

July, 31, 2013

Dear Mayor Hovland,

My family moved to Edina about one year ago from upstate New York. Our family has three children and they are fully engaged in sports and activities. Since our arrival we have made many friends in the community who share some of our same interests in sports and wholesome activities. The school system and the variety of sports offered in this community was our major attraction to the city of Edina. As a concerned citizen and a major advocate for both youth figure skating and hockey; I feel compelled to write to you concerning the July 16, 2013 proposal concerning the Priority Use Policy for Braemar Arena that would limit BCLFSC's use of the arena contributing to an inevitable disbandment of such an awesome club.

The Edina Hockey Association (EHA) and the Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club (BCLFSC) greatly contribute to community excellence. I have been able to watch both EHA games and have also had the opportunity to witness a magnificent performance by the BCLFSC during the Braemar Ice Show. We have close friends who are fully committed to the BCLFSC and their children all have a bright future in figure skating. While inside the jam-packed arena during this year's Ice Show we were able to see the hard work and commitment to success of all of the figure skaters. This grand display of talent was met with major enthusiasm from a stunned crowd comprised of all walks of life from Edina and surrounding suburbs. The fact that the club has won over 60 state championships, the Synchro Team has even won the Nationals several times, speaks volumes of their commitment to excellence. To limit the potential of our friends children to compete on a grand scale and to extinguish the joy that citizens of this great city get from watching their future performances would be a mere tragedy.

After speaking with our dear friends about this major issue, they explained the scarcity of ice in the city and we both agreed that there is currently not an easy solution. We also could feel the sadness and the disappointment they were feeling regarding the undetermined future of the BCLFSC. The scarcity of resources has had a major effect on the EHA; however, the proposed policy does little to address the survivability of the BCLFSC. The overall future of the BCLFSC is currently at stake in order to accommodate the immediate needs of the EHA.

It is crucial that any Priority Use Agreement the City considers takes into account the legacy of the BCLFSC and the joy that it brings to this fine community. As I scanned the crowd during the Ice Show there were lots of smiling faces. As a fairly new resident, I felt the energy on the ice and in the stands was representative of the diversity and success-driven ideals that makes up the fabric of this great community.

Mayor Hovland, I had the opportunity to shake your hand at an Edina Football game last Fall and I felt that you were a common-sense guy with a genuine interest in furthering the legacy of all sports in Edina. I would humbly ask that you take a deep look into the goodness of the BCLFSC and make a concentrated effort in preserving this internationally acclaimed organization that brings so much joy to this great city—it just make sense.

Thank you for your support.

Scott & Noi Jackson

CC:
The Honorable Joni Bennett, Edina City Council Member

The Honorable Mary Brindle, Edina City Council Member
The Honorable Josh Sprague, Edina City Council Member
The Honorable Ann Swenson, Edina City Council Member
Mr. Scott Neal, Edina City Manager
Ms. Ann Kattreh, Edina Parks and Recreation Director

Deb Mangen

From: Annie Johnston <annie.johnston24@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2013 9:11 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com; Scott Neal; Ann Kattreh
Subject: Braemar - My Second Home

Annie Johnston
July 30, 2013
4505 Wooddale Avenue
Edina, MN
55424

Dear Mr. Hovland, Ms. Bennett, Ms. Brindle, Mr. Sprague, Ms. Swenson, Mr. Neal, and Ms. Kattreh

"There's my second home." This is the sentence that comes to mind every time I see Braemar Ice Arena, where I have skated for almost 10 years. However, it wasn't until we had a shortage of ice that I really started to appreciate how true this statement is. I do belong at Braemar, and it is more than just an ice rink.

My name is Annie Johnston and I will be a freshman at Breck in the fall. For the past 10 years I have been a member at the Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club (BCLFSC). It is where I skate, it is my life, it is my home. Skating is, and always will be, more than just a sport. It is a way of life, it is a part of who I am. I don't figure skate, I am a figure skater. For us, skating isn't something we do, it's how we live, it's in our blood, and it defines us.

Spending hour after hour, day after day, with the same people really changes you, and affects the person that you grow to be. Through my sport I have learned life lessons that can't be taught in school. Perseverance is a major quality that people need to have. It gives us the ability to push past the mistakes and become better in the future. It is with perseverance that we become stronger and better. There is no better way to learn how to continue than failing a test four times. In the past year, I have taking the Juvenile Moves in the Field five times, and it was not until the fifth time that I finally past. Taking these tests taught me that you can do anything that you set your mind too, and that there is value in continuing to try.

I also went to every single synchronized skating practice, but I didn't get the chance to skate in the most important competition of the year. This season really showed me what it will take to continue in the sport and I found that it is worth it. I love the way that I live, getting up in the summer because apparently our coaches think that sleep is overrated. It really reminds us that dedication is the key to success, and that even though the climb might be challenging, in the end it is worth every single piece of it.

Socially, it is hard to be in middle school. It is hard to deal with all the troubles of growing up and deciding the person that you do and don't want to be. For me, the rink has become a sanctuary. It was my place at the rink that got me through all the rough spots in school, it was my place at the rink that kept me sane. When you are at the rink, nothing else matters. It is the place where you can get away from all the things that are going wrong and just take a break. Where you know that you have friends who have your back, and adults that will support you and give you advice. The relationships with I have with my friends and coaches are not something that you can take for granted. They are not something that I am willing to give up, because they mean something to me. They are important, and they define me.

When I heard about the shortage of ice I was devastated. I live in Edina, and I skate in Edina, as part of the Edina community. If we were forced to change rinks or sports, it would change the effect that the skating community has. It would not give us all the same experience. It would change my way of life.

Sincerely yours,
Annie Johnston

From: DeYoung, Mark <Mark.DeYoung@edinaschools.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2013 8:37 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Braemar Arena

Dear Edina City Council Members,

My name is Mark DeYoung and I am writing in response to the recent article I read in the Sun Current entitled, "Edina Considers Freezing Out Figure Skaters." As a teacher of 22 years at Countryside Elementary School and former coach of the Edina Girls Varsity Hockey team, I find it unfortunate the Edina Hockey Association and Figure Skating Club cannot coexist in the same community. As a former Edina hockey coach, I understand the need for prime time ice time. As a teacher, I often see students who arrive at school tired and not ready to learn because they were up too late at hockey. I recognize both organizations are competing for and need the same ice time. However, respected diversity within a community whether it is in a classroom, hockey team, figure skating club, or neighborhood is what makes a community healthy. As a teacher, I love having students with a variety of life experiences in my classroom. I fear if the figure skating club is relegated to a lower priority status it will reduce the number of figure skaters in Edina. More importantly, the unintended message to the City of Edina and the rest of the metro area is if you play hockey you are valued but if you don't you will need to go elsewhere. As a councilmember, I would have a difficult time looking into the eyes of 128 young kids and telling them why they no longer can skate at Braemar. I cannot imagine being responsible for creating one more roadblock for them to overcome in fulfilling their hopes of figure skating. I agree with Mayor Hovland that an additional sheet of ice is necessary. Just look at Minnesota Made, clearly it wouldn't be there if there wasn't a need. The City of Edina has created a diverse community that appreciates athletics and the arts. Just look at the high school's successful theater, band, and athletic programs just to name a few. Edina promotes the arts through the Art Fair, high school, and having various displays of art scattered throughout the community. Edina is a city which celebrates bikers with newly installed bike lanes. Edina Parks and Recreation has wonderful summer programs and beautiful parks. Business and commerce is encouraged in a variety of nodes throughout the city. Please do not let Edina become a hockey only city, encourage all kids to aspire to whatever they want to be. The motto on the City of Edina's website reads, "For living, learning, raising families, and doing business." My hope is the motto doesn't just apply to hockey players.

