

Schedule 2 to the Minutes of the Regular meeting of Richmond City Council held on Monday, June 9, 2025

Richmond Sports Council

Membership Survey

May 2025

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Richmond Sports Council – Member's Survey Responses

Notifications received:

- 1. Richmond Aquatics Advisor Board
- 2. Richmond Minor Football League
- 3. Richmond Rod & Gun Club
- 4. Councillor Bill McNulty
- 5. Richmond Gymnastics Association
- 6. Richmond Chess Champions
- 7. F-16 Badminton Club
- 8. Richmond Rockets Speed Skating Club
- 9. Richmond Softball Association
- 10. Richmond Sockeyes Junior A Hockey Club
- 11. Richmond United FC
- 12. Richmond Tennis Club
- 13. Richmond Dragon Boat
- 14. Richmond Cosom Floor Hockey Association
- 15. Richmond Arenas Community Association
- 16. Richmond Pickleball Association
- 17. International Karate Organization
- 18. Richmond Curling Club
- 19. KidSport Richmond
- 20. TSS Rovers Football Club Inc
- 21. Vancouver Ultimate League Society
- 22. Richmond Rugby Club
- 23. The Dugout Club (Baseball)

Notification received - not responding

- 1. Richmond School Board
- 2. Richmond Oval

Other - nonresponding

- 1. Richmond Sports Hosting
- 2. Richmond Lacrosse Association
- 3. Richmond Cricket Club
- 4. Kajaks Track & Field
- 5. Richmond Centre for Disability
- 6. Richmond City Baseball
- 7. Richmond Lawn Bowling

Other

1. City of Richmond

Executive Summary

The Richmond Sports Council has gathered feedback from its members regarding their most pressing needs in terms of facilities, amenities, infrastructure, and routine organizational support.

This report summarizes the key priorities and provides recommendations for addressing these needs.

Key Priorities by Organization

1. Aquatic Facilities

- Need for a new 50m pool to accommodate increasing population and support City programs and user group growth.
- Support in promoting the need for a new aquatic center.

2. Field Sports & Storage Needs

- Richmond Minor Football League: Storage facilities at Minoru Oval; alternative field use during Hugh Boyd Pavilion construction.
- Richmond United FC: Additional all-weather fields in East Richmond; mini-fields or lit grass for programming; storage solutions at various fields.
- Vancouver Ultimate League Society: More lit full-sized grass fields, additional washrooms, and adult booking accommodations.
- Richmond Softball Association: New diamond with enhanced amenities at Steveston London complex; new batting cage at McNair.
- Richmond Sockeyes Junior A Hockey Club: More ice time and support for game attendance.
- Richmond Rockets Speed Skating Club: Additional ice time and storage space.
- **Dugout Club:** Heated indoor multi-use batting cages that support year-round player development.

• Richmond Rugby Club:

- Urgent need for additional change and shower facilities to accommodate four to six different teams (including U-18 players of different genders) on weekends. Current space limitations are leading to inappropriate overlaps and players waiting outside in poor weather conditions. A second on-site portable, similar to the existing one, is requested.
- Additional storage capacity needed, ideally in the form of another shipping container or an added storage room attached to the portable.
- Creation of a small concession area to replace the temporary field-side setup used since 2023, helping to foster community and offset costs during match days.

 Additional bleacher seating on the west side of King George Park would be beneficial, though it is not as urgent as the above needs.

3. Specialized Indoor & Outdoor Sports Facilities

- Richmond Rod & Gun Club: Permanent indoor facilities for archery and air gun sports; development of a 70m Olympic indoor and outdoor range.
- Richmond Tennis Club: Additional court "bubble" for winter play; new courts due to demand.
- **Richmond Dragon Boat Association:** Protective boat covers, off-season storage, additional buoys, and portable communication systems.
- Richmond Pickleball Association: More dedicated pickleball courts and covered outdoor multi-use sports boxes.
- Richmond Curling Club: Facility assessment and potential upgrades by the city.
- International Karate Organization: A comprehensive sports fieldhouse with multisport indoor amenities.
- Richmond Gymnastics Association: New facility needed by 2026, either standalone or within a multi-use sports complex.
- F-16 Badminton Club: Access to school gyms with suitable ceiling height; review of school rental policies.
- Gibbons Park updated and modified for ease of use, including the addition of a batting cage and a storage container to streamline operations and enhance training environments.

