



INCORPORATED 1855

TOWN OF WHITBY REPORT

RECOMMENDATION REPORT

REPORT TO: Operations Committee	REPORT NO: CMS 28-11
DATE OF MEETING: 24 May 2011	FILE NO(S):
PREPARED BY: Community and Marketing Services	LOCATION: All Wards
REPORT TITLE/SUBJECT:	Ice Allocation Policy

1.0 **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That Council repeal Policy Procedure entitled 'Distribution of Arena Ice Time at Town Operated Facilities' (Council Resolution No. 756-97);
2. That Council adopt the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy attached to Community and Marketing Services Report CMS 28-11 regarding the allocation of prime time ice in the Town of Whitby's arena facilities;
3. That all existing ice user minor sport organizations and existing adult ice user organizations be recognized for the continued rental of prime time ice; and,
4. That subject to Council approval of the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy that it be implemented commencing with the 2011/12 winter ice season.

2.0 **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

In response to increasing demand on Town of Whitby ice facilities, staff has revised the previous and outdated "Distribution of Arena Ice Time at Town Operated Facilities" with a proposed Ice Allocation Policy to provide for the equitable, reasonable and fair distribution of prime time ice for community user organizations.

3.0 **ORIGIN:**

The Community and Marketing Services Department has undertaken a review of current parks and recreation policies. During the past two years a number of existing

policies have been repealed or updated, while new policies have been introduced and approved by Council.

On February 29, 2011 Council approved Community and Marketing Services Report CMS 17-11 regarding ice and floor rental fees and directed staff to modify the existing ice distribution policy and to report back with a revised ice allocation policy prior to the annual ice user group meeting.

4.0 BACKGROUND:

The Town's Policy and Procedure – "Distribution of Arena Ice Time at Town Operated Facilities" was adopted by Council in June 1997 when the Town operated two (2) ice surfaces and accommodated the needs of three (3) minor user groups (Whitby Minor Hockey Association, Whitby Ringette Association and Whitby Figure Skating Club) and only one (1) adult user group (Whitby Men's Hockey League).

Although the dated policy and procedure is reasonably consistent with the current method of identifying priorities for the allocation of ice time, it is not sufficiently detailed to address the complexities of responding to the needs of many additional user organizations throughout the ten (10) ice surfaces now available.

5.0 DISCUSSION/OPTIONS:

A. Ice Allocation

The Town of Whitby's ten (10) arenas have been at almost 100% full utilization during prime time hours in the core winter season for a number of years now. This situation has occurred on previous occasions prior to providing additional ice surfaces in 1997 and 2004. For the 2-3 years prior to the opening of each of the new facilities, it became necessary for participating ice user organizations to develop internal growth management strategies to maintain utilization levels that were consistent with the availability of ice.

The proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy would use the following priority ranking to provide direction with respect to the allocation of prime time ice:

1. Town of Whitby general community use programs and Council approved special events
2. Whitby Minor Ice Sports Organizations and Groups
3. Junior "A" Senior Level Hockey organizations
4. Affiliated Adult Associations, Organizations and Groups
5. Residents (weekly rental contracts and casual use)
6. Commercial and Non-Resident Users

The majority of this staff report will focus on the allocation of ice time for the minor sports organizations.

The proposed policy is based on an allocation model that uses registration levels from the previous ice season as the benchmark for calculating the ice time requirements for the next season.

In preparing the proposed policy, staff reviewed ice allocation practices from neighbouring communities and received copies of current policies from Oshawa, Ajax and Pickering. These policies vary in terms of the allocation of ice time attributed to the various levels of play, but all use the prior year registration levels as a basis for establishing the hours of ice time to be assigned for the next season.

The allocation policies received also recognize the tax supported nature of the arena operations and the importance of providing scheduled opportunities for general community use of ice facilities. On this basis, public skating and special community events have been identified as the number one priority in allocating prime time ice.

Staff also met with the ice users on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 to present and receive feedback on the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy attached to this staff report.

Prime Time Ice and Core Ice Season

Based on the principles of fairness and equity, the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy would acknowledge the demands of the various user organizations for prime time ice primarily during the core winter season. As such, the application of the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy would be limited to the weekly distribution of prime time ice during the core winter ice season only. It is not intended for the distribution of non-prime time ice or for the distribution of any ice time during the pre-season, post season or summer season. The allocation of ice time during the pre-season, post-season and summer season would be based on an “as needed” and “as available” basis.

The proposed core winter ice season is comprised of twenty three (23) consecutive weeks beginning on the third Saturday in September and ending on the last Friday in February. This core winter ice season represents the standard duration that each organization is expected to operate its full programming and generally coincides with the operation of the Whitby Minor Hockey Association (WMHA) and Whitby Girls Hockey Association (WGHA) house leagues and the installation of all of the ice surfaces in Whitby.

Many of the user organizations will offer a portion of their full programming prior to (i.e. representative program start-up) and following (i.e. representative playoff and try-outs) the core winter season. Ice time allocation is generally not a problem during these

The registration levels from the previous season would be used to determine the initial allocation for the next season. User organizations would be required to provide a copy of the previous year's registration, indicating participant numbers and the distribution between house league, select and representative level teams.

For the purposes of identifying the total number of teams from the registration information provided, a minimum number of 17 players per team would be used.

The historical ice usage and distribution patterns from the prior year would be used as a baseline for future allocation. Consideration would be given to the previous year's permit holder for the same ice time provided a justified need exists for that ice time.

The proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy recognizes up to three (3) levels of play for youth (boys and girls) hockey and ringette, with each level requiring a different allocation of ice time as identified on Attachment No. 4. These levels of play and standard ice time provisions were identified in two of the ice allocation policies received from the other Durham Region lakeshore municipalities. The provision of weekly ice time for house league play is consistent across the Region. The provision of ice time for representative level play varies. The proposed weekly ice allocation for representative level play would be equal to that which is provided in Oshawa, but greater than the Pickering allocation.

This proposed allocation method of identifying the ice time required for the number of teams in each category was presented to the user organizations on April 12 and it was agreed that it matches their current method of scheduling ice time.

The proposed allocation policy would require the Community and Marketing Services Department - Facilities Section to develop a weekly ice distribution matrix for the core winter season on an annual basis using the registration information provided by the community user organizations and considering the historical distribution. There is a total of 64 hours of prime time ice available at each of the Town's ten (10) arenas each week. The following chart illustrates the distribution of the prime time ice for all arenas during the 2010/11 core winter season.

