

VI. LIGHTING BY SPECIAL PERMIT ONLY - User's Guide

This section addresses types of lighting that are intrusive or complex in their impacts and need a higher level of scrutiny and/or site sensitivity.

It should be noted that safety could be compromised if lighting conforming to this ordinance is located adjacent to excessively bright and/or glaring lighting.

It is important that the authority set clear and reasonable guidelines for applying for a special lighting use permit, and establish rules and procedures for granting or refusing them. They may differ from existing special use policies, in which case one or the other may be changed to achieve the overall goal of effective lighting without glare, sky glow, or light trespass.

SPORTS FIELD LIGHTING

For athletic and sports fields, the appropriate level of lighting will depend on the Class of Play and Facilities. Class of Play is divided into 4 categories, depending on the number of spectators. (Competition play intended for nighttime TV broadcast may require higher lighting levels).

CLASS I: Competition play before 5,000 or more spectators. (Professional, Colleges & Universities, some Semi-Professional and Large Sports Cubs)

CLASS II: Games with over 1,500 spectators. (Smaller Universities and Colleges, some Semi-pro, large amateur leagues and high schools with large spectator facilities)

CLASS III: Class III- Games with over 500 spectators. (Sports Clubs and amateur leagues, some high schools and large training professional training facilities with spectator sections)

CLASS IV: Class IV- Competition or recreational play with 500 spectators or less. Class IV Class of Play applies to games at which family and close friends of the players and staff are usually the majority of spectators. (Smaller amateur leagues, park & recreation department facilities, smaller high schools, elementary and middle schools, and social events)

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REASON: Current IES RP-6 does not specify numbers and as a result, leads to significant confusion with smaller facility managers regarding the Class of Play that applies to their sports field. Including this clarification on the USER GUIDE will help reduce instances of lighting to higher Class of Play than necessary.

Accepted

SPORTS FIELD LIGHTING

When Class of Play is above Class IV, a dual control should be installed to limit illumination to Class IV levels during practices where spectators are fewer than 500.

(See IES Recommended Practice for Sports and Recreational Area Lighting RP-6)

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