4. Organizational & Administrative Support

- Richmond Chess Champions: Need for a large public venue for major chess tournaments; priority access to facilities.
- Richmond Arenas Community Association: Insights on managing volunteer boards and youth sports organizations.
- KidSport Richmond: General support for community sports.
- TSS Rovers Football Club Inc.: Changing room facilities at King George Park; enclosed stadium seating for at least 400 spectators.
- **Dugout Club:** Benefits from a common registration platform and volunteer base, providing streamlined administrative processes. The Club continues to advocate for its evolving needs to ensure sustainability and growth.

Recommendations

Advocate for New & Upgraded Facilities

- Engage with city officials and stakeholders to plan for facility expansions, including new pools, sports fields, and multi-use sports centers.
- Support funding initiatives for new infrastructure developments.

Improve Coordination Between Sports Groups & Facility Operators

- Facilitate communication regarding field allocations to maximize access for multiple sports.
- Work with Richmond School Board to improve school gym rental policies and ensure equitable access.

Enhance Storage & Equipment Accessibility

- Identify shared storage solutions at key sports venues to ease logistical burdens on teams and coaches.
- Explore city partnerships for expanded on-site storage at community fields and arenas.

Develop Centralized Information & Promotion Channels

- Create a Richmond Sports Council website or portal listing available sports programs, venues, and event calendars.
- Establish a grant and funding resource center to assist organizations in securing financial support.

Strengthen Multi-Sport Advocacy & Representation

- Work with city council to promote multi-sport developments that benefit diverse community needs.
- Organize periodic stakeholder meetings to ensure collaborative planning and advocacy for facility improvements.

Conclusion

The Richmond Sports Council has identified critical facility and organizational needs across multiple sports organizations. Addressing these priorities will require strategic partnerships with the city, school board, and private stakeholders. By advocating for enhanced infrastructure, streamlined facility use, and better organizational support, Richmond can continue to be a premier destination for athletic excellence and community participation in sports.

RSC/May2025

Executive Summary

The Richmond Sports Council has gathered feedback from its members regarding their most pressing needs in terms of facilities, amenities, infrastructure, and routine organizational support.

This report summarizes the key priorities and provides recommendations for addressing these needs.

Key Priorities by Facility Type

1. Aquatic Facilities

- New Pool Facility: Needed to accommodate increasing population and support City programs and user group growth.
- **Richmond Aquatic Centre**: Support in promoting the need for an additional or expanded facility.
- 50M Swimming Facility in East Richmond: Proposed by Councillor Bill McNulty.

2. Field Sports & Outdoor Facilities

- **Minoru Oval**: Storage facilities for Richmond Minor Football League; alternative field use during Hugh Boyd Pavilion construction.
- Hugh Boyd Community Park: Ensuring alternative field access during pavilion construction.
- King George Park: Additional all-weather fields, mini-fields, or lit grass fields.
- Steveston London Complex: New softball diamond with dugouts, netting, and spectator seating; improved drainage.
- McNair Complex: New batting cage for Richmond Softball Association.
- South Arm Park: Installation of artificial turf field.
- Sidway Road Property: Development opportunities for sports facilities.
- Various Locations: Storage solutions for Richmond United FC and other field sports organizations.
- Outdoor 70m Archery Range: Needed to prevent archers from traveling to Burnaby for training.
- Gibbons Park Field: Heated Indoor Multi-Use Batting Cages, these allow players to train throughout the year, regardless of weather conditions, supporting skill development and consistent practice schedules.
- **Gibbons Park Field**: This site has been updated and modified for "ease of use," ensuring better access and functionality for practices and games. Amenities include a dedicated batting cage and on-site storage container to improve operational logistics.

