

**Date:** 2024-05-08

**Subject:** **Designated Community Sport Group Policy and Sports Facility Allocation Policy**

**Contact:** **Anand Patel, Director, Recreation**

**Report Number:** Community Services-2024-264

**Recommendations:**

1. That the report from Anand Patel, Director Recreation to the Committee of Council Meeting of May 8, 2024, re: **Designated Community Sport Group Policy and Sports Facility Allocation Policy** be received; and
2. That staff be directed to implement the revised Designated Community Sport Group Policy and Sports Facility Allocation Policy for the next allocation cycle (Spring/Summer 2025).

**Overview:**

- **As per the April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, City Council meeting, staff were directed to facilitate additional consultations and initiate the revision of the Sports Facility Allocation Policy.**
- **The Designated Community Sport Group (Affiliation) Policy defines the levels of support provided by the City to each type of qualifying Community Sport Group and speaks to working better as one sport community, aligning with the principles of the Canadian Sport for Life model, and the inclusion of all sport participants.**
- **The revised Sports Facility Allocation Policy serves as a framework to guide the City in making fair and equitable sport facility allocation decisions, which helps ensure that all facilities are used to their maximum capacity by the Brampton community.**
- **Main changes to the Sports Facility Allocation Policy include a new framework for allocating time to community sport groups more equitably, efficiently, and consistently and a turnback schedule for time that is used, ensuring returned time can be offered back to the community.**

## Background:

As per the April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, City Council meeting, staff were directed to facilitate additional consultations beginning April 2022 and initiate the revision of the Sports Facility Allocation Policy utilizing the Designated Community Sport Group priority listing outlined in the draft.

The Designated Community Sport Group Policy (Appendix A) replaces the Community Group Affiliation Policy (2010) solely for community organizations involved in the delivery of organized sport in Brampton. This policy categorizes sports groups based on providing sports to youth or adults, programs offered (house league, instructional, and/or competitive), and Not-For-Profit or For-Profit status. Note that residency, participant minimums, alignment with National and/or Provincial Sport Governing Bodies and good business practices are in place through this policy.

A summary chart of changes to the Designated Community Sport Group Policy is provided in Appendix B, including changes from Community Sport Group feedback after the April 2022 City Council meeting. One key change is prioritizing Adult (Not-For Profit) above Youth B (For-Profit). The revised prioritization is as follows with summarized requirements noted:

| <b>Designation</b>          | <b>Member Age</b> | <b>Key Requirements</b>   | <b>Facility Allocation Priority</b> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Youth A<br>(Not-For-Profit) | 21 and under      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Affiliation with a national or provincial sport governing body</li><li>• Provides a house league/introductory programs (80% residency) and competitive play (90% residency)</li></ul> | First                               |
| Youth B<br>(Not-For-Profit) | 21 and under      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provides a house league/introductory programs or competitive play</li><li>• 80% residency</li></ul>   | Second                              |
| Adult<br>(Not-For-Profit)   | 21+               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 80% residency</li></ul>   | Third                               |
| Youth B<br>(For-Profit)     | 21 and under      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provides a house league/introductory programs</li><li>• 80% residency</li></ul>   | Fourth                              |
| Adult<br>(For-Profit)       | 21+               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 80% residency</li></ul>   | Fifth                               |

The proposed Sports Facility Allocation Policy (Appendix C) consolidates and refreshes the City of Brampton's Community Group Fieldhouse Allocation Policy (2007), Community Group Ice Allocation Policy (2007), and Community Group Outdoor Sports Facility Allocation Policy (2010) solely for community organizations involved in the delivery of organized sport in Brampton. The new policy will provide guidance for additional types of facilities including gymnasiums, swimming pools, and arena floor facilities. A summary chart of changes to the revised Sports Facility Allocation Policy is provided in Appendix D.

The proposed Sports Facility Allocation Policy also includes a new framework for allocating time to community sport groups more equitably, efficiently, and consistently. Outside of indoor ice facilities, the City does not currently use a formula, and time is generally allocated to groups based on their stated need. Example formulas are provided in Appendix E.

With the consultation period concluded, the proposed Sports Facility Allocation Policy, in conjunction with the Designated Community Sports Group Policy, outlines a framework that meets the City's growing and changing needs.

### **Current Situation:**

The purpose of this framework is to guide the City in making fair and equitable sport facility allocation decisions, which helps ensure that all facilities are used to their maximum capacity by the Brampton community. In addition, the framework provides general information relating to the management and use of sports and recreation facilities and the importance of encouraging diversity in sport and recreation.

