

Sakai Property

Youth Sports Interest Workgroup

Overview:

- During the initial Sakai property meeting, many participants discussed the perceived inadequacies of current youth sports facilities on BI and voiced interest in the creation of a multi-use sports facility on the Sakai property

Goal of Workgroup:

- Survey BI sports leaders to gather data on their needs and the number of island youth who would benefit from a new sports facility

Method:

- Survey sent to leaders in the following sports:
 - Soccer (BIFC)
 - Gymnastics (BI Gymnastics Club)
 - Rugby (Bainbridge Rugby)
 - Lacrosse (BI Boys Lacrosse Club & BI Girls Lacrosse)
 - Aquatics (BI Swim Club, etc)
 - Basketball (Bainbridge Roots Basketball)
 - Volleyball (BI Volleyball Club)
 - Sailing (BHS Sailing Team)
 - Football (BI Jr. Football)
 - Baseball (BI Little League)
 - Tennis (Bainbridge Community Tennis Assoc)
 - Hockey (BI Hockey)
 - Biking (Gear Grinders Mountain Biking)*

*Battle Point pump track approved May 2016

Method:

- Survey questions:
 1. Current number of participants/class slots
 2. Description and location of current facilities
 3. What are the inadequacies of the current facilities?
 4. What facilities would you like to see for your sport at a multi-use indoor/outdoor sports facility on the Sakai property?
 5. Comments

Results:

- **Question 1: Current number of participants/class slots**
 - **Soccer:** Total number of participants in 2015 = 1169; Number of unique participants in 2015 = 943
 - **Gymnastics:** Total number of participants in 2015 was 5000 (Second largest Park District program after aquatics)
 - **Rugby:** 40
 - **Boys Lacrosse:** 150+ youth lacrosse players club-wide, K-12th grade
 - **Girls Lacrosse:** 125+

Results:

- **Question 1: Current number of participants/class slots (cont)**
 - **Aquatics:** 210,256 users were tracked in the Aquatic Center and represent a smaller number than actual users. BISC has 120 swimmers, BAM has 160 members Water Polo has 60. Lap swimmers are over 150. AC serves 5,000 kids per month and is packed all year long.
 - **Basketball:** One basketball team per grade (boys and girls) for grades 5, 6, 7 and 8. Skills sessions and summer camps for boys and girls which draw more than 100 players.
 - **Volleyball:** 36
 - **Sailing:** 24

Results:

- **Question 1: Current number of participants/class slots (cont)**
 - **Football:** Last season we had: Tackle - 85 players, 4 teams; Flag - 95 players, 10 teams
 - **Baseball:** 500+
 - **Tennis:** 100+ adult members; 150+ kids (non-member families) through our programs each year. We have waiting lists for our junior programs due to lack of space.
 - **Hockey:** Ice Hockey - 6 teams, half are from Bainbridge (some also from Poulsbo) - about 35 kids. Potential much higher if local given Roller Hockey numbers and figure skating potential. Roller Hockey - 100 kids 7-18 across 3 divisions/4 teams per division. Additional students take classes through BIPD each summer on roller blading and hockey skills.
 - **Biking:** 14 on high school team, 21 on middle school team

Results:

- **Question 2: Description and location of current facilities**
 - **Soccer:** BIFC trains at a variety of locations: - Battle Point Park: synthetic turf fields and grass fields (as conditions permit) - Bainbridge Island High School: BIFC short sided (youth matches) games are moved to the stadium field as availability allows when the natural turf fields are not usable (Nov. through March typically) - Hidden Cove Park: youth soccer training takes place in the outfield of the baseball fields - Woodward School Fields (middle to track & field immediately to south): training and matches - Sands Field: training and matches (summer only)
 - **Gymnastics:** Battle Point Transmitter Building (3000 square feet, 12 foot ceilings), Bainbridge High School Gymnastics Room (4000 square feet; shared with high school)
 - **Rugby:** Bainbridge HS Turf, Battle Point park