Sincerely,
Mark DeYoung

From: Susan Hadjiyanis <shadjiyanis@scalaconsulting.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2013 6:37 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com; Scott Neal; Ann Kattreh
Cc: Stella Hadjiyanis; George Hadjiyanis
Subject: PLEASE SAVE OUR TEAM

July 31, 2013

Dear Honorable Mayor Hovland, Honorable City Council Members Bennett, Brindle, Swenson, Mr Neal and Ms. Kattreh,

My name is Stella Hadjiyanis, and I have been a proud member of Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club for over 7 years. I am writing to you on behalf of the present issue between Edina Hockey Association and Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club.

I have no words that can adequately describe my love for figure skating. Every time I set foot on the ice, I feel completely free and confident. Figure Skating has made me who I am, and it has shaped me as a person, helping me find my peaceful place in the world. After a stressful day at school, I can skate and forget about all of my worries. The air blowing past my face and the feeling when my blades grip the ice provides me with irreplaceable joy. The sensation I feel when I land a jump or master a difficult element is the best feeling in the world. I would not give up figure skating for anything.

Skating has taught me several life lessons. It has made me a better person, taught me perseverance, strength, power, and grace. Skating has boosted my confidence in all aspects of my life.

Along with being an active member of Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club, I am also a participant of Team Braemar Synchronized Skating. I have participated on the Beginner, Juvenile and Intermediate Synchronized Skating Teams in the past. I am now on the Novice Team and my goal is to someday be on the Junior Team. I am fortunate to have competed at national levels during my time at Braemar. I am always excited to cheer on the Junior Team, nicknamed Team USA for their several wins at nationals and their high placements in competitions worldwide.

As a member of a team, every skater learns the importance of teamwork, responsibility, respect and integrity. Each and every skater of Team Braemar is very dedicated and passionate about the sport. We do not want to lose the ability to continue learning valuable life lessons, fostering lifelong friendships and participating in the sport that we love. I understand and appreciate the hockey association's passion for their sport, but I truly hope that they can respect and appreciate all of the skaters who share Braemar's ice rinks. On behalf of the skaters at Braemar, I am asking you to support our program and to not take away our access to the ice.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

Stella Hadjiyanis

July 31, 2013

Dear Mayor Hovland,

Our family's 3 kids all play hockey in the Edina Hockey Association and figure skate in the Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club. Braemar Arena and the City outdoor rinks are very important City amenities to our family. We are writing concerning the July 16, 2013 proposed Priority Use Policy for Braemar Arena that would severely limit BCLFSC use of Braemar and consequently cause the elimination of the Club in Edina.

Both the EHA and BCLFSC contribute to excellence and represent Edina well. The EHA has filled the South arena chock full of banners - all championship. The BCLFSC has over 60 State champions and the Synchro team has won Nationals several times and recently placed 3rd on the world stage. The annual BCLFSC Spring Skate Show you attended is a cultural event that many Edina residents enjoy. The exceptional BCLFSC professionals have trained countless Edina figure and hockey skaters as the instructors for the City classes. Both organizations have a magnificent legacy of representing and serving Edina residents for the 47 year history of Braemar Arena.

The proposed Priority Use Policy does not recognize and value these contributions the BCLFSC provides our city. In addition, the BCLFSC is a fiscally valuable tenant and good neighbor to the other tenants of Braemar. The BCLFSC has paid user fees and full rate rental fees for the East rink they use year round. They have also supported the building of the South rink and last year committed key financial support to secure the bond for the Hornets Nest that was built to serve the EHA and EHS hockey teams.

More ice is needed in Edina. Our kids skate outside of Edina at BIG, Eden Prairie, Richfield, Chaska, Shakopee, SLP, New Hope, and Minnetonka. And that is just for figure skating. Hockey is similar. There simply is not enough ice in Edina. The Hornets Nest provides an additional 800 hours/season of dryland training for the EHA. The proposed 4th rink would provide about 1000 hours/season of additional ice. Thank you for supporting these solutions.

The July 16 proposed policy does very little to help the EHA. A few hundred hours/season shift is a drop in the bucket for the EHA's total ice needs. Yet it would be 100% fatal to the BCLFSC. It would be a severe error for the City to eliminate a long term (47 years) Club that has represented the City so well in exchange for so very little.

It is essential that any Priority Use Agreement the City considers protects the diversity of sports in Edina, honors organizations with a long standing legacy of representing and serving Edina, and promotes future growth and success of Edina as a city of excellence.

Thank you for your support,

Carl & Aundria Schreiner
5264 Lochloy Dr
Edina, MN 55436

CC:

The Honorable Joni Bennett, Edina City Council Member
The Honorable Mary Brindle, Edina City Council Member
The Honorable Josh Sprague, Edina City Council Member
The Honorable Ann Swenson, Edina City Council Member
Mr. Scott Neal, Edina City Manager
Ms. Ann Kattreh, Edina Parks and Recreation Director

Deb Mangen

From: Dede Disbrow <dededisbrow@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2013 3:46 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com; Scott Neal
Subject: Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council Members,

My Name is Dede Dahlberg Disbrow and I have a life long connection to Braemar Arena. I was one of the first skaters on the ice at Braemar is December of 1965. My parents were founding members of the figure skating club and instrumental in bringing the club to Braemar. My partner Lowell Green and I were the first National competitors out of Braemar. Since then, we've had 58 more National competitors. My first and only professional job was at the Arena. I grew as amateur and a professional at Braemar. I was the former director and head professional for the figure skating club and taught for 30 years. I am currently a technical specialist for US Figure Skating.

We start all young children on their hands and knees in our classes. Some of them have ended up on the Edina High School Hockey team and some of them have ended up skating at a National Figure Skating Championships. But all the them have been given the love of skating from their first days on the ice. In my opinion, our staff is so talented that we have drawn skaters from all over the state. Many of the professionals have been coaching for decades and have immense experience.

I hope that Braemar City of Lakes FSC keeps enough ice to be continue to be competitive nationally. We also need to keep quality coaches to pass on the love of skating and expertise to future generations of Edina skaters.

Respectfully,

Dede Disbrow
30 year Edina resident

23 Woodland Road
Edina, MN 55424
952-920-6107
rjc23@aol.com

August 1, 2013



Mayor James Hovland
Council Members Joni Bennett, Mary Brindle, Josh Sprague and Ann Swenson

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

We are writing this letter regarding the ice time issue between the Braemar City of Lakes Skating Club and the Edina Hockey Association. Our Granddaughter, Addie Christianson is a figure skater for the Braemar City of Lakes Skating Club and our Grandson, Calvin Christianson is a hockey player participating in the Edina Hockey Association program.

We have lived in Edina a lifetime and have always been very proud of our City. Edina has earned an excellent reputation because it offers quality education, recreation activities and facilities, services and opportunities for all of its citizens. Therefore, we are very disappointed to understand that Edina is proposing to dishonor its 40-year commitment to the Braemar Club for its needed ice time. Honoring a commitment is a principle we stress with our youth. Presumably, as role models, you as our elected officials and others in positions of influence and decision making authority should adhere to that principle.

