



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
Parks Department



**DATE:** September 25, 2014

**COMMISSION MEETING DATE:** October 2, 2014

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**FROM:** Brenda Bennett, Executive Secretary

**SUBJECT:** Correspondence

Correspondence of interest for the Commission since the Commission's August 7, 2014 meeting.

Email dated September 20, 2014 from Christian Clifford with subject of Promote Historical Accuracy.

Reply letter dated September 22, 2014 from Director Finley to Mr. Clifford.

Email dated September 25, 2014 from Bill Giusti with subject of Municipal Code sections do not support disc golf in the County Parks.\*

\*reply is being drafted

**From:** christian clifford <christian\_clifford@yahoo.com>  
**To:** "mermade4@yahoo.com" <mermade4@yahoo.com>  
**CC:** "parkscommission@smcgov.org" <parkscommission@smcgov.org>, "sherzberg@smcgov.org" <sherzberg@smcgov.org>, "dhorsley@smcgov.org" <dhorsley@smcgov.org>  
**Date:** 9/20/2014 4:09 PM  
**Subject:** PROMOTE HISTORICAL ACCURACY

Dear Mr. Merrilees,

I am very dismayed that I have not received a response to my April 24, 2014 email. I believe this will be of interest to the general public and am currently working on a press release.

Sincerely,  
Christian Clifford

**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
**PARKS DEPARTMENT**



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DIRECTOR

455 COUNTY CENTER, 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR • REDWOOD CITY • CALIFORNIA 94063-1665 • PHONE (650) 363-4020 • FAX (650) 599-1721

September 22, 2014

Christian Clifford  
1142 Cobb Street  
San Mateo, CA 94401

Subject: Devils Slide Interpretive Signage about the Native Americans

Dear Mr. Clifford,

I'm very sorry for the delay in responding back to you. The County Parks Department has been working to make a minor modification to this sign to remove the controversial text as well as create two additional signs as part of a larger project. It will be implemented in the next few months. Appreciate your patience while we make the revisions. If you have any further additional questions please feel free to call Senior Planner Sam Herzberg at 650/363-1823.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marlene Finley".

Marlene Finley  
Director

CC: Supervisor Don Horsley, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Parks Commission  
Mitch Postel, San Mateo County Historical Museum

Marlene Findley - San Mateo County Parks Director, September 24, 2014

I wanted to ask you a few questions in **Bold** regarding Disc Golf in Junipero Serra Park with respects to the Park Rules and Regulations that where sent to me by Ramona Arechiga. This is the link to the Park Rules and Regulations:

<https://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=16029>

**The Section 3.68.130 (c) covers noise and states that:** It shall be unlawful for any person within any County Park or the San Francisco Fish and Game Refuge to use or operate any device which produces noise in such a manner as to disturb the reasonable peace, quiet and comfort of persons using any County Park or Recreation area or the San Francisco Fish and Game Refuge.

**My Question is? Would the banging from the chains (which is quite loud and can be hear by the surrounding neighbors as well as the resident and migratory wildlife that lives in the park) on the Disc Golf basket be disallowed under this regulation?**

To add to this paragraph (d) covers noise in the park between 10PM and 8 AM. I know there will be no Disc Golf during those hours but during strong winds the chains will be banging against each other causing noise all hours of the day and night.

**So the Baskets standing idle could cause noise when not in use. Would this be covered under the regulation?**

**3.68.150 Dangerous activities line 2 disallows golf:**

No person shall engage in any of the following activities within any County Park or Recreation area, or on the San Francisco Fish and Game Refuge.

2) Drive, chip, or in any other manner play or practice golf, or hit golf balls.

I am sure there was a reason for this (balls hitting someone or something, destruction to the park, etc) and I am sure these are some of the same reasons why Disc Golf would be disallowed as well.

**My question here is if golf were disallowed would Disc Golf also be allow disallowed?**

**3.68.080 General protective regulations covers** Vegetative (No person shall damage, cut, mutilate, destroy, injure, etc any tree ) **and** Vandalism (Property) No person shall cut, carve, paint, mark, paste, or fasten an object or inscription to any tree.

**My question is: Would the damage from Disc Golf to the trees in the park be disallowed under this regulation? The damage is to the bark and cambium layer are from repeated hits from the discs. I have attached two photos to show you what the damage to a tree (eucalyptus) from disc golf looks like:**



I have attached a link of an Arborist Report regarding damage to Blue Oaks at Bidwell Park in Chico, see:

<http://www.friendsofbidwellpark.org/discgolffarborist.pdf>

The Report documents damage to the soil from removal of vegetation and organic matter and compaction of the soil from all the foot traffic, loss of branch tips and foliage from disc contact, and trunk and limb injury from disc contact. In several cases, greater than 50% of true foliage and branch tips had been removed by the fast moving discs.

I wanted to thank Ramona for providing this information and wanted to make you aware of these regulations, which would be impacted by Disc Golf in Junipero Serra Park.

Thanks for your attention to these questions.

Regards,

Bill Giusti  
650-589-5698