

To: Community and Operations Services Committee

From: Kevin Alexander, Commissioner,
Community and Operations Services Department

Report Number: CO-25-49

Date of Report: October 15, 2025

Date of Meeting: October 20, 2025

Subject: Radio Park Bocce Courts

Ward: Ward 4

File: 03-05

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to respond to Council's direction regarding CO-24-56, dated November 13, 2024, on Future Use of the Bocce Courts in Radio Park:

“1. That staff continue to promote and permit the use of the Bocce Courts through the Facility Booking Office; and,

2. That staff investigate opportunities for Oshawa Senior Community Centres 55+ to utilize the Bocce Courts in Radio Park for recreational programming.”

2.0 Recommendation

That the Community and Operations Services Committee recommend to City Council:

That Report CO-25-49 dated October 15, 2025, concerning the Radio Park Bocce Courts be received for information.

3.0 Input From Other Sources

- Corporate Performance & Strategic Initiatives
- Finance Services
- Legal Services
- Legislative Services
- Parks and Roads Operations Services

4.0 Analysis

4.1 Background

Radio Park (“the Park”) is located at 200 Grenfell Street and is situated on 4.24 hectares of land. The Park contains six (6) bocce courts (“the Courts”), one (1) baseball diamond, two (2) tennis courts and four (4) pickleball courts.

The Courts were constructed in 1986 with input from local bocce players. The Oshawa Bocce Club (“the Club”) was formed and commenced utilizing the Courts by way of the permitting process. Initially, the Courts were shared use. The Club had permitted access during specific hours from Monday to Sunday and the Courts were open to the public during the remaining hours.

In May 2002, the Club entered into a lease (“2002 Lease”) with the City for a ten (10) year term. A lease with the City was a pre-requisite to the Club being eligible to apply to the Trillium Foundation in 2002 for a grant to cover costs associated with court repairs, drainage improvements and new bocce lanes.

On July 13, 2005, the 2002 Lease between the City and the Club was amended to permit the installation of a 90 square metre (968 sq. ft.) building to facilitate the operational and storage needs of the Club, and to extend the original term of the 2002 Lease from ten (10) years to seventeen (17) years, effective from June 1, 2003 to May 31, 2020.

Since the expiry of the 2002 Lease, the Courts have been available to the general public for permitted use through the Facility Booking Office.

4.2 Use of the Courts

The Courts are available for rent as of the third Monday in April to the last day in October, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily. The Courts may be used for casual play, league play and/or tournament play, subject to the issuance of a permit by the Facility Booking Office.

In 2023, Parks, Forestry and Trails staff completed renovations to the facility including re-grading the Courts, replacing timber and replacing interlocking stones at a cost of approximately \$100,000.00.

During the 2024 season, the Facility Booking Office received two inquiries regarding permit applications for use of the Courts. However, neither of these inquiries resulted in a permit being issued.

During the 2025 season and following Council’s direction, Recreation Services staff engaged with the Oshawa Senior Community Centres 55+ (“OSCC 55+”) and organized a complimentary “Come Try It” drop-in event to introduce the sport of bocce to OSCC 55+ members and to provide an opportunity for OSCC 55+ to expand their outdoor recreational activities. A knowledgeable bocce player was present to offer guidance, provide instruction and share information. Unfortunately, the session did not attract any participants.

During “June is Recreation and Parks Month”, Recreation Services staff hosted three (3) complimentary “Come Try It” bocce drop-in sessions that were open to all. A knowledgeable bocce player was present at each event to offer guidance, provide instruction and share information. Unfortunately, the sessions did not attract any participants.

The Oshawa Italian Recreation Club was issued a permit for use of the Courts for three (3) days a week between June 3 and September 14, 2025. The Oshawa Italian Recreation Club utilized the Courts on three (3) weeknights, and total usage varied throughout the summer with a minimum of three (3) Courts being utilized per booking. They also utilized all of the Courts on one (1) Saturday, for an end of year event.

The Courts have a total of 7,248 prime time hours available between April 21 to October 31, 2025. This includes a total of 3,360 weekday evening prime time hours between 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. due to exterior lighting that extends the operational hours. It also includes a total of 3,888 weekend prime time hours on Saturdays and Sundays between the hours of 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

In 2025, the Courts were booked for a total of 460 prime time hours. This represents a prime time utilization rate of 6.0%.

On June 23, 2025, City Council approved the recommendations in Report CNCL-25-54 regarding the Oshawa Italian Recreation Club’s request for the waiving of fees for the 2025 season. As such, the permitted use of the Courts for 2025 did not generate any revenue to offset the operating costs.

4.3 Advertising of Court Availability

Prior to and during the 2025 outdoor season Recreation Services Staff advertised the availability of the Courts on the following City platforms:

- Corporate website landing page
- Recreation Services landing page on the corporate website
- Court Rentals webpage on the corporate website
- activeOshawa Spring Recreation Program Guide
- activeOshawa Summer Recreation Program Guide
- Social Media engagement on Facebook and Instagram
- Hosted three (3) ‘Come Try It’ events during “June is Recreation and Parks Month” at no cost
- Hosted a ‘Come Try it’ with the OSCC 55+ at no cost

5.0 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications resulting from the report.

6.0 Relationship to the Oshawa Strategic Plan

This report responds to the Oshawa Strategic Plan Priority Area, "Care: Safe and Sustainable Environment" with the goal to provide and maintain recreational outdoor spaces, parks, and trails.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stacey Gray-McQuat".

Stacey Gray-McQuat, Director,
Recreation Services

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "K. Alexander".

Kevin Alexander, Commissioner,
Community and Operations Services Department