Because of the nature of figure skating, contracting with neighboring rinks does not work. Consequently, if the Edina Hockey Association proposal is accepted, the Braemar Club will cease to exist and Edina figure skaters will no longer be able to skate under the aegis of the Braemar (Edina) banner. This is not acceptable. The Braemar Club has brought regional, national and international fame to our community. Furthermore, the Braemar Club has helped finance the ice in summer months, off hours and areas of its operations outside its needs. It has been very generous financially over the past forty years. If there is a need for more ice, the city must meet that need. Until then, a commitment is a commitment.

We have personally seen what being a member of Braemar's Syncro and Freestyle skating does for a youth's confidence, work ethic, self esteem and team camaraderie. Let's continue to promote strong youth programs rather than eliminate them. That is NOT who we are.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your services to our city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet & Bob".

Janet and Bob Christianson

Cc: Mr. Scott Neal and Ms. Anne Kattreh

Deb Mangen

From: Cary Teague
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2013 12:16 PM
To: 'Mark C. Dietzen'
Cc: Deb Mangen; Jane Timm
Subject: RE: Zoning Ordinance Amendment

Thanks Mark,

I will make sure this gets in front of the City Council for next Monday's meeting.

Cary



Cary Teague, Community Development Director

952-826-0460 | Fax 952-826-0389 | Cell 952-826-0236

cteague@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov/Planning

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

From: Mark C. Dietzen [<mailto:mdietzen@lindquist.com>]
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2013 11:53 AM
To: Cary Teague
Subject: Zoning Ordinance Amendment

Cary,

Thank you for your time yesterday. I appreciate your willingness to discuss the proposed amendments to Edina's zoning ordinances. As we discussed, it appears that new home construction in Edina is the driving force behind the proposed changes to the zoning ordinances. Many residents have expressed concern over large homes that do not fit into neighborhoods, as well as changes to the topography of residential lots as part of new home construction that have resulted in drainage problems for neighbors.

Although I understand the concerns expressed by Edina residents, I wanted to highlight a likely unintended consequence resulting from one of the revised ordinances that would negatively impact the home remodel market in Edina.

The revisions to Section 850.07, Subdivision 7 will require each applicant who secures a building permit to submit a grading and erosion control plan along with a stormwater management plan that is signed by a licensed professional engineer. For new construction, this is an excellent idea. However, residents of Edina who add-on to their house, regardless of the size of their addition, will also need to secure a building permit. Under the proposed ordinance, these residents will need to incur the significant cost to hire a licensed professional engineer to provide the grading and erosion control plan along with a stormwater management plan. This does not seem to me to be the intent of this ordinance change.

I would like to suggest that the City Council consider modifying the proposed ordinance to either incorporate a building project size test (similar to the test used to determine if the new residential construction coordinator will oversee the project) or give discretion to the City Planner's office to require this additional documentation for remodel projects only when appropriate. This modification would allow some flexibility in the ordinance and save Edina residents from incurring significant expenses when unnecessary.

Best regards,

Mark Dietzen

4901 Bruce Avenue
Edina, MN 55424

NOTICES

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Deb Mangen

From: Rachel Goetzmann <rachelgoetzmann@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2013 11:27 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Bremer Ice time

I hope the council is also considering the impact that traveling to other arenas have on school, family and work schedules. I believe this inconvenience also affects our test scores for kids since they need to spend so much time traveling to other cities when we have ice right here.

This whole setup is absolutely ridiculous! My son was a Pee wee andy playing on a C team last year. We practiced 5-6 days a week and only 1-2 days were at Bremer. The remainder were all over, but the fact that we had to drive 2 times per week to Augsburg or UMN is ridiculous. It consumes about 3 hours per evening for 1 practice for 1 child. Please keep the Edina kids a priority!!!!

Rachel Goetzmann
651-245-5786

Deb Mangen

From: RONALD G KAREN N GREEN <green123459@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2013 11:05 AM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: green123459@msn.com
Subject: EHA Response to Braemar Priority Use Agreement
Attachments: EHA - Braemar Priority Use Agreement - FINAL.pdf

To: The Honorable James Hovland, Mayor of Edina

From: Ron Green, Edina Hockey Association President, contact #: 612.669.2362

Good morning. I have reviewed the final City Staff recommendation last night and submit the following response from the EHA. I'm also attaching a support document for your review.

EHA Response

The EHA supports the City Staff's recommendations but feels a 4-year transition is simply not necessary. We have offered the services of our ice scheduler, at no cost, to the BCLFSC to replace any hours lost at Braemar with hours at other area arenas. The EHA does support a 3-year transition plan with 582 hours this season, 450 hours next season and 241 hours the final season of the transition.

EHA Desired Outcome

The EHA is seeking a more equitable balance/fair allocation of Braemar ice times - only during prime season - between BCLFSC and the EHA in terms of ice slot days and times, primarily based on Edina resident participants but also factoring in the historical community importance of both organizations.

- Both organizations are important to Edina – the EHA does support the BCLFSC.
- Both organizations desire prime ice times but, during prime season as a Priority #3 user, the EHA should have priority to fulfill its ice needs before the BCLFSC, a Priority #4 user.
- Both organizations should share the inconvenience of skating at other arenas.
- Edina resident participants should be treated equitably.
- EHA would use extra hours at Braemar to reduce the inconvenience for its younger girls and boys (6U, 8U, 10U, Mites, Squirts) so they can have more of a home-ice experience.
- EHA also would combine this ice time with dryland training at the Velocity Training Center allowing our resident players and families to spend more time at Braemar thus also supporting the concession stand and General Sports.

Consider the following:

- There is a sizable inequality in ice time per Edina resident and per participant

Annual Ice Hours		Prime Season Ice Hours			
Per Participant		Per Participant		Per Edina Resident	
BCLFSC	EHA	BCLFSC	EHA	BCLFSC	EHA
11.5	1.6	5.4	1.6	10.9	1.6

- EHA has limited access to prime time hours during prime season due to priority use/time slots for Edina High School Boys and Girls Varsity and JV teams (4 teams on 2 rinks from 3:45-6/7 p.m. Monday - Friday) and the BCLFSC on one of the rinks (currently has priority over EHA).
 - EHA resident families have the inconvenience of driving to multiple arenas around town.
 - BCLFSC's participant families/non-Edina residents have very little inconvenience of driving to other arenas.
 - The BCLFSC's hours are prime time each day on the East rink with no Friday, Saturday or Sunday night time slots.
 - United States Figure Skating (USFS) and BCLFSC have both confirmed there are no minimum ice time requirements at one arena for a Club to have it be their "home" arena.
 - BCLFSC is a Club, with paid instructors, and the kids follow the coach.
 - Coaches can work at other arenas. With blocks of ice time, this should not alter the ability of a coach to train skaters.
 - Other professional skating coaches conduct training/coaching sessions in blocks of time on various arenas each day. Two examples: Karn Skating Dynamics, ProEdge Power with Diane Ness and team

The BCLFSC strongly believes that having ice time at any other rink is unacceptable and will mean the end of the Club. We strongly disagree. Last season, the EHA purchased about 2,100 hours at Braemar and 2,000 hours at other arenas. In addition, parents purchased additional ice once the teams were picked to supplement what the EHA provides (we estimate 500-750 hours). Bottom line: Ice is available. And it's available in similar time blocks at other arenas. Both the City and EHA have offered to assist the Club with getting ice time that closely matches any hours they would lose at Braemar thus minimizing any practice plans. The only thing that would change would be the location. We strongly believe the Club can survive and even thrive by modifying their model, one that offers its members ice times at alternative arenas, some that may even be closer to some of its member families.