Chart 1

**Prime Time Ice Distribution- 5:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Weekdays & 6:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. Weekends
 Iroquois Park - All Arenas, Luther Vipond Memorial Arena, and McKinney Centre Arenas #1 and #2**

Total available prime time ice hours per week for 9 arenas – 576 hours

	Hours	Percentage %	Percentage %
Public programs		Percentage of Youth	Percentage of Total Ice Time (576)
Public Skating Programs	17	n/a	2.95%
Minor Sports Organizations		Percentage of Youth	Percentage of Total Ice Time (576)
Whitby Minor Hockey Association	340.75	70.88%	59.16%
Whitby Girls Hockey Association	92.0	19.14%	15.97%
Whitby Ringette Association	29.0	6.03%	5.03%
CYO	19.0	3.95%	3.30%
Total Minor Sports Usage	480.75	100.00%	83.46%
Adult User Groups		Percentage of Adult	Percentage of Total Ice Time (576)
Whitby Dunlops	4.5	8.11%	0.78%
WGHA Adult Program	4.5	8.11%	0.78%
Whitby Fury	3.25	5.86%	0.56%
Whitby Men's League	7.75	13.96%	1.35%
Brooklin Men's League	6.0	10.81%	1.04%
IPSC Adult Hockey League	16.75	30.18%	2.91%
Adult Private Rentals	12.75	22.97%	2.21%
Total Adult Usage	55.5	100.00%	9.64%
Total Combined Ice Usage	553.25		96.05%

**Prime Time Ice Distribution- 5:00 p.m. -11:00 p.m. Weekdays & 6:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. Weekends
 McKinney Centre - Arena #3 - Figure Skating Arena**

Total available prime time ice hours per week - 64 hours

	Hours	Percentage %	Percentage %
Minor Sports Organizations		Percentage of Youth	Percentage of Total Ice Time (64)
Whitby Figure Skating Club	43.0	85.15%	67.19%
WFSC-WSST	5.5	10.89%	8.59%
Public Skating	2.0	3.96%	3.13%
Total Skating Arena Usage	50.5	100.00%	78.91%
Prime Time Ice Available	13.5		21.09%
Total	64.0		100.00%

The figure skating arena at the McKinney Centre offers prime time ice for the Whitby Figure Skating Club, the Whitby Synchronized Skating Club, and a public skating session, but cannot accommodate the ice needs of the Hockey and Ringette organizations due to the lack of dasher boards.

The skating clubs are using 48.5 hours each week and there is one 2 hour public skating session scheduled each week for a total of 50.5 hours of prime time ice use. The remaining 13.5 hours of unused prime time hours would be available to accommodate the growth in the Skating Clubs.

Excluding the figure skating arena, the 2010/11 allocation in the above chart illustrates that a total of 480.75 hours has been regularly permitted by the Minor Sports Organizations, Adult users account for 55.5 hours and Public skating programs utilize 17 hours each week. There is a total of 22.75 hours of prime time ice available to accommodate growth.

The following chart represents the weekly ice allocation that would be required for each organization using the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy and applying the registration and team numbers provided by the organizations for their 2010/2011 ice season. This would be considered the minimum number of weekly hours necessary to offer the standard program for each organization.

Chart 2

Level of Play	Age Qualifier	Players	Weekly	WMHA		WGHA		CYO*		Ringette	
				Teams	Total Hours	Teams	Total Hours	Teams	Total Hours	Teams	Total Hours
			Entitlement								
House League Level - Hockey and Ringette	All ages	17	1 hour per Team	147	147	27	27	7	7	3	3
Select League Level -Hockey and Ringette	All ages	17	2 hours per Team	1	2					2	4
Representative League Level – Ringette	Up to age 11	17	2 hours per Team							3	6
	Age 12 +	17	2.5 hours per Team							7	17.5
Representative League Level – Hockey	Up to age 11	17	3.5 hours per Team	20	70	6	21				
	Age 12 +	17	4.5 hours per Team	23	103.5	14	63	3	13.5		
Weekly Number of Hours “Required” based on Allocation Method					322.5	111.0	20.5	30.5			
Weekly Number of Hours “Allocated” In 2010/2011 Season					341.0	92.0	19.0	29.0			
Difference between “Required” and “Allocated” hours					18.5	-19.0	-1.5	-1.5			

* CYO's prime time ice allocation is based on the Whitby resident component of the organization's overall registration.

The actual weekly ice time used by Ringette and CYO in 2010/11 is only slightly below the proposed weekly ice time that would be determined by the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy.

The actual weekly ice time used by the Whitby Girls Hockey Association in the 2010/11 season is considerably lower than the prescribed requirements of the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy, and the actual weekly ice time used by the Whitby Minor Hockey Association exceeds the amount recommended by the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy.

The unused prime time ice identified in Chart 1 of 22.75 hours would be available to the Whitby Girls Hockey Association, CYO and Ringette to offset their deficiency based on their 2010/11 registration. Staff would examine how those unused prime time hours are scheduled, which may require re-blocking of prime time ice to make it more usable and functional. The extra hours that Whitby Minor Hockey Association currently have been allocated could remain with that organization or be re-allocated to all organizations based on need.

It should be noted that the Whitby Girls Hockey Association and the Whitby Minor Hockey Association purchase additional ice time outside of the Town of Whitby.

Registration Levels and Growth Management Strategies

The use of prime time ice at Town arenas is very close to the maximum available and has been for a number of years.

Based on weekly prime time ice requirements as determined by the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy, there is very little opportunity to accommodate registration level increases by any user organization in Town arena facilities.

The ice user organizations may have to implement internal growth management strategies to respond to increased registrant demand and the limited availability of prime time ice. A number of strategies could be considered including acquiring more prime time ice from neighbouring municipalities. In every case, the organization is the best judge as to the most appropriate method to manage growth.

The Whitby Girls Hockey Association has curtailed registration levels and maintained a wait list of approximately 50 players for each of the past 4 seasons. The Whitby Minor Hockey Association also maintains a wait list of potential registrants, but has continued to grow its registration with additional program ice time offered during the non-prime time periods and through ice time purchased outside of Whitby.

B. Facility Rental Permit Administration

The proposed Ice Allocation Policy was also developed to formalize current practices and to provide clarity and direction with respect to a number of ice time permit issues.

The Town of Whitby reserves the right to control all ice distribution and use at Town facilities.

The ice user organizations would be required to commit to the use of the allocated weekly ice time for a continuous 23 week Core Winter Season as described previously in order to encourage full utilization and minimize the negative impacts of unused, returned, amended and cancelled ice time during the core season.

The proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy provides for the equitable, reasonable and fair distribution of unused ice and changing ice needs.

Permit Amendments - Returned Ice (Temporary)

Due to unforeseen circumstances, ice user organizations may be unable to fulfill their entire ice allocation for the year. In the event that this happens, the Town would make every attempt to temporarily 'loan' out the assigned hours to another ice user organization. If another user cannot be found, the original contract holder would be responsible for payment of the ice.

The unused hours would then revert back to the original user for an option to retain the hours for the next ice season. This temporary 'loan' process can be repeated for a second season, if required. If the original permit holder is unable to utilize the hours in the second season, the hours would be returned to the "available pool of hours" for reallocation. The Town would reserve the right to accept only hours that hold the greatest potential for reallocation.

Returned Ice (Permanent)

If the ice user organization is unable to fulfill its seasonal ice allocation commitment and feels that a permanent readjustment of the ice allocation is required, the Town would negotiate a permanent return of specific hours of ice time that would be removed from the organization's facility rental permit and returned to the "available pool of hours" for reallocation.

Added Ice (Temporary or Permanent)

As previously stated, the Town of Whitby would allocate ice time on the basis of the registration levels from the previous season to respond to a justified need. This process is required to prevent an over-subscription of ice by one organization, when an unmet demand for ice time exists in another organization.

Prime time ice may be added to the organization's facility rental permit on an "as needed" and "as available" basis. In the event that multiple organizations have a

justified need for additional ice to respond to the unmet demands of its base programming then ice time, as available, would be allocated to each organization on a pro-rata basis. All ice hours added to an existing contract would be final on the date issued and accepted. No further changes would be considered.

Transferred Ice/Ice Trades/Sub-Leased Ice

The Town of Whitby is the sole permit authority for the allocation of all ice time. The Town must be aware of and be able to control the intended use of all ice permitted within its facilities at all times. The practice of occasionally transferring ice, trading ice or sub-leasing ice between contract holders would be strictly prohibited and may lead to future ice allocation reductions.

Changing the intended use or specific users of the ice time within a single organization's contract would be acceptable upon advance written notification and forwarding of related schedule updates to the Town's Permitting Coordinator.

It is recognized that last minute changes to the intended use of the ice may occur under rare, infrequent and unforeseen circumstances, however the Town of Whitby must be notified by the permit holder, even after the occurrence.

Permit Cancellations

Permit cancellations by the contract holder during the core winter season are rare, but do occasionally occur.

Once a contract is signed, single or occasional ice use cancellations would be permitted only if initiated by the contract holder's designated ice scheduler(s) within 10 days written notice to the Town of Whitby. The Town would make every effort to secure another ice user for the available ice time. If a buyer cannot be found for the hours returned, the contract holder would be responsible to pay the full cost for unsold hours.

Permit cancellations by the contract holder after the core winter season are more common as the organizations have teams participating in playoff action where the outcome and the need for additional ice time is unpredictable.

In these situations, the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy would permit cancellation of scheduled ice time with four (4) days written notice without responsibility for payment of the ice time. The Town would make every effort to secure another ice user for the available ice time. If the cancellation notice is less than four (4) days and another buyer can not be found for the hours returned, the contract holder would be responsible to pay the full cost of unsold hours.

Permitted but Unused Ice

Ice user organizations are not permitted to book ice that go unused except for the purpose of ensuring that sufficient ice time would be available, as a contingency, to prevent a curfew situation for tournaments or league games.

Unused ice (no shows) reflects poorly on the contract holder and on the Town's administration of the ice time and would not be acceptable. The guidelines detailed in the draft Ice Allocation Policy for managing unused ice would be strictly applied.

Tournament Activity and Impact on Regular Program Scheduled

In addition to displacing all other regularly scheduled activity, tournaments typically result in fewer total hours of ice used during the weekends. Regularly scheduled programming at all of the arenas begins at 6:00 a.m. and tournaments will not generally schedule games prior to 8:00 a.m.

This two (2) hour delay in starting the tournament represents a reduction of 24 hours of ice rental at Iroquois Park Sports Centre (IPSC) and potentially 36 hours if the McKinney Centre (MC) and Luther Vipond Memorial Arena (LVMA) are involved. This is lost revenue to the Town and it is currently not charged back to the user group that is hosting the tournament.

The proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy would require the tournament host organization to fully utilize or pay for all of the ice time that they would ordinarily be allocated.

C. Public Skating Cancellations

The cancellation of public skating sessions during special events and tournaments has occurred too frequently in the past and has become an expectation of the host organizations.

As the highest priority for the allocation of ice time, it is very important that public skating sessions be scheduled on a regular weekly basis without interruption. The proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy would ensure that public skating sessions would always be available during all special events and tournaments at the McKinney Centre and Luther Vipond Memorial Arenas.

Public skating cancellations at the Iroquois Park Sports Centre (IPSC) would occasionally be required to respond to the ice needs of the largest tournaments and events. These cancellation dates would be known well in advance of the event and would be fully advertised through the Department's activity guide, website and local newspapers, in addition to notices posted at the arenas.

D. Adult Use of Prime Time Ice

Affiliated Adult Rental Clients

The proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy identifies the following adult organizations as affiliated community organizations for the purpose of allocating prime time ice:

Whitby Fury Hockey Club
Whitby Dunlops Hockey Club
Whitby Men's Hockey League
Brooklin Men's Hockey League
IPSC Adult Hockey League

The combined use of prime time ice for these organizations represents 51 hours or less than 10% of total prime time ice available. Only 25 of the 51 hours allocated to adults is scheduled before 10 p.m.

Prior to the expansion of IPSC in 1997, adult usage of the Town's arenas was limited to after 10:00 p.m. only, with the only exception of the Whitby Men's Hockey League that operated an 8 team league from 9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. The league currently has 20 teams operating on two arenas from 7:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight.

The proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy would continue to recognize the allocation of prime time hours to these adult organizations, but would limit the allocation to the current level and would provide no opportunity for expansion of the current allocation. Furthermore, if for any reason the adult organization(s) requires a reduction in the allocated ice time, the ice time would be returned to the available pool for reallocation to the minor ice sports organizations.

In 1996 during the planning for the 3 arena addition at IPSC, the Town negotiated a partnership with a private sector partner interested in developing an extensive men's league program. This partnership led to the addition of the 4th new ice pad at IPSC to accommodate the additional 86 hours per week required for the new men's league. The partnership failed in 1999 and the Town of Whitby assumed a league comprising 64 teams, requiring 32 hours of prime time ice per week.

