

June 20, 2006

Mr. John Grahame  
Chairman  
Flagstaff Dark Skies Coalition  
375 Choctaw Street  
Flagstaff, AZ 86001-9535

Subj: RP-6-01 Illumination Recommendations – Class III vs. Class IV

Dear John:

I have been a Member of the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA) since May of 1967 and have been active on the Sports Lighting Committee since the early 80's. In the early 80's the Sports Lighting Committee was not very active. It's primary responsibility, RP-6, had not been revised since 1960 and, in that time, many changes had occurred in the sports lighting industry. IESNA Headquarters actually removed the current Chairman of the Committee and appointed Bill Tao, P.E. from St. Louis to head up the Committee. I was made Vice Chairman. Our primary task was to update RP-6.

A couple of years or so were spent working on the Document and several significant changes were made from the 1960 Standard. One of the significant changes was the Classification System from Class IV, the lowest to Class I, the highest NOT including lighting for television and professional sports. This system was intended to specify the amount of illumination necessary to play the particular sport. This was then defined as Class IV Illumination. Many people mistakenly believe that more skilled players cannot play at Class IV Illumination Levels. If this were the case, the Committee would be derelict in their duty. How could the Committee specify illumination levels that were NOT suitable for the play of the game. So let me emphatically state at this point that Class IV illumination levels are satisfactory for the play of the game by players of all skills.

The higher illumination levels, specified in Class III, Class II and Class I are primarily related to the number of spectators and their distance from the field of play. If you charge admission to the game and put the spectators 20 rows back, you really need to provide a higher lighting level in order for them to enjoy the game. The Committee recommendations for the type of play (recreational, etc.) then is primarily based on the expected number of spectators and their location with respect to the field. A chart was prepared to provide general guidelines on this design element. It is Table I in both RP-6-88 and RP-6-01. Unfortunately there was an error made in the preparation of this Table. It was intended that Class IV be shown as suitable for Social events, Recreational Events, Elementary Schools, Training facilities, High Schools and Amateur Leagues. The "check mark" was left off for High Schools and Amateur Leagues.

I became the Chairman of the IESNA Sports Lighting Committee in the early 90's and began receiving calls from Little League people around the Country questioning whether we were recommending that Little League fields be illuminated to the Class III recommended levels. I assured

