



RECOMMENDED PRACTICE:
LIGHTING SPORTS AND
RECREATIONAL AREAS
AN AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD



ANSI/IES RP-6-20

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has been approved by IES.
Suggestions for revisions
should be directed to IES.

**Prepared by:
The Sports and Recreational Area Lighting Committee
of the Illuminating Engineering Society.**



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CONTENTS

Foreword	1
1.0 Introduction and Scope	1
1.1 Introduction.....	1
1.2 Scope	1
2.0 Lighting Fundamentals and Principles	2
2.1 Illuminance	2
2.2 Uniformity	3
2.3 Glare	3
2.3.1 General.....	3
2.3.2 On-Field Issues.....	4
2.3.3 Spectators	5
2.3.4 Offsite Issues.....	6
2.3.5 Predictive vs. In-Field Evaluation.....	6
2.3.6 Aerial Sports	7
2.3.7 Reducing Glare	7
2.4 Color Rendering	8
2.4.1 Color Rendering Index	8
2.4.2 ANSI/IES TM-30	8
2.4.3 Recommendations	8
2.5 Luminance Contrast and Color Contrast	8
2.6 Flicker.....	9
3.0 Design Considerations – General	10
3.1 Interior Design Considerations	10
3.2 Exterior Design Considerations.....	11
3.2.1 General.....	11
3.2.2 Obtrusive Light	14
3.3 Energy Conservation	15
3.4 Life Cycle Cost Analysis	16
3.5 Equipment Considerations	16
3.5.1 Energy Efficiency.....	16
3.5.2 Controls	17
3.5.3 Light Sources	18
3.5.4 Luminaires.....	19

4.0	Design Considerations – Sports Specific	21
4.1	Types of Sports	21
4.1.1	Aerial Sports	21
4.1.2	Ground Level Sports	21
4.2	Venue Types	22
4.2.1	Arenas	22
4.2.2	Covered Stadiums (Domes)	22
4.2.3	Athletic Fields	23
4.2.4	Field Houses	23
4.2.5	Gymnasiums	23
4.2.6	Pools	23
4.3	Speed of Play	24
4.4	Spectators	24
4.5	Classification of Play	24
4.6	Broadcasting	25
5.0	Indoor Lighting Applications	26
5.1	Animal Shows	26
5.2	Archery	26
5.3	Basketball	26
5.4	Billiards and Pool	27
5.5	Bowling	27
5.6	Boxing and Wrestling	28
5.7	Cheerleading	28
5.8	Curling	29
5.9	Darts	29
5.10	Fencing	29
5.11	Golf – Indoor Driving Range	30
5.12	Gun Shooting Ranges	30
5.13	Gymnastics	30
5.14	Handball, Racquetball, and Squash	30
5.15	Ice Hockey and Roller Hockey	31
5.16	Jai Alai	31
5.17	Judo	31
5.18	Karate	31
5.19	Rodeo	31
5.20	Running Track	32
5.21	Shuffleboard	32
5.22	Skating (Ice – Figure)	32
5.23	Skating (Ice and Inline Speed)	32
5.24	Skating (Roller – Quad or Inline)	32
5.25	Indoor Soccer/Arena Football	32
5.26	Swimming (Water Sports)	33
5.27	Table Tennis	34
5.28	Tennis	34
5.29	Track Cycling	36
5.30	Volleyball	37

