



Central Park Cricket (ADM-02-26)

Halton Cricket Club

KEEP CENTRAL PARK RENOVATIONS MOVING

Opposing Section 18.2 "Central Park Cricket (ADM-02-26)"

We respectfully urge Council to proceed with the planned safety-focused reconfiguration of the Central Park cricket pitch to protect residents and support organized play.

WHO WE ARE

Halton Cricket Club - Community, Excellence, Safety

Established 2021

ESTD 2021

Club Profile

Location: Based in Burlington, Ontario

Size: Among the GTA's largest cricket clubs

Teams: 10+ junior and senior teams for Summer 2026

Leagues: HDCL and other competitive leagues

Key Achievements

- 350+ active members (doubled since 2005)
- Multiple league championships
- Youth development programs

Organized Play & Safety

Organized Play Standards:

- ✓ Permitted play following City standards
- ✓ Scheduled bookings with proper insurance
- ✓ Coached sessions with certified instructors

Safety Adaptations Made

- Batting from one side only to minimize ball travel
- Games start at 8:30 AM instead of 7:30 AM
- Use of regulation leather balls (not tape balls)

WHY THIS MATTERS

April 20, 2026
Burlington City Hall

The urgency of Central Park cricket pitch renovations



Only One Cricket Field

Burlington

Burlington currently has only **one permitted cricket field** at Central Park.

Source: City of Burlington, Outdoor Play page



Growing Demand

Field under pressure

Field bookings increased **22%** to 552 hours (2019-2023).

Source: Live and Play Plan, June 2024



Safety Improvements

Planned renovations

Renovations will **relocate pitch** away from homes.

Source: City communications

350+

Active Members

10+

Teams

22%

Booking Increase

1

Field



Halton Cricket Club supports proceeding with renovations

To protect residents, park users, and the sport's future in Burlington

Support the Motion

Vote to proceed

RESIDENT CONCERNS ARE REAL

April 20, 2026
Burlington City Hall

We hear you and are committed to safety and respectful coexistence

♥ Acknowledging Your Concerns

We understand and respect the concerns raised by nearby residents regarding:

- 🏏 **Stray balls** near properties and potential property damage
- 🔊 **Early morning noise** from games starting at 7:30 AM
- 🚗 **Parking overlap** with play area causing safety concerns
- ⚠️ **General safety** concerns for residents and park users

📄 *Source: City of Burlington Code of Conduct*

✔ Adaptations Already Implemented

🛡️ Safety Protocols in Place:

- ✔ Batting from one side only
- ✔ Educating teams regarding safety
- ✔ Games start at 8:30 AM

🤝 Our Commitment:

- Continue to adapt operations based on feedback
- Communicate schedules with neighbors
- Work with residents on practical solutions

👥 Community Impact: **Positive**

📅 Safety Prioritized

♥ Resident Satisfaction

ORGANIZED VS. UNREGULATED PLAY

April 20, 2026

Burlington City Hall

Understanding the difference between permitted and unpermitted cricket



ORGANIZED PERMITTED PLAY

Halton Cricket Club & Leagues

- ✓ **Holds City Permits & Insurance**
Proper registration and coverage for all activities
- ✓ **Follows League Rules & City Standards**
Adheres to batting direction, start times, safety protocols
- ✓ **Educating teams on Safety and Privacy**
Educating teams to enforce rules and respect for neighbors

🕒 Start time: 8:30 AM

📍 Central Park

📌 Source: City of Burlington - Rent a Facility or Park



UNREGULATED PLAY

No Permits, No Standards

- ✗ **No City Permits or Insurance**
Occupies pitch without authorization
- ✗ **Tape-Ball Play Issues**
Tennis balls wrapped in tape travel further than regulation balls
- ✗ **Early Morning Occupation**
Often occupies field before permitted hours

🕒 Early morning (7:00 AM+)

📍 Unregulated areas

📌 Source: City of Burlington - Code of Conduct

💡 **Solution: Clear signage, permit checks, and by-law presence during peak times needed**

Support Enforcement

WHY RENOVATIONS ARE THE RIGHT SOLUTION

April 20, 2026
Burlington City Hall

Safety-focused reconfiguration of Central Park cricket pitch

⚠️ Current Issues

- 1. Pitch Location:** Current pitch is too close to residential properties
- 2. Parking Overlap:** Parking area overlaps with field-of-play
- 3. Safety Risks:** Errant balls hitting vehicles and property
- 4. Limited Space:** Shared use with other sports creates conflicts

📊 Key Statistics

- 22% increase in bookings
- 552 hours of use annually
- 350+ active members

↔️ The Transformation

BEFORE → **AFTER**
Close to homes → Further away

✅ Key Improvements

- Pitch relocated away from homes
- Parking removed from play area
- Clear field boundaries
- Enhanced safety measures