Just three (3) years after the opening of the 4 arena pad addition at IPSC, the Town responded to the increased ice requirements of the minor sports organizations by contracting the Adult Hockey League to 56 teams (28 hours/week) and re-scheduling the use of the ice to the WMHA and WGHA.

Although the McKinney Centre provided growth opportunities for the minor user organizations, by the 2006/07 season prime time ice utilization was again saturated requiring a further contraction of the Adult Hockey League.

The Town currently operates a 42 team Adult Hockey League on Arenas #5 and #6 on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday evenings. The League operates on 21 hours per week comprised of 16 hours of prime time (before 11:00 p.m.) and 5 hours of non-prime time. The Town also operates a 20 team Summer Hockey League comprised mostly of teams that play in the winter league.

It is expected that any further contraction of the Adult Hockey League would result in a failure of the league to continue to operate. The Adult Hockey League operates as a separate section within the IPSC operations and generates a 'net operating profit' of approximately \$50,000 annually to the IPSC operating budget.

Non-Affiliated Adult Rental Clients

The proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy acknowledges the Town's long term relationship with a limited number of non-affiliated adult rental clients that have had ice time allocated during the prime time period for many years (some as many as 30 years). The draft policy proposes that these clients would also be grandfathered to use the allocated ice time until such time the client does not re-apply for the ice permit in future years.

The proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy would also acknowledge that the prime time period may not be fully utilized by minor user organizations and there may be opportunities annually for non-affiliated rental clients to apply for and gain access to prime time ice. This access would not entitle the permit holder to future consideration for the same time period each year. Opportunities for adult rental clients would be reviewed annually and only on an as available basis.

In summary, the Town provides prime time ice for adult ice users that accounts for less than 9% of the prime time ice available on its hockey designated arenas. Conversely, 85% of prime time ice on the designated hockey arenas is allocated to youth sport organizations, and almost 100% on the dedicated figure skating arena.

Staff recommends the Town continue to allocate the current number of prime time hours and the current distribution times to all existing adult ice users. It is further recommended that these existing adult groups would not be permitted to expand unless prime time ice requirements of all Whitby minor ice sport organizations are met, as per the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy.

Implementing this approach also ensures that Whitby remains an inclusive community by permitting ice for residents of all ages to participate at some level on Town arenas.

E. Resident and Non-Resident Participation

Prior to the February 9, 2011 meeting with the ice users, the organizations were requested to provide an estimate of the percentage of resident versus non-resident participation. The groups were also asked if their organization or the various Provincial Sport Governing Bodies identified regulations or expectations with respect to residency.

The following information was provided:

Whitby Minor Hockey Association	- 99% resident
Whitby Girls Hockey Association	- 94% resident
Whitby Ringette Association	- 97% resident
Whitby Figure Skating Club	- 90% resident
Whitby Synchronized Skating Club	- 67% resident
Catholic Youth Organization (CYO)	- 61% resident

The Catholic Youth Organization offers programming at both Whitby and Oshawa facilities and has advised that only teams comprised of Whitby residents use ice time in Whitby facilities. A total of 61% (161 participants) of the CYO registration are Whitby residents. Based on the proposed prime time ice allocation formula, CYO would require 20 hours of prime time ice.

The Ontario Minor Hockey Association (covering both the WMHA and CYO) identifies clear expectations and residency guidelines for the representative level program, but does not require residency for the house league programs. The WMHA has not imposed a residency requirement for their house league program.

The Ontario Women's Hockey Association does not impose a residency requirement for Girls Hockey at any level. The Whitby Girls Hockey Association has implemented a resident only policy for the novice through midget age programs, but has no residency requirement for the intermediate level play.

The Ontario Ringette Association has clear expectations with respect to residency and the Whitby Ringette Association acknowledges that non-resident players can only be imported to the Whitby program if the requested level of play is not available in the player's resident centre.

The Canadian Figure Skating Association does not require residency for its member organizations. The Whitby Figure Skating Club has members that are residents and non-residents.

The Synchronized Skating Club relies on non-resident participation in order to provide a sufficient number of participants to create a full skating team.

Similarly, the Sledge Hockey program operates with participants from across the region, not just with Whitby residents and would not meet a high residency requirement.

The Whitby Men's Hockey League currently has 90% Whitby resident participation and has imposed a residency requirement for any new registration that would occur through attrition. The Brooklin Men's Hockey League has a similar percentage of Whitby residents.

The Whitby Fury and Whitby Dunlops hockey teams do not have a Whitby resident requirement and would not meet a high residency requirement if one was imposed.

In summary, the Town of Whitby has been fortunate to have a diverse group of organizations that provide community based recreational ice programming and opportunities for youth and adults alike. Staff is recommending that all of the existing minor sport and adult ice organizations be considered Town of Whitby affiliate ice user organizations. Staff further recommends to Council that all of the existing ice user organizations continue to receive an allocation of prime time ice.

F. Arena Service Levels in the Region

A review of the ice facilities in the lakeshore municipalities within the region has clearly identified Whitby as having the highest level of service by providing one municipally operated ice surface for every 12,400 people.

Arenas are provided in neighbouring municipalities as follows:

- 1. Pickering - 5 Municipally Operated Arenas
- 2. Ajax - 5 Municipally Operated Arenas
- 3. Oshawa - 8 Municipally Operated Ice Surfaces + 4 Municipally supported + 2 private arenas at Canlan
- 4. Whitby - 10 Municipally Operated Arenas
- 5. Clarington - 5 Municipally Operated Arenas + 1 private arena (Arena Board Orono)

<u>Municipally Owned/Operated Arenas</u>		
Population	# of Arenas	Population Per Arena

Pickering	94,000	5	18,800
Ajax	100,000	5	20,000
Whitby	124,000	10	12,400
Oshawa	152,000	8	19,000
Clarington	86,300	5	17,260

In 2006 the Culture, Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan (CPROS) identified the provincial average (standard) for municipalities of a similar size and characteristic to Whitby as one (1) ice surface for every 15,000 people. Since 1997, Whitby has significantly exceeded that standard.

In addition to the 8 municipally operated ice surfaces, the City of Oshawa has access to additional ice surfaces at the Oshawa Campus Centre (UOIT/Durham College) and the General Motors Centre that are “financially supported”, but not operated by the City. Recognizing that these two facilities have an independent operator committed to the needs of their major tenants (Men and Women Varsity Hockey, Oshawa Generals) and special attractions, the 4 ice surfaces may only translate into a potential of 2 -2.5 additional ice surfaces that would be considered available to community user groups.