Results:

- **Question 2: Description and location of current facilities (cont)**
 - **Boys Lacrosse:** Bainbridge Boys Lacrosse holds practices, camps, and clinics year-round on a variety of rented outdoor fields including Battle Point Park Turf Fields, Sakai grass fields, Bainbridge High School Stadium Turf, and Battle Point Park Roller Hockey Rink. Additional fields including Strawberry Park, Woodward, and the lower gym at BHS have been utilized for winter box lacrosse. All fields currently require hefty rental fees which comprise the second largest portion of the annual budget following coaching salaries/stipends.
 - **Girls Lacrosse:** Battlepoint-Great fields, no lights, can't practice at night until April-May; High school-Only lighted field on the island; Commodore-Lumpy grass field, not regulation size

Results:

- **Question 2: Description and location of current facilities (cont)**
 - **Aquatics:** Aquatic Center: Williamson Pool was built in 1970 (roof added in 77) is a 6 lane, 25 yard pool. This one is used for competition for swim meets and water polo. Nakata Pool was built in 2001 and is a recreational pool.
 - **Basketball:** Most of our practices are at Sakai. We use Paski gym for larger events such as summer camps.
 - **Volleyball:** BHS Gyms
 - **Sailing:** BIMPRD waterfront facilities in Waterfront Park, Winslow BIMPRD owned equipment
 - **Football:** Strawberry Hill Park

Results:

- **Question 2: Description and location of current facilities (cont)**
 - **Baseball:** All our facilities are outdoor: Rotary, Strawberry, Hidden Cove, Sands, Battle Point. We also use the school fields for practices.
 - **Tennis:** Bainbridge High School Courts, Battle Point Park Courts, Commodore Gym, Blakely, Ordway, Wilkes and Sakai Gyms, and Island School Gym, Wing Point Tennis Courts.
 - **Hockey:** Ice Hockey - only facility on this side of the water is in Bremerton, single sheet and not managed well. Roller Hockey - outdoor only. Single rink at Battle Point.
 - **Biking:** There are no specific mountain bike facilities. We use island trails in the afternoon after school that are multi purpose and not designed for mountain biking. They help build conditioning but are not designed for skills development. For longer training rides we go off the island.

Results:

- **Question 3: What are the inadequacies of the current facilities?**
 - **Soccer:** Without lit synthetic turf fields, soccer has severe limitation in where it can hold training and cannot host matches outside of daylight hours.
 - **Gymnastics:**
 - a. Too small: BHS gym is 4000 sq ft. Average gym size in Washington State is 13,000-14,000 sq ft
 - b. Not enough space to hold competitions. Have to rent gymnasium and move all of the gymnastics equipment when hosting meets.
 - c. Share BHS practice space with Bainbridge High School Gymnastics Team. Classes and team practice times must be moved later in day to accommodate them from November through February. This results in practices running until 8 pm on school nights.
 - d. No front offices or space for staff
 - e. Only one bathroom for each facility
 - f. Limited parking for both facilities

Results:

- **Question 3: What are the inadequacies of the current facilities? (cont.)**
 - **Rugby:** Limited mid-week availability (used by others)
 - **Boy's Lacrosse:** Field access for the high school program is the number one priority currently for Bainbridge Boys Lacrosse Club. We share the high school turf with multiple other Spring sports including Girls Lacrosse, Boys Soccer (currently have three full high school teams/ Freshman, JV and Varsity) as well as Track and Field. Due to limited field availability the High School Boys' team is forced to practice late evening, typically 7:45 pm - 9:45 pm on week nights during the season - beginning in mid-February through the end of the post-season playoffs in late May. This creates a strain on the schedules of players who are already balancing 6 days/week practice and often 2-3 games per week along with their school work. The limitations of the field availability has been an ongoing challenge and only increased with the addition of a third High School soccer team in 2015. Additionally, there is a significant need for a practice area for wall-ball since the only surfaces available to boys and girls' lacrosse for this is currently the side of the building outside the boys and girls locker rooms at BHS, and is unacceptable to the school. Occasionally players have used the concrete exterior wall of the Observatory at Battle Point Park but there has been concern expressed over the potential damage to the wall if long-term sustained wall ball activities continue. They have expressly asked the Club to advise it's players NOT to use the exterior of the building for wall ball.

