

Subject: Rates & Fees Review – Minor Sport Groups

Department: Community Services

Division: Recreation and Events/ Facilities and Parks

Report #: CMS-2021-006

Meeting Date: 2021-03-22

Recommendations

That report CMS-2021-006, Rates & Fees Review – Minor Sport Groups be received;

And that Council approve one of the following options:

Option 1 – Council does not provide any reduction in user fees to minor sport groups;

Option 2 – Council approve a reduction to the outdoor minor base rate of 37.5% which is equivalent to the reduced amount provided to the ice user groups; these outdoor facility groups include minor soccer, baseball and lacrosse and would apply for the spring/summer 2021 season in its entirety; further that a fee reduction be extended to the Orangeville Otters in the same amount of 37.5% effective February 24, 2021 (return to play date) to June 2021, i.e. the end of the 2020/21 swim season;

Background and Analysis

At the February 17, 2021 Meeting of Council, staff were directed to bring back a report to review user fees for minor sport organizations not including the ice user groups. At the February 21 meeting, Council approved a fee reduction for ice user groups adjusting their user fees from the registered minor sport group rate of \$186.76 to the non-prime rate of \$116.73 from December 14, 2020 to the end of the 2020/2021 season in April. The adjustment in user fees was initiated by the three ice user groups: Orangeville Minor Hockey Association, Orangeville Girls Hockey Association and Skate Canada

Orangeville. The organizations collectively delegated Orangeville Town Council on January 11, 2021 requesting a 50% reduction to their user fees. The fee reduction from the registered minor sport group rate to the non-prime rate approved by Council is a 37.5% reduction overall.

At this time only one other community organization, the Orangeville Otters swim club, has requested a user fee reduction. The Orangeville Otters submitted a letter to Council, which was included on the February 17, 2021 Council agenda. There has not been any outdoor user groups requesting a reduction in fees at this time.

The minor sport organizations to be considered for fee reduction include:

- Orangeville Otters
- Orangeville Minor Soccer
- Orangeville Minor Lacrosse (including Girls Lacrosse and Junior B)
- Orangeville and Headwaters Minor Baseball
- Orangeville Minor Softball

This report will provide an overview of pool rental fees and outdoor sports field fees.

In presenting information to Council on ice user fees, staff were able to provide scenarios based on the user groups requested reduction of 50%, the non-prime rate and the registered minor group rate. Staff recommended to Council to consider approving using the non-prime rate as this is an approved fees in the Recreation Rates & Fees By-law, which is the rate that Council did approve.

For outdoor sport fields and the pool, the fee structure does not provide prime and non-prime rates. The rates only provide a base rate and registered minor group rate. In Council's consideration to a fee reduction for other minor sport groups, an amendment to the Recreation Rates & Fees By-Law will need to be considered and staff will need to make adjustments to all rental facilities and user group fees in the recreation management booking system. Alternatively, a lump sum grant might be an option for ease of administration through the permitting process.

In comparison to 4 ice pads total, all with the same rates, the other minor sport groups use the following playing areas:

- 9 baseball diamonds
- 4 arena floors
- 8 soccer fields (used for both soccer and lacrosse)
- 2 pools (currently Alder pool closed for renovations)

Rental rates for the arena floors are the same at both Alder Recreation Centre and Tony Rose Memorial Sports Centre. The pool rental rates are also the same at both recreation centres. Outdoor sports field rental rates differ from field to field based on the size of the field and the structure of the sport i.e. hardball versus t-ball. For example

baseball diamonds at Springbrook Senior Field have a rate of \$17.29 per hour for registered minor groups, while Springbrook T-ball diamonds are \$8.65 per hour. Attachment 1 is a copy of the current Recreation, Facilities and Parks User Rates & Fees.

Summary of Permitted Hours

The following tables provide an overview of permitted hours and revenue for each minor sport group and includes the rate range per hour for permit time, total hours used in 2019 and total revenue collected. During the summer of 2020, due to COVID-19 restrictions regular season play did not occur for the soccer, lacrosse or baseball organizations. Orangeville Minor Soccer was able to provide house league skill development and used a total of 287.5 hours of field time. Orangeville & Headwater Minor Baseball was able to do tryouts in the Fall of 2020. For the purposes of this report, the regular permitted hours for the 2019 seasons are provided.