The service provision in Whitby is still higher than the City of Oshawa if all four (4) of the additional city supported ice facilities were added. If 2 surfaces were eliminated from the Oshawa total to acknowledge commitments to the UOIT/Durham College and the Oshawa Generals and events planned for the GM Centre, Oshawa would provide 1 arena for every 15,500 persons.

Oshawa also benefits from the additional 2 ice surfaces at the privately owned Canlan facility which primarily targets adult hockey, but will also provide ice time to any team interested.

With its municipally owned and operated arenas, and the municipally supported and privately owned arenas, the City of Oshawa has 14 ice surfaces and can boast the provision of 1 arena for every 10,800 persons. Based on the above, it is likely that Oshawa has unused ice capacity.

<u>Municipally Supported Arenas</u>		
Population	# of Arenas	Population Per Arena

Pickering	94,000	5	18,800
Ajax	100,000	5	20,000
Whitby	124,000	10	12,400
Oshawa	152,000	12	12,667
Clarington	86,300	5	17,260

Whitby's arena facilities have operated at near saturation during prime time since September 2006. Some of Whitby's user organizations have indicated purchasing prime time ice outside of Whitby since 2008. Although the annual total does not represent the equivalent of an additional ice surface, Whitby's minor sports organizations point to purchasing in excess of 1,200 hours of ice per season outside the town. A typical arena would offer 1,625 hours of prime time ice during a 23 week winter season.

Whitby's Population and Arena Service Levels

<u>Whitby's Arena Service Delivery</u>			
	Population	# of Arenas	Population Per Arena
1996	76,685	3	26,561
1997	79,250	7	11, 321
2003	105,320	7	15,045
2004	111,350	10	11,130
2011	124,000	10	12,400

Prior to opening the McKinney Centre in September 2004, Whitby's service level was approximately 1:15,000 persons (7 arenas for a population of approximately 105,000). McKinney absorbed some pent up demand immediately and by the third operating season it was fully occupied during prime time.

Whitby residents enjoy a higher than average level of service for the provision of arena facilities and this raises an important question. Did the “right timed” delivery of arena facilities encourage continued growth in participation of ice sports or did the unmet demand for ice facilities encourage the delivery of arena facilities?

Whitby’s population has increased by approximately 10% since 2006 and its population is expected to be 154,000 people by 2016.

If a service level provision of 1:15,000 is adequate to respond to the participation levels then Whitby’s current compliment of ice facilities would respond to the needs through 2016. However, if a service standard of 1:12,000 is more appropriate to respond to the needs of community, then additional ice surfaces would be required. Under the current financing model for arena facilities, providing additional ice surfaces would come at a cost to the general taxpayer, both in terms of the capital and operating costs, thereby affecting an increase to the tax rate.

This would need to be more thoroughly evaluated on the basis of participation levels relative to population growth, as well as a more thorough understanding of the changing demographics in the community and the continued popularity of ice sports. The overall cost implication of financing and operating new arenas would also need to be thoroughly examined.

G. Increasing Demand for Ice Facilities in Whitby

Prior to the February 9, 2011 meeting with the ice users, the organizations were asked to provide the current registration levels and the estimated growth projections for each of the next 5 years (assuming that growth could be accommodated).

The following information was provided:

Whitby Minor Hockey Association	- 3,232 registered - estimated growth at 5% each year
Whitby Girls Hockey Association	- 814 registered – estimated growth at 5-6% for the next two years and then 3% for the following three years
Whitby Ringette Association	-251 registered – estimated growth above 5% for next year and 3% for each of the following 4 years
Whitby Figure Skating Club	-1,400 registered – estimated minimal growth over the next 5 years

Whitby Synchronized Skating Club	-18 registered – growth is dependent on ability to attract another team
Catholic Youth Organization	-264 registered – registration levels are capped by agreement with the OMHA at 385 players – CYO expects to achieve that level of participation during the next 5 years
Adult Organizations	-806 registered – no growth permitted despite increased demand from adults wishing to participate in the Whitby Men’s Hockey League and the IPSC Hockey League

The growth projections identified above would result in an additional 1,240 participants in the minor ice sports organizations. Using the allocation formula in the draft Ice Allocation Policy and assuming the projected growth represents house league level play, the additional ice time requirements would be as follows:

1240 participants /17 participants per team = 73 House League Teams

Based on the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy, the 73 additional teams would require 73 hours of prime time ice per week, which equates to slightly more than one additional arena.

6.0 PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS/PLAN:

Subject to Council approval, the proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy would be provided to all Whitby ice user organizations. The Town would use the Policy to establish the 2011/12 core winter season prime time ice allocations.

7.0 CONSIDERATIONS:

A. PUBLIC

The proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy aligns with the Town’s current practice. It is also reflective of the practice employed by other municipalities and provides for the equitable, reasonable and fair distribution of prime time ice.

B. FINANCIAL

The proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy reflects the current practice and has no incremental or negative revenue impact on the operating budget.

C. IMPACT ON & INPUT FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS/SOURCES

N/A

D. CORPORATE AND/OR DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The proposed draft Ice Allocation Policy is consistent with the Town's Community Strategic Plan, specifically Strategic Objective 4 - Pursue excellence in local government.

8.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

That Council repeal the existing ice allocation policy, and further, that Council adopt the proposed draft policy regarding prime ice allocation for arena facilities.

9.0 ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No. 1 - Policy Procedure "Distribution of Arena Ice Time at Town Operated Facilities"

Attachment No. 2 – Proposed Ice Allocation Policy

Attachment No. 3 – Email message from Mr. Brian Mikkelsen, Whitby Girls Hockey Association

Attachment No. 4 – Proposed Ice Allocation for Level of Play

For further information contact:

Greg Scott, Manager of Facilities, Ext. 4321

Peter LeBel, Director of Community and Marketing Services, Ext. 4319

Robert Petrie, Chief Administrative Officer, Ext. 2211

POLICY

Policy No : A-AAA-xxx (this number is generated in the CAO's Office)

Author: Greg G. Scott, Manager of Facilities

Authority:

Ice Allocation Policy

Section: Community and Marketing Services Department

Sub-Section: Facilities

Effective Date: mm/dd/yyyy

Review By Date: mm/dd/yyyy

Replaces:

Last Modified:

References and Related Documents:

Policy Statement

The Town of Whitby recognizes and promotes the value of an active and engaged community and encourages participation in ice sports and skating to the benefit of the whole community.

It is the policy of the Town of Whitby to provide for the equitable, reasonable and fair distribution of prime time ice and to maintain a method of determining access to municipal facilities and allocating prime time ice for community use.