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss any of this.

Regards,

Ron

Ron Green
EHA President

Desired Outcome:

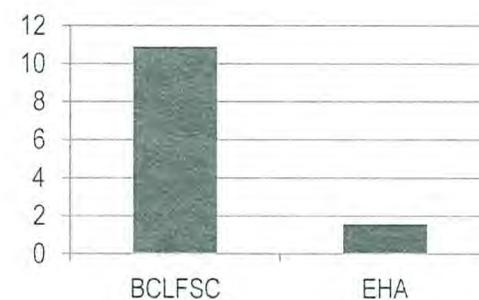
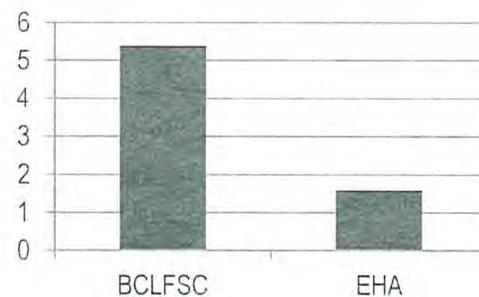
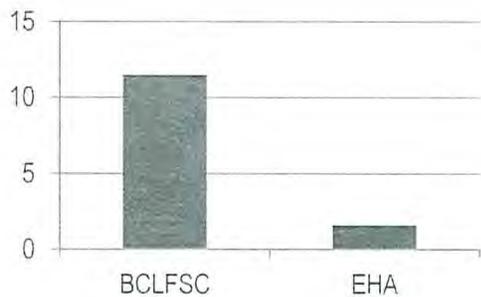
A more equitable balance of Braemar ice times - only during prime season - between Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club (BCLFSC) and the Edina Hockey Association (EHA) in terms of ice slot days and times, primarily based on Edina resident participants but also factoring in the historical community importance of both organizations.

- Both organizations are important to Edina
- Both organizations desire prime ice times
- Both organizations should share the inconvenience of skating at other arenas
- Edina resident participants should be treated equitably

Issue

- ▲ Sizable inequality in ice time per Edina resident and per participant

Annual Ice Hours		Prime Season Ice Hours			
Per Participant		Per Participant		Per Edina Resident	
BCLFSC	EHA	BCLFSC	EHA	BCLFSC	EHA
11.5	1.6	5.4	1.6	10.9	1.6



- ▲ EHA has limited access to prime time hours during prime season due to priority use/time slots for Edina High School Boys and Girls Varsity and JV teams (4 teams on 2 rinks from 3:45-6/7 p.m. Monday - Friday) and the BCLFSC on one of the rinks (currently has priority over EHA).

Issue

- ▲ EHA resident families have the inconvenience of driving to multiple arenas around town.
- ▲ BCLFSC's participant families/non-Edina residents have very little inconvenience of driving to other arenas.
- ▲ The BCLFSC's hours are prime time each day on the East rink with no Friday, Saturday or Sunday night time slots.

Club Hours

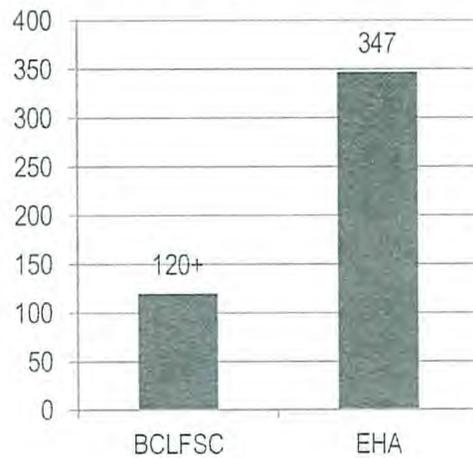
- ▲ Monday – Friday: 3 - 6:50 p.m.
- ▲ Saturdays: 7:30 – 10:20 a.m.
- ▲ Sundays: 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Synchronized Skating

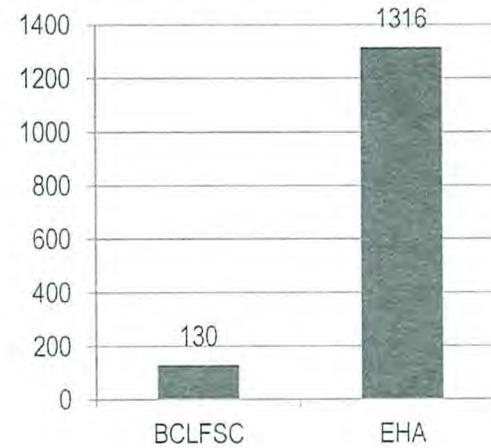
- Mondays: 7 – 10 p.m.
- Tuesdays: 7 - 7:50 p.m.
- Wednesdays: 7 – 9:30 p.m.
- Sundays: 11:40 – 4:25 p.m.