Table 1 - 2019 Soccer & Field Lacrosse

Organization	Rate Range	2019 Total Hours	Total Revenue
Orangeville Minor Soccer	\$8.47 to \$17.29	551.5	\$ 6,746.59
Minor Lacrosse - Girls field	\$8.47 to \$17.29	260	\$ 2,240.31
Totals		811.5	\$ 8,986.90

Table 2 - 2019 Baseball

Organization	Rate Range	2019 Total Hours	Total Revenue
Orangeville& Headwaters Minor Baseball	\$8.47 to \$17.29	1345.5	\$ 20,349.37
Orangeville Minor Softball	\$8.47 to \$17.29	207.5	\$ 3,075.35
Totals		1553	\$ 23,424.72

Table 3 - 2019 Indoor Lacrosse

Organization	Rate Range	2019 Total Hours	Total Revenue
Orangeville Minor Lacrosse	\$58.38	939	\$ 54,833.41
Jr. B Northmen	\$58.38	77.5	\$ 4,524.45
Totals		1016.5	\$ 59,357.86

Table 4 - Pool rentals - Aug 10, 2020 to June 30, 2021

Organization	Rate Range	2020/21 Total Hours	Total Revenue
Orangeville Otters	\$86.21	1110	\$ 95,693.00
Totals		1110	\$ 95,693.00

The Orangeville Otters began their 2020/2021 season in August 2020. They have had to limit the number of swimmers per division based on the provincial framework and direction from Swim Ontario and Swim Canada. Swimmer numbers have ranged from 10 to 24 based on the provincial framework at various times throughout the season. They have submitted Return to Play plans to both the Town of Orangeville and their governing sport bodies at various stages throughout the season to ensure they are meeting all requirements.

Review of Fee Reduction Options

Option 1 - No fee reduction to any other sport groups.

Option 2 - Council extend a reduction to the base rate of 37.5% that was provided to the ice user groups to minor soccer, baseball and lacrosse sport groups for the spring/summer 2021 season in its entirety and a fee reduction to the Orangeville Otters in the same amount from February 24, 2021 (return to play date) to the end of the 2020/21 season ending in June 2021.

In consideration of Council reducing user fees for other minor sport groups, in reviewing the revenue collected in 2019 and applying the same reduction in theory that was given to the ice user groups, it is recommended that the base rate with a reduction of 37.5% be used. Calculating the rate per field, per hour, per organization is a time consuming exercise and for the purposes of this report is not provided in detail.

The overall summary of hours and revenue for each group is provided in tables 1 to 4 above. Other considerations should include time frame for the fee reduction. The ice user groups were approved for a fee reduction of approximately 10 weeks total. If Council were to provide the same reduction period to the other groups, its recommended all minor sport groups receive a 10 to 12 weeks reduction period depending on the sport. Staff in Recreation & Events and the Parks & Facilities divisions are currently hosting a series of meetings with outdoor sport groups to discuss their return to play plans for the 2021 spring and summer seasons. Meetings began on March 4th with the baseball organizations, and meetings with soccer and lacrosse are planned in the coming weeks.

In preliminary discussions with minor groups, they have indicated that they are planning a full season with considerations based on the provincial framework and their governing sport bodies.

Strategic Alignment

Orangeville Forward – Strategic Plan

Priority Area: Municipal Services
Strong Governance
Community Stewardship

Objective: Respectful of cost and impact to the community
Transparent and fair decision-making processes
Active and healthy

Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan

Theme: Social Well-being

Strategy: Providing accessible social and community program options that support health, wellness and learning.

Notice Provisions

Not applicable.

Financial Impact

Revenue decrease based on 37.5% reduction over 2019 revenue collected

Field & Floor Sport Groups

Organization	Total Revenue 2019	Reduced Revenue 2021
Orangeville Minor Soccer	\$6,746.59	\$ 4,216.66
Minor Lacrosse - Girls field	\$2,240.31	\$ 1,400.19

Orangeville& Headwaters Minor Baseball	\$20,349.37	\$12,718.36
Orangeville Minor Softball	\$3,075.35	\$ 1,922.09
Orangeville Minor Lacrosse	\$54,833.41	\$ 34,270.88
Jr. B Northmen	\$4,524.45	\$ 2,827.78
Totals	\$91,769.48	\$ 57,355.96

Revenue decrease base don 37.5% for Orangeville Otters remainder of 2020/21 season

Organization	2021 Revenue Feb 24 to June 2021	Reduced Revenue 2021
Orangeville Otters	\$54,786.46	\$ 34,241.54

Respectfully submitted

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Attachments

Attachment 1 – Town of Orangeville Recreation, Facilities and Parks User Rates & Fees
2019 and 2020