

Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

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Tsi Nahóten Karihwanákere No'nenk News Release

Rate increase for Sports Complex ice time

For immediate release

(Kahnawake – 27, Ohiarí:ha / June 2011) The Sports & Recreation Unit (SRU) of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke would like inform the community that due to persistent escalations in operating costs in recent years, an increase in the hourly fees for ice rentals is necessary. The Kahnawà:ke Sports Complex has been operating at a deficit for the past several years - \$106,000 dollars last fiscal year, despite renting all prime ice times and a new refrigeration system which reduced energy expenditures by 28%.

A modest increase from \$170 to \$200 per hour during prime hours is effective immediately, with more increases expected in the coming years. As a result, registration costs for Minor Hockey and Figure Skating will be affected. Hockey registrations will increase by \$50 this year, while the increase for Figure Skating registration will depend on the program desired.

It is important to note that this is an MCK decision and not the decision of either the Minor Hockey Association or the Figure Skating Club. Their fees are only increasing to pay the additional costs. The MCK's Sports & Recreation Unit already gives Minor Hockey \$97,000 and \$32,000 for Figure Skating to offset costs, but it is still not enough to cover all of the ice time needed.

It should be pointed out that even with this increase the Kahnawà:ke Sports Complex ice rental rates are still well below those of arenas in the surrounding areas. For example, in Chateauguay rates range from \$245 - \$345 per hour during prime time hours.

"According to feasibility studies conducted by the Sports & Recreation Unit, a second ice surface could increase revenues without doubling costs, therefore easing future deficits," said Director of the SRU, Bryan Deer. However, a second ice surface would cost millions.

For further information contact the SRU at 450-638-2672.

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