

# Amplified Sound Policy

## I. Effective Date

xxx 2024

## II. Last Revision Date

N/A

## III. Responsible Party

Facilities and Operations

## IV. Scope

This policy applies to all forms of sound increased by electronic means and produced in association with outdoor activities on property supervised by Marymount University (MU) (“University”).

## V. Purpose

This policy establishes the Requirements and Restrictions Pertaining to the Use of Amplified Sound at Outdoor Events Hosted at Marymount University.

## VI. Policy Statement

The Amplified Sound Policy is to ensure compliance with Arlington County Code Ch. 15 – Noise Control; to ensure that amplified sound associated with university approved outdoor events does not interfere with the regular functioning of the university or with the peace and well being of residential neighbors; and to establish the protocols for policy enforcement.

## VII. Definitions

### Amplified Sound

Sound increased in volume through public address systems, loudspeakers, bullhorns, or any form of musical amplifier.

## VIII. Policy

### A. Approval for Use of Amplified Sound – General

The use of amplified sound at outdoor activities must be approved in connection with a space reservation through University Event Scheduling. Approval is subject to the professional judgment of the

University Center staff or designee as to the suitability of the proposed activity for the requested time and campus site.

## **B. Approval for Use of Amplified Sound – Athletic Events**

The use of amplified sound at intercollegiate, club sports, and intramural competitions and at special athletic events on the university's athletic fields must be approved by the Department of Athletics. The use of athletic fields is limited to daylight hours.

## **C. Time Restrictions – General**

Amplified sound is generally prohibited during normal business hours, however, exceptions may be granted in certain areas of the main university campus between the hours of 11 am and 2 pm on weekdays. Activities employing amplified sound must conclude by 10:00 pm. Exceptions may be granted by the University Center staff.

## **D. Amplified Sound Standards**

Amplified sound for both general and athletic activities must be in accordance with [Arlington County Code – Noise Control](#). Amplified sound that is reported as interfering with the regular functioning of the university or with the peace and well being of residential neighbors will be reduced or may be terminated, even if it is compliant with Arlington County Code.

## **F. Complaint Management – General**

Any university official is authorized to respond to sound complaints by notifying the activity host and asking for a significant reduction in sound level. If there is a second complaint, the activity host will be asked by a university official to terminate the activity. Student organizations that do not comply with the directives of university officials may be referred to Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution Services.

## **G. Complaint Management – Athletic Events**

Any university official is authorized to respond to sound complaints by notifying a member of the Department of Athletics staff and asking for a reduction in the sound level of activity directly associated with the athletic competition to comply with the standard established by Arlington County Code. Event staff may be asked to reduce other sound (ex. music) to a level below the standard or to terminate its use, if the non-essential sound is reported as interfering with the regular functioning of the university or with the peace and well being of residential neighbors.