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NEWPORT BEACH

PB&R Commission Staff Report

Agenda Item **VI-D**
August 4, 2026

TO: Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission

FROM: Justin Schmillen, Recreation & Senior Services Director
949-644-3160, jschmillen@newportbeachca.gov

PREPARED BY: Omar Ordiano, Recreation Supervisor
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TITLE: Request from Newport Mesa Soccer Club (NMSC) dba Slammers FC- Newport Mesa for Temporary Lights at Bonita Canyon Sports Park (BCSP) Field #5

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Parks, Beaches and Recreation (PB&R) Commission approve the request from Newport Mesa Soccer Club (NMSC) dba Slammers FC- Newport Mesa to use temporary lights at Bonita Canyon Sports Park (BSCP) field #5 from September 21, 2026 to December 13, 2026 and February 1 to April 30, 2027, from dusk to 7:55 p.m.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS:

No City funding required. All costs associated to be the responsibility of Slammers FC- Newport Mesa.

DISCUSSION:

The demand for lighted fields in the City cannot be met with the current supply that is available. There are currently eight lighted fields within the City. Slammers FC- Newport Mesa is proposing to utilize temporary lights at BCSP field #5 (Attachment A). Slammers FC- Newport Mesa has been granted use of temporary lights at BCSP field #5 over the past 18 years and has complied with all conditions. An example and layout of the proposed temporary lights is attached (Attachment B and C).

Slammers FC- Newport Mesa will continue to use the metal halide bulb fixture and LED light fixture. The proposal will place five light standards; three portable lights at the East and West ends of the field and two lights on the south side of the field pointing North, away from the Port Street residences. This configuration will help Slammers FC- Newport Mesa move their practice areas around the field, while maintaining adequate lighting, and reduce wear on the grass.

BACKGROUND:

Newport Mesa Soccer Club dba Slammers FC- Newport Mesa is a 501(c)(3) club soccer organization that serves the youth in the Newport-Mesa area. Club soccer is an exclusive activity in which the players must be selected based on skill level to participate. The organization is in its 22nd year of existence and has over 400 girls and boys in the program ranging in ages of 4-17 years old. Slammers FC- Newport Mesa offers a variety of youth soccer trainings and team activities. The organization has the ability to accommodate the entry level player to the most competitive player.

The Recreation & Senior Services Department allocates athletic field space according to the *Youth Sports Commission (YSC) Member Requirements and Field Allocation & Use Policy*. Field use for practice and games is allocated to YSC-Open and YSC-Club Members, City led adult and youth sport programs and other community requests.

NOTICING:

All residents within 500 feet of Bonita Canyon Sports Park field #5 were noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the PB&R Commission considers the item).

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – Letter from NMSC dated 6/5/2026
Attachment B – Example of the Portable Light
Attachment C – Layout of Lights

ATTACHMENT A



June 5, 2026

Mr. Omar Ordiano
Recreation Supervisor
City of Newport Beach

Dear Mr. Ordiano,

Please accept this letter as a formal request from the Newport Mesa Soccer Club dba Newport Mesa Slammers FC for the use of temporary lighting at **Bonita Canyon Sports Park, Field #5** in the City of Newport Beach.

The Newport Mesa Soccer Club is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that serves children in the Newport-Mesa area. We provide a year-round, athletic, team-orientated experience for the community. Club soccer is often the next step for children who have progressed through AYSO programs and want to continue playing at a highly competitive level through their Jr. and Sr. High School years and possibly for their College.

The conditions we propose for our request are as follows:

- **Light fixtures:** Up to five portable diesel-powered temporary lights, the type of which has been deemed acceptable by the City Recreation Department in prior years. Operated via security key.
- **Location:** Two portable lights at the ends of the field, positioned so as to not shine at the bordering residences. Three lights on the sideline pointing away from the Port Street residences (as has been the layout for several years).
- **Hours of Operation:** Weekdays only. Lights must be turned off by 7:55pm. Earliest start date: Sept. 21, 2026. Latest end date: April 30, 2027. There will be a minimum of 6 weeks of no light usage within this date range (for field renovations). Due to Daylight Savings Time, the average daily light usage is projected to be minimal (1-2 hours/night, and ending by 7:55pm). Historically, due to rain, we aren't able to operate for 1-3 weeks during this part of the year, anyway.
- **Storage & Safety:** During non-operational hours, the lights will be locked and stored in a location acceptable to the Recreation Dept.

This will be our 18th year to use temporary lights at this field. We believe the City and local residents would agree that we have been good stewards of the City's park. We work diligently with the Recreation staff, Park Patrol and our members to ensure the local residents are not inconvenienced. There just aren't enough lighted fields in the city to accommodate our kids. These temporary lights provide a welcome, but less than ideal solution. At this time of the year, it gets dark as early as 4:50pm. Without lights, we would not be able to continue to provide this positive and healthy activity for our local youth. The need for organized and constructive after-school activities for adolescents cannot be over-emphasized. This field is an ideal location for temporary lighting as there are no homes adjacent to the property and a wide greenbelt surrounds the field -- minimizing the impact on the local residents. In addition, we strictly adhere to the approved hours of operation and we work diligently to be good neighbors.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mark Arblaster
President

ATTACHMENT B







ATTACHMENT C

