

LIABILITY WAIVERS AND PHOTO RELEASES FOR RECREATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Liability Waiver



The City of Sunnyvale Department of Community Services—Recreation Division requires that participants sign a liability waiver in order to participate in City recreation programs and activities. Every recreational activity involves some risk of physical injury. The City of Sunnyvale requires that people who choose to participate in its recreation programs freely accept the risks, and agree not to hold the City liable for monetary damages as a result of injuries that might occur for any reason. This includes injuries that may occur due to the negligence of City staff or co-participants.

Liability waivers, such as this one, allow the City to continue to provide the wide variety of programs and services that the residents of Sunnyvale have come to expect.

We understand that some prospective participants may be reluctant or unwilling to sign the liability waiver as it is written. Because participation in recreation programs is strictly voluntary, a member of the public who refuses to sign the Liability Waiver and Photo Release Statement will not be permitted to participate in the recreational activity.

The specific language contained in the liability waiver may not be amended in anyway as this constitutes a lack of acceptance of the terms and conditions for participation in City recreation programs. This is the same as not signing the waiver at all.

Photo Release

Recreation programs are often photographed for publicity purposes and use on various promotional materials advertising recreation activities. While the photo release portion of the statement is less critical in some ways than the liability waiver, there are thousands of people participating in City-sponsored recreational activities each year and City staff simply cannot monitor who has given permission to be photographed and who has not.

Staff recommends that people who are uncomfortable having their picture taken for publicity purposes simply inform the photographer and step out of the room or away from the activity while the photographs are being taken. If you are the parent of a child and you do not want your child to be photographed, please make this clear to your child. If the City photographer approaches their activity to take pictures, the child should let the photographer know that they do not want to be photographed and ask to be kept out of the camera's view. If you feel strongly that you do not want your child photographed and are not certain that your child can be responsible for explaining this to the City photographer, than it is best not to enroll them in the recreation activity.

*To read a copy of the waiver refer to the Emergency card found in the forms section.