

Policy Title: Arena Ice Allocation**Policy Number: 08-03-03**

Section:	Community Services	Subsection:	Recreation
Effective Date:	October 30, 2013	Last Review Date:	October, 2013
Approved by: Council	Owner Division/Contact: Sports Unit, Recreation Division, Community Services Department		

Policy Statement

The City of Mississauga is committed to meeting the recreational needs of the City and its residents through a comprehensive arena ice allocation policy for all users.

Purpose

Standards and priorities for allocation of arena ice have been developed to meet the needs of Mississauga residents, while ensuring the effective and optimal use of City arena facilities, at the lowest possible cost to the taxpayer.

This policy outlines the standard ice allocations for each type of user group and the priorities which will be applied in the event of a conflict in ice time requests.

Scope

This policy applies to all City of Mississauga arenas, excluding Vic Johnson Arena (Streetsville), the Hershey Centre Bowl and all artificial outdoor City rinks.

Reference to “ice” during the summer season includes the rental of arena floor space where the ice has been temporarily removed.

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

“Affiliated Youth Group” means those Mississauga-based groups that provide services which supplement those provided by the City and that have successfully applied for and been granted status as an Affiliated Group in accordance with Corporate Policy and Procedure – Community Group Support Program. School groups qualify for the youth affiliate rate when activities are included in the course curriculum or where school representation is required.

“Mississauga Resident” means anyone who lives permanently in Mississauga (temporary absences for reasons such as vacation do not affect resident status, as long as the resident’s principal address remains in Mississauga); a student who is registered in an educational institution in Mississauga and who lives and attends school in Mississauga for a period of at least eight months during the calendar year; or a non-resident who is the principal owner of a business in Mississauga and thereby pays Mississauga business taxes.

Administration

This Policy Is Administered By The Sports Unit, Recreation Services Division, Community Services Department.

Residency

Mississauga Residents must be guaranteed a fair opportunity to register, try-out and participate in Mississauga-based recreational and competitive programs. Membership for recreational (house league) players cannot be closed to Mississauga Residents prior to the start of the organization’s season or, for competitive players, before the end of try-outs if non-residents make up any portion of the membership. The level of play will be determined by the applicable organization and not by the City.

To ensure the sustainability of Mississauga based ice organizations, Affiliated Youth Groups that are allocated ice in accordance with this policy will be allowed to register a maximum of five percent of the organization’s total registration as non-residents without seeking an exception from the City. Non-residents will be charged a non-residents surcharge in accordance with the Recreation Fees and Charges By-Law, as amended. Requests from groups to the Sports Unit for exceptions over and above five percent will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The Director, Recreation Division, Community Services Department or his/her designate will make the final decision.

Regional-based Affiliated Youth Groups that cannot operate without a non-resident component that is greater than five percent will be permitted a higher percentage of non-residents, as agreed to in consultation with the Director, Recreation the Sports Unit.

Organizations qualifying for the Mississauga-based representative rate (e.g. GTHL) will have a minimum of 80% Mississauga Residents per organization. Team rosters must be available upon request to confirm residency.

Primetime Ice Hours per Season

Summer

The summer season begins on Victoria Day Monday (in May) and runs until August 31st.

“Primetime Ice” for the summer season is:

- Monday to Friday - 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm

- Sunday - 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Ice during the summer season is not subject to priority allocation, but will be allocated in accordance with the application deadlines communicated by the Sports Unit and are based on market demand and consideration of arena operational efficiencies.

Affiliated Youth Groups are entitled to the affiliated rate during the summer season.

Fall/Winter/Spring

The Fall/Winter/Spring season begins on September 1st and ends on the Sunday before Victoria Day Monday the following May.

“Primetime Ice” for the Fall/Winter/Spring is:

- Monday to Friday - 4:00 pm – 11:00 pm
- Saturdays - 7:00 am – 9:00 pm
- Sundays - 7:00 am – 11:00 pm

Seasonal Contract

Organizations utilizing Fall/Winter/Spring primetime ice will be required to commit to a minimum 26 week seasonal contract that must begin by the 3rd weekend in September and run for a minimum of 26 consecutive weeks, including any weeks with exception dates. Organizations that require a seasonal contract that runs longer than 26 weeks must commit to the entire seasonal contract. The ability to commence seasonal contracts during the first two weekends in September and/or to extend contracts past 26 weeks is dependent on availability of ice.

