

2000 November 16

TO: CITY MANAGER
FROM: DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES
SUBJECT: CORRESPONDENCE FROM BURNABY GIRLS SOCCER
PURPOSE: To respond to Ms. Judy Payne's letter regarding removal of field time for a non-Burnaby group.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for information purposes.

REPORT

At its meeting of 2000 November 15, the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission received the attached report and adopted the two recommendations contained therein.



Kate Friars
DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION
AND CULTURAL SERVICES

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Attachment

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SUBJECT: CORRESPONDENCE FROM BURNABY GIRLS SOCCER

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to Council for information.
2. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to Ms. Judy Payne.

REPORT

Appearing as correspondence on this agenda is a letter from Ms. Judy Payne of the Burnaby Girls' Soccer Club which was referred to Commission from Council. The letter expresses concern over removal of field time for a non-Burnaby group.

A request for 5 (3 Saturday/2 Sunday) dates in 2000 September and October to accommodate Langara College games was made in the spring prior to fall/winter requests from community groups for field allocations.

After submitting their requests in August, the Burnaby Girls' Soccer Club received notification that September 17th and October 1st would not be available.

There are a few requests from outside groups that staff try to accommodate but most are rejected due to impact on a regular user group's schedule. The Sunday times allotted to the College were later on Sundays. The only time Burnaby Girls' Soccer was impacted was for one 2 pm game slot on both September 18th and October 01st. Alternate sites for the club were explored, however, all grass fields were booked, all weather fields were available but not requested by the club. It was felt that two game times in the overall fall/winter schedule would have a minor impact on the overall scheduling of the club's activities.

In regards to Ms. Paynes' concerns regarding field allocations at Burnaby Lake Sports Complex – West and the number of adult groups using premier grass fields; the Burnaby Mens Soccer Club, who had previously held the allotment at Riverway Sports Complex on Sunday's were moved to BLSCW when the facility became available last winter. This not only reduced the wear and tear on the field but also allowed for an additional 10 hours of play to be designated to the Burnaby Girls Soccer Club.

Staff have heard an increasing frustration from community groups about commitments made to "outside" of Burnaby organizations. This has escalated with the popularity of the artificial turf fields. Staff make community groups a priority in the allocation of space, however, some compromise is needed based on historical bookings or opportunities to view a high calibre of play.

Staff will continue to address the demands of local community sport groups. The sportfield renovation program and increased sportfield inventory are included in the next 5 Year Capital Budget.


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