

Hill soccer club on right track

By PAT KELLY

The Richmond Hill Minor Soccer Club moved a step closer to the realization of a dream last week when the Richmond Hill Parks and Recreation Committee agreed to ask council to allow the soccer club to use the old Canadian National railway station as its headquarters.

Ed Kenny, who presented the proposal, pointed out that soccer has grown so rapidly in

Richmond Hill during the last few years that the club is now one of the largest organizations in town. Few other organizations are so extensively connected to and therefore so fully representative of the community.

Rapid expansion has created problems. At the moment the club has to rely on, if not impose on, individuals to store its equipment in the off season.

Trophies, team pictures, medals and players

are scattered all over town, gracing the walls and mantels of coaches and other soccer supporters.

NEED HOME

Ideally they should have a home where they would be visible to a much greater number of people. Meetings are held in a room in the Town Hall, a room barely large enough to house the whole executive at their monthly meetings and certainly not large enough to permit the executive to

receive delegations or to meet with other groups. It has long been recognized that the acquisition of a clubhouse would solve most of the problems that have troubled the club in recent years. Perhaps these problems are over.

Perhaps. Because acquisition of the station as a clubhouse, in spite of the committee's sympathetic hearing, is by no means a foregone conclusion.

NEED SUPPORT

Much will have to be done. The club will need the enthusiastic support of all who are interested in the improvement of the sport in The Hill.

Players, coaches, parents and sponsors will have to get involved.

The station has to be moved from its present location to a site established on Elgin Mills, near Leslie, for a complex of sports field for the Town of Richmond Hill. The move will cost money.

Mr. Kenny was able to assure the committee that because of the club's sound fiscal policies, sound financial situation and the enthusiastic response the club enjoys whenever it solicits participation of supporters in fund-raising projects, the club can confidently assume responsibility for the cost of moving the station.

In addition to that, said Mr. Kenny, the club undertook to bear the cost of refurbishing the interior of the building for club purposes. The club would not attempt to change the outside structure and appearance of the building.

The precise location of the building in the new park has yet to be decided. There is a strong possibility, however, that the station will in the future enjoy a greater prominence than it has for many, many years.

It should be highly visible to anyone driving into or out of town along Elgin Mills. A visible link with the past, the building that many years ago was the first and last sight that people enjoyed as they arrived or departed from The Hill.

The soccer club's undertaking not to alter the exterior appearance of the station means that a historic building will be preserved.

Its use of the building as a club headquarters means, further, that the building will continue to live, to serve a useful purpose.

This is an idea that David Fayle, chairman of the local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee, has long advocated.

Old buildings need not become museum pieces, unproductive or useless burdens on the taxpayer.

With any luck, railway buffs and people whose main interest in the

station is its historical value, may be able to surround it with other artifacts of the age of steam.

The soccer club hopes to use the station for at least 10 years. At the end of that time, the station might well become a very "original" entrance to the park.

Use of the station, while it is the headquarters of the soccer club, need not be restricted solely to the club, said Mr. Kenny in response to a question.

Other community organizations could use the station for meetings, especially during the off-season when the main purpose of the building will be storage of the club's equipment.

The station, if all goes well with the soccer club's plans, will thus serve the community as a whole.

It is to be hoped the community will take an interest in the station. It would be a shame if, because of apathy on the part of the people of Richmond Hill, the station were to become merely the headquarters of the Richmond Hill Soccer Club.

Twin Hills leads by 2-0

The Richmond Hill Twin Hills' Midget B Rams took a two-game to nothing lead in their best-of-five series against Owen Sound winning 8-5 and 9-6.

The first game saw the Rams almost doomed by overconfidence with Owen Sound opening the scoring on a power play.

This jarred Richmond Hill out of its lethargy and it was Glen Dunford and Joe Thurston replying with unassisted short-handed goals.

The Rams again let down in the third period

with Owen Sound scoring three goals to lead 4-2 with six minutes remaining in the game.

Richmond Hill caught fire then with Eric Rockarts making it 4-3 as he took a pass back at the point from Ed McNally and drove a low, hard slapshot past the Owen Sound goalie.

The Rams' continued to apply pressure and with two minutes left it was Joe Thurston taking the puck behind the Owen Sound net and shovelling it to Russ Thornhill who shot from an almost

impossible angle to tie the game.

OVERTIME

Overtime followed with Owen Sound scoring first only to have McNally scoring five seconds later.

Then it was Richmond Hill moving in front 14 seconds after that as McNally again blinked the light from Steve Shannon and Neil McGregor.

The duo of Dunford and Thurston combined in the final two minutes.

Penalties played a major role in the game as three of the Owen Sound goals were scored off power plays and two of the Rams' goals were short-handed efforts.

RAMS 9, OWEN SOUND 6.

The Rams played a physical game in the second encounter as they toyed with the opposition. Bill Waterhouse scored his first goal of the playoffs on a shot from the point assisted by Steve Shannon.

Two minutes later it was Neil McGregor scoring from McNally and Al Duncan making it

2-0 for the Rams. Eric Rockarts finished the spree with a goal from the point after taking a drop pass from Mike Barnett.

Owen Sound took advantage of Rams' penalties to score three goals in the second while Richmond Hill responded with two. It was Paul Lawler from Al Duncan on the first one and Neil McGregor from Duncan on the second effort.

The Rams skated away with matters in the third period scoring four goals to the opposition's three.

McNally scored the first two on passes from Steve Shannon and

Evergreen's falter

The Richmond Hill Minor Atom A's lost the first two games of their playoff series with Barrie by 5-3 and 3-1 scores.

The third game is

slated for Barrie's Eastview Arena at 7:15 Friday night.

That opening game in Barrie saw tension running high with Rich-

mond Hill opening the scoring on Brian Hunt's goal from Bobby Cook and Warren Payne at 7:31 of the first period.

Barrie tied it and then took the lead before the

end of the period. Aldo Teofilo scored from Danny Jensen to start off the second period before Barrie took the lead once more.

The third period saw

Maurice Poirier scoring from Hunt and Cook to tie the match once again. Before the end of the period, Maurice Poirier took a heavy check and had to be taken off the ice by stretcher with torn ligaments in his shoulder.

Barrie scored twice more to finish off the game.

The next game saw the Richmond Hill Evergreen Lawn Sprinklers losing 3-1 despite coming up with a game effort.

Danny Jensen got the lone goal from Bobby Cook and Brian Hunt.

Despite outshooting Barrie in the final period they just couldn't find the target.

Galaxy, Ponderosa cooking!

Galaxy Tavern defeated Richvale Transmission 5-1 in a sudden death opener to start the Richmond Hill Town Hockey League playoffs.

Galaxy's four goals came from the stick of Terry Havilland and the other was by Ron Mills. Assisting on the goals

were Havilland, Bryan Simpson, Jim Simpson, Joe Bryan, Neil Roberts, Clay Chapman and Blair Robson.

Richvale's lone tally came from Craig Shuttleworth with assists to Ron Little and Steve Martin.

Galaxy will meet second place finishing

Jack Blyth Realtors Thursday night in the old arena at 6:30 p.m.

The second sudden death game had the Ponderosa Steak House battle the Three Coins Restaurant to a decisive 5-2 win.

Scoring for the winners was Larry Clewes with two goals and singles to

Al Price, John Mills and Errol Hook. Stu Thompson and Jim Roffey scored for Three Coins.

The playoff picture sees L & M going against Ponderosa; Jack Blyth vs Galaxy; Security Transmission vs White Water; and Gormley vs Barrow's.



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