A PROPOSAL FOR ONE WALL HANDBALL AT CLAYLAND PARK

A committee of the Twin Cities Handball community proposes the introduction of One Wall Outdoor Handball at Clayland Park in the Hamline-Midway area. The St. Paul Park and Recreation Department endorses this proposal. Two back to back courts would be built adjacent to the existing tennis courts. The courts would be fenced in, have a blacktop surface, each court 34 feet long and 20 feet wide. A

16 foot high concrete wall would separate the courts. Total area required would be approximately 90 feet by 26 feet and would take up only a relatively small area of existing green space.

* There is currently nowhere in the surrounding community where our young people can go outside, and simply take a ball and throw and hit it against a wall.
* Handball is a fast paced, challenging game that requires use of your “hand, heart, and head.” It provides total fitness. It can be played at all ability levels and all ages – young and old. See the attached video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFuMaviVvmU>

* Unlike other sports, Handball requires minimal equipment: tennis shoes and a rubber ball. For the “small ball” game, our State and National Handball Associations will donate Handballs and gloves. Our veteran players will come to the park to teach the sport to anyone interested.
* To play Outdoor Handball, you do not have to belong to an athletic club or go to a rec center. Just go to the park and show up!
* Outdoor Handball can be organized play; tournaments can be held. But it does not have to be. Just go to the courts with a friend and start hitting the ball! The game has become increasingly popular around the country: Fargo, ND has just built One Wall courts.
* A number of young people growing up in the Hamline Midway area have played and continue to play Handball – both indoors and outdoors. Handball has proven to be a positive influence in their lives. Indoor Handball youth groups are already active. Give them the chance to play the game they love and the opportunity to introduce the game to others!