



2026 LRPA TENTATIVE CONFERENCE AGENDA

November 16-19, 2026 | Lake Charles, Louisiana

L'Auberge Casino Resort Lake Charles

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16

TIME	
1:00 PM	Conference Registration and Exhibitor Setup
4:15 PM	Conference Registration and Exhibitor Setup
4:15 PM	Conference Registration and Exhibitor Setup
4:30 PM	Conference Registration and Exhibitor Setup

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

TIME	SESSION / TRACK A	SESSION / TRACK B
7:00	Morning Meet Up – More Details To Come!	
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Conference Registration	
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Exhibitor Setup	
8:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Kevin Cooper – How and Why Using Technology Benefits an Agronomic Program	
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open	
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Meet with Exhibitors	
10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Welcome to Lake Charles	
10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Opening General Session & Keynote Speaker: Joey Robert	
11:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Lunch with the Exhibitors	
2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	Rooted in Renewal: Rebuilding Our Park Canopy - Janell Bazile (BREC)	When Disaster Strikes: Parks and Recreation on the Front Lines of Disaster Response - Ajia Mitchell & Emily Oliver (NORD)
3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	BREAK	
3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	Discovering Nature in Louisiana's Parks - Alex Landry	Part One: Power Forward, Recreation Changed My Life -Bill McNair
6:00 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.	Welcome Social Games2life Transportation will be provided 3311 Broad St., Lake Charles LA 70615	

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

TIME	SESSION / TRACK A	SESSION / TRACK B
7:00	Bird Walk with Alex Landry – Pelican Park	
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Conference Registration	
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open – SCAVENGER HUNT CARDS AVAILABLE AT REGISTRATION (ONLY AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME)	
8:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Meet with Exhibitors	
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Installation of Officers / Business Meeting / Roundtable	
10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	BREAK	
10:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Invasives in Your Park- Cam Carroll	A New Path for Louisiana Parks & Public Infrastructure - Ricky Barksdale
11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	Lunch on Your Own or with a Colleague Lake Charles	
12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Creating Meaningful Experiences Through Reasonable Accommodations in Recreation - Molly Phillips (BREC)	Conquering the NRPA CPRP Exam: Why & What to Know? - Ashlei Morrison
2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	BREAK	
2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Part Two: Powering Forward, Improving Your Angle Through Recreation-Bill McNair	The Role of Parks & Recreation in Sports Tourism Louisiana Office of Culture and Tourism – Griffin Clark, MBA
3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	BREAK	
3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Beyond the Press Release: Building Media Relationships That Matter - Emily Oliver (NORD)	Learning the Ropes: Rethinking Risk on Playgrounds - Laura Kiper- Innovative Recreation
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	President's Reception Crying Eagle University Location Lake Charles 1165 E. McNeese St, Lake Charles, La 70607 Transportation will be provided	

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

TIME	SESSION / TRACK A	SESSION / TRACK B
7:00am	Morning Meeting – Get UP, OUT & ACTIVE – Walking event	
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Conference Registration	
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open	
8:15 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	Meet with Exhibitors	
8:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Before the Whistle: Building Physical Capability Through Pre-Practice Training - JD du Plessis	Picture Day Reimagined: Raise More Money, Protect Athlete Data & Give Families a Better Experience - Eric Miller
10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	BREAK – LAST CHANCE TO MEET WITH EXHIBITORS!	
10:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Maintenance and Management of a Complex – Jamey Abshire	The Ecology of Access: Designing Trails for People and Nature – Dallas Duhee
11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	Lunch / Roundtable	
12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	From Accessible to Active – Antonio “Tony” Torres	Butterfly Adaptive Programming – West Lake Recreation
2:00 p.m. - 2:05 p.m.	BREAK	
2:05 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.	Integrating Parks and Rec Success Into Community Development – Graham Beduze	Expanding Outdoor Recreation: LDWF Resources for Louisiana Communities – Eric Shanks
3:20 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	BREAK	
3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Ride the Wave: Building Pathways to Stronger Communities Innovative Programming • Empowerment • Community Impact – Dominique Barlow	Beyond the Flyer: Telling Your P&R Story on Social Media - Grayson Touchard
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Banquet Cocktail Reception L'Auberge Casino Resort Lake Charles All delegates and vendors invited	
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Banquet L'Auberge Casino Resort Lake Charles Guest Speaker: Jennie Finch	

