



Report to: General Committee

Date Report Authored: Monday September 12, 2011

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**SUBJECT:** Request from Toronto Canada Moose Jr. A Hockey Club for reduced rates during practice time. periods

**PREPARED BY:** Mary Creighton, Director Recreation Services 7515

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

- 1) That report "Request from Toronto Canada Moose Jr. A Hockey Club for reduced rates during practice time periods be received; and
- 2) That the Toronto Canada Moose Jr. A Hockey Club be charged the Minor Sport Group rate for practice time;
- 3) And that Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

**PURPOSE:**

To respond to the request by the Toronto Canada Moose Jr. A Hockey Club, who play out of Thornhill Arena, for the Minor Sport Group Rental rate during practice time ice.

**BACKGROUND:**

There are two Jr. A hockey clubs that play at Markham Arenas. The Toronto Canada Moose Jr. A Hockey Club, who play out of Thornhill Arena and the Markham Waxers Jr. A Hockey Club who play out of Centennial Arena.

In 2008, the Markham Waxers Junior A requested that Council change their practice ice rates to the Minor Sport Group Rental rate. Prior to this, as per the General Fees By-Law 2008-150, all Jr. A hockey clubs were paying an hourly rate of \$200(2008 rate) for both practice and game ice.

A staff report was completed in response to the request recommending that the rates remain consistent and that no discounted rates be offered. Staff had researched the practices of other municipalities in the GTA and although there were examples of two rates being charged, one for practice ice and one for game ice, the majority of municipalities charge one Junior A rate. There was concern noted that this could set precedent for other Jr A clubs that we provide ice to. Council chose to grant the request of the Markham Waxers, and approved two rates – a minor sport group rental rate for practices ice and the Junior A rental rate for game ice.

Toronto Canada Moose Jr. A Team has now requested the same arrangement for the 2011/12 season and beyond.

**OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:**

The Toronto Canada Moose Jr. A Hockey Club practices Monday to Friday from 4 pm to 5 pm at Thornhill Community Centre. They play home games on Saturday nights from 7 pm to 10 pm. based on their league schedule. The team pays a rate of \$211 per hour(2011/12 rate) for all games and practices, which is the Jr. A established rate in the Council approved Fees Bylaw 2011-150. The purpose of establishing a Jr. A rate,

separate from the Minor Sport Group Rental rate was based on the fact that the Jr. A clubs do not meet the residency requirement of 75%, which is a requirement for groups to receive the Minor Sport Group Rental rate. There is acknowledgement that at this level of play this is likely not possible due to the fact that the Jr. A system allows for teams to import players, resulting in a Jr A rate being established.

The team has requested that fees for practices be reduced to the Minor Sport Group Rental rate of \$149(2011/12 rate) for the 2011/12 and beyond to be consistent with the Markham Waxers.

There are currently only two Jr. A Hockey Clubs in Markham.

Staff is recommending that we grant this request to provide consistency between the groups. Staff will be reviewing all permit rates as part of the Pricing Strategy work that has been initiated as a result of the Integrated Leisure Master Plan. The initial work has commenced on the Pricing Strategy that will look at how we establish rates for programs and service and how they should be applied to various user groups.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND TEMPLATE: (external link)**

Reduction of the rate for practice time to the Minor Sport Group Rental rate for the 2011/12 season would result in \$5,935 in lost revenue, assuming their schedule remains consistent.

**HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS**

Not applicable.

**ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

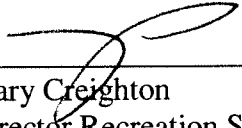
Not applicable.

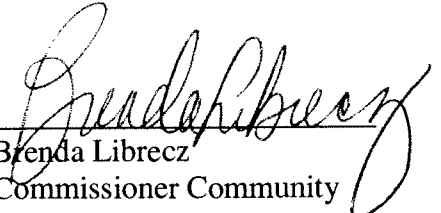
**BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:**

Not applicable.

**RECOMMENDED**

**BY:**

  
Mary Creighton  
Director Recreation Services

  
Brenda Librecz  
Commissioner Community  
and Fire Services

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Not applicable