Stouffville Sun-Tribune 5P()K()



SUN TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Memorial Park home to the Stouffville Mennos.

Mennos leave town for Richmond Hill

Say so long to your Mennos, Stouffville.

The men's fastball team that called Memorial Park home for many years isn't folding.

It's dropping out of the Oshawa City and District Fastball League and down to the less competitive Richmond Hill Fastball League.

"(We) have gradually come to the conclusion that the team as currently constituted cannot successfully compete in the OCDFL," Mennos manager Art Burkholder said in an e-mail this week. "The consensus of the players is that they would like to continue as a team, but in a league of lesser calibre."

The Mennos roster has been comprised almost entirely of local players. Other entries in the Oshawa-based league featured national team members and players who also suited up for teams across North America.

Enter the Richmond Hill loop, which has accepted the Mennos for play beginning this summer.

But with all games played at Richmond Green, the Mennos will give up their Thursday night time slot on the recently remodelled diamond in Stouffville.

Another OCDFL franchise has expressed interest in moving to Stouffville, Mr. Burkholder said.

"The Mennos have enjoyed their participation in the OCDFL, and have nothing but high regard for all the teams and players we have come to know and appreciate over the past years," he said. "We wish the league every success as (it) continues to provide opportunity for the local 'boys of summer' to pursue their passion of fastball."

The Richmond Hill league had eight teams last year, including clubs from Port Perry and Pickering.

Officials with the OCDFL did not respond to The Sun-Tribune's questions.

- Jim Mason

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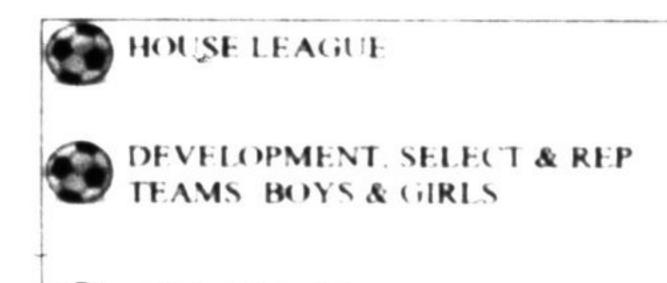


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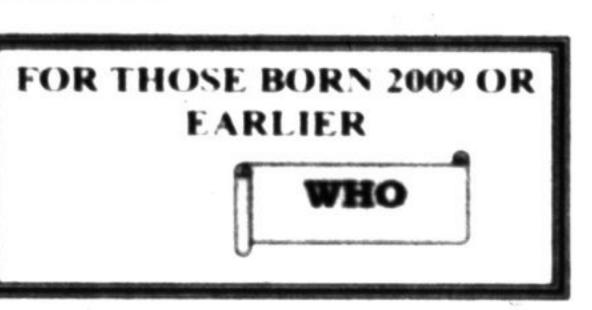
11am-2pm

STOUFFVILLE ARENA LOBBY WHERE



OPEN LEAGUES

MEN & WOMEN



Birth certificate or health card required for new players born 1996-2009.

Registration fees increase after Mar. 1/2013

Come out and learn about the programs your local soccer club has to offer. Registration payment can be made by cash or cheque.

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