OAKBANK and DISTRICT COMMUNITY CLUB INC.

2025-2026 Season, Sept 1-August 31

Operating under the direction of a 12-person volunteer Executive and Committee Board, the Oakbank and District Community Club Inc. is one of five area community clubs in the RM of Springfield and one of two ice arenas. The Club does not require membership and is open to the entire Municipality.

The OBCC Executive meet once a month to monitor facility usage and set direction for the operation of programs using the facilities. Sport Committee Members attend as needed. Operational costs, capital projects and day-to-day issues are discussed and monitored to ensure the facilities meet the needs of the members.

As one of the largest year-round recreational facilities in the RM, the OBCC is proud to boast a user group of over 1000 families. These families/individuals successfully take part in the Oakbank Soccer Club, Springfield Minor Baseball Association, Springfield Minor Softball Association, Springfield Ringette Association and the Springfield Minor Hockey Association. We are please to be able to provide a home for the For Garry Kennel Club Spring Show, Springfield Chicken Daze, Soccer Tournaments, Springfield Mixed Orthodox League, Springfield Men's and Women's High School Hockey teams, the Springfield Xtreme Hockey Club, Springfield Winterhawks Hockey Club, the Oakbank Oldtimers Hockey Association, along with a variety of other ice, dry-floor and meeting room rentals

OBCC works collectively with the Hazelridge Sports Complex and other area clubs to ensure programming needs in Springfield are met. By providing additional facilities and fields, our residents can train and play close to home.

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OBJECTIVES

*To ensure that a variety of leisure activities are made available to people of all ages and abilities.

*To encourage a social community atmosphere amongst the local and surrounding communities

*To communicate with the residents within our RM to determine their needs for recreational and community activities and to ensure that they are aware of the activities and programs being offered

*To prepare the budget, financial and activity reports

*To promote opportunities through which funds may be raised to support the activities of the Club

*To plan for the continued operation of the Club and its programs through the recruitment and training of staff and volunteers

CURRENT EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Executive Members	Committee Members
President – Jess Cockerill	Springfield Minor Baseball – Derek Dreger
Past President – Frank Olthof	Springfield Minor Softball – Blair Sidorow
VP Programs – Vacant	Oakbank Soccer – Kevin Lloyd
VP Revenue – Kyle Penner	Springfield Minor Ringette – Colin Ghostkeeper
VP Facilities – Greg Ewasko	Springfield Minor Hockey Liaison – Tiffany Kirton
Treasurer – Kevin Skelly	OBCC Coordinator – Neoma Green
Secretary – Lenay Gutoski	OBCC Manager – Mike Erickson

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I reflect on my first year serving as President of the Oakbank & District Community Club, I am reminded that leadership comes with both challenges and opportunities. This past year has presented its share of obstacles, but it has also highlighted the strength, resilience, and dedication of the people who make our facility and community so special.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Mike Erikson for his many years of dedication and hard work in keeping the action hot and the ice cold. His commitment to this facility and the community has been invaluable, and we are all grateful for the foundation he has helped build.

I would also like to recognize our veteran staff members, who have consistently gone above and beyond to overcome challenges in many areas, including plant failures, staffing shortages, and day-to-day operational demands. Their willingness to put in extra hours and work through difficult situations has been critical to our continued success.

A special thank you goes to Greg Ewasko for his service on the Board. Greg brought a wealth of expertise and perspective to our organization, and his contributions have benefited our community in countless ways. We are grateful for the time and knowledge he shared during his tenure.

As an organization, we remain committed to maintaining strong and positive relationships with the many programs and user groups that also call Hazelridge Arena home. These partnerships are essential to the success of our facility, and we look forward to continuing to work together to provide quality opportunities for recreation, sport, and community engagement.

I am also extremely grateful for the dedicated individuals who serve alongside me on the Board. Over the past year, we have faced many difficult decisions, and there will undoubtedly be more ahead. These decisions require significant time, commitment, and sometimes considerable stress. Our Board members continue to demonstrate an unwavering dedication to ensuring the long-term success of our facility and community.

Looking ahead, improving communication and strengthening agreements with our various programs and user groups will remain a priority. These organizations rely on our facility to provide opportunities for sport, recreation, and camaraderie for the growing number of youth and families in our community. By working together, we can continue to build an environment where everyone feels supported and welcomed.

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE CONTINUED…

Throughout the year, significant effort has been invested in both minor and major improvements to our arena and surrounding fields. We are committed to continuing these upgrades and enhancements, ensuring that we provide the best facility possible with the resources and funding available to us.

One of the most exciting projects currently underway is the pursuit of funding to replace our refrigeration plant and install a new heat recovery system provided by Prairie HVAC. This investment will help us achieve the highest ice quality possible within our existing facility while improving efficiency and sustainability for years to come.

No report would be complete without recognizing Neoma Green, whose dedication and hard work truly make her the heartbeat of the OBCC. Neoma manages countless responsibilities behind the scenes, handling both the tasks everyone sees and the many more that often go unnoticed. Her commitment to our organization is deeply appreciated.

I would also like to acknowledge Frank Olthof for more than ten years of service on the Board and for his ongoing contributions to our community through the Springfield Fire Department. Frank has been an exceptional board member, past president, mentor, and friend throughout the years. His leadership and commitment have left a lasting impact on this organization.

Serving this community is truly an honor, especially at one of my favorite places, the OBCC. Many of us have said at one time or another, “If our kids aren’t here, where are they?” Our facility provides a safe, positive, and welcoming environment where friendships are formed, skills are developed, and lifelong memories are created.

