follows:

17 The antidiscrimination provisions of section 2 of this act apply to 18 community athletics programs and facilities operated, conducted, or 19 administered by a code city.

20 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 36.01 RCW 21 to read as follows:

The antidiscrimination provisions of section 2 of this act apply to community athletics programs and facilities operated, conducted, or administered by a county.

25 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 36.68 RCW 26 to read as follows:

27 The antidiscrimination provisions of section 2 of this act apply to 28 community athletics programs and facilities operated, conducted, or 29 administered by a park and recreation service area.

30 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 9. A new section is added to chapter 36.69 RCW 31 to read as follows:

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1 The antidiscrimination provisions of section 2 of this act apply to 2 community athletics programs and facilities operated, conducted, or 3 administered by a park and recreation district.

4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 10. Sections 2 and 3 of this act are each added 5 to chapter 49.60 RCW.

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