The objectives of the Sports Facility Allocation Policy are as follows:

1. Identify a framework for allocating sport and recreation facility usage time to Sport User Groups.
2. Clarify the roles and responsibilities of Sport User Groups and the City of Brampton in the facility allocation process.
3. Support the inclusion of all sport participants and ensure equitable benefits to groups that embrace the principles of inclusion, diversity and equity as well as providing quality and safe experiences.
4. Align with the principles of the Canadian Sport for Life model that identifies a sport continuum to ensure that residents can play at a level that they would like to participate in (from an introductory level to a more competitive level of sport participation).
5. Eliminate excess facility usage hours for Sport User Groups to reduce the potential for sub-leasing.

The guiding principles and foundation of this policy consider and outline requirements relating to residency, youth, accountability, and equity.

## Sports Facility Allocation Framework

This policy applies to all Sport User Groups renting or booking City of Brampton sport and recreation facilities. Key components of the allocation formula include:

- Age,
- Play type, i.e., house, rep, or development leagues,
- Seasonal demand, i.e., number of registered players or individuals for each sport,
- Sport-specific requirements, i.e., duration and number of practices per week, duration, and number of games per week, number of players per team,
- Facility capacity, e.g., field, rink, turf, or court size required by age and play type, number of teams or individuals able to practice or play at the same time.

The framework is based on stakeholder feedback, benchmarking against other municipalities, and guidance by National and Provincial Sport Organizations in alignment with Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) framework. For reference, a summary of benchmarking is available in Appendix F.

The framework takes account of facility usage requirements based on player age, play type (competitive vs recreational), seasonal demand, sport-specific training and game requirements, and City facility capacity. It also prioritizes facility usage time for youth, reflecting the immediate and long-term benefits of participating in sporting activities from an early age.

Specific formulas have been developed for high-popularity sports such as soccer, hockey, figure skating, swimming, cricket, track, baseball, and softball. General formulas have also been developed, which could be adapted for any individual or team sport.

## Community Engagement Sessions

Stakeholder engagement with community sport groups relating to the allocation policy was undertaken beginning Fall 2022. Engagement included three main approaches, documented below.

### 1. Quarterly updates: Ongoing

- Brief presentations were provided throughout the project to support a high level of transparency and opportunities for sport user groups to ask questions.

### 2. Virtual and in-person co-design workshops: November 2022

- Fourteen two-hour facilitated sessions were held from November 4-17, 2022. Each session was organized around facility type (e.g., ice,

gymnasium, outdoor field etc.) and included opportunities for community sport groups to attend in-person or virtually at different times throughout the day and evening. Dedicated sessions were also held to consider the needs of high-attendance sports, including soccer, baseball/softball, and cricket.

- During the sessions, Sport User Groups were provided with an overview of the Sports Facility Allocation Policy Review initiative, the City's objectives, jurisdictional research insights, project timelines, and potential implications for their activities. Groups were asked for detailed feedback on their required weekly hours entitlements across age ranges, competitive and recreational users, and prime and non-prime hours.

### 3. Online survey: October – November 2022

- A short online survey allowed sport user groups to provide additional information on their requirements at sport facilities. It also helped to validate and supplement findings from the co-design workshops and engage individuals who were unable to participate in the sessions.

Throughout the process staff have regularly engaged with sport user groups on their sport specifically and the implications of the revised framework. The main change to the newly proposed Allocation Policy is the turnback schedule. This schedule aims to ensure that facilities are not unused if a team needs to cancel their booking or cannot use their full allocation. It provides the City with ample opportunity to return the unused facility time to inventory for community use.

In addition to the above information, the Recreation Division is planning to launch a facility usage audit, to ensure organizations are utilizing the hours they have been allocated, as vocalized during ward pairing meetings with Mayor and Members of Council.

### **Corporate Implications:**

#### Financial Implications:

N/A

#### Other Implications:

### **Strategic Focus Area:**

**Health and Well-Being** – continuously improving the day-to-day operations of the corporation by effectively managing municipal assets and ensuring equitable practices are implemented to account for Brampton's growing population and needs.

**Conclusion:**

The new Sports Facility Allocation Policy, in conjunction with the Designated Community Sports Group Policy, ensures that the City is committed to providing the community with updated policies and procedures to account for its growing and changing community needs. These policies provide general information relating to the management and use sports and recreation facilities and the importance of encouraging a diversity in sports and recreation.

Authored by:

Reviewed by:

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Erin Hashani  
Manager, Recreation  
Community Services

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Anand Patel  
Director, Recreation  
Community Services

Approved by:

Submitted by:

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Bill Boyes  
Commissioner  
Community Services

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Marlon Kallideen  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Attachments:**

Appendix A – Designated Community Sport Group Policy (Proposed)

Appendix B – Summary Chart of Designated Community Sport Policy Changes

Appendix C – Sports Facility Allocation Policy (Proposed)

Appendix D – Summary Chart of Sports Facility Allocation Policy Changes

Appendix E – Sports Facility Allocation Formula Templates

Appendix F – Sports Facility Allocation Policy Benchmarking