

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION

**WEST VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF CORRECTIONS
& REHABILITATION**

NUMBER: 502.00

EFFECTIVE DATE: 24 September 2026

**SUBJECT: RECREATION IN PRISONS
AND COMMUNITY
CORRECTIONS FACILITIES**

POLICY DIRECTIVE

PURPOSE:

To provide policy ensuring recreation and similar leisure activities are provided to reduce idleness, provide opportunities for skill acquisition, promote healthy activities and foster positive group interaction.

REFERENCE:

ACA Expected Practices 5-ACI-7C-01 through 06; and 2-CO-5C-01.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Superintendents are responsible for enacting facility-specific Operational Procedures to ensure compliance with this Policy Directive.

CANCELLATION:

Any previous written instruction on the subject including DCR Policy Directive 502.00, dated 01 August 2022.

APPLICABILITY:

All prisons and community corrections facilities within the Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR). This Policy is available for general distribution.

DEFINITIONS:

None.

POLICY:

- I. Each prison and community corrections facility shall have a comprehensive recreational program that includes leisure-time activities and outdoor exercise.

- A. Facilities and equipment suitable for the planned leisure activities are available in proportion to the inmate population and are maintained in good condition.
- B. Space requirements for both outdoor and covered/enclosed exercise areas for general population inmates are outlined in Policy Directive 200.00 and ensure that each inmate is offered at least one (1) hour of access daily.
- II. The education and experience of the recreation program supervisor are taken into consideration by the appointing authority in determining appointment to the position. These include education, correctional experience, training in recreation and/or leisure activities and the ability to supervise the program. In facilities with more than one hundred (100) inmates, the position is full-time.
- III. Facility-specific operational procedures provide for the selection, training, and use of inmates as recreation program assistants.
- IV. As approved by Superintendent or designee, facilities will allow for activities that are initiated by inmates and carried out under staff supervision.
- V. As outlined in Policy Directive 153.00, volunteers may provide services in recreational activities allowing for inmates to interact with the community.

ATTACHMENT(S):

None.

APPROVED SIGNATURE: _____


David L. Kelly, Commissioner


Date