

Councillor, rec rep hear beefs

By PAUL DORSEY
Herald staff writer

A lack of communication, questionable spending priorities and decreasing support for local sports groups brought town council and the recreation department under fire Sunday from members of the recently-organized Halton Hills Sports Council. Ward 4 Coun. Harry Levy and wards 1 and 2 recreation co-ordinator Jennifer Linton found themselves sharing the hot seat at the Cedarvale Community Centre, where officials of several local soccer, figure skating, baseball, tennis and minor hockey groups discussed current problems involving municipal facilities.

The April 26 Awards Night, at which town officials presented 10 local teams and individuals with token gifts in recognition of their achievements at provincial, national or international sporting events, was applauded Sunday as a well-run, enjoyable evening, but several Sports Council members were incensed over the fact that many noteworthy achievements were overlooked.

CAN'T PIN BLAME

Georgetown Legion Royal-ettes' manager Ted Wilkes conceded that it is difficult to "pin the blame" on any one party for ignoring the accomplishments of at least a dozen local athletes and teams, but suggested that the Sports Council itself should consider organizing the Awards Night in future years.

Bryan Turner, representing Youth Soccer and the Georgetown Minor Hockey Support Group, complained about the fact that attendance at the Awards Night was by invitation only, while Georgetown Figure Skating Club president Ron Snow criticized the event's organizers for failing to recognize what was, in some cases, jubilantly acknowledged on an international scale.

Wilkes speculated that there was a "complete breakdown in communication" after nominations were submitted to the town recreation department.

Bryan Lewis, president of the Georgetown Industrial Football League, suggested that the Sports Council itself is in a good position to submit recommendations, but conceded that "someone is always left out" at any such recognition event.

EMBARRASSED

Levy informed the group that members of town council, who simply received direction from the recreation department to attend the Awards Night and help present tokens, were "extremely embarrassed" when it became obvious that many deserving individuals were not on hand.

"No one on town staff organized it the way I'd like to have seen it," he admitted.

Youth Soccer Club president Alex Tough, who is the Sports Council's interim convenor, noted that none of the local soccer teams was approached by town staff for recommendations. He said he would prepare a report on the situation on behalf of the Sports Council for submission to town council.

Levy expressed appreciation for the role which the Sports Council hopes to play in the local recreational scene, calling it a worthwhile replacement for the recreation advisory committees which council used to appoint.

"(Town) council needs that liaison," he said. "We're always making decisions about recreation while we're wearing blinkers, but your input can change that. It's not just a matter of council dictating and the recreation department administering. Recreation must come to us to let us know what the problems are and make recommendations. But, we get very few recommendations."

LINES

Another major topic of discussion at Sunday's meeting was town council's recent decision to discontinue the practice of buying and distributing lime and talcum supplies with which soccer and

baseball groups line their playing fields.

George Baines, representing the Georgetown Falcons senior soccer team, complained that the groups are contributing more to town coffers but getting less in return.

The additional expense of having to buy the lime and then transport it from members' homes to the fields were the members' chief complaints. The possibility of improving storage facilities at the Georgetown Fair-

grounds was discussed, with Linton urging members to suggest ways of rectifying the situation.

The town recreation department also came under fire for allegedly being frequently unavailable to callers. Snow told the group that he finally gave up trying to contact recreation director Glen Gray after numerous messages to his office went unanswered, and now deals with other local sports officials.

Members briefly question-

ed town council's spending priorities in light of new charges being imposed for the use of arenas and the supply of lime.

WHY NOW?

"Why are you putting money away for the new town offices?" Mr. Turner asked Levy. "Why is it council is considering charging us for the fields now?"

Town council's recent decision to increase ice rental rates at the arenas was to have been a major topic of discussion at the meeting.

but as Tough and Turner explained, the issue was at the moment in the hands of local hockey organizations that has yet to affiliate themselves with the Sports Council.

The matter was tackled at town council's meeting Monday night. (See story Page 1).

Also attending Sunday's meeting were arena supervisor Doug Vivian, Jim Ford of the Kinsmen Girls' Softball League and Bill Kent of the Gordon Alcott Tennis Club.



BLOOD DONORS' CLINIC



Last spring, Louise LeBlanc developed a bleeding disorder requiring platelets, a blood component.

She received the platelets

BECAUSE 60 PEOPLE GAVE BLOOD.

friends for life 
The Canadian Red Cross Society

Open from 1:30 to 8:45 p.m.

COMMUTERS COME RIGHT AFTER WORK
BE A RED CROSS BLOOD DONOR

MONDAY, MAY 14th

at the

HOLY CROSS CHURCH AUDITORIUM MAPLE AVENUE EAST

HEALTHY persons, ages 18 to 65 and 17 years olds (with written parental consent EACH time they donate) are URGENTLY required to give BLOOD.

HELP THE RED CROSS OBTAIN A SUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF BLOOD

AVOID evening waiting periods. HOUSEWIVES attend the clinic in the afternoon, preferably from 3:00 to 5:30.

TRANSPORTATION and BABYSITTING at the clinic available to donors. If a ride is needed, phone Mrs. Noreen Miehme 877-2697 or Mrs. Erica Thompson 877-9866. On clinic day phone 877-9354 or 877-7522.

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF CLINIC DAY, MAY 14th ON YOUR CALENDAR!

THIS AD IS SPONSORED BY THE GEORGETOWN KINSMEN CLUB

Liesure clinics

Operation Action is planning a series of clinics for people who would like to learn a little something about different leisure activities.

The clinics, which will commence May 23, are designed not to give lessons to beginners in the different sports, but to give people some idea of what's involved in the sport in the way of equipment, rules, local facilities, skills and costs, Marlene Avery said.

The clinics will cover golf, tennis, cricket, lawn bowling and snorkeling, and will be held in various locations. The first clinic, on golf, will be held May 22 at the Georgetown Golf Club, followed by a tennis clinic May 30 at the Acton Tennis Club. The clinic on cricket will be held at Cedarvale gym on June 6. The lawn bowling clinic will be held June 13 at the Georgetown Lawn Bowling Club on Edith Street, and snorkeling will be

demonstrated at the Georgetown Indoor Pool June 19.

GIVE IDEA

Miss Avery said the purpose of the clinics is to give people an idea of what is involved in the sport, and what to expect when they sign up for lessons. She said Operation Action is hoping that these evenings will give people a taste of different activities which they could take up as hobbies.

"We're sure that after participating in any one of these clinics you will feel a little more at ease when signing up for lessons or playing your first game," Miss Avery said. "At least the first time out, you won't, for example grab the wrong end of the club."

The clinics are free of charge, and open to anyone who wants to attend. For further information, contact Operation Action at 877-7211.