



Date: September 4, 2026
To: Council
cc: Kim Ramsay, CAO
From: Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
Re: Soccer Rates

Sportsplex Rates - East Hants Soccer Club

The East Hants Soccer Club has reached out to Council requesting Council reconsider completely eliminating the discounted rate that is effective as of September 1, 2026. Alternatively, the group is asking Council to explore alternative models for community-based groups.

Background

- In May 2024, when taking over operations of the East Hants Sportsplex, staff discovered that the East Hants Soccer Club had been given a 20% discount on turf rentals by the East Hants Arena Association. From an update to Council in October 2024, motion C24(355) directed staff to keep rates the same and to bring back recommended rates as part of 2025/2026 draft budget discussions.
- In February 2025, staff brought a report back to Council with proposed rental rates for 2025-2028. From that discussion, direction was given to staff to approve the new rates and phase out the discount over a two-year period a reduction to 10% on September 1, 2025 and the remaining discount discontinued entirely as of September 2026.
- Staff met with the President of East Hants Soccer in March 26, 2025 to discuss these rate changes and phasing out of discounts.
- Note that when daily operations of the Sportsplex transitioned to the municipality, Council passed motion C24(146) where \$10,800 was approved to go towards the start-up of the TV bingo fundraiser that was going to be operated by the East Hants Minor Hockey Association and East Hants Soccer. The funds were provided to the hockey group as it was indicated that the two organizations were going to collaborate and split the profits equally. It has been confirmed that the bingo fundraiser will not be going forward this year as the group indicated the operations were not be financially sustainable.

Current Rates

Fee Description	Prime	Non-Prime
Regular Season - (1 Field)	\$124.17	\$40.80
Regular Season - (Whole Field)	\$326.40	\$122.40
Summer Season - 1 Field	\$40.80	\$40.80
Summer Season - Whole Field	\$122.40	\$122.40
Summer Season - Arena (Dry)	\$76.50	\$76.50

From September 2025 to August 2026, the East Hants Soccer Club annual contract value was \$107,614.50 plus 14% HST which includes a 10% discount. Assuming the same amount of space were to be rented again this year the club will be expected to pay 10% more at the regularly approved rates which would be an approximate increase of \$12,000 plus HST.