Results:

- **Question 3: What are the inadequacies of the current facilities?** (cont)
 - **Girls Lacrosse:** Fields are unavailable during peak usage season in Spring. Bathroom and storage options could be better
 - **Aquatics:** Williamson Pool: Not enough availability for sports to meet time needs for practice. Some sports have outrageous practice times - example: Water Polo has practice till 9:30 PM for young students on school nights. Safety issues. Difficult to schedule games/meets due to limited availability. There is not enough seating/viewing for either sport. Water polo can't host certain level competitions- shallow end isn't deep enough for treading water. Can't build teams- there are waitlists-numbers are capped and potential aquatic athletes are turned away. Older operating system and is failing. Locker rooms are over crowded or old/failing. Swim lessons are full- our away kids. Both Water Polo and Swim travel (Tacoma and Port Orchard) to supplement AC during certain seasons because the AC can't meet needs.

Results:

- **Question 3: What are the inadequacies of the current facilities?** (cont)
 - **Basketball:** There is limited time available at Sakai during the winter. We're squeezing too many practices into too short of a time.
 - **Volleyball:** Not enough court time in the off season.
 - **Sailing:** Float in poor condition
 - **Football:** Space, lighting, drainage (softball field #3)
 - **Baseball:**
 - 1. There are no year round options. If it is raining we cannot use the fields since we will damage them. We could use both indoor and outdoor turf facilities. We would like 1-2 outdoor, lighted, turf ball fields on the site.
 - 2. There are no lighted options. This limits our ability to host tournaments. It also forces earlier start times during the beginning of the season due to darkness. Working parents are unable to get back in time to see most or all of their kids games. We also could use meeting facilities that could be used for sports training, parent meetings etc.

Results:

- **Question 3: What are the inadequacies of the current facilities? (cont)**
 - **Tennis:** Not enough tennis courts. Also, for programming, tennis courts need to be in one location. This property is ideal because it is close to the existing high school courts.
 - **Hockey:** The Bremerton facility is poorly maintained, is only a single sheet of ice and is far for Bainbridge ice hockey players and figure skaters. For roller hockey, the current surface does not dry after even a light rain causing frequent game cancellations.
 - **Biking:** There are no specific mountain bike facilities. We are working with Parks to add trails that are specific to mountain biking but we need a mountain bike specific facility to better train our athletes.

Results:

- **Question 4: What facilities would you like to see for your sport at a multi-use indoor/outdoor sports facility on the Sakai property?**
 - **Soccer:** An indoor soccer field (200' x 85') and two lit, synthetic turf outdoor fields (120yards x 75yards) would provide soccer with ample year around training space and a great place to hold tournament matches, regular season matches and would draw more games to be be played on Bainbridge Island.
 - **Gymnastics:** 10,000-12,000 square foot indoor space with ability to host gymnastics meets
 - **Rugby:** Soccer size field with rugby lines, goal standards that have rugby uprights (i.e. a soccer goal with uprights attached like a football standard). Our preference would be for a grass/hybrid:
<http://www.dessosports.com/hybrid-grass>
<http://www.dessosports.com/hybrid-grass>

Results:

- **Question 4: What facilities would you like to see for your sport at a multi-use indoor/outdoor sports facility on the Sakai property? (cont)**
 - **Boys Lacrosse:**
 - The addition of at least two to four additional well-lit outdoor turf fields separated by net dividers that will allow for a variety of ball sports to be played simultaneously without concerns over balls rolling, flying, bouncing into the practice or play area of other concurrent games.
 - Indoor multi-use turf fields that could be used for box lacrosse and additionally a multi-use area both indoor and outdoors that could be used for practice/wall-ball--indoors this could be a handball/racquetball court with a concrete back wall that would be impervious to damage from impact by a lacrosse ball. Lacrosse would also benefit from additional weight lifting and work out training facilities, right now the players are restricted to time slots available at the high school or paying for additional use at either Bainbridge Athletic Club or Island Fitness.

Results:

- **Question 4: What facilities would you like to see for your sport at a multi-use indoor/outdoor sports facility on the Sakai property? (cont)**
 - **Girls Lacrosse:** We need 2 LIGHTED turf fields. Can share with boys and Soccer.
 - **Aquatics:** 50 meter pool with stadium seating. This takes 4.5 acres with buffer space, seating, parking areas, etc. We would love something like this 170,000 Square meter (4.5 acre) rec center: <http://www.chavezcenter.com> that includes a 50 meter pool, a therapy pool, indoor track, ice rink (but maybe inside fields instead) rock climbing wall (to not compete with Island Rock maybe a ropes course) outdoor gardens, etc. We wouldn't need the rec pool since there is one at the Aquatic center.
 - **Basketball:** We'd like to see a multi-purpose indoor facility that can be used for basketball, both structured practices and casual scrimmages and pick up games.

Results:

- **Question 4: What facilities would you like to see for your sport at a multi-use indoor/outdoor sports facility on the Sakai property? (cont)**
 - **Volleyball:** Sport court with enough room for 3 courts. Net system.
 - **Sailing:** Room for video review large enough to hold 30 kids and instructors, and open gym style exercise space for floor exercise
 - **Football:** Open space of either natural grass or artificial surface with lights.
 - **Baseball:** Indoor: We would like to see multiple indoor fields that could accommodate multiple sports concurrently. A regulation soccer field that could accommodate both soccer, lacrosse, football. Baseball would like a full diamond occupying ~34K square feet.. The space should be configured to accommodate other sports as well. In addition we would like 6 batting cages which could offer both softball and baseball hitting practice at multiple speeds.

Results:

- **Question 4: What facilities would you like to see for your sport at a multi-use indoor/outdoor sports facility on the Sakai property? (cont)**
 - **Tennis:** Ideally, six tennis courts.
 - **Hockey:**
 - The goal is to provide school children, college students, young adults, working adults, parents, and seniors in Kitsap County with a comprehensive package of sport, recreation, and spectator activities with an emphasis on ice activities held in the arena and at two full size, year round Olympic ice surfaces, with potential for other activities (dance, racketball, rock climbing, gymnastics, training) in adjacent rooms to the complex's center core.
 - Within the complex there will be one Olympic size ice surface (100' x 200') with planned seating for 1,500 spectators, judges and an announcement booth plus one practice surface (85' x 200'). There would be an option to add a speed skating track around the outside of the rinks. If economically viable, the practice surface could covered with turf for soccer and lacrosse. There would be two fully equipped "wet" locker rooms with showers for hockey, skating and other events, plus two "dry" dressing rooms without showers, but equipped with sinks and toilets. There would be a gym for athletes and families. A separate staff rest room and offices will be provided.

Results:

- **Question 4: What facilities would you like to see for your sport at a multi-use indoor/outdoor sports facility on the Sakai property? (cont)**
 - **Hockey (cont):**
 - The facility will provide skate rentals, a pro shop, public skating sessions, group/individual lessons, birthday/event hosting, and management services to promote curling, speed, hockey, and figure skating training for both beginner and elite athletes. Additionally, the business will maintain a food court with a menu service including tacos, pizza, hot dogs, hamburgers, hot and cold sandwiches, soups, fruit and green salads, desserts, etc., plus an assortment of hot and cold beverages.
 - The food concessions are very important because it will provide an additional stream of revenue for the business while concurrently allowing parents of children to stay at the facility longer. Finally, the business will generate revenue streams from hosting birthday parties and to spectators who attend events in the arena and within the sports and recreation complex.
 - **Biking:** We would like to see an outdoor mountain bike park with multiple features for skills development. The optimal size of the park should be at least 2 acres. It would be almost all dirt tracks with no hard surfaces and with very little equipment. No lights needed.

