

Addison Athletic Club Membership Policy

December 13, 2022

The logo for Addison Athletic Club, featuring the word "ADDISON" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font centered within a white circle. The circle is set against a blue background that is part of a larger graphic design on the right side of the slide, which includes diagonal white lines and a grey triangle in the top right corner.

ADDISON

Council requested staff make a presentation regarding the following topics:

- Membership requirements for the Addison Athletic Club.
- Homestead exemption documentation and feasibility of using this exemption in lieu of a DPS Driver's License or ID Card to establish Addison residency to meet AAC membership requirements.
- Allow Director of Parks and Recreation to adjudicate individual applications requesting exceptions to the rules.

Access to the Addison Athletic Club (AAC) is defined in Article III, Section 58-66 in the Town's Code of Ordinance which was amended and ratified by Council March 2003.

The ordinance defines use of the AAC is limited to members and guests only.

Membership to the AAC is limited to bona fide residents* of the Town, their dependents and town employees. Qualified dependents are:

- Any dependent of an Addison resident ages 3 months through 18
- Dependent of an Addison resident that is a Full-Time College student ages 18 through 23

Proof of Town Residency is a multi-step verification process which requires both a:

- Valid Department of Public Safety (DPS) driver's license or identification (ID) card which shows a current residential address within the corporate limits of Addison.
- Current document such as a utility bill, vehicle registration / insurance, credit card statement or other document approved by the Director that shows the same address as the required DPS identification.

And

- If an applicant lives in an apartment, a signed leasing office verification from the owner / manager of the apartment.

* A resident is someone that usually live and sleeps at a residential address in Addison. Extended Stay hotels does not meet this criteria.

The ordinance does allow limited exceptions:

- Residents participating in the Texas Department of Public Safety Confidentiality Program; or
- Residents who are active military.

Supporting documentation of these exceptions may be requested

The ordinance does identify ineligible criteria

- Individuals with a town business address or hotel address, including an extended stay hotel.
- Owners of residential properties that do not reside at the property.

The ordinance requires annual renewal of the membership with proof of current residency.

The ordinance also establishes a one-time membership fee of \$10.00

Homestead Exemption

To establish Homestead an individual must

- Have an ownership interest in the property.
- Use the property as their primary residence.
- State they do not have an exemption on another residence homestead in or outside of Texas.
- Have a DPS driver's license or ID card that matches the address of the homestead.

Homestead Exemption does allow address waivers

- Resident of a facility that provides services related to health, infirmity or aging.
- Individual Certified for participation in a government authorized address confidentiality program.
- Active-duty U.S. armed services member and their spouse.
- License issued under Transportation Code Sections may omit the residence address and provide an alternate address.

521.121(c)*

- Federal or State Judge
- US Marshal
- US Attorney
- Family member of the above

*Alternative address can be address of the county courthouse or office.

521.1211*

- Peace officer
- Prosecutor

* Peace Officer may use an address that is in the municipality or county of the peace officer's residence or county of the peace officer's place of employment. Prosecutor may use address of the office for the prosecutor.

The prior membership ordinance was ratified by Council in 1990. The Membership requirements at that time were:

- A one step verification process.
- Required a DPS Driver's License or ID card to prove Addison residency
- Allowed Directors discretion in light of unusual and extraordinary circumstances to justify why a resident did not possess the required identification. Required a sworn statement of residency.

The ordinance was amended to the current version in 2003 to provide for a two-step verification process and restrict Director's discretion for the following reasons:

- Due to increasing complications associated with verifying residents.
- Anticipation of challenges to come with a larger volume of applications associated with AAC Expansion and Outdoor Pool.
- Inefficiency of the verification process and unreliability in the results.
- There was a high volume of incomplete, invalid or falsely represented applications.
- Provide increased accuracy in establishing Addison residency.
- Provided consistency in implementation.
- Support staff in implementation of the ordinance.

Staff Recommendations

Staff does not recommend using a Homestead Exemption in lieu of a DPS Driver's License or ID Card to prove Addison Residency.

- A DPS Driver's License or ID Card must be provided with the homestead application and the address on the ID must match the homestead address. Although this is a requirement, the Texas Comptroller's office does not have a system in place to continually verify that an individual's address on their license matches the address of their homestead.

Staff does not recommend allowing Director's Discretion

- To ensure consistency of implementation.
- To support staff from the front line to City Manager's office in carrying out Council's instructions.

Staff does recommend including the following identification exemptions in the requirements:

- Resident of a facility that provides services related to health, infirmity or aging.
- Individual Certified for participation in a government authorized address confidentiality program.
- Active-duty U.S. armed services member and their spouse.
- License issued under Transportation Code Sections may omit the residence address and provide an alternate address.

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Questions?