

Sample Safety Checklist – Outdoor Facilities

Schools must develop a procedure for regular inspection of outdoor physical activity facilities with appropriate follow-up. This sample checklist could be used as a guide for schools.

Site name:

Inspection date:

Time:

Inspected by:

Basketball Backstops

- Backboards in good condition
- Rims secure and straight
- Pole anchors stable, in good condition and covered
- Poles corrosion-free

Yes
 No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps:

Basketball Playing Surface

- Asphalt level and free of holes and broken asphalt
- Level playing surface, good drainage
- Free of ruts, trash and animal feces

Yes
 No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps:

Bee Nests

- Area is free of nests

Yes
 No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps:

Benches/Bleachers

- Free of protruding nails, splinters, cracked or rotted wood
- Anchors to ground safely covered

Yes
 No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps:

Goalposts (soccer, football)

- Wooden posts free of rot, cracks and splinters
- Posts free of corrosion
- Posts secure

Yes

No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps:

Jumping Pits and Runways

- Runway level free of holes, ruts, trash and animal feces
- Sand at appropriate level and free of rocks, glass, etc.
- Boards free of rot and splinters
- Provides safe traction

Yes

No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps:

Metal Fencing

- Clips and attachments safely secure
- Fencing tight and secure to frame
- No holes in fence or at ground level
- Anchors to ground stable, in good condition and safely covered
- posts corrosion-free

Yes

No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps:

Potential Outdoor Hazards (for example, trees, exposed roots, posts, streams)

- Hazards identified to all supervisors and participants
- Warning signs and barriers are displayed

Yes

No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps:

Softball Backstop

- Fencing, clips and attachments safely secure
- Fencing tight and secure to frame
- No holes in fence or at ground level
- Anchors to ground stable and safely covered
- Posts corrosion-free

Yes
 No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps:

Softball Playing Surface

- Level ground with good drainage
- Free of holes, ruts, trash and animal feces

Yes
 No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps:

Stairs

- Clear of obstacles
- Treads in good condition
- Railings secure
- Wooden sections free of protruding nails, cracks or splinters

Yes

No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps:

Track

- Provides safe footing

Yes

No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps:

Walking and Playing Surface

- Asphalt areas level and free of holes and broken asphalt
- Grass and dirt areas free of holes and ruts
- Clear of broken glass, cans, rocks, animal feces, etc.
- Free of drainage problems
- Clear of trip hazards (for example, exposed footings, roots or other environmental obstacles)

Yes

No

Follow Up/Action/Next Steps: