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| SOUTH DAKOTA  DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS POLICY AND PROCEDURE | | POLICY NUMBER 500-15 | PAGE NUMBER 1 OF 3 |
| | | DISTRIBUTION: Public | |
| | | SUBJECT: Offender Recreation | |
| RELATED STANDARDS: | ACA Standards 5-ACI: 2E-01, 4A-24, 7C-01, 7C-02, 7C-04, 7C-06, | EFFECTIVE DATE: January 15, 2024 | |
| | | SUPERSESSON: 08/30/2021 | |
| DESCRIPTION: Offender Management | REVIEW MONTH: December |  KELLIE WASKO SECRETARY OF CORRECTIONS | |

I. POLICY

It is the policy of the South Dakota Department of Corrections (DOC) to provide all offenders a comprehensive recreational program that includes constructive leisure time activities, outdoor exercise, artistic expression, hobby work, and recreation activities appropriate to the needs of the offenders and facility security designations. It is the intent of the DOC to encourage all offenders, including those with disabilities, to participate in activities that develop physical and mental well-being and constructive use of leisure time.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and responsibilities for a recreational program and in-cell hobby work.

III. DEFINITIONS

None.

IV. PROCEDURES

1. Recreation:

- A. *Both outdoor and covered/enclosed exercise areas for general population offenders are provided in sufficient number to ensure that each offender is offered at least one (1) hour of access daily [ACA 5-ACI-2E-01], with the following exceptions:*
1. The offender's involvement in recreation would pose an immediate threat to the safety and security of the facility.
 2. A medical order exists stating an offender should not participate in recreation activities or should limit activity. The offender may sign a medical refusal if they choose to participate in recreation activities or exercise in manner that conflicts with the medical order.
 3. *Offenders placed in special management housing* or restrictive housing, or other restricted status, *receive a minimum of one (1) hour of exercise per day outside their cells at least five (5) days per week, unless security or safety considerations dictate otherwise [ACA 5-ACI-4A-24].*
 4. When conditions make it unsafe for offenders to be offered recreation activities.

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B. Recreation Employees

1. *The education and experience of the recreation program supervisor are taken into consideration by the appointing authority in determining appointment to the full-time position. These include education, correctional experience, training in recreation and/or leisure activities, and the ability to supervise the program [5-ACI-7C-02].*

C. *Written policy, procedure, and practice provide for a comprehensive recreational program that includes leisure-time activities and outdoor exercise [5-ACI-7C-01].*

1. Recreation and leisure time activities, space, and equipment will be made available to all general population DOC offenders.
2. All programs and activities will be structured to provide offenders an opportunity to participate in a variety of leisure time activities. All structured activities will be supervised by recreation employees.
3. *Activities* may be *initiated by offenders* who may request new recreational activities by submitting their project application to the associate warden. Approved activities *are carried out under staff supervision [5-ACI-7C-06].*
4. Programs and/or activities may be canceled or changed to meet facility needs. The warden or designee, shift supervisors, and recreation program supervisors will be immediately notified, as appropriate.
5. Contact sports, such as boxing, are prohibited at all facilities.
6. The formation of teams for intramural sports will be reviewed for gang affiliation and racial balance by the recreation program supervisor or shift supervisor to avoid possible security threats.

D. Equipment

1. *Facilities and equipment suitable for the planned leisure activities are available in proportion to the offender population and are maintained in good condition [5-ACI-7C-04].* These will be available consistent with the facility security level and offender supervision needs.
2. Space, equipment, and programs will be made available to the offender population on a year-round basis.
3. The recreation program supervisor will inspect and evaluate recreational resources (e.g., equipment, programs, and yard) on a regular basis. Any equipment found to be faulty will be taken out of service until repaired or replaced.
4. To ensure offenders have equal access to recreational opportunities, facilities will provide athletic footwear. Facilities may prohibit offenders from wearing authorized offender footwear or canteen purchased boots on indoor and/or outdoor athletic courts, to include handball and basketball courts. Offenders may elect to wear authorized offender footwear or canteen purchased boots to walk, weight lift, or participate in other recreational activities that do not damage recreational surfaces and/or cause excessive wear of authorized offender footwear or canteen purchased boots.
 - a. Recreation employees will implement procedures for checkout and accountability of recreation equipment.

E. In addition to the procedures set forth within this policy, each institution may establish posted operational rules, guidelines relating to offender recreation, indoor/outdoor activity, and leisure-time activities.

1. Recreation staff are responsible for the procurement, inventory, replacement, and repair of recreational/leisure-time equipment and supplies.
2. Each facility will establish provisions and procedures for adequate staff supervision of offenders participating in recreation, exercise, and leisure-time activities to preserve and ensure the safety and security of the institution, staff, and offenders.

2. Hobby / Craft Work In Cell:

- A. In-cell/room hobby work is an offender privilege and is intended to be a leisure activity.
- B. Offenders will have their in-cell/room hobby work privileges limited or restricted according to their classification or status. This will include limits for offenders assigned to restrictive housing or placed in a residential treatment program.

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- C. Hobby supplies are considered authorized personal property and will transfer with the offender. Excess property that may pose risk to safety and/or sanitation will be sent out at the offender's expense or disposed of. A record will be maintained of the disposition in COMS.
- D. Items not purchased as hobby work supplies are NOT authorized to be utilized in hobby work projects.
- E. Supplies will only be utilized by the offender who purchased them within their own cell or room. Supplies will not be loaned, bartered, given away or used by another offender.
- F. The authorized area for in-cell/room hobby work is in the offender's assigned cell or room, or additional areas approved by the warden or designee. Offenders will not take in-cell/room hobby work outside of authorized areas.
- G. In-cell/room hobby work cannot be mailed to or given to another offender or offender's victim.
- H. Offenders must follow established safety guidelines and procedures when using equipment and tools. Offenders are responsible to use proper personal protective equipment for the tasks they perform, e.g., eye protection for buffing, grinding, and sanding; hand protection, and eye protection when using caustic or reactive chemicals.

V. RESPONSIBILITY

The director of Clinical and Correctional Services and the director of Prisons are responsible for the annual review and revision of this policy.

VI. AUTHORITY

None

VII. HISTORY

January 2024
August 2021
April 2020
April 2019
April 2018
April 2017
April 2016
April 2015
April 2014
May 2013
May 2012
April 2011
April 2010

ATTACHMENTS (*Indicates document opens externally)

1. DOC Policy Implementation / Adjustments