



**TOBACCO FREE POLICY- As revised August, 2012**

**WHEREAS**, the Pike County Parks and Recreation Authority (PCPRA) believes that cigarette, cigar, pipe, or any other type of tobacco usage in the proximity of children and adults engaging in or watching indoor or outdoor recreational activities at PCPRA owned or operated facilities is detrimental to their health and can be offensive to those using such facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the PCPRA has a unique opportunity to create and sustain an environment that supports a tobacco free norm through a tobacco free policy, rule enforcement, and adult-peer role modeling on PCPRA owned outdoor recreational facilities and PCPRA owned vehicles; and

**WHEREAS**, the PCPRA believes parents, leaders, and officials involved in recreation are role models for youth and can have a positive effect on the lifestyle choices they make; and

**WHEREAS**, cigarettes, cigars and “dip cups” are often discarded on the ground requiring additional maintenance expenses, diminish the beauty of the PCPRA recreational facilities, and pose a risk to toddlers due to ingestion; and

**WHEREAS**, exposure to the dangers of secondhand smoke poses a health hazard to all; and

**WHEREAS**, the PCPRA determines that the prohibition of tobacco use at the PCPRA recreational facilities serves to protect the health, safety and welfare of the patrons and players we serve;

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to assist employees and visitors of PCPRA with cessation of tobacco use, PCRPA staff will promote the Georgia Tobacco Quit Line, a free service offered by the state, for all employees and visitors who request assistance with quitting tobacco;

**WHEREFORE** PCPRA adopted the following policy during a regularly called meeting by a vote of the required quorum:

No person shall in engage in cigarette, cigar, or pipe smoking or any other tobacco use activity, including smokeless tobacco and e-cigarettes, at or on any PCPRA owned or operated indoor and/or outdoor recreational facilities, including but not limited to the dugouts, restrooms, athletic fields, parks, walking/hiking trails, PCPRA owned vehicles, and spectator and concessions areas 24 hours per day/seven days per week.

**WHEREAS** PCPRA adopted the following rules of enforcement during a regularly called meeting by a vote of the required quorum:

1. Appropriate signs shall be posted giving notice to persons on PCPRA property; and
2. PCPRA staff will be notified of this policy and abide by this policy; and
3. PCPRA staff and/or contractors will make periodic observations of recreational facilities to monitor compliance; and
4. PCPRA staff will keep a log of the names of persons warned; and Persons found to be in violation of this policy will be given a verbal warning for the first three (3) times the person is found to be violating this policy, and a fourth written warning shall be hand delivered or mailed to the person found in violation of this policy; and
5. Any person found to be in violation of this policy after receiving a written warning for their fourth violation will be banned from PCPRA property at the discretion of the Director; and
6. If a person does not immediately cease the tobacco use activity at the time a warning is given, that person may be reasonably removed from PCPRA property; and
7. Any person may make motion at any regularly called PCPRA Board meeting to be allowed back on PCPRA property if such person has been banned for violation of this policy; and decisions to grant motion of persons banned from PCPRA property will be decided by a quorum of the PCPRA Board of Directors.

So adopted and effective this \_\_\_\_ day of August, 2012.

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Chairman – PCPRA

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Vice-Chairman – PCPRA

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