3. Indoor Sports Facilities

- Richmond Rod & Gun Club: Permanent indoor facilities for archery and air gun sports.
- Proposed 70m Olympic Archery Range: Needed for both indoor and outdoor training and competitions.
- Richmond Tennis Club: Additional court "bubble" for winter play; new courts to meet demand.
- UBC Boathouse: Protective boat covers, dry storage, and additional dock buoys for Richmond Dragon Boating.
- Richmond Pickleball Courts: Expansion of existing courts and covered outdoor multiuse sports boxes.
- Richmond Curling Club: Facility assessment and potential upgrades.
- International Karate Organization: Proposal for a comprehensive sports fieldhouse with multi-sport indoor amenities.
- **Richmond Gymnastics Association**: New 15,000 sq ft facility or space in a multi-use sports complex before June 2026.
- Richmond Badminton Facilities: Blair and General Currie Elementary gyms identified as key locations with suitable ceiling heights.
- **Jack Crosby Facility Equivalent**: Proposed multi-sport complex similar to Burnaby's facility.

4. Ice Rinks & Arena Needs

- Richmond Arenas Community Association: Upgrades to Richmond Ice Centre and Minoru Rinks; additional ice surfaces and improved spectator areas.
- Richmond Rockets Speed Skating Club: More storage and increased ice time.
- Richmond Sockeyes Junior A Hockey Club: Additional ice time and support for game attendance.

5. Multi-Sport & Community Venues

- **Richmond Chess Champions**: Need for a large public venue for major chess tournaments.
- TSS Rovers Football Club: Changing rooms at King George Park; enclosed stadium seating for at least 400 spectators.
- **Richmond Olympic Oval**: Additional support for multi-sport programming and community engagement.
- Vancouver Ultimate League Society: More lit grass fields, portable washroom access, and field markings for Ultimate Frisbee.
- Richmond Cosom Floor Hockey Association: Continued access to school gyms at reasonable rental rates.

Recommendations

- Advocate for New & Upgraded Facilities
 - Engage with city officials and stakeholders to plan for facility expansions, including new pools, sports fields, and multi-use sports centers.
 - o Support funding initiatives for new infrastructure developments.
- Improve Coordination Between Sports Groups & Facility Operators

- Facilitate communication regarding field allocations to maximize access for multiple sports.
- Work with Richmond School Board to improve school gym rental policies and ensure equitable access.

• Enhance Storage & Equipment Accessibility

- Identify shared storage solutions at key sports venues to ease logistical burdens on teams and coaches.
- Explore city partnerships for expanded on-site storage at community fields and arenas.

Develop Centralized Information & Promotion Channels

- Create a Richmond Sports Council website or portal listing available sports programs, venues, and event calendars.
- Establish a grant and funding resource center to assist organizations in securing financial support.

Strengthen Multi-Sport Advocacy & Representation

- Work with city council to promote multi-sport developments that benefit diverse community needs.
- Organize periodic stakeholder meetings to ensure collaborative planning and advocacy for facility improvements.

Common Registration System

 Shared registration tools streamline participation and reduce administrative workload.

Volunteer Base Registration

 Access to a city-supported volunteer base helps with event staffing and operations.

Advocacy

 We appreciate continued representation and a collective voice to highlight our evolving needs, particularly as our club grows in size and scope.

Conclusion

The Richmond Sports Council has identified critical facility and organizational needs across multiple sports organizations. Addressing these priorities will require strategic partnerships with the city, school board, and private stakeholders. By advocating for enhanced infrastructure, streamlined facility use, and better organizational support, Richmond can continue to be a premier destination for athletic excellence and community participation in sports.

Sports in Richmond: Participant and Organizational Overview Richmond Sports Council

Introduction

This report provides an overview of sports organizations active in Richmond, highlighting participant demographics, staffing (coaches, officials, support, volunteers), and organizational needs. The data reflects the diverse and growing interest in recreational and competitive sports across all age groups in the city.

Summary of Key Metrics

- Total Number of Organizations Listed: 27
- Sports Categories Represented: Swimming, Archery, Airgun, Gymnastics, Chess, Badminton, Speed Skating, Hockey, Soccer, Tennis, Dragon Boat, Floor Hockey, Pickleball, Curling, Football, Ultimate, Karate, Softball
- Age Group Representation:
- Youth (Up to 18 years): Strong representation across most sports
- Adults (19–54 years): Present in nearly all organizations
- Seniors (55+ years): Active particularly in Pickleball, Curling, and Tennis

Key Observations

- Youth Engagement: High participation in swimming, gymnastics, and soccer programs.
- Adult Participation: Notably strong in Archery, Airgun, and Dragon Boat racing.
- Senior Participation: Prominent in Pickleball (417 participants) and Curling (230 participants).
- Volunteer Involvement: Richmond Arenas Community Association has the highest number of volunteers (500), indicating a large-scale operation and community engagement.
- Waitlists: Notably, the F-16 Badminton Club has a waitlist of 49 individuals, suggesting high demand.

Recommendations

- 1. Facility Expansion for High-Demand Sports: Consider expanding facilities for badminton, soccer, and skating to meet demand and reduce waitlists.
- 2. **Support for Senior Programs**: Continued investment in Pickleball and Curling facilities is recommended due to strong senior participation.
- 3. **Volunteer Recruitment and Training**: Programs with lower volunteer numbers could benefit from coordinated recruitment strategies.
- 4. **Cross-Collaboration**: Encourage partnerships between sports organizations for shared coaching and support resources.

Other

- 1. KidSport Richmond
- 2. Richmond School District
- 3. Richmond Oval

Participants

Organizations		Participants		Coach	Officials	Support	Volunteers
	Up to 18 yrs	19 ~ 54 yrs	55+ yrs				
Swim - Kigoos	200	45	2	15	25	10	200
Swim - Rapids	429	3		42	30	1	200
Swim - SAA		30		3		Т	6
Swim - PWASC	78	1		11	2	Т	115
Richmond Minor Football	300			40		15	09
Richmond Rod & Gun Club - Archery	453	1684		2		12	10
Richmond Rod & Gun Club - Airgun	1151	775		3	1	3	10
Richmond Gymnastics	933	20		20	3	2	30
Richmond Chess Champions	70	20	10	2	2	4	10
F-16 Badminton Club	175	25	5	50	2	8	56
F-16 Badminton Club -waitlist	49						
Richmond Rockets Speed Skating Club	64	16	8	7	10		48
Richmond Sockeyes JR A Hockey	25	15	5	5	5	5	30
Richmond United FC Soccer	1550			09	12	20	80
Richmond Tennis Club	300	201	127	3		∞	30+
Richmond Dragon Boat		85	35	4		12	30
Richmond Cosom Floor Hockey Association	250	150	5	100	15		25
Richmond BC Pickleball Association	2	212	417	10	11	50	50
Richmond Curling Club	70	20	230	10		17	100
TSS Rovers Football Club Inc	300	54		30	15	4	
Vancouver Ultimate League Society	95	58		20		2	10
Richmond Arenas Community Association	3200	1400	180	300	200 +	250	500
Richmond Softball Association	345	45		30	55	12	10
International Karate Organization	250	200	20	40	20	50	100
The Dugout Club (Baseball)	100			10	4		15
Richmond Rugby Club	52	84	3	15	9	10	25

Total numbers across all organizations in each category:

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Volunteers:

Richmond Sports Council – Members Facilities/Needs Assessment Analysis of various options

1. Aquatic Facilities

Arguments For:

- Population growth justifies the need for expanded aquatic facilities.
- Existing pools are at or near capacity, limiting access for both recreational and competitive users.
- Additional pool space supports public health, water safety education, and elite training.
- East Richmond is **underserved** in aquatic access.

Arguments Against:

- Pools are high capital and operating cost facilities.
- Requires a large footprint of land that may be scarce.
- Long development timelines may not meet short-term demand.
- Other infrastructure (e.g., turf fields) may serve more users per dollar spent.

2. Field Sports & Outdoor Facilities

Arguments For:

- Field sports have broad youth participation, especially in soccer, softball, and football.
- All-weather, lit fields increase usage hours and reduce cancellations.
- Storage and basic infrastructure (like washrooms, lighting) are **low-cost improvements** that offer high utility.
- Development of **King George and Sidaway** addresses inequity in field access across neighborhoods.

Arguments Against:

• High use and multiple user groups make scheduling contentious.