6.0	Lighting for Outdoor Sports	37
6.1	Archery	37
6.2	Badminton	37
6.3	Baseball	37
6.4	Basketball	39
6.5	Bicycle Racing	39
6.6	Bicycle Motocross (BMX) Racing	40
6.7	Cricket	40
6.8	Dog Racing	41
6.9	Drag Racing	41
6.10	Field Hockey	42
6.11	Football	42
6.12	Golf Courses	44
6.13	Golf Driving Ranges	45
6.14	Handball, Racquetball and Squash	46
6.15	Horse Racing	46
6.16	Ice Hockey and Roller Hockey	47
6.17	Ice Skating (Speed)	48
6.18	Lacrosse	48
6.19	Lawn Bowling	49
6.20	Motor Racing	49
6.21	Platform Tennis	50
6.22	Polo	50
6.23	Shooting Ranges	51
6.24	Rodeo and Animal Shows	52
6.25	Skate Parks	52
6.26	Skeet and Trap Shooting	53
6.27	Skiing	55
6.28	Soccer	55
6.29	Softball	56
6.30	Swimming	56
6.31	Tennis	57
6.32	Track and Field	58
6.33	Volleyball and Badminton	58
6.34	Specialty Sports	58
	Annex A – Illuminance Recommendations	59
	Annex B – Calculations by Computer	73
	Annex C – Design Considerations and Floodlight Aiming	74
	Annex D – Floodlight Aiming Methods	77
	Annex E – Field Measurements	79
	Annex F – Uniformity Metrics	84
	References	86

Foreword

This Foreword is not part of ANSI/IES RP-6-20. It is provided for informational purposes only.

This Recommended Practice (RP) does not provide general lighting information that is included in other IES documents. If the reader does not already have this information, it may be obtained as needed from the following IES Standards:

The Lighting Science Series:

- *ANSI/IES LS-1-20, Lighting Science: Nomenclature and Definitions for Illuminating Engineering*
- *ANSI/IES LS-2-20, Lighting Science: Concepts and Language of Lighting*
- *ANSI/IES LS-3-20, Lighting Science: Physics and Optics of Radiant Power*
- *ANSI/IES LS-4-20, Lighting Science: Measurement of Light – The Science of Photometry*
- *ANSI/IES LS-5-20, Lighting Science: Color*
- *ANSI/IES LS-6-20, Lighting Science: Calculation of Light and Its Effects*
- *ANSI/IES LS-7-20, Lighting Science: Vision – Eye and Brain*
- *ANSI/IES LS-8-20: Lighting Science: Vision – Perceptions and Performance*

The Lighting Practice Series:

- *ANSI/IES LP-1-20, Lighting Practice: Designing Quality Lighting for People and Buildings*
- *ANSI/IES LP-2-20, Lighting Practice: Designing Quality Lighting for People in Outdoor Environments*
- *ANSI/IES LP-3-20, Lighting Practice: Designing and Specifying Daylighting for Buildings*
- *ANSI/IES LP-4-20, Lighting Practice: Electric Light Sources – Properties, Selection, and Specification*
- *ANSI/IES LP-6-20, Lighting Practice: Lighting Control Systems – Properties, Selection, and Specification*
- *ANSI/IES LP-7-20, Lighting Practice: The Lighting Design and Construction Process*
- *ANSI/IES LP-8-20, Lighting Practice: The Commissioning Process Applied to Lighting and Control Systems*

- *ANSI/IES LP-9-20, Lighting Practice: Upgrading Lighting Systems in Commercial and Industrial Facilities*
- *ANSI/IES LP-10-20, Lighting Practice: Sustainable Lighting – An Introduction to the Environmental Impacts of Lighting*
- *ANSI/IES LP-11-20, Lighting Practice: Environmental Considerations for Outdoor Lighting*

1.0 Introduction and Scope

1.1 Introduction

Over the years, there have been increases in the demand for both indoor and outdoor sports facilities. To meet the increase in demand, lighting is a cost effective way to extend hours of play during hours of darkness. Lighting is also required for indoor sporting facilities during the day. With increasing power and operational costs, energy efficiency should be a key consideration when designing a lighting system.

There are some sports activities that are purely social or recreational and may not require even the minimum Class IV light levels recommended in this document. The facility's owner can use discretion to provide adequate lighting for safe and effective participation in those activities.

1.2 Scope

The purpose of this Recommended Practice is to provide the reader with recommendations to aid in the design of sports lighting systems. Popular sports such as baseball, tennis, basketball and football, as well as recreational social activities such as horseshoe pitching and croquet are covered. Venues for spectators of amateur, collegiate, and professional sports are complex facilities that should provide not only for the spectators but also the equipment used in modern sports broadcasting. This document does not address the needs of broadcasting; for this, the reader should look for guidance from the sports league or the project consultant.