Results:

- **Question 5: Comments**

- **Soccer:** Playing year around, which is requirement for a small portion of the BIFC teams, a combination of synthetic turf fields and lights is required. Both the indoor and outdoor fields outlined in my response can be used by a variety of sports teams for games and training.
- **Gymnastics:** In addition to sports specific interests, a multi-use sports facility would provide a safe gathering place for children within walking distance of 4 out of the 6 public schools and would decrease traffic to current scattered facilities.
- **Rugby:** We'd love to see a field. A building with showers/change rooms would be great
- **Boys Lacrosse:** The Bainbridge Island Boys Lacrosse Club is a self-funded nonprofit organization that is committed to providing a premium experience for players, and ensuring that an age-appropriate developmental program is available to every child wishing to play lacrosse in our community. The lack of adequate fields and the price tags for time on the existing fields creates an additional financial burden for the Club and forces participation fees to be higher in a sport where the entry level equipment needs are already significantly higher than many other sports. A new player starting out needs shoulder, arm and chest pads, a helmet, gloves and a lacrosse stick that usually totals out at between \$125 and \$300. The Club provides loaner equipment but the fees for season participation can be significant due to the need to amortize the cost of annual field use over the various age groups.

Results:

- **Question 5: Comments (cont)**
 - **Girls Lacrosse:** There is SO MUCH baseball acreage on the Island and so little for field sports. Thanks for doing this
 - **Aquatics:** We have a lot of research that can't be included in this survey.
 - **Basketball:** The location is ideal for an indoor multi-purpose facility. Roots and the Roots community is interested in supporting this effort to develop to this property for community/sports facility.
 - **Volleyball:** This is such an incredible opportunity. Anything I can do to help let me know.
 - **Sailing:** No comment

Results:

- **Question 5: Comments** (cont)
 - **Football:** 2015 was the second year of flag football. It has been very popular. There were 60 players the first year and 95 the second. We plan on expanding the age range for the 2016 season and expect growth to continue.
 - **Baseball:** We are continually negotiating for much needed indoor space with the schools and multiple other organizations on the island. The lack of indoor facilities for both kids and adults constrains not only the sports organizations on the island but the overall Bainbridge community. Kids have few places to go after school particularly if the weather is poor. BILL is all in on an indoor/outdoor sports complex that can serve the community as well as the schools on the island.

Results:

- **Question 5: Comments** (cont)
 - **Tennis:** Thank you for collecting this data.
 - **Hockey:** There are large economic development opportunities with this as well, as local tournaments yield more money to the local economy for hotels and restaurants, especially in low-tourism winter months. There is also strong potential to partner with the local school districts on sports teams.
 - **Biking:** Mountain biking is one of the fastest growing youth sports. It is low cost with high impact on increasing outdoor recreation and bringing revenue into the community.

Conclusions:

- There is a great deal of interest and enthusiasm in the BI youth sports community for creating a multi-use sports facility at the Sakai site
- > 6000 youngsters would benefit (from the sports surveyed)
- All survey respondents found current BI facilities inadequate
- Common themes:
 - Lack of facilities and shared facilities with school teams often necessitate late night practices on school nights
 - Inability to play outdoor sports after sunset due to lack of lighted fields and indoor alternatives
 - Facilities inadequate for hosting meets/tournaments
 - There is a great deal of overlap in the needs of different sports
 - Kids would greatly benefit from a safe after school gathering place. Sakai location is ideal as it is walkable from most BI schools