Seasonal contracts will not include the following dates: December 24th; statutory holidays - December 25th, Christmas Day; December 26th Boxing Day; and January 1st, New Years’ Day.

Exceptions may be requested for the remaining statutory holidays (Thanksgiving, Family Day and, if applicable, Good Friday); the remaining dates in the Christmas period (December 27th to December 31st); and March break (Saturday through Saturday). No other exceptions will be granted.

Priority Allocation – Seasonal Contracts

The City is committed to allocating up to 20% of overall primetime ice to the following two groups: Recreation Division programs (e.g. Learn to Skate/Hockey; public access programs); followed by Established community adult leagues/programs.

The remaining 80% of primetime ice will be allocated to provide game/practice and/or program ice time on a priority basis for seasonal contracts. The same prioritization is used to address dispensing surplus ice times, wait lists and acquiring additional ice time (as may be required).

The remaining priorities are as follows:

- Affiliated Youth
- Board of Education
- Mississauga Based Rep Organizations (GTHL)
- Junior A Hockey
- Private Leagues and Individual Users
- Commercial & Non Resident

When the demand for ice exceeds availability, ice required will be obtained from groups in reverse order on the 80% priority allocation above. Consideration will be provided for smaller organizations not able to sustain a reduction without seriously impacting their activities.

Standards of Play

The Community Services Department will adhere to the following standards of play when allocating seasonal contract ice for all ice users identified in the chart below:

COMPETITIVE		
Hockey- Rep	Category	Hours per Week -15 players per team
Greater Toronto Hockey League (GTHL) 9 – 13 year olds, Rep (AA & AAA)	ALL	2.25 hours per team (1 hour practice and a 1.25 hour game)

RECREATIONAL		
Hockey - House League	Category	Hours per Week - 15 players per team
4 – 11 year olds, House League	MHL, Ringette and MGHL	1 hour per team (a shared practice and game) per week
12 – 20 years , House League	MHL, Ringette and MGHL	1.5 hours per team (full practice & game) per week
GTHL 14–20 years, Rep - AA & AAA	ALL	2.50 hours per team (1 hour practice and 1.50 hour game)
Hockey/Ringette Rep	Category	Hours per Week - 15 players per team
MGHL 8 – 20 year olds, Rep +	8 Novice (DS) 9/10 Atom (DS) 11/12 PeeWee (A,BB,B,DS) 13/14 Bantam (BB,B,DS) 15/16 Midget(B)	2 hours per team (1 hour practice and a 1 hour game)
	11/12 PeeWee (AA) 13/14 Bantam(AA,A) 15/16 Midget (AA,A,BB) 17/18 Intermediate (A)	2.5 hours per team (1 hour practice and a 1.5 hour game)
	17/18 Intermediate (AA)	3 hours per team (1 hour practice and a 2

		hour game)
Ringette Rep	6/7 Bunnies 8/9 Novice 10,11 Petite 12,13 Tween 14,15 Junior	2 hours per team (1 hour practice and a 1 hour game)
	16/17 Belle 19+ Open	2.5 hours per team (1 hour practice and a 1.5 hour game)
Mississauga Hockey League Rep (A)	9 Minor Atom 10 Atom 11 Minor PeeWee 12 PeeWee 13 Minor Bantam 14 Bantam 15 Minor midget 16/17Midget U21	2.25 hours per team (1 hour practice and a 1.25 hour game)
Figure Skating		
Categories	Hours per Week	
Preschool/Canskate	1 hour per week per 50 skaters	
Jr. A and Jr. B Pre-star Intermediate A and B Intermediate development Star 1 and 2	1 hour per week per 10 skaters	
Senior Star 3	1 hour per week per 4 skaters	
Senior Senior Advanced Competitive Team	1 hour per week per 3 skaters	
Precision –Synchronized	2 hour per week per team	
Adult	1 hour per week per 20 skaters	

Ice time will be allocated in a minimum of one hour blocks, which include an allowance for a 10-minute flood. User groups will determine game structure and duration (e.g. stop, straight time, 1 hour game, 1.5 hour game).