Participant Breakdown

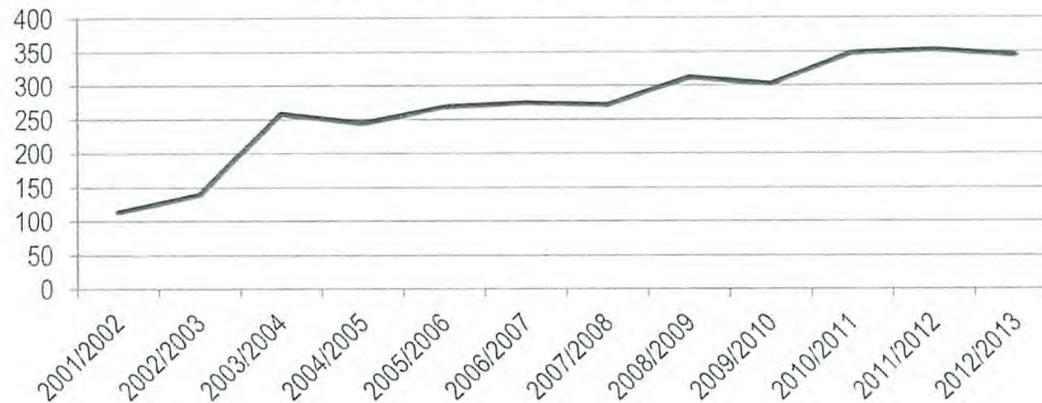
Participants Girls



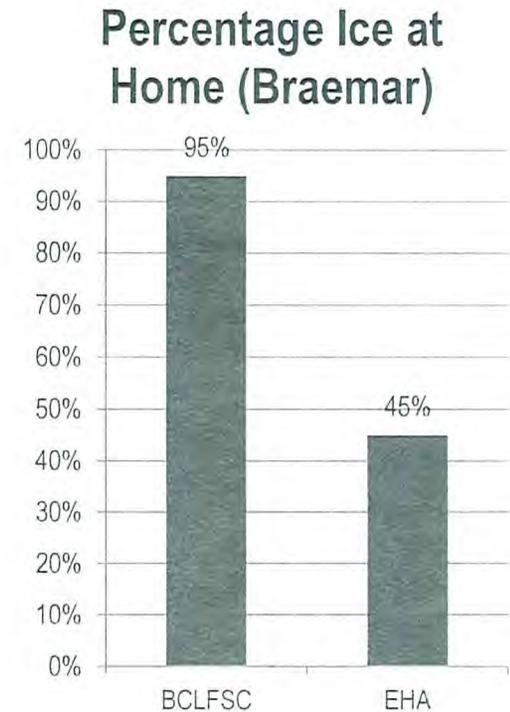
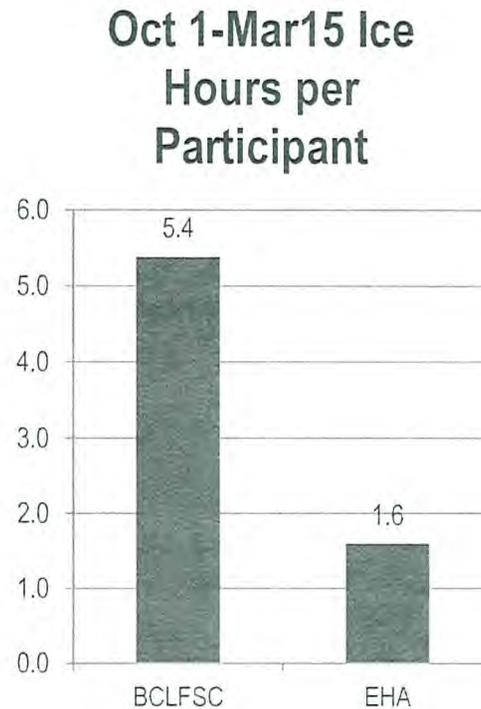
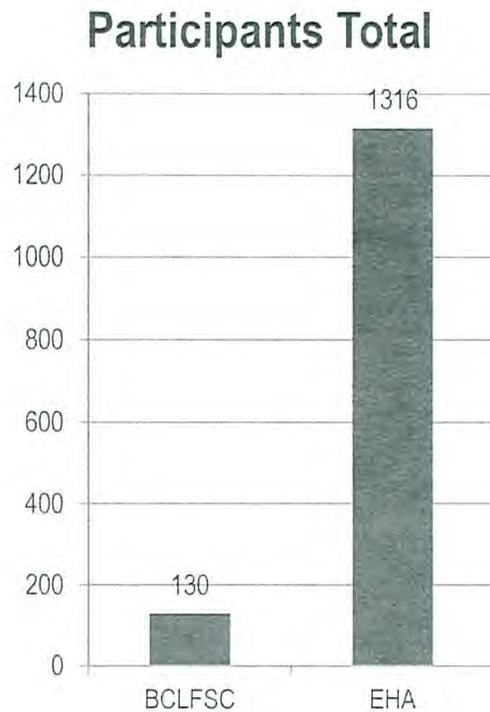
Participants Total



EHA Girls Participation

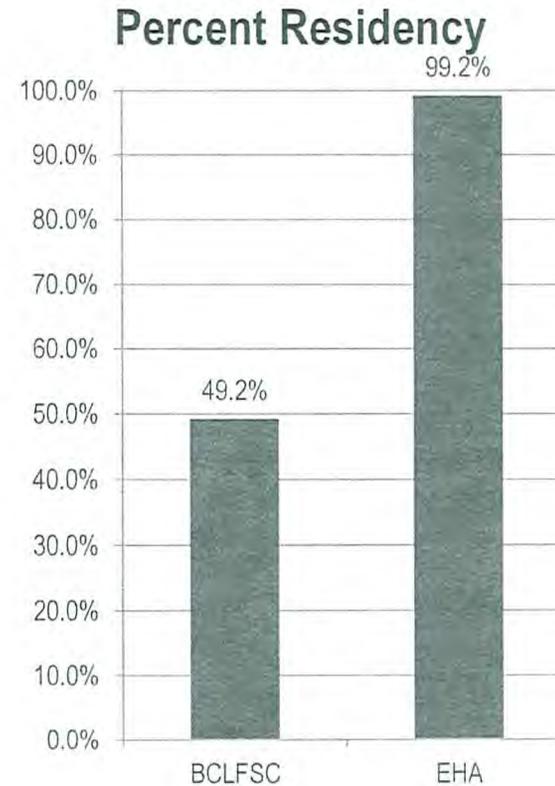
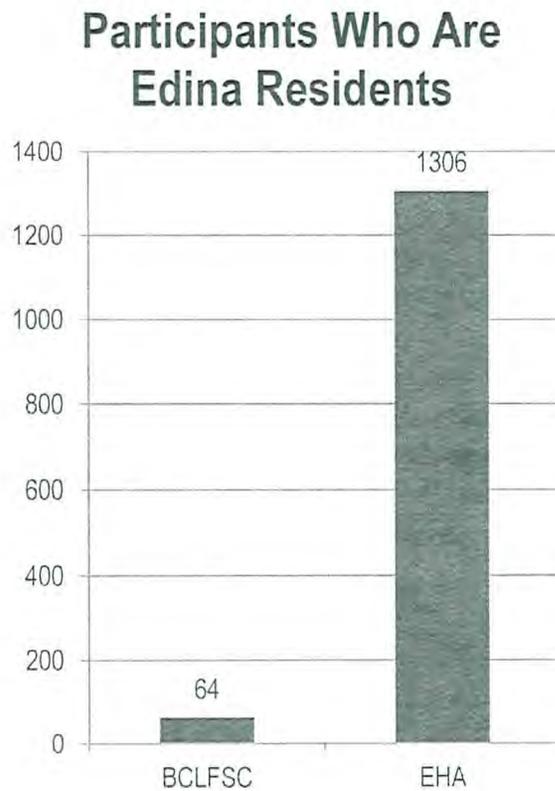


Participant Breakdown



BCLFSC average ice allocation is 1,500 hours per year (700 of these hours are from Oct 1 – March 15).
EHA average ice allocation is 2,100 hours Oct. 1-March 15.

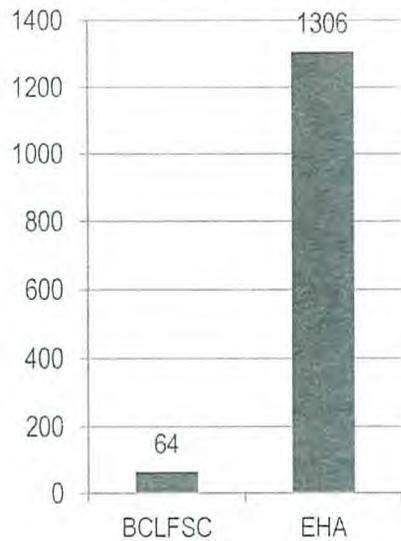
Edina Resident Breakdown



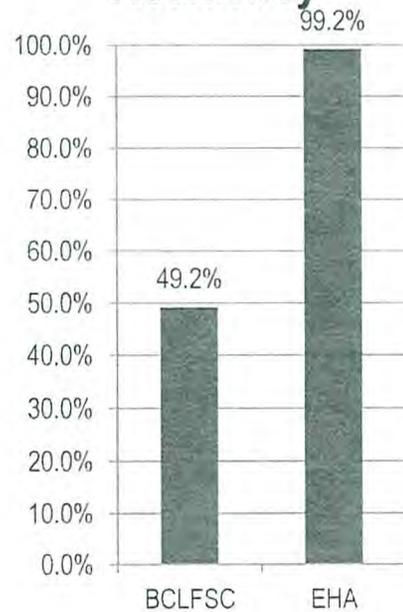
Youth association residency defined as living or going to school in Edina

