

## **POLICY 500 / COUGAR FIELD REMOVABLE SOCCER GOALS – NEXT STEPS**

On Wednesday evening 6/8/22, the Open Space Committee reviewed the revised proposal for the installation of removeable soccer goals in Cougar Field. The Open Space Committee voted to support the proposed project and recommend it be presented to the Town Council for consideration. David Sansotta, Project Advocate will be presenting his proposal for removeable soccer goals to the Town Council at the Town Council meeting scheduled for 6/21/22 at 7:30pm at the Community Clubhouse. Residents in support of the project and against the project are encouraged to attend to share your support, thoughts and concerns before the Town Council. David will present the proposal for Removable Soccer Goals followed by Q&A and comment.

### **Town Council Meeting**

Tuesday 6/21/22

7:30pm

Community Clubhouse

Please note that in accordance with updated Idaho HOA legislation (House Bill No. 703), Town Council Meetings will now be open for residents to attend. Meetings will be held once a month, in the community clubhouse starting at 7:30pm. Please check the community website for meeting dates and note, they are subject to change. Hidden Springs Sewer Company business will be addressed first and open to both Hidden Springs and Cartwright Ranch. Hidden Springs Town Association business will be addressed second followed by an executive session (if needed) to address, personnel, bid review, contract negotiation, consult with legal counsel, ongoing or potential litigation, individual member violations and/or delinquent assessments. The next meetings are 6/21, 7/19, 8/23 and 9/20.

### **Removable Soccer Goals**

- Removeable soccer goals installed for a to be identified time-frame, i.e., February through October.
- Volunteers would be responsible for annual installation and removal in collaboration with Association staff.
- Users would need to provide nets; nets left would be removed by Association staff when on site and available during working hours.
- Project advocate proposes donating the goals to the community. Future maintenance and/or replacement would become the responsibility of the Association.

The project advocate sorted through the 30-day comment period comments and prepared the following in response:

#### **ATTRACTING PEOPLE FROM OUTSIDE THE COMMUNITY**

Just like the BMX track, baseball diamond, tennis court, volleyball court; the soccer field will not attract people outside the community. I think we should be proud to have nice things in our neighborhood that others wish they had; we shouldn't be afraid of making improvements for the community because someone else might come use our amenities. This hasn't been the case for any other things in the neighborhood and thus will not be an issue for the soccer goals.

#### MULTI USE OF COUGAR FIELD

The soccer goals will not change the multi-use nature of the field, they will just be an added benefit to the community. The goals can also be used for other sports like football field goal practice and lacrosse. Having played all different sports my entire life I can confidently say that the presence of goals will not deter other sports, but will only add to the ability to use the field for everyone's enjoyment.

#### IT IS OK AS IS

The goal posts are a great add for the community, not everyone has all the soccer equipment that I do and can set up a field for their kids or team, this donation I'm doing is to help benefit everyone who has any interest in the game and won't deter any other activities in the field. I agree the field is a great spot already, but adding the goals will only improve an already awesome space for everyone's use.

#### PARKING & TRAFFIC

If parking/traffic is already an issue it has nothing to do with soccer goals. I agree the current lot is too small but any problems that exist obviously aren't from soccer goals, and the goals won't make it any worse. In fact, the goals might help dissuade out of neighborhood bikers from parking there or riding in the field.

#### VISUAL IMPACT

The visual impact is negligible due to all the trees around the field, roadway, and sidewalk in the neighborhood, and no house is within 300ft as per Policy 500. Seeing the goals on the field will be the same as seeing the volleyball net, tennis court, baseball backstop, etc. that are already in the neighborhood and are used and appreciated amenities.

#### DOG USAGE

First and foremost, Cougar Field is not a dog park, dog parks have dirt/gravel/bark that doesn't need to be mowed or that will die from dog waste, not to mention some sort of fencing. The field is mowed grass for sports play, dogs can still use it and won't be bothered if there are goals or not, and the shared use as is hasn't been a problem. Dogs will continue to be welcome at Cougar Field, along with all the other grassy areas in the neighborhood that dogs typically play.

#### TEMPORARY SET UP

My intent is to have the goals up for spring soccer that starts in February, through fall soccer that ends in late October or early November. The goals will be in 3 sections each so they can be easily moved and stored at the barn, and the in-ground sleeves will be capped so they don't fill up with any debris during the winter.

#### COST

My intent is was to pay 100% for the goals and a pure donation to the community, the Open Space Committee suggested the Association pay for it, but if that causes an issue for anyone I'll just pay for 100% of it as I originally intended.

#### TRASH & VANDALISM

The addition of soccer goals will not create any more issues than any other existing community amenity. In fact, this will be an opportunity for the kids of the neighborhood to practice some stewardship of a beloved space and will likely result in most people leaving the space better than they found it (kindergarten rules 101).

## SUMMARY

These soccer goals are intended to be a simple gift for the HS Community, plain and simple. This will help encourage the neighborhood to get outside and play together, it will add to the draw of the neighborhood as being a great community that promotes outdoor activities, and it will compliment all the other existing sports areas in the neighborhood. Based on the received comments there is already a large majority of the community that wants the goals installed, and many of the concerned comments appear to be easily dealt with as is already done with other similar existing neighborhood amenities. The installation of the soccer goals will be an exciting day for the community and I'm ready to get this going as soon as I'm allowed.