Finally, I would like to recognize this remarkable building itself. From its spacious dressing rooms and impressive sound system to its excellent canteen, welcoming entrance, and dedicated staff, the OBCC continues to be a facility that people are proud to visit. The beautiful cedar throughout the building has witnessed generations of activity, celebration, competition, and community spirit. Time and time again, visiting teams and guests have described our arena as one of their favorites. I am incredibly proud to be part of this facility and the team that supports it.

"The success of the OBCC is a direct reflection of the volunteers, staff, user groups, sponsors, and community members who continue to support our mission. Together, we will ensure that this facility remains a cornerstone of recreation and community pride for generations to come."

Sincerely, Jess Cockerill, President OBCC

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VP OF REVENUE

As we move through 2026, I'm pleased to report another productive and financially stable year for our community club. Building upon the foundations established last year, our focus remained on strengthening our sponsorship base, maximizing facility use, and advancing long-term revenue projects.

We currently have 66 sign sponsors, up from 52 last year. Retention among existing sponsors continues to be strong, a reflection of the growing visibility and engagement we provide to local businesses through our facilities and events.

Our multi-purpose room and community spaces continue to be a steady and growing source of income. Through expanded programming—such as Zumba, fitness boot camps, pickleball, martial arts, and youth sports leagues—we've seen a steady increase in community participation and rental bookings. These activities not only support our financial goals but also strengthen our club's connection to local residents.

Looking ahead, our priorities for 2027 include completing the arena project, expanding our sponsorship packages, and exploring digital booking and event management tools to make it easier for residents to access our facilities.

It has been a rewarding year working with the executive team and our community partners to build on our successes. I look forward to another year of growth and continued community involvement.

Kyle Penner, Vice President of Revenue

COORDINATOR REPORT

The OBCC Coordinator is the primary point of contact for all facility rentals and activities. The Coordinator prepares the weekly schedule, manages the canteen, social media and advertising, fundraising and special events, the day-to-day administrative tasks including the financials and reporting to the Board monthly. The Coordinator also works closely with the Arena Manager to ensure the facility is operating efficiently and professionally.

The OBCC is grateful to ONE Insurance as our Naming Rights Partner for the Arena, and to 4L Communications as our Zamboni Sponsor. Our list of Sponsors continues to grow, and we greatly appreciate the support from the local community and beyond.

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COORDINATOR REPORT CONTINUED

Our pre-season camps began Aug 18th to accommodate the 7th annual daytime Wojick Hockey Camp. Various other groups and teams ran their own pre-season skates and mini-camps booking much of the evening ice. Right after the September long weekend and for the rest of the month, SMHA and SRA ran their pre-season conditioning and evaluation camps again with other groups filling in the gaps.

All previous ice rental groups returned once again to fill up the calendar for the entire season. With our rental capacity at its fullest, all our user groups were willing to support each other by giving or trading ice as needed. We greatly appreciate our groups working together to accommodate all the ice requests

Our online booking system Catch Corner grows in popularity year after year as do subscriptions to Livebarn for online viewing of events in the ONE Insurance Arena

The 2025-2026 season was the first full year to see the Canteen operate solely on paid staff. We appreciate the students that worked for us, as for some it's their first job and we are pleased to be part of their career journey. We added a few items to our menu and the feedback and support from the community exceeded our expectations.

Our meeting room hosted regular Zumba exercise classes, half a dozen PAL and CPR courses, many team or birthday parties and a stained-glass workshop. We look forward to growing our list of workshops next season.

The OBCC hired a few students for the summer months. They worked well together and gave the facility a head-to-toe cleaning, including removing a large amount of gum…it behooves us as to why people drop their gum right beside a garbage can. We appreciated their hard work in the hot July heat!

Personally, I would like to thank Mike Erickson. He was my boss when I first started with the Community Club (he was on the Board) and then became my co-worker. His knowledge of the facility both in its history and the inner workings was essential to its operation. We worked well together, never thinking one was above the other, helping each other out and filing in as needed when either was away. Happy retirement Mike, so well deserved!

Neoma Green

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Springfield Minor Baseball Association

2026 was a strong year for SMBA, we had 187 players registered (not including AA & AAA players which was a significant 32 players for Red River Valley). SMBA hosted 16 teams from 7U through 15U, including 3 – 11U A teams for only the third time in the last 10 years and for the first time 3 – 13U A teams.

We had teams playing in Oakbank, Dugald, and Anola this season as we split our Rally Cap (7U) program between Oakbank and Anola.

On June 7th, we held our second annual baseball day, which had our 11U, 13U and 15U teams all play in Oakbank over the course of the day. This year we held a skills competition prior to the start of the games, with categories by age in individual and team competitions.

SMBA players, coaches, umpires and volunteers won 8 of the 14 Red River Valley year end awards, keep an eye on the Clipper for their article on the winners.
11U AA Player of the Year Emrin Ivison
15U AA/AAA Player of the Year Connor Kent
18U AA/AAA Player of the Year Hayden Hart
Female Player of the Year Gemma Strutynski
Grass Roots Coach of the Year Brett Hiscock
Clarence Ledoux Umpire of the Year Devin Dreger
Volunteer of the Year Tiffany Kirton

We are hosting our AGM on November 24th at 7pm, all are welcome.

Congratulations to all our Springfield Hawks teams on an amazing 2026 season, we look forward to 2027.

Derek Dreger, President

The success of the OBCC relies heavily on volunteers and we would like to acknowledge and express our appreciation to those that step up and fill in for games and events, the numerous coaches and team staff in each sport and all members of the Executives and Committees who continue to provide the programming and services that keep us strong!

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The Oakbank and District Community Club would like to thank our faithful and generous Advertisers

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Peppercorn Restaurant	Dakota Lock & Safe	Desco Automotive
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