Edina Resident Breakdown

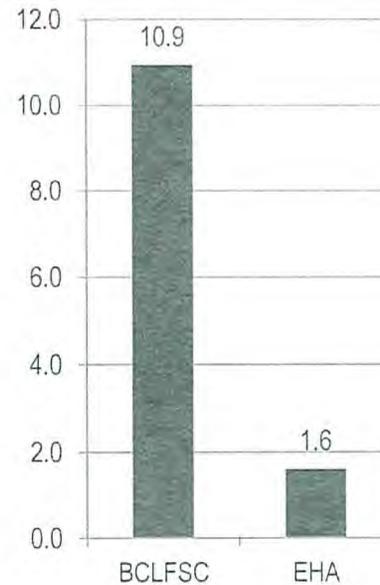
Participants Who Are Edina Residents



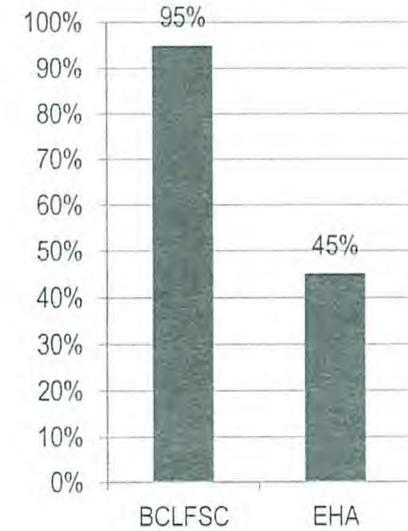
Percent Residency



Ice Hours per Resident



Percentage Ice at Home (Braemar)



EHA Position Statement and Plan

- ▲ EHA seeks a fair allocation of ice and for the BCLFSC to share some inconvenience of skating at other area arenas, only during the prime season of Oct – March, based on participants or Edina residency.
- ▲ During prime season, the EHA should have priority to fulfill its ice needs before the BCLFSC.
- ▲ EHA supports a 3-year transition period.
- ▲ EHA would assist BCLFSC in replacing any hours lost at Braemar with hours at other area arenas. EHA will provide its professional ice procurement resources to the BCLFSC, at no cost, to secure ice time at other area arenas.
- ▲ EHA would use those Braemar hours to reduce the inconvenience for its younger girls and boys (6U, 8U, 10U, Mites, Squirts) so they can have more of a home-ice experience.
- ▲ EHA also would combine this ice time with dryland training at the Velocity Training Center allowing our resident players and families to spend more time at Braemar thus also supporting the concession stand and General Sports.

Appendix

Background

- ▲ Braemar Arena is a tax-payer funded/supported facility by the residents of the city of Edina.
- ▲ This 3-rink facility operates without a priority use agreement with its users (all other Edina recreational facilities have established priority use agreements).
- ▲ City-sponsored activities have first priority all year and the 4 Edina High School hockey teams (boys and girls varsity and JV) have priority/prime times during prime season on two of the rinks (West and South).
- ▲ Edina Hockey Association (EHA) purchases ice from Braemar only during prime season Oct 1 – March 15 (2,100 hours).
- ▲ Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club (BCLFSC) purchases ice from Braemar year-round (1,500 hours). 800 of those hours – or 53.3% - are non-hockey season hours (non-prime season). Reducing their 700 prime season hours will still leave the Club with a significant percentage of ice time at Braemar.
- ▲ United States Figure Skating (USFS) and BCLFSC have both confirmed there are no minimum ice time requirements at one arena for a Club to have it be their “home” arena. Moving some ice time to other arenas will not affect the BCLFSC status with USFS.

Background

- ▲ BCLFSC is a Club, with paid instructors, and the kids follow the coach.
- ▲ Coaches can work at other arenas. With blocks of ice time, this should not alter the ability of a coach to train skaters.
- ▲ Other professional skating coaches conduct training/coaching sessions in blocks of time on various arenas each day. Two examples:
 - ▲ Karn Skating Dynamics (see next slide)
 - ▲ ProEdge Power with Diane Ness
http://www.proedgeprivates.com/proedge_lessons.html
- ▲ Question: Does the City of Edina prefer to give priority access to a Club with 60 Edina residents, whose paid coaches are independent contractors, or an all-volunteer association with 1,316 Edina residents?

YEAR ROUND

SMALL GROUP TRAINING

The Karn Skating Dynamics reputation for building strong skaters is centered around our year-round small group training programs.

School Year Small Groups

- 7-8 Students
- Once a week in the morning ½ Hour
- Two Sessions
 - Fall/Winter
 - Winter/Spring

MON. Blake 6:15-8:15AM
TUES. Eden Prairie 6:00-9:00AM
WED. Plymouth/Blake 6:00-8:30AM
THUR. Burnsville 6:00-8:30AM
FRI. Blake 6:00-8:30AM

For scheduling and availability of
Small Group openings call:
 952-831-2345 or
karnskatingdynamics.com

2013 SUMMER TRAINING CLINICS

Summer Training Clinics

- 25-30 Students
- Once a week
- A great way to start with Karn Skating Dynamics
- Many small group students do an additional day a week in these large groups
- 10 Week Session

1. St. Louis Park Mondays	6/17-8/19 2 nd Bant-HS Boys (College Girls)	7:00-8:00AM \$400.00
2. St. Louis Park Tuesdays	6/18-8/20 Squirt Boys + U12 Girls	8:15-9:15AM \$400.00
3. St. Louis Park Tuesdays	6/18-8/20 Mites 6yrs + U10 Girls	9:30-10:30AM \$400.00
*4. St. Louis Park Tues. & Thurs.	6/18-8/22 HS Boys (Played Varsity or JV)	7:00-8:00AM \$800.00
*5. St. Louis Park Thursdays	6/20-8/22 PW/Bant Boys+ U14 - HS Girls	8:15-9:15AM \$300.00
*6. St. Louis Park Fridays	6/14-8/23 Squirt Boys + U12 Girls	7:00-8:00AM \$400.00
*7. St. Louis Park Fridays	6/14-8/23 PW/Bant Boys+ U14 - HS Girls	8:15-9:15AM \$400.00
*8. St. Louis Park Fridays	6/14-8/23 Mites 6yrs + U10 Girls	9:30-10:30AM \$400.00

***No Clinics 7/4 & 7/5**

Participants will not be allowed on the ice without all protective equipment recommended by AHAUS.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____ Date of Birth _____

Hockey Association _____ Level _____

Clinic Numbers _____ Price _____

PAYMENT IN FULL WITH REGISTRATION

Make checks payable to:

KARN SKATING DYNAMICS

6047 W. 94th Street, Bloomington, MN 55439
 (952) 831-2345

In consideration of the acceptance of _____ the applicant agrees that Karn Skating Dynamics Schools and/or coaches will not be held responsible for any accidents or loss of property, however caused, and agree to release the school from any claims or damages which may arise as a result of such accidents or loss. It is further agreed that all risks while watching and/or participating in the Karn Skating Dynamics Schools are assumed by the students and his/her parents and/or guardian, and this assumption is acknowledged/approved by their signature hereto.

We have read the foregoing, and have explained its meaning to our child, and agree to the terms and conditions as stated. We, the parents or guardian of the above signed applicant, give our consent to his participation in the Karn Skating Dynamics School.

Parent Signature _____

Insurance Company _____ Policy# _____

Health Problems Explain: Yes No

Edina Hockey Association Fact Sheet

- ▲ Established 1957. Celebrating 56th year during 2013-14 season.
- ▲ All volunteer association (Board members, coaches).
- ▲ Largest youth hockey association in the U.S.A. 1,316 participants in 2012-13 season. 99.2% Edina residents (live or attend school in Edina).
- ▲ 83 teams - 344 girls, 972 boys.
- ▲ 3 national titles, 51 state championships.
- ▲ EHA significantly enhances the “Edina” brand.
- ▲ Feeder program for Edina High School Boys and Girls Hockey programs (both Varsity and Junior Varsity – 11 state championships), several private high school hockey programs, USA Hockey National Team Development Program in Ann Arbor, MI and junior programs in US and Canada.
- ▲ Multiple former players have been drafted by National Hockey League (NHL) teams.