The seasonal contract ice rental rate for Affiliated Youth Groups and the GTHL will only apply to ice allocated in accordance with the standards of play. The supplementary hours will be subject to the rate as approved in the Recreation Fees and Charges By-Law, as amended. The Affiliated Youth Groups and GTHL non-prime rates will be applied to additional ice booked during non-prime hours.

Youth Affiliated Groups Ice Calculation

Seasonal contract ice is allocated annually for Affiliated Youth Groups using historical registration trend data. Each organization's eligible ice allocation will be based on their average registration numbers over the past three years.

If the organization's registration numbers over the past three years are trending lower (e.g. by two percent), the organization will be allocated two percent fewer hours than the previous year. Organizations will then have the option to commit to retaining the supplementary ice for the upcoming season (i.e. the difference in the previous year's allocation and their new entitlement). The decision to retain the supplementary ice must be made by the deadline for seasonal contracts, May 01, unless otherwise communicated by the Sports Unit.

If the decision is to retain the supplementary hours, the hours will go into the organization's "bank" and could be used to schedule additional activities, such as second team practices. The supplementary hours may be carried over and committed to for subsequent seasons.

The supplementary hours will be subject to the rate as approved in the Recreation Fees and Charges By-Law, as amended, as they are over and above the organization's eligible ice based on the standards of play. If registration increases and the organization is entitled to more hours than were allocated by the City, their supplementary hours will be used to fulfill the eligible ice allocation and be converted to the regular affiliated rate.

If the organization's registration over the previous three years is trending higher, the allocated hours of eligible ice will go up accordingly, with required primetime ice being obtained from groups in reverse order on the 80% priority listing if required.

Note: Those organizations with supplementary ice may be required to return all or a portion of the supplementary ice in the event that the City cannot fulfill the basic requirement for eligible primetime ice for all groups in the 80% priority listing. The Sports Unit will ensure any redistribution of supplementary ice is carried out in a fair and equitable manner.

Reselling Unused Seasonal Contract Ice

Organizations will have the opportunity to resell unused ice through the City's Customer Service Centre booking office. A rebooking fee per transaction, as set out in the Recreation Fees and Charges By-Law, as amended, will be charged to the team selling the ice if the City is successful in reselling it. The purchaser will pay the higher of the rate applicable to their organization or the rate the ice was originally booked at. The organization reselling the ice will be credited with the rate on their original contract, minus any administration/rebooking fee.

The resale or purchase of ice does not impact the calculation of ice allocation for future years.

Tournaments/Special Events

The City reserves the right to make adjustments to allocations in order to accommodate tournaments and special events. However, the City will work in collaboration with groups to ensure that the impact of tournaments and special events on seasonal groups is minimized. Advanced commitment for special events and tournaments may be granted at staff discretion.

Cancellation Penalties

Organizations may be subject to cancellation penalties outlined in Corporate Policy and Procedure – Payment and Refund of Facility Rental Fees and reflected on their facility rental contract.

Pilot Programs/Emerging Sports

Organizations interested in obtaining additional primetime ice for new initiatives in the form of a pilot project or to gauge interest in an emerging sport must request supplementary ice prior to program development. The group making the request must provide the Sports Unit with a proposal that includes the required hours of ice; a marketing plan; proposed fees; and a target audience.

Contracts for pilot projects/emerging sports will stipulate that the group may cancel their allocated ice with two weeks' notice without penalty.

A program will only be considered a pilot project for the first two years of operation by the same organization.

Revision History

Reference	Description
GC-137-96 - 1996 02 28	
October 12, 2011	Housekeeping – Volunteer policy renamed to Community Group Support Program GC-0592-2013 – 2013 10 30