

## The Re-Creation of Recreation Your Community Ice Rink "A Step By Step Plan"



1

If your reading this pamphlet, you and I most likely share a common interest - Ice Skating. We skaters have a propensity to feel that there are only two types of people in the United States, those who ice skate and those who should!

When it comes time to sell our local community on the benefits of constructing an ice rink complex through the use of government funding or donations, it is advantageous to foster support from the entire recreation community as opposed to merely the ice skating Since our primary goal will be to first establish a seasonal winter only skating complex, we can offer this complex for other recreation alternatives for the balance of the year thereby gathering increased funding support.

The Community Recreation Complex is an excellent first step for a community to enter the growing ice skating interest in the country while still leaving room for expansion into a full fledged recreation community service building. It is critical that while the underlying goal will always to provide ice skating to the community, a philosophy of the complex being entitled a Community Recreation Center" must be adopted to maximize your success.

Although named Community Recreation Center for the off ice season use, the 28,800 square foot, hard surface, fenced and lighted area can be used for any hard court games or activities including but not limited to the following:

Tennis	Volleyball	Shuffleboard	Basketball
Roller Skating	Roller Hockey	Soccer	Golf
Badminton	Picnics	Flea Markets	Special Events
Dances	Concerts	Box lacrosse	Skate Boarding
Dek Hockey	Handball	Figure Skating	Ice Hockey
General Ice Skating	BroomBall	Ringett	Curling
Public Addresses			Speeches

The key to success with the Ice Rink - Tennis Facility is taking care to plan carefully for future expansion. You long term planning should include locating the service building for incorporation into the final building with initial construction containing only the necessary services to operate the outdoor facility. This can be adjusted according to the funds available. In the accompanying drawing, please note the alternates for an additional storage room and an ample supply of dressing room space.

In reviewing the facility, please note that "tie rods" have been included under the concrete slab for connection to the supporting members of pre-fabricated building. Although the supporting members of a pre-fabricated building. Although the size indicated on the drawing is  $120' \times 240'$ , additional width and length can be designed by increasing the width of the existing "tie rods" or adding more at either or both ends. These "tie rods" are not absolutely necessary but are suggested for easier future expansion. Their elimination in the initial design will in no way

2

reduce your usability of the facility. However, future building construction without the tie rods could increase the cost with the need of larger structural foundations depending on the quality of soil at the site.

The full sized ice rink skating surface,  $85' \times 200'$  with 28' radius corners has all of the refrigeration piping in a monolithically poured concrete slab at least  $90' \times 210'$ . In this slab, which is insulated below and equipped with a sub-soil heat tubing system, to prevent frost heaving from the refrigerated slab. The concrete curb located directly around the refrigerated slab is designed for a simple process of drilling and mounting the future dasher board system. Anchors for the tennis posts, basketball posts, and other activities will be casted into the refrigerated ice slab. The perimeter concrete slab is poured to provide room for spectators, player benches and the room for the summer activities.

The entire 28,800 Sq. Ft. area is surrounded by a ten foot high cyclone fence with necessary personnel and service gates and is lighted with pole mounted fixtures. The fencing, which is not necessary once the final building is erected can then be used to enclose the parking lot which can be lighted when the pole lights, also no longer need inside the building.

The service building contains the basic services to operate the facility on a year around basis. The public is served by a lobby of adequate size to permit users and spectators alike, to escape foul weather if necessary, prepare for the activities on the playing surface and take advantage of the concessions available and the bathrooms conveniently located therein. A manager's office serves as the business hub of the facility, - ticket office, information center, public address system, lighting controls, music control and financial center. The equipment room houses the specially designed Everything Ice refrigeration system with PumpSys to refrigerate the ice rink, provide air conditioning in the summer months and hot water heaters to supply the public needs as well as the conditioned water needed for the ice resurfacing. Next to the equipment room is the storage from for the ice re-surfacer, the key performer in the maintenance of quality skating ice. Please note that a storage room is indicated on the drawing which may serve as an electrical room or just an extra storage room.

The dotted lines on the drawing indicate alternate of future construction, including a good size storage room which may be used to store the dasher boards during the summer season or perhaps house a snowplow or other vehicle. The dressing room access to a bathroom/shower area (one "tenant" dressing room and four others sharing two bathroom/shower areas).

If a community or school/university is starting from "square one" in their development of an ice skating facility and funds are at a minimum, a logical plan of progression such as the following can produce the satisfactory results desired:



**Step One:** Outdoor ice rink with portable plastic piping on sand base, dasher boards, minimum lighting and small building for equipment and ice re-surfacer, bathrooms and skate changing lobby area with office.

**Step Two:** Encase plastic piping or new steel piping in concrete slab as described above. Fence in area. Improve lighting. Expand service building as able.

**Step Three:** Pour perimeter slabs to accommodate other non-ice activities. Expand service building as able.

**Step Four:** Cover ice rink area with pre-fabricated or standard building, meeting minimum standards sets forth in long range plan for community center.

**Step Five:** Complete service building if unable to do so in Step Four. Install seating for spectators and other conveniences as funds permit.

Naturally, some of these steps can be combined or can be segmented as funds and interest demand. Also, keep in mind that local and state laws require your compliance in regards to parking areas, bathroom facilities and public safety an health regulations. Such a progression of improvement will, however, permit you to gauge interest and develop support for the program.

Use of the Ice Rink - Tennis Facility approach will provide years around use of the recreation area with an eye to a full service community center building in the future. No wasted funds with growth according to demand and interest.



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