

## time is ticking fast to install ice or not for 2020-21 season at community centre arenas

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📎 1 attachments (500 KB)

Resolution to Build and Protect Children and Youth Community Hockey for All School Age Minors.pdf;

Dear Vaughan Council,

I understand that community centers (including ice arenas) are under review based on a social media postings released by City of Vaughan on Thursday August 6th.

For the 2020-21 Fall/Winter season, there will be no organized hockey leagues for the following reasons;

- The Greater Toronto Hockey League (GTHL) which not only operates rep hockey in full jurisdiction of Toronto and Vaughan, partial jurisdiction in Mississauga ('AA', 'AAA' only) and Markham (shared jurisdiction with OMHA) but also is a governing body under Hockey Canada.
- So there is major conflict of interest between rep hockey and house league which Vaughan doesn't have anyway (except of JCC (see below))
- CVHA's house league is city wide so it is actually larger geographically than even a local league or rural and exurban parts of Ontario due to massive geographical size of Vaughan (perimeter of border is close to 70km). A house league is official game play all under one roof ("house") or two roofs that are close together such as Rosemount and Garnet Williams single pad arenas which are only 2.3 km apart.
- CVHA's house league is a misnomer, it is a community league that is city-wide since all participants are accepted regardless of athletic ability without having to try out to make a team.
- Sadly due to size of Vaughan even this community league has too much travel within Vaughan and the current Ontario government return to play protocol does not permit CVHA's community hockey program because there is too much travel within municipal borders of Vaughan.
- The only true children/youth house hockey league in Vaughan is that of Schwartz Reisman JCC/Chai Sports (JCC) house league which operates only once a week on Sunday afternoons only at single pad arenas of Rosemont CC (2:00-10:00pm) and Garnet Williams CC(4:00-8:30pm).

So since neither CVHA nor GTHL support or offer house league hockey as it directly competes with their bread and butter programs (rep/select/CVHA city wide community league) they would rather not have hockey at all this coming season. Essentially if they can't operate their current program models they don't want any other hockey leagues operating under their umbrella. And these governing bodies control delivery of ice house hockey league programs?

**I ask you that this coming season;**

- 1. Install ice only at two community centres at Rosemount, and Al Palladini West only, and of course Sports Village has ice since it is privately operated.**
- 2. Keep the remaining pads (Garnet Williams, Maple, Woodbridge, and Al Palladini East) dry without ice installed for entire season.**
- 3. JCC be allowed to operate at least at Rosemount Arena (would have to use private insurance since Hockey Canada insurance wouldn't be available as it would be blocked by GTHL and CVHA)**
- 4. Thornhill Figure Skating Club (TFSC) be allowed to operate at Rosemont Arena (which is the only Vaughan arena they use anyway).**

5. Thornhill-Carrville Hockey School (TCHS) be allowed to operate hockey and ringette skills sessions at Rosemount Arena.
6. Woodbridge Figure Skating Club (WFSC) be permitted to operate at Al Palladini CC (West Pad only). Keep the East Pad dry.
7. Sports Village which would have ice on all four (4) pads only be allowed to operate private programs and allow SV to re-purchase CSO ice allocations to be sold at market rates to the individuals and private operators.
8. If Vaughan Flames (Female) need ice they can use choose from Sports Village, Al Pal West or Rosemount.
9. Keep Maple, Woodbridge and Garnet Williams Arenas completely dry for entire season such as other uses like ball hockey, rollerblading etc. ,basketball, and other uses where a large open space is desired which would be many due to physical distancing.
10. Allow public skating every evening weeknights at Rosemount and Al Pal West and weekend afternoon. Vaughan Citizens need exercise during winter months.
11. Consider public rollerblading at dry pad of Maple, Woodbridge, Al Palladini East and Garnet Williams

Thank you for considering but let's do what is best for Vaughan Citizens and not just keep all community center arenas shuttered just because CVHA and GTHL/NYHL don't need ice permits in 2020-21.

As an FYI, I wrote the attached policy proposal, submitted on behalf of Thornhill Riding LPC Association.

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