The Community and Marketing Services Department is responsible for the operation and management of the Town's arena facilities.

This prime time ice allocation policy has been developed to respond to current demand, projected growth, changing utilization patterns, shifting demographics, market supply and the successful management of the Town's inventory of ice.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the allocation processes and responsibilities of the Town of Whitby and the community user organizations with respect to the fair and equitable distribution of prime time ice.

This policy will also outline the decision making criteria used for determining the weekly allocation of ice time and the permit administration processes involved.

Scope

The application of the ice allocation policy is limited to the weekly distribution of prime time ice during the core **Winter Ice Season** only and is not intended for the distribution of non-prime time ice or for the non core winter season ice time. Shoulder season and summer season ice distribution will be allocated on an as needed and as available basis.

It is understood that some ice user organizations may be able to utilize the non prime time ice available throughout the week prior to 5:00pm to offer additional programming. Ice time utilized during the non-prime time period is not factored into the calculations for the weekly prime time ice allocations.

The core **Winter Ice Season** is comprised of **23 consecutive weeks** beginning on the **3rd Saturday in September** and ending on the **last Friday in February**.

The ice user organizations will be required to commit to the use of the allocated weekly ice time for the full 23 week Winter Ice Season.

It is the responsibility of the Community and Marketing Services Department to ensure that the policy is followed to the fullest extent and to administer the ice rental permits accordingly. It is the responsibility of the ice user organizations to adhere to the policy, provide registration and program information to the Town, provide approved representatives to attend meetings and permit facilities on behalf of their organizations.

Procedure

To be formally recognized, groups must file the following information annually with the Town of Whitby:

- Complete list of players by level of play
- Executive list
- Annual financial statement
- Copies of minutes from the Annual General Meeting

Those not providing this information would not be entitled to the Whitby Minor Ice Sports Organizations and Groups ice rental rates.

Prime Time Ice Allocation and Distribution Process

On an annual basis the Community and Marketing Service Department - Facilities Section will develop a weekly allocation using historical usage patterns and an Ice Distribution Matrix that reflects the requirements of each user and the application of the direction of this allocation policy. This weekly allocation will be provided to the user groups during the annual ice meeting in May of each year.

The allocation of ice time for each user organization will be based on the previous year's actual registration figures for the number of teams and/or the number of participants. The Town of Whitby reserves the right to re-assign ice annually as required to respond to changes in registration patterns.

Prime Time Ice and Core Ice Season

The weekly allocation of prime time ice will be based on the previous year's actual registration figures for the number of teams and/or the number of participants (as applicable).

Additional prime time and non-prime time ice requirements outside of the defined core **Winter Ice Season** will not be subjected to the weekly allocations identified by the Ice Distribution Matrix.

Prime Time is defined as follows:

Monday – Friday 5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday 6:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Non Prime Time is defined as follows:

Monday – Friday Open to 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. to close

Saturday and Sunday - 11:00 p.m. – close

Allocation Priorities

Prime Time ice at Town of Whitby Arenas will be allocated according to the following priority levels:

- 1) Town of Whitby programs, general community use and Council approved special events
- 2) Whitby Minor Ice Sports Organizations and Groups
- 3) Junior "A", Senior Level Hockey Organizations
- 4) Affiliated Adult Associations, Organizations and Groups
- 5) Residents (weekly rental contracts and casual use)
- 6) Commercial and Non-Resident Users

The Town of Whitby recognizes the following affiliated community ice user organizations:

Whitby Minor Hockey Association, Whitby Girls Hockey Association, Whitby Figure Skating Club, Catholic Youth Organization Hockey Association, Whitby Synchronized Skating Teams, Whitby Ringette Association, Whitby Dunlops Sr. A Hockey Club, Whitby Fury Jr A Hockey Club, Whitby Steel Hawks Sledge Hockey, Whitby Men's Hockey League, Brooklin Men's Hockey League and the Iroquois Park Sports Centre Adult Hockey League as approved sport organizations providing community programs for youth and adults.

Ice Allocation Process for Whitby's Minor Sports Organizations

- 1) The number of weekly hours of ice permitted to each of the community sport organizations will be provided on the basis of a justified need.

Registration levels from previous season will be used to determine the initial allocation for the next season. User Organizations are required to provide a copy of the previous year's registration indicating participant numbers and distribution between house league, select and representative level teams.

2) For the purposes of identifying the total number of teams from the registration numbers provided, a minimum number of 17 players per team will be used.

3) Historical ice usage distribution patterns from the prior year will be used as a baseline for future allocation. Consideration will be given to the previous year's permit holder for the same ice time.

4) The Town of Whitby recognizes the potential for up to three (3) levels of play for youth (boys and girls) Hockey and Ringette, with each level requiring a different allocation of ice time. Weekly allocations will be based on the following standard provisions identified for the various levels of play:

Hockey (Boys and Girls)

- 1) House League Level – 1 hour /team/week = 2 Whitby teams on the ice twice per week
- 2) Select Level Play – 2 hours/team/week = 1 Whitby team on the ice for 2 hours per week
- 3) Rep Level Play – up to 11 years of age – 3.5 hours/team/week = 1 Whitby team on the ice for 3.5 hours per week
- 4) Rep Level Play – over 11 years of age – 4.5 hours/team/week = 1 Whitby team on the ice for 4.5 hours per week

Ringette

- 1) House League Level – 1 hour/team/week - 2 Whitby teams on the ice twice per week
- 2) Select Level Play – 2 hours/team/week - 1 Whitby team on the ice twice per week
- 3) Rep Level Play – up to 11 years of age – 2 hours/team/week = 1 Whitby team on the ice twice per week
- 4) Rep Level Play – over 11 years of age – 2.5 hours/team/week = 1 Whitby team on the ice for 2.5 hours per week
- 5)

The provision of the skating only arena at the McKinney Centre has provided the opportunity to accommodate the total prime ice time requirements of the Whitby Figure Skating Club and the Whitby Synchronized Skating Team on one ice surface. The weekly allocation of ice time for the Whitby Figure Skating Club will be based on total registration numbers and historical usage patterns. The skating clubs are also able to schedule additional ice time on the other arenas during the non-prime time periods.

