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PARKS DEPARTMENT RECEIVES INNOVATION AWARD FOR ADULT WIFFLE BALL LEAGUE

JACKSON, MI - The Michigan Recreation & Park Association has awarded Jackson's Parks, Recreation and Cemeteries Department an award for innovation in recreation programming.

The award was presented to the city department earlier this month for its adult Wiffle ball league.

"Since we started, we've had 14 teams sign up for the league," said Joe Hawley, recreations services coordinator at the city. "This year will be the third year we've organized an adult Wiffle ball league."

Parks, Recreation and Cemeteries Director Kelli Hoover said the league is the "best of both worlds."

"It's one of our fastest-growing leagues, and it's also one of our most affordable leagues to organize and produce," she said. "We're very happy to be recognized for our achievement. Any time we're highlighted for our hard work and dedication we appreciate it."

Hawley said the city spends roughly \$1,000 on supplies for the league every season. The league begins in July, and joins a list of other leagues started in the last couple of years - including indoor soccer and dodgeball.

"We always look for ways to innovate and grow," he said. "It's an honor to be awarded for our work."

A plaque from the MRPA currently hangs in the department's fifth floor offices in City Hall, 161 W. Michigan Ave. It reads: "Innovative Recreation Programming Award, presented to the City of Jackson on January 31, 2017."

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