

TOWN OF TRURO

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POLICY MEMORANDUM #52

Date: Adopted May 22, 2013; Revised November 28, 2017; rev 9/13/2022

**This policy was revised at the September 13, 2022 Select Board meeting solely to reflect the titles used in the Town Charter for the Town Manager and Select Board and to modify language to be gender neutral. No changes were made to the content of the Policy at that meeting.*

Subject: **BEACH USE POLICY**

1. Purpose. The Select Board may permit the use of Truro beaches for private events or public events for civic, educations, recreational, celebratory, or other lawful purposes. Permitted events shall always be subordinate to the primary use of public beaches which are swimming, sunbathing, and other usual and customary shore and water-related activities.
2. Reservation Procedures. Reservations for events shall be made on such application form as the Licensing Agent shall provide and shall be submitted, together with all requested supporting documentation, and materials at least 30 days before the requested use date. The Town Manager will make reasonable effort to act upon an application within 21 days of receiving the application.
3. Rules for Reservation. Beach Department activities and other events sponsored by a Town department shall have priority and a permit may be denied or withheld if the event or requested use date would interfere with one of these activities or events. Applications shall be accepted and acted upon in the order in which they are received. All applications and fees must be filed in the office of the Licensing Agent during regular business hours. The failure to exercise a granted permit, except for good cause, may result in the denial of a future application by the same applicant.
4. Rules for Use. Events shall not be for entrepreneurial or commercial purposes or for the solicitations of business or the sale of goods and services. All posted rules and regulations of the Beach Commission remain in full force and effect unless specifically waived in the permit. All events shall be conducted free of charge and open to the public. Athletic events may charge an entrance fee. Performers who are not compensated for appearing at an event may accept, but not solicit, donations. No activity shall be conducted which uses amplification for voice or music unless the Town Manager determines that such use will not unreasonably disturb other beach users or nearby residential neighborhoods. Refreshments and food items may be brought onto the public beaches by event participants to the same privilege other beach users enjoy, but no refreshments or food may be prepared on the beach or in the adjoining parking

lot unless the permit specifically allows. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the beach or beach parking areas. No event can block access to the beach by the general public at any time.


5. Hours. Permitted events occurring during 9:00 am and 4:00 pm between the third Saturday in June and Labor Day may require that permittee, associated staff, and attendees purchase parking decals or daily parking passes if parking is required for the event. Set up and break down of said event during 9:00 am and 4:00 pm may also require that permittee, associated staff, and attendees purchase parking decals or daily parking passes if parking is required for the event. Parking is not guaranteed for any permittee, associated staff, or attendee at any time.
6. Fees. The Select Board will establish appropriate fees and they should be paid upon the Town Manager's approval of the application. The reservation will not be held until appropriate fees are paid in full. Fees are nonrefundable after the seventh day before the requested use date, except for weather cancellations. Insurance and indemnification agreements may be required on the same terms and conditions as non-beach events on other Town property.
7. Miscellaneous Provisions. In his/her discretion, the Town Manager may ask the Chief of Police to determine if police detail presence is required, and the Chief's decision shall be final. If a police detail is deemed necessary, the applicant shall be charged the accompanying fee. The Town Manager may reject any application if the requested event is too large for the available beach area or is likely to be disruptive or disorderly or unreasonably interfere with the rights of the public to use the beach for usual and customary purposes. In determining whether such likelihood exists, the Town Manager may take into consideration information from the application, the applicant's history of beach use or use of similar facilities elsewhere, the recommendations of Town officials and department heads and other information deemed appropriate.
8. Approval may be contingent on defined written conditions. All conditions must be adhered to and users will be subject to relevant local, state, or federal enforcement penalties.



Kristen Reed, Chair



Robert Weinstein, Vice-Chair



John Dundas, Clerk



Susan Areson



Stephanie Rein
Select Board
Town of Truro