The following will illustrate the application of the ice allocation matrix to determine the weekly allocation of prime time ice for Whitby's Minor Ice Sports Organizations:

Level of Participation	Age Qualifier	Players per Team	Weekly Entitlement
House League Level Hockey/Ringette	All ages/levels of the House League program	17	1 hour per Team
Select League Level Hockey/Ringette	All ages (Select League is comprised of House League Players)	17	2 hours per Team
Representative Level Ringette	Ringette - Up to/Incl. Age 11	17	2 hours per Team
	Ringette - Age 12 +	17	2.5 hours per Team
Representative Level Hockey (AE, A, AA, AAA) (B, BB, C – Girls)	Up to/Incl. Age 11 - (Minor Pee Wee and below)	17	3.5 hours per Team
	Age 12 + (Pee Wee and above)	17	4.5 hours per Team

Supplementary Requests

As previously stated, the Town of Whitby will allocate ice time on the basis of the registration levels from the previous season. In this regard, the Town and the organization can begin the early planning for subsequent seasons with the assurance of having the same access to the ice. This initial allocation information is provided to the organization at the annual ice user meeting in May.

The Town of Whitby may adjust initial allocations after the current year's registration is complete in order to respond to annual growth or reductions.

The Town of Whitby recognizes that some ice user organizations may from time to time require additional ice to offer extended programming or league expansion. Organizations interested in obtaining additional Whitby ice time for new program initiatives must provide supplementary requests in writing to the Town, prior to accepting registration for the new program or league expansion.

Similarly, organizations wishing to alter their program (i.e. game time duration) from the initial allocations standards may do so in consultation with the Town. Approval for such requests will not be unreasonably withheld, subject to the request having no, or minimal impact on the programming of the ice user immediately preceding or following the ice time involved. Notification of any anticipated change in ice usage will be provided to the Town of Whitby at the annual ice user meeting.

Residency

The Town of Whitby recognizes the tax based contributions of Whitby residents toward the development, operation and ongoing capital maintenance of the Town's arena facilities and as such Whitby residents have been identified with a higher priority for access to prime time ice.

The Town of Whitby acknowledges that the vast majority of the registrants for each of the community user organizations are Whitby residents; however for the purposes of supporting the development of all of Whitby's user organizations, the Town of Whitby will acknowledge and accept the residency requirements established by each individual organization and those identified by the sport's governing body (OMHA, OWHA, and ORA).

The Town of Whitby does reserve the right to impose more stringent residency requirements and/or limit the allocation of prime time ice to organizations whose registrant composition does not reflect a Whitby resident majority.

The Town will accommodate non-resident applications for use of ice facilities during the non-prime time periods or at other times when the availability exists and resident demand has been satisfied. Non-resident user group applications will be considered only on an "as available" basis and any accommodation will not form a historical precedence.

Non-Affiliated Adult Rental Clients

The Town of Whitby wishes to recognize the long term relationship with a limited number of non-affiliated adult rental clients that have ice time allocated during the prime time period (prior to 11:00pm). These clients will be regarded with a status that will permit the continued use of the allocated ice time until such time as the rental client group disbands or fails to re-apply for the ice permit in future years.

The Town of Whitby acknowledges that the 5:00pm -11:00pm prime time period may not be fully utilized by the community user organizations and there may be opportunities annually for non-affiliated rental clients to apply for and gain access to prime time ice. This access does not entitle the permit holder to future consideration for the same time period each year. Opportunities for adult rental clients will be reviewed annually and on an as available basis.

Flood Times

The ice users acknowledge that the time required to resurface the ice at the beginning of or during any portion of the permitted use will be included within the hours of ice time permitted. Resurfacing operations (whether a flood or a scrape) will require 8-10 minutes and will be provided primarily on a scheduled basis or as required by the program needs.

The Town of Whitby will at all times provide a re-surfaced ice sheet at the beginning of each new program. Ice users may opt to not have the ice re-surfaced provided that, in the sole opinion of the Town of Whitby, the ice surface condition is acceptable.

The Town of Whitby has established program start times and flood schedules for each ice surface to ensure efficiency in operations and to accommodate programming that may be scheduled for 1.5 hour time slots.

The following flood times have been established for each ice surface at the Town's three arenas:

Iroquois Park Sports Centre

Arena #1 – on the hour/half hour

Arena #2 – 15 minutes past/to the hour

Arena #3 – on the hour/half hour

Arena #4 – 15 minutes past/to the hour

Arena #5 – on the hour/half hour

Arena #6 – 15 minutes past/to the hour

McKinney Centre

Arena #1 – 15 minutes past/to the hour

Arena #2 – on the hour/half hour

Arena #3 – on the hour/half hour or as directed

Luther Vipond Memorial Arena – on the hour/half hour

Tournament / Special Events

The Town of Whitby acknowledges the following historical special events and tournaments:

WMHA Thanksgiving Hockey Tournament

WMHA Silver Stick Tournament

WGHA Girls Hockey Tournament

WRA Ringette Tournament

WFSC - EOSIC Skating Competitions and Sectionals

WMHA Holiday Classic Hockey Tournament

WGHA Wolf Fest Tournament

OMHA Hockey Festival

WFSC Carnival (every 2nd year)

Organizations wishing to introduce a new tournament or special event must submit a request in writing to the Town and it will be addressed at the annual ice users meeting. Such requests must be at made at

least 1 year prior to the event in order to be considered. New events will only be considered with the full support of the Ice User Organizations represented at the Ice User Meeting. Similarly, and unless otherwise agreed, existing events that do not operate for two consecutive seasons, will be deemed cancelled and the ice time will be reallocated to the regular weekly user. An application to re-start the event will be required to following the procedures outlined above.

Organizations wishing to make changes to the tournament schedule (either reducing or increasing the number of hours) must provide written notification identifying all of the changes to the Town of Whitby's Permitting Coordinator within 60 days of the scheduled event, in order to provide adequate time to re-allocate hours not required or secure additional hours of ice time as needed. No changes in the tournament schedule will be made within 60 days of the event.

Host organizations that choose to start the tournament activity later than the start of prime time on the weekend will be expected to fully utilize all of the ice time that would ordinarily be allocated to the organization during a non-tournament weekend, but would not be expected to permit the time that would not be ordinarily allocated to the organization.

Facility Rental Permit Amendments, Cancellations and Unused Ice Time

The Town of Whitby reserves the right to control all ice distribution and use at Town owned facilities for the duration of the ice contract.

The ice user organizations will be required to commit to the use of the allocated weekly ice time for the full 23 week Winter Ice Season.

Every effort will be made to minimize the negative impacts that unused, returned, amended and cancelled ice can have on the Town and its users. As such the Town will apply all the following guidelines to reasonably and responsibly manage unused ice or changing ice needs once permits have been issued.