- Some upgrades (like artificial turf) come with **environmental concerns**, including heat islands and microplastics.
- Ongoing maintenance costs for turf and lights.
- Risk of overbuilding fields without multi-sport integration.

3. Indoor Sport Facilities

Arguments For:

- Indoor facilities support year-round training and accessibility regardless of weather.
- Specialized facilities (archery, badminton, gymnastics) attract **elite athletes and events**, raising Richmond's profile.
- Multi-use facilities create efficiencies in space and operations.
- Growing sports like pickleball and badminton serve **diverse age groups** and promote lifelong participation.

Arguments Against:

- Large, specialized indoor spaces have **high construction costs**.
- Usage may be limited to specific demographics or sports, raising equity concerns.
- Difficult to find adequate land or retrofit options in high-density areas.
- Ongoing scheduling conflicts if not managed well.

4. Ice Rinks & Arena Needs

Arguments For:

- High demand and limited ice time—especially for minor hockey and speed skating—justifies expansion.
- Upgrades improve **spectator experience**, potentially increasing attendance and revenue.
- Expanded dry floor spaces increase multi-seasonal use.

Arguments Against:

• Very high cost per square foot and high utility costs (especially for refrigeration).

- Limited flexibility for non-ice users.
- Scheduling challenges already exist—more rinks may not solve inequity without better allocation models.

5. Multi-Sport & Community Venues

Arguments For:

- Venues like a central chess tournament space or indoor fieldhouse serve **diverse users** across multiple sports.
- Community-wide resources (e.g., grant listings, programming calendars) improve visibility and access.
- Promotes collaboration between groups and reduces siloed planning.
- Helps less-visible sports (dragon boating, ultimate, chess) gain a fair platform.

Arguments Against:

- Large multi-sport venues are complex to design and program equitably.
- Risk of **under-utilization** if not co-designed with community.
- Technology and communication tools need **dedicated staff** to manage.
- Not all requests serve a wide or urgent community need.

Overall Recommendations

- **Prioritize East Richmond development** for fields, aquatic, and multi-sport access to address geographic equity.
- Support facility-sharing models (e.g., indoor fieldhouses, high-ceiling gyms) to maximize space across sports.
- Work with SD#38 to optimize gym access based on user needs (e.g., ceiling height, safe sport equipment).
- **Invest in storage infrastructure** as a cost-effective way to support volunteer-led organizations.
- Develop a shared event calendar and digital engagement hub to promote all Richmond sports and clubs.
- Advocate for multi-purpose complexes that integrate specialized sport areas to serve both high-performance and community recreation.

Facility Type	Key Priorities	Arguments For	Arguments Against
Aquatic Facilities	- New 50m pool in East Richmond- Support for growing population and program demand	- Addressing population growth- Expanding access for recreation, therapy & competition- High community benefit across age groups	 High capital and operating costs- Long construction timelines- Competes with other urgent infrastructure needs
Outdoor Fields (Turf & Grass)	- All-weather lit fields east of King George- Improved drainage and lighting at Steveston London- Artificial turf at South Arm- Mini-fields or rebound walls	 Broad user base (soccer, football, ultimate, softball)- Maximizes year-round usage- Equitable access across city- Promotes youth participation 	- Turf fields raise environmental concerns- Potential overuse and scheduling conflicts- Costs of maintenance and turf replacement
Indoor Sport Facilities	- Gymnastics facility (15,000 sq ft)- Indoor fieldhouse & sport complex- Olympic-standard archery range- More school gym access for badminton	- Year-round programming and athlete development- Supports Olympic pathway athletes- Efficient shared-use models- Popular growth sports like pickleball, badminton and gymnastics	 High land and build costs- Specialized spaces may serve fewer groups- Limited facility availability in dense urban areas
lce Rinks & Arena Space	- Additional ice time for speed skating, lce Rinks & Arena hockey- Upgrades to Minoru & Space Richmond Ice Centre- Dry floor and outdoor training space	- Heavy use and waitlists for existing rinks- Opportunity for revenue from events/spectators- Supports year-round training	- Expensive to build and operate- Energy-intensive (refrigeration)- Scheduling solutions may be needed first before adding new rinks
Storage Facilities	- On-site equipment storage at Minoru Oval, King George Park, Boyd and other fields- Storage behind shooting ranges, in boathouses, etc.	 Reduces wear-and-tear on equipment- Improves coach experience and program efficiency- Low cost relative to impact 	 May take up land or space needed for programming- Risk of unequal access among groups if not well-managed
Multipurpose Venues & Community Access	- Indoor arena for events (e.g. chess, martial arts)- Centralized event calendar, marketing, and grants database- Communication system for dragon boaters	 Supports underserved sports and public awareness- Shared venues maximize usage- Brings sports groups together- Promotes active living across ages 	- Admin tools require ongoing city staff support- Difficult to prioritize space without clear usage demand- May be seen as lower priority compared to capital infrastructure needs
Special Use (Archery, Curling, Dragon Boat)	- Permanent home for air gun and archery- Outdoor archery range- Boat protection, dry storage, communications equipment	- Positions Richmond as a regional/national sport destination- Enables high-level events and training- Expands recreational variety	- Niche sport demands may not justify large investment- May not serve a wide enough community base unless paired with broader uses