🛡️ Expected Outcomes

- 1. Safety:** Reduced risk of errant balls
- 2. Clarity:** Clear field boundaries
- 3. Community:** Better resident relations
- 4. Growth:** More organized play

🕒 Timeline

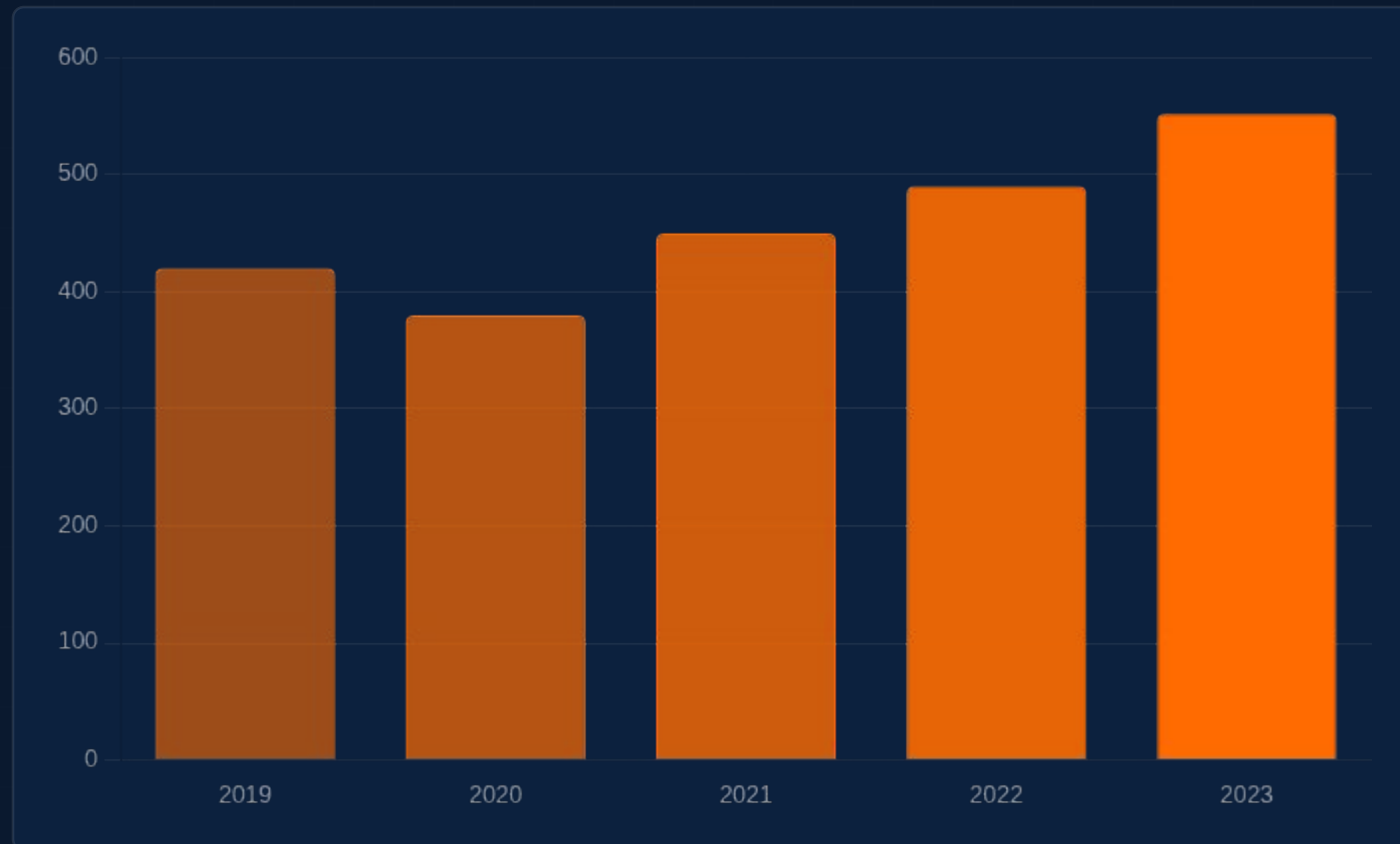
Renovations planned for May-June 2026

BURLINGTON PLANNING EVIDENCE

June 2024

RCC-12-24 Appendix A

Live and Play Plan data supports immediate action



Key Statistics

Cricket Burlington Members **350+**



Field Booking Hours (2023) **552**



Target Fields by 2051 **3**



Status: Field is "under pressure" with limited availability



Evidence supports immediate action

Delaying safety upgrades contradicts City planning evidence and community need

Target: 3 fields by 2051

Current: 1 field

FAIRNESS, INCLUSION & RESPECTFUL COