

WELLNESS

Jr. A players, firefighters taking on breast cancer

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It will be a pink-out this October at Stouffville Spirit home games.

The Junior A hockey team has partnered with the Whitchurch-Stouffville Firefighters Association to raise money for the Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation's breast cancer clinic, they announced Sunday.

The charity was the players' choice, according to team GM Ken Burrows.

The players will wear pink jerseys during all October home games, which will be auctioned off, and money from the sale of 50/50 tickets will also go to the hospital.

In one game this past February, the team raised more than \$1,500 through 50/50 ticket sales and the auctioning off of the pink jerseys, according to Burrows.

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The firefighters will sell pink T-shirts at the Spirit's Ontario Junior Hockey League home games at the Stouffville Arena as well as at the station all October.

During the past five years, the local firefighters association has raised about \$6,000 for the hospital foundation through the sale of the pink T-shirts, according to Dan Bell, the local association's president.

That money has been directed to the hospital's new breast cancer clinic, according to Allan Bell, director of the Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation.

"It's because of their support, we're able to expand our services. As the community grows, so does the need for breast cancer care," Bell said.



STAFF PHOTOS/MIKE BARRETT

Walk of life

Cancer survivors (above) take the opening lap during Relay for Life at Willowgrove in Whitchurch-Stouffville Friday. Isabella and Sebastian Gorski (right), both 3, examine luminaries at the McCowan Road facility. Friends, families, co-workers and cancer survivors from Stouffville, Markham and Whitchurch-Stouffville gathered for the annual event in support of the Canadian Cancer Society. See more photographs on yorkregion.com



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