EHA Ice Purchases 2012-13 Season

Ice Purchases	# Hours
EHA from Braemar	2,087
EHA from other arenas	2,093
EHA Parents/Teams from other arenas	500 - 750
Total:	4,680 – 4,930

Braemar Arena meets 42-45% of EHA's needs

Note: Excludes outdoor ice and dryland training

EHA 2012-13 Ice Purchases – Arena List

- ▲ Blake
- ▲ Breck
- ▲ Bloomington
- ▲ Eden Prairie
- ▲ Hat Trick - small rink
- ▲ Minnehaha
- ▲ Minnesota Made
- ▲ Richfield
- ▲ State Fair Coliseum
- ▲ St. Thomas
- ▲ St. Louis Park
- ▲ Vadnais Heights
- ▲ U of M Mariucci
- ▲ U of M Ridder
- ▲ Velocity - small rink

Note: Parents/teams purchase additional ice at any arena in metro area with open ice times that meet their needs.

Ice Availability

EHA employs the professional services of an Ice Scheduler and will assist BCLFSC with securing ice time at other arenas between now and the end of Aug. 2014. The EHA will provide the use of this professional service to the BCLFSC at no cost.

Sample Availability This Season

- ▲ Richfield – multiple time blocks available; closely match BCLFSC's current hours
- ▲ Dakotah, Prior Lake: Oct 1 – March 15, 6:50-8:50 a.m. Sat and Sun. Does not have figure skating club.
- ▲ Hopkins Pavilion – has ice available – provided copy to BCLFSC. Does not have figure skating club.
- ▲ Parade Minneapolis: Sat. 10/12 6:15 – 10 p.m.; Sun. 10/13 7:15 – 10 p.m.; Sat. 10/19 5 – 10 p.m.; Sun. 10/20 8 – 11:30 a.m.; Sat. 10/26 7:30 – 10 p.m.; Sun. 11/3 7 – 10:15 a.m. Has a figure skating club and skating academy.
- ▲ Polar Arena North St. Paul – has ice available. Does not have figure skating club.
- ▲ Burnsville – 5 a.m. - 2 p.m. M-F for \$95 an hour. Does have a figure skating club.

EHA Year-End Survey - Parent Feedback

TEAM NAME	Response
Girls Mites 6U	bad ice times
Girls 12U B Green	We had a great year. Ice time from EHA for practice was not sufficient especially in the second half of the season.
Girls 14U B	practice time too early after school or too late at night
Boys 1st year Mites	Great coach. We were at many different rink- not great. Loves the dryland
Boys 1st year Mites	he wanted more ice
Boys 1st year Mites	Coaches were great, practice location and times were awful
Boys Upper Mites	It seemed like we never got to play at Braemar. Lots of driving out of or city to little or training rinks.
Boys Upper Mites	Ice time locations are all over
Boys Upper Mites	it seemed like he had far fewer games this year with too many practices away from braemar
Boys Squirt A White	The coaching was great but I would really like to see more practices at Braemar or rinks that are easier to get to. Driving down to the U on a week night practice that starts between 5 and 7 is awful.

EHA Year-End Survey - Player Feedback

Team Name	Response
Girls 12U B White	More ice time. Offer friend requests for b teams
Girls 19U B	Schedule our practices not so late. Give all the super late ones to Junior Gold or U16
Boys Upper Mites	Nicer jerseys. No practices at velocity or hat trick.
Boys Upper Mites	want to play at Braemar more
Boys Upper Mites	No practices when I need to go to bed.
Boys Squirt C White	Ice closer to home
Boys Peewee B1	More ice time.
Boys Peewee B2 Green	Having earlier practices and not very late ones around 9 or 10 pm on school nights because we have to wake up so early.
Boys Bantam B1	More ice time
Boys Bantam B2 White	Less friday practices

Deb Mangen

From: Tim Sipprell <tsipprell@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2013 11:48 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Cc: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); Josh Sprague; swensonann1@gmail.com; Scott Neal; akattreh@edinamn.com
Subject: Re: ice allocation

Hello esteemed city leaders. I know that the ice allocation debate is still going on, and I want to reiterate my concerns as a hockey parent and resident. I very much appreciated councilman Sprague's quotes in the Sun last week--the playing field is tilted in favor of a small group of figure skaters and has been for a long time now. It's time for that to change. I have heard there is some discussion about a grace period - the figure skaters want 4 years for this to gradually roll back. Blows my mind. By now we all know the discrepancy in the numbers of participants. I can't tell you how many practices we had last year at Mariucci or Ridder Arena for our Squirt B team. And they were usually in the 5-630pm window, battling city rush hour. We hardly ever get to practice at Braemar, and when we do it's almost always ice time shared with another team.

That brings up another point--why is it that hockey coaches can figure out ways to design great practices with 2 teams on the ice, and still develop kids that are good enough to win state titles, yet it seems like every time I look out and see a figure skating session going on i can count on one hand how many skaters are on the ice? Maybe cutting back the figure skaters' prime ice time will finally force them to bring some innovation to their training sessions like forced us to do years ago as the association grew.

On Tue, Jul 16, 2013 at 10:10 AM, Tim Sipprell <tsipprell@gmail.com> wrote:

I am disappointed to learn that your department's ice allocation recommendation seems to disproportionately favor 51 resident figure skaters vs 1300+ resident hockey players. I'm sure it is difficult to be a figure skater in a community that boasts the largest youth hockey association in the country.... but the is the LARGEST YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION IN THE COUNTRY, and serves 26 resident hockey players for every figure skater.

Honestly I'd think the figure skaters would feel lucky to get any half-decent ice time at all under such a circumstance. How they even get 700 hours to Edina Hockey's 2,000 is perplexing to me. To take it to a level where the figure skaters are getting to fill all their ice needs before the EHA gets any ice would be outrageous. I urge all addressed and copied on this email to consider the resident participation ratio here is 26:1. 26 hockey players for every figure skater. This is not complicated math. The EHA should not be in a situation where they are defending their current position in the pecking order--they should be getting MORE ice time. In addition, the EHA is the feeder program to the High School team. If the high school team is truly a priority in this equation, that must be taken into consideration as well. I have nothing against figure skating. I think all sports are a huge part of developing great kids. This isn't about figure skating, it's about common sense. If there were 5 kids who wanted to do javelin, you wouldn't give them 30% of the time available at Kuhlman Field that currently is used by LaCrosse leagues. And we're not talking about trumping LaCrosse...we're talking about Hockey.

--

Tim Sipprell
REALTOR, MBA
real estate SIMPLIFIED

Keller Williams Integrity Realty - Lakes
Cell [612-327-7657](tel:612-327-7657)

Mpls/St. Paul Magazine Super Real Estate Agent 2006-->2012

What I've done for my clients in the last year...

- Sold 75% of my single-family listings either pre-market or in less than one week
- Obtained 99% of list price for my sellers--5.3% more than market average
- Sold listings in an average of 40 days -- vs market average of 119 days
- Found homes not listed on MLS for 10 of my buyers
- Bought or sold just under \$10 million in real estate

For market insights and info on pre-lists and non-MLS listings visit us at www.facebook.com/reSIMPLIFIED

--

Tim Sipprell

REALTOR, MBA

real estate SIMPLIFIED

Keller Williams Integrity Realty - Lakes

Cell [612-327-7657](tel:612-327-7657)

Mpls/St. Paul Magazine Super Real Estate Agent 2006-->2013

What I've done for my clients the first half of 2013...

