


**HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
POLICY & PROCEDURE**

	SUBJECT:	Inmate Rights, Discipline and Services
	P & P #:	H-706
	TITLE:	Inmate/Detainee Recreation
	EFFECTIVE DATE:	August 29, 2019
	REVIEWED BY:	<i>Elhart Q. Flurry</i> Elhart Flurry, Security Chief
	REVIEWED BY:	<i>Andrea King Wessels</i> Andrea King-Wessels, Deputy Director
	AUTHORITY:	<i>Jack Kavanagh</i> Jack Kavanagh, Director

POLICY: It is the policy of the Howard County Department of Corrections to provide recreational activities for inmates/detainees to maintain their physical and mental health. Recreational activities include, but are not limited to leisure-time activities and active physical recreation.

REFERENCE: Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards (MCCS), Adult Detention Center Standard .05 I., Performance Based National Detention Standards 2011 (PBNDS) Section 5.4. V., NIOSH Appendix C, HCDC Policy J-901, and HCDC Post Order 8.

DEFINITIONS: None

PROCEDURES:

I. Leisure-time Activities

- A. Leisure-time activities shall be provided daily to inmates/detainees by the housing unit officers as authorized by the Director/designee.
- B. Leisure-time activities may include:
 - 1. Television/radio;
 - 2. Library services;
 - 3. Table games and
 - 4. Movies approved by the Director, Deputy Director, Security Chief or designee.
- C. The housing unit officers shall allow inmates/detainees to watch television in each cell block/dormitory daily provided the unit is orderly and clean. Disciplinary segregation cell blocks shall not have a television in the housing unit unless approved by the Director.
- D. Televisions shall be turned on in the morning only after the 8 to 4 Shift Leader has received confirmation from the housing unit officers that all housing units are clean and orderly.

1. The televisions shall remain on until 11:00 p.m. Sundays through Thursday.
 2. On Friday and Saturday, and other nights upon the eve of a legal holiday (i.e. the courts are closed the next day), the televisions may remain on until 2:00 a.m.
 3. Any deviations from the normal turn-off times shall occur only with the authorization of the shift leader or above.
- E. Library services shall be provided to all inmates/detainees. See HCDC Policy J-901.
- F. Inmates/detainees shall be allowed to play approved table games.
- G. Approved movies may be shown to the inmate population if approved by the Director/Deputy Director or Security Chief.

II. Physical Recreation

- A. General population inmates shall be provided one (1) hour of recreation, outside of their cell/living area, five (5) days per week.
- B. Inmates/detainees classified and assigned to administrative segregation shall receive or be offered one (1) hour of outdoor recreation, seven (7) days per week, unless pending an adjustment hearing.
- C. Inmates assigned to disciplinary segregation shall be offered and allowed out of their cell, into the dayroom area of their respective housing unit for 30 minutes daily, for physical recreation, unless circumstances which are documented in writing prohibit it seven (7) days per week.
- D. ICE detainees on general population and administrative segregation shall receive or be offered one (1) hour of outdoor recreation, seven (7) days per week, weather permitting, unless documented security, safety or medical considerations dictate otherwise. In addition, ICE Detainees on Administrative Segregation shall also be afforded the opportunity to one (1) hour out-of-cell leisure time daily, unless their disciplinary sanction specifies otherwise. ICE Detainees housed in Hendricks Hall may attend recreation, in the outside court yard with other County inmates housed in Hendricks Hall.
- E. ICE detainees on disciplinary segregation shall be offered and allowed out of their cell for one (1) hour outdoor recreation, five (5) days per week.
1. Prior to an ICE Detainee's outside recreation period being suspended for more than seven (7) days, the Director and the HSA will have to concur, this shall be documented in JMS.
 2. This privilege may be restricted or prohibited by order of the Director/Deputy Director/Security Chief with justification and documentation.
- F. When weather permits, the recreation shall be conducted outdoors (excluding disciplinary segregation status inmates).
- G. The Shift Supervisor shall stay abreast of an extreme weather advisory that affects the County through websites or news stations. Weather conditions such as rain, snow, ice

and/or temperatures below 32° degrees Fahrenheit or heat index advisory announced (91° degrees with a relative humidity of 40% and above; as shown in the advisory (sample chart attached as Appendix 2) shall preclude recreation from being conducted outdoors. Only the Director/Deputy Director/Security Chief and/or Shift Leader can authorize changes when the above weather advisory has been issued, such as an abbreviated walking yard. A notation shall be placed in the housing units post log book and Shift Leader log book anytime recreation is denied due to weather conditions.

- H. All recreational periods shall be recorded on JMS, and noted in the post log book.
- I. Inmates/detainees in the recreation yard(s) shall be supervised by trained correctional staff at all times (see Post Order #8).
- J. Correctional staff supervising outdoor recreation shall comply with existing Post Order #8, Inmate/Detainee Recreation, at all times.
 - 1. There shall be no deviation in inmate/detainee quantities or time allotment without authorization from the Director/Deputy Director/Security Chief.
 - 2. The maximum recreation yard capacity shall not be more than 30.
 - 3. All inmates/detainees participating in outdoor recreation must remain in the recreation yard during their recreation period unless they request to return to their unit, at which time the officer shall arrange to have that inmate searched and escorted back to his/her unit.
 - a. Inmates/detainees shall not be allowed to leave the recreation yard for any reason other than to return to their unit or to respond to other functions as may be required by this department (i.e.-sick call, court, hearings, counselors, etc.).
 - b. Inmates/detainees who request to return to their unit, and are subsequently escorted back to their unit, **may not return** to the recreation yard for the remainder of that day. Those inmates/detainees are finished with recreation for the day.
 - c. Inmates/detainees requesting to return to their unit for going to the bathroom or for any other specified reason should be informed that doing so will end their yard privileges for that day.
- K. Outdoor Recreation privileges shall be provided five (5) days per week to inmates assigned to minimum security status.

III. Directors Prerogative

The Director has the authority to revise/change a policy or post order as needed to meet the operational demands of the Department. As the changes are initiated, they may be communicated by an email, memoranda or in rare circumstances verbal due to unforeseen situations.

ATTACHMENTS: Appendix 1, Heat Index Chart.

RESCISSIONS: HCDC Policy H-706 Inmate Recreation effective **May 29, 2019.**

NOAA's National Weather Service Heat Index

		Temperature °F (°C)															
		80(27)	82(28)	84(29)	86(30)	88(31)	90(32)	92(34)	94(34)	96(36)	98(37)	100(38)	102(39)	104(40)	106(41)	108(43)	110(47)
Relative Humidity (%)	40	80(27)	81(27)	83(28)	85(29)	88(31)	91(33)	94(34)	97(36)	101(38)	105(41)	109(43)	114(46)	119(48)	124(51)	130(54)	136(58)
	45	80(27)	82(28)	84(29)	87(31)	89(32)	93(34)	96(36)	100(38)	104(40)	109(43)	114(46)	119(48)	124(51)	130(50)	137(58)	
	50	80(27)	83(28)	85(29)	88(31)	91(33)	95(35)	99(37)	103(39)	108(42)	113(45)	118(48)	124(51)	131(55)	137(58)		
	55	80(27)	84(29)	86(30)	89(32)	93(34)	97(36)	101(38)	106(41)	112(44)	117(47)	124(51)	130(54)	137(58)			
	60	82(28)	84(29)	88(31)	91(33)	95(35)	100(38)	105(41)	110(43)	116(47)	123(51)	129(54)	137(58)				
	65	82(28)	85(29)	89(32)	93(34)	98(37)	103(39)	108(43)	114(46)	121(49)	128(53)	136(58)					
	70	82(28)	86(30)	90(32)	95(35)	100(38)	105(41)	112(46)	119(48)	126(52)	134(57)						
	75	84(29)	88(31)	92(33)	97(36)	103(39)	109(43)	116(47)	124(51)	132(56)							
	80	84(29)	89(32)	94(34)	100(38)	106(41)	113(45)	121(49)	129(54)								
	85	84(29)	90(32)	96(36)	102(39)	110(43)	117(47)	126(52)	135(57)								
	90	86(30)	91(33)	98(37)	105(41)	113(45)	122(50)	131(55)									
	95	86(30)	93(34)	100(38)	108(42)	117(47)	127(53)										
100	87(31)	95(35)	103(39)	112(44)	121(49)	132(56)											

Likelihood of Heat Disorders with Prolonged Exposure or Strenuous Activity

Caution	Extreme Caution	Danger	Extreme Danger
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Adapted from NOAA [2012].

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issues heat alerts based on the heat index values, as seen in the chart above. The Heat Index is a measure of how hot it feels when RH is taken into account with the actual air temperature. Since heat index values were devised for shady, light wind conditions, exposure to full sunshine can increase heat index values by up to 15°F.

NOAA may also issue an extreme heat advisory:

- *Excessive Heat Outlook*
Extended excessive heat (heat index of 105°F–110°F [41°C–43°C]) over the next 3 to 7 days.
- *Excessive Heat Watch*
Excessive heat may occur within the next 24 to 72 hours.
- *Excessive Heat Warning*
The heat index will be life threatening in the next 24 hours. Excessive heat is imminent or has a high probability of occurring.
- *Excessive Heat Advisory*
The heat index may be uncomfortable but not life threatening if precautions are taken.

NOAA uses four bands of colors associated with four risk levels. The risk level–related measures in Table C-1 have been modified by OSHA for use on worksites.