This report provides estimated construction costs for various proposed sports facilities in Richmond, British Columbia, based on current industry standards in Canada. *All estimates exclude land acquisition costs* and focus solely on construction expenses.

1. Aquatic Facilities

Proposed Facility: New 50-metre swimming pool in East Richmond.

Estimated Size: Approximately 50,000 square feet.

Estimated Construction Cost: \$20,000,000 CAD.

Cost Breakdown:

• Per Square Foot Estimate: \$400 CAD.

Rationale: Building a modern aquatic centre with a 50-metre pool typically involves higher per-square-foot costs due to specialized systems for water filtration, heating, and humidity control. Industry standards suggest costs ranging from \$400 to \$600 per square foot for such facilities.

2. Indoor Sports Complex

Proposed Facility: Comprehensive indoor sports complex including facilities for gymnastics, basketball, volleyball, and martial arts.

Estimated Size: Approximately 70,000 square feet.

Estimated Construction Cost: \$24,500,000 CAD.

Cost Breakdown:

• Per Square Foot Estimate: \$350 CAD.

Rationale: Multi-purpose sports complexes benefit from economies of scale, leading to moderate per-square-foot costs. The inclusion of various sports facilities necessitates versatile design and construction approaches.

3. Ice Rinks & Arenas

Proposed Facility: Additional ice rink facilities and upgrades to existing arenas.

Estimated Size: Approximately 20,000 square feet per rink.

Estimated Construction Cost: \$9,720,000 CAD per rink.

Cost Breakdown:

• Per Square Foot Estimate: \$486 CAD.

Rationale: The construction of ice rinks involves specialized refrigeration and insulation systems, contributing to higher construction costs. For instance, the Pomeroy Sport Centre in Fort St. John, BC, which includes two ice rinks, was constructed at a cost of \$44 million CAD.

4. Gymnastics Facility

Proposed Facility: Dedicated gymnastics facility.

Estimated Size: Approximately 15,000 square feet.

Estimated Construction Cost: \$4,500,000 CAD.

Cost Breakdown:

• Per Square Foot Estimate: \$300 CAD.

Rationale: Gymnastics facilities require open spaces with high ceilings and specialized flooring, leading to moderate construction costs. Industry estimates for such facilities range from \$250 to \$350 per square foot.

5. Indoor Fieldhouse

Proposed Facility: Indoor fieldhouse for sports like soccer and track and field.

Estimated Size: Approximately 50,000 square feet.

Estimated Construction Cost: \$15,000,000 CAD.

Cost Breakdown:

• Per Square Foot Estimate: \$300 CAD.

Rationale: Fieldhouses typically involve large, open spaces with minimal interior finishes, resulting in lower per-square-foot costs compared to more specialized facilities.

Note: These estimates are based on current industry standards and recent construction data. Actual costs may vary depending on design specifications, material choices, and market conditions at the time of construction. It's advisable to conduct detailed feasibility studies and obtain professional cost assessments during the planning phase of each project.