- Obtained 98.4% of list price for my sellers--2.95 points more than market average of 95.45
- Sold listings in an average of 22.7 days -- vs market average of 97.3 days
- Secured contracts on "unlisted" homes for 12 of my clients
- Bought or sold just under \$8 million in real estate

For market insights and info on pre-lists and non-MLS listings visit us at www.facebook.com/reSIMPLIFIED

From: Jon Foust <jfoust@roxcap.com>
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2013 11:48 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: FW: Item VIII A Priority Use Policy Braemar Arena v2.docx
Attachments: Item VIII A Priority Use Policy Braemar Arena v2.docx; City Atty letter RE BCLFSC resolution.pdf

The Honorable James Hovland,

I apologize for the lengthy email, but I believe it will be worth your time to read and consider.

Over the last few weeks, I have been involved in trying to create a solution to the pending Priority Use Policy at Braemar Arena. My involvement in the process is a result of being on the board of the Hornet's Nest and my volunteer role on the Edina Hockey Association Board which concluded in April 2013. I was involved in all three meetings that took place between Staff, the EHA and the Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club. During the 7+ hours of discussion I learned a lot about the situation and have a firm grasp on the facts. Not all of the facts have been shared with City Council, the Mayor or the Press. It is hard for me to believe that "the facts" may not drive a decision, but the organization or people that are most effective at lobbying their cause.

I was initially encouraged by Brian Hedberg, President BCLFSC, when he mentioned that our meetings should be about "balance of opportunity and balance at the facility, because in the end this is about the kids". As conversations have broken down, I asked Brian and I ask you, where is the balance for the 1316 participants in the EHA? As you know, during the prime season, the EHA has no access to Braemar Ice Arena Monday through Friday until 7:00 pm due to the Boys/Girls High School teams and the BCLFSC. The result of this structure leads our teams to play early in the morning, late at night, at rinks all over the Twin Cities, which can and does cause problems for working families, families that have multiple kids playing on different teams and our volunteer coaches. The current allocation of ice and the time of those ice slots creates a lot of inconvenience for EHA families. To this point in time, all of the inconvenience has been shouldered by hockey families and none of it has affected the BCLFSC.

The Facts

- Braemar Ice Arena is not profitable and its operating losses are subsidized by the City of Edina.
- The City Council has mandated City Staff to draft a priority use policy.
- The BCLFSC resolution on a user fee is not a 20 year agreement or contract for ice time. Attached is the City Attorney's opinion.
- The EHA resolution to support the Hornet's Nest was contingent upon an executed Priority Use Policy at Braemar Ice Arena.
- The BCLFSC and the Synchronized Skating teams **do not** have a minimum requirement from United States Figure Skating to maintain Braemar as their home rink. I specifically asked this question at the first meeting to guarantee that whatever we resolved did not affect the BCLFSC. At that point Brian was not sure, but prior to our second meeting he talked to representatives and confirmed that **no minimum exists**. Any other statement they make regarding this issue are untrue.
- No one is dictating the number of hours of ice the BCLFSC can purchase. The only thing being considered is their monopoly on the best ice slots during "prime" season.
- The BCLFSC is a consortium of paid coaches. The skaters hire the coach and follow them from club to club if they were to change affiliations. The BCLFSC is an organization that exists to support the paid coaches through buying ice time, coordinating competitions and dealing with paperwork. The club exists to support the most elite athletes. The skaters' loyalty resides with their coach, not the club. This was communicated by Loni Keenan, one of the coaches that attended all of the meetings.
- The EHA is a volunteer organization that provides any Edina resident or student an opportunity to play hockey regardless of their level of skill or their financial capabilities.

- The BCLFSC has challenges to effectively schedule their ice. Their challenges are different than EHA, but not greater or less than the choices faced by the hockey community.
- BCLFSC has 130 members and buys 700 hours of the best ice times during the “prime season”. Approximately 5.4 hours per participant.
- The EHA has more than 1300 (350 girls and 950 boys) members and buys 2000 hours of ice during the “prime season”. Many of those hours are late at night. Approximately 1.5 hours per participant.
- The BCLFSC has competition from other clubs
- The EHA has competition from for-profit organizations like Minnesota Made, Breakaway Hockey and Northern Educate

Solutions Discussed and Rejected by BCLFSC - any or all of them are viable and they take into account the stated “complexities” of figure skating

- The BCLFSC could skate one morning per week.
- The BCLFSC could skate one or two days per week at another rink. There would be no difference in their scheduling, coaches routine or home arena status if they skated at Richfield on Tuesday’s from 3-7 pm instead the exact same time at Braemar.
- The BCLFSC could skate one evening per week. Why do they need to skate from 3-7 pm? Can they skate from 7:30 to 10:30 pm? The EHA has a younger participant population.

As you read the Staff recommendation, you will note that nowhere in the document do they implement a policy based on residency. Are there any other priority use policy’s that treat non-Edina organizations better than a resident association? In fact, the Staff recommendation does not even get the two organizations to participation parity until year 4. Throughout the transition, the Staff recommendation continues to treat the BCLFSC significantly better than the EHA by allocating more ice time and more convenient ice time slots than their participation rates would indicate. If the EHA had one request, I am sure they would like to alter the transition period to 3 years. In fact, the EHA has offered resources and experience in an attempt to help the BCLFSC contract for ice at another rink and would have no problem getting the transition completed in year 2. Unfortunately the figure skaters are not willing to address reality and only want an agreement that maintains the status quo. I will ask you as I have asked Brian, “where is the balance in opportunity or in the facility for the EHA kids in that scenario”? The BCLFSC has chosen to create a story that their club will cease to exist if any of this happens. It is based on misinformation, emotion, lobbying and unwillingness to look at the situation as an opportunity to improve the service to their members. As we all know, the BCLFSC membership is from all over the Twin Cities and has members that drive a significant distance to practice at Braemar. What if the BCLFSC did an analysis and found a rink that was actually more convenient to a majority of their members. If they skated at that rink once or twice per week, it may actually be a benefit to those skaters and their families. For every problem there is a solution, so I do not buy into the BCLFSC argument that any change will adversely affect the club. Both organizations have challenges that need to be embraced and solved in a creative manner to ensure their success. There needs to be shared sacrifice in solving the current dilemma.

The EHA has been an integral part of the community for decades. Believe it or not, it is one of the many reasons families choose to move to Edina. We are a volunteer run, community association that allows anyone to participate regardless of skill or financial resources. I truly hope that you and the rest of the City Council will be making a decision that is based on what is best for the community, its residents and the facts. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or speak to Scott, Ann or Susie about the content and dynamics of the 7+ hours of meetings that were held to try to resolve the current issue.

Jon R Foust
612-325-7237

From: Scott Neal [mailto:sneal@EdinaMN.gov]
Sent: Thursday, August 01, 2013 5:11 PM
To: Brian Hedberg (bhedberg@readycreditcorp.com); Jon Foust; Green, Ron (Ron.Green@ecolab.com)
Subject: Item VIII A Priority Use Policy Braemar Arena v2.docx

Gentlemen –

This is the staff report for the Braemar Arena Priority Use Policy. I have also attached the referenced letter from the City Attorney.

Scott