Permit Amendments

Returned Ice (Temporary)

Due to unforeseen circumstances, ice user organizations may be unable to fulfill their entire permitted ice allocation for the year. In the event that this happens, the Town of Whitby will make every attempt to temporarily 'loan' out the hours not required to another ice user organization. If another buyer cannot be found, the contract holder is responsible for the payment.

The unused hours will then revert back to the original user for an option to retain the hours for the next ice season. This 'temporary loan' process can be repeated for a second season, if required. If the original permit holder is unable to utilize the hours in the second season, the hours will be returned to the "available pool" for reallocation.

The Town reserves the right to accept only hours that hold the greatest potential for reallocation.

Returned Ice (Permanent)

If the ice user organization is unable to fulfill its seasonal ice allocation commitment and feels that a permanent readjustment of the ice allocation is required, the Town will negotiate a permanent return of specific hours of ice time that will be removed from the organization's facility rental permit and returned to the available pool of hours for reallocation. Modifications to a permit must be requested in writing prior to the signing of the permit or September 1st, whichever comes first. The Town reserves the right to accept only hours that hold the greatest potential for reallocation.

Added Ice (Temporary or Permanent)

As previously stated, the Town of Whitby will allocate ice time on the basis of the registration levels from the previous season to respond to a justified need.

This process is required to prevent an over-subscription of ice by one organization, when an unmet demand for ice time exists in another organization.

Prime time ice may be added to the organization's facility rental permit on an "as needed" and "as available" basis. In the event that multiple organizations have a justified need for additional ice to respond to the unmet demands of its base programming then ice time, as available, will be allocated to each organization on a pro-rata basis – whereas between two or more organizations requiring an aggregate total number of hours exceeding the total number of available hours, those available hours will be offered on a shared and pro-rata basis, based on the number of hours required by each organization.

All ice hours added to an existing contract will be final on the date issued and accepted. No further changes will be considered.

Transferred Ice/Ice Trades/Sub-Leased Ice

The Town of Whitby is the sole permit authority for the allocation of all ice time. The Town must be aware of and be able to control the intended use of all ice permitted within its facilities at all times. The practice of occasionally transferring ice, trading ice or sub-leasing ice between contract holders is strictly prohibited and may lead to future ice allocation reductions.

Changing the intended use or specific users of the ice time within a single organization's contract is acceptable upon advance written notification and forwarding of related schedule updates to the Permitting Coordinator.

It is recognized that last minute changes to the intended use of the ice may occur under rare, infrequent and unforeseen circumstances; however the Town of Whitby must be notified by the permit holder, even after the occurrence.

Permit Cancellations by the Contract Holder

Once a contract is signed, single or occasional ice use cancellations will be permitted only if initiated by the contract holder's designated ice scheduler(s) with 10 days written notice to the Town of Whitby.

The Town will make every effort to secure another ice user for the available ice time. If a buyer cannot be found for the hours returned, the contract holder is responsible to pay the full cost for unsold hours.

Permitted but Unused Ice

Ice user organizations are not permitted to book ice that will go unused except for the purpose of ensuring that sufficient ice time is available, as a contingency, to prevent a curfew situation for tournaments or league games.

Unused ice (no shows) reflects badly on the contract holder and on the Town's administration of the ice time and is not acceptable. The guidelines detailed in the Ice Allocation Policy for managing unused ice will be strictly applied.

Limited Public Skating Cancellations

As the number 1 priority for the allocation of ice time in the Town of Whitby's arenas, the general public use of the ice for public skating will be made available during all special events and tournaments. Regularly scheduled Public Skating Sessions at the McKinney Centre and the Luther Vipond Memorial Arena will be maintained as scheduled.

Responsibilities

The Community and Marketing Services Department is responsible for the administration of this policy.

The Supervisor of Marketing and Programs is responsible for implementing and overseeing the procedures identified in this policy.

It is the responsibility of the Director of Community and Marketing Services to regularly monitor the effectiveness of this policy.

Date

Robert S. Petrie
Chief Administrative Officer

Scott, Greg

From: Mikkelsen, Brian [Brian.Mikkelsen@td.com]**Sent:** April 5, 2011 10:07 AM**To:** Copeland, Brent; Scott, Greg**Cc:** 'Pattie Paling'; 'Pattie Paling'**Subject:** Ice Allocation Methodology

For your meeting and discussion next Tuesday I'm sure a topic of discussion will be around equitable ice allocations. I trust your analysis has taken into account the fact that a few user groups (ie WGHA and Whitby Mens League) heeded the advice of the Town a number of years ago that we consider curtailing our registration to offset the limited ice available. This was just one strategy we were asked to consider (others included reducing ice allocation per team, doubling up more teams per ice and looking for ice outside Whitby which of course is not a suggestion the Town offered but we each started to consider).

Since some organizations began curtailing registration (WGHA has turned away girls in each of the past 3-4 seasons) and I know Whitby Mens League has a waiting list of app. 50 players I don't think an ice allocation model can be built on current state as WMHA has continued to grow unchecked and at last discussion intend to continue to do so. In their own words, they have no intention of ever turning a kid away from playing. I admit that is admirable but it is also unfair to other organizations who are in order to maintain the level of ice provided to their existing membership.

This is something we feel very strongly about as we have no doubt that because WMHA is 2 to 3 times larger than their next closest user group they can continue to grow unchecked and force ice allocation reconsiderations every few years and other user groups such as WGHA will slowly get squeezed out. A simple linear growth analysis would clearly show how the larger organization will over time exhaust the fixed available ice.

Please ensure this is considered in your analysis as WGHA will fight strongly on this point as we felt we abided well in restraining our registration.

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Proposed Ice Allocation for Level of Play

Hockey (Boys and Girls)

- 1) House League Level – 1 hour/team/week = 2 Whitby teams on the ice twice per week
- 2) Select Level Play – 2 hours/team/week = 1 Whitby team on the ice for 2 hours per week
- 3) Rep Level Play – up to 11 years of age – 3.5 hours/team/week = 1 Whitby team on the ice for 3.5 hours per week
- 4) Rep Level Play – over 11 years of age – 4.5 hours/team/week = 1 Whitby team on the ice for 4.5 hours per week

Ringette

- 1) House League Level – 1 hour/team/week - 2 Whitby teams on the ice twice per week
- 2) Select Level Play – 2 hours/team/week - 1 Whitby team on the ice twice per week
- 3) Rep Level Play – up to 11 years of age – 2 hours/team/week = 1 Whitby team on the ice twice per week
- 4) Rep Level Play – over 11 years of age – 2.5 hours/team/week = 1 Whitby team on the ice for 2.5 hours per week