

## Sandown Recreation Commission & Parks and Recreation Department 25 Pheasant Run Drive Sandown, NH 03873 603-887-1872

## Recreation Commission Members:

George Blasidell, Chairman 2025

Darren Hudgins, ex officio 2024

Ben Sharp 2024

Heidi Dyer 2024

Christopher Longchamps 2023

The Recreation Commission, in accordance with 'RSA Chapter 35-B: Public Recreation and Parks', oversees the Parks and Recreation Department which maintains town owned recreational facilities and offers recreational activities for all ages. Maintained facilities encompass approximately 20 acres including baseball and softball fields; a public beach; outdoor basketball court; 2 playgrounds and a year-round recreation building that is located on approximately 8 acres and includes a 3-acre multi- purpose playing field and playground.

2023 had a fantastic summer, filled with sports, swimming, and day trips. Campers enjoyed going to Canobie Lake Park, a color run, our 2023 Olympic week, and so much more. We went for 8 weeks for the first time, and had a blast every single day. At the beginning of the school year, we continued our Homeschool club, and started Chair Yoga which ran all year. We started out bi-monthly Tri-Town Trips, which took us everywhere from the mountains all the way to Rhode Island. The Sandown Baseball/Softball Association returned in the Spring to practice, and to play games at the Roy L. Miller fields over the Summer. Timberlane Youth Soccer League also maintained a full schedule of games on the fields of the Edward C Garvey recreation facility nearly every Saturday this spring and fall.

We continued the year with Movie Magic Nights, working with the Sandown Library to bring outdoor movie nights to the community. In early October, in its 23nd year, the annual town wide yard sale took place, with proceeds from registrations benefiting the Rockingham Meals-On-Wheels holiday program that provides items such as warm clothing; blankets; hats; gloves and more to elderly Sandown residents in need. Also in October, over 80 residents enjoyed the annual Senior Dinner held at Zorvino's Vineyard. At the end of the month, Sandown Recreation hosted our second annual Monster Mash Halloween party! 80 families enjoyed face painting, games, painting, a spooky story, and of course our Halloween egg hunt!

In December, we had the honor of hosting Sandown's first ever Festival of Trees. Our community came together and beautifully decorated around 10 trees to be raffled off. Along with special appearances from Santa and the Grinch, we were able to turn a cold rainy Friday into a fantastic Holiday extravaganza!

The number of private group rentals at the facility increased in 2023 when compared to the number of reservations in 2022. Many programming opportunities for all ages were offered throughout the year and efforts will continue in 2024 to meet the needs of the community. Please visit the Recreation calendar on our website for all upcoming events.

In closing, we hope that all residents have noticed the replacement of the sign on Main St, at the junction of Griffin Hill Rd, for the Roy L Miller Fields.

Respectfully submitted, Sandown Recreation Commission