



RODEO FLY OVER -- THE
RODEO WE WANT TO LOVE –
THE ORIENTATION OF THE
RODEO ARENA & WHAT TO
DO TO BETTER PROTECT THE
WETLANDS?

7.22.2022

Photography that will help TOSV and the community decide what we want to keep around the wetlands, and what we are willing to lose.
The question is how do we protect the wetlands and is there a reason we have to clear out the cat tails?



“Check Point Charlie” is on the left side of this photo. There is a slight hill, and a bridge to the rodeo grounds. A few horse trailers park here every Wednesday night. The cattail area is to the left of the rodeo arena. The proposed retention area that will be “landscaped” is the area to the left of the pond where the trailers are parked.



The existing North South layout of the Rodeo Arena and parking lot can hold 35-45 trailers and 30+ rodeo contestant & worker cars. In the new Town Plan there is will not be enough room for the rodeo parking.



TOSV Parking Lot on the North end of the Rodeo Arena – Serves Recreation Center, Tennis and all sports, winter & summer. Shuttle services for rodeo spectators appear to be working, leaving parking spaces open for other users of the Recreational Center on Wednesday nights.



TOSV Parking at East West layout of the Softball Field Parking Lot and the parking along the Club House Drive roadside. Is sun in your eyes during softball a problem here? Does this matter? Spectators that use these two areas for rodeo parking need to walk to their cars at dusk when the rodeo ends. We believe that some leave the rodeo early to ease parking/walking concerns.



Parking at 7:10 pm, the TOSV Parking Lot at the Recreational Center is not filled, so we know that shuttle buses are being successfully used by Rodeo spectators.



Fertilizing Sports Fields and their summer irrigation needs, laid out in a North South & East West Orientation***

*See addendum on research for the orientation for all sports fields. **With a 25% N fertilizer applied 3-4 times per year, plan on 5-6 lbs of N per year. This adds up to about 1500 to 1800 lbs of fertilizer per year for a full-size field. If this is more than you can afford, drop the late spring application. If you fertilized a field that is 75 yds by 110 yds at a rate of 1 lb N/ 1000 sq ft you would need approximately 75 lbs N. Using a 25% N fertilizer, you would need 300 lbs of fertilizer for each application. Six applications per year with a 25% N product would require 1800 lbs of fertilizer. A weed killer may also have to be used to maintain the grasses and turf in the manner consistent with playing field turf maintenance.



Notice the strong afternoon shadows being cast in the afternoon, and then toward the end of the day, more shadows due to the setting sun. The existing arena is a North South Orientation.





The pickle ball and tennis courts enjoy the recommended North South Orientation here. Check out the web fencing casting late afternoon shadows onto the courts.



The diagram on the right is today's existing rodeo layout. A new east west rodeo arena layout shown here on the left, will require the clearing of many cattails, grasses and marsh area in the midst of the man-made pond on the left corner in light blue.





This is at 5 pm, before the rodeo begins, a close-up shot of the northern area to become the “Flex Field”. This is the land where TOSV wishes to build playing fields. The RFVHC hopes for a more passive use for this space that will encourage wildlife habitat, rather than disruption and unregulated fertilizer run off. According to the maps, we read they will be removing as many as 30-40 trees and replanting others.

The red circled trees on this very preliminary map are to be removed (this is when the TOSV design showed two playing fields), and the black trees circled will be planted. Only one play field is now being planned.





By building and placing a sports field into this area, by changing the orientation of the rodeo arena to east west, and by planting, removing, and changing nature - - the plan that is not yet approved will take more and more wetlands away, removing more of the nature and as one of the local birder/environmentalist said, "there will be nothing left to appreciate in the wetlands." Other concerns exist for un-regulated dog use, man-made beaches and potential swimming areas are also in the plan.

Let all of us protect the entirety of the wetlands as best we can!



***Q. Will the orientation of your arena affect the participants or spectators?** Consider the orientation of your rodeo arena and how sunlight may impact the events you are hosting, at the times these events will be run. A roper at a rodeo does not want to ride directly towards a setting sun. The same goes for the calf or steer.

The underlying principle is that runners in athletics and sportsmen in ball games should never have the late afternoon sun in their eyes. Playing areas for any sports should be oriented roughly in a north-south direction to minimize the effects of a setting sun on players, as recommended by the American Tennis Association. 15 east of the north is the best orientation for most people.

There is no rule that mandates that NFL fields run north-to-south, but many of them are oriented north-to-south to prevent players from being hindered by sunlight. We all know that N-S orientation is the best way to avoid any problems with the sun, but not all P5 stadiums are built this way. But, almost every stadium is built in such a way to avoid sun problems for the players, not so much the fans.

As you have probably noticed, no one builds stadiums in a SW-NE direction. Why is this? Well, it's because designers don't want the sun in player's eyes. The popular NW-SE direction works perfectly because all games are played after noon and into the evening. If we look at how the sun travels over the US, we can see how the sun is shaded by the stands in the evening.

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