

Helmets encouraged at Skate Park

Does the Anderson Park District require Skate Park users to wear helmets? If not, why?

The Anderson Park District does not require users to wear helmets, although the APD does strongly encourage users of all ages to do so. There are many reasons why helmets are not required at the Skate Park.

First, the Skate Park is an unsupervised, public facility; open for use by anyone during the park's operating hours (dawn to dusk). It is much like the hike / bike trail, the basketball court, soccer fields, etc. Just as the APD does not require users to wear protective gear while enjoying these amenities, the APD does not require users to wear helmets while using the Skate Park.

Secondly, if the APD was to

require helmets, it would be necessary to pay a staff member to monitor adherence to the rule. To have a paid individual present from dawn to dusk at the park would be cost-prohibitive for the park district and, frankly, there is no money in the budget to cover such staffing.

Thirdly, if the APD was to require the use of helmets, the Park District could be legally responsible if someone used the park without a helmet and was hurt. The Anderson Park District does not assume any responsibility-

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for injuries. State of Ohio Recreational Users Immunity Statute Applies.

Again, the APD strongly encourages the use of a helmet and protective gear by participants of all ages for their safety. However, the decision is up to the user, or the parents' of the user - just as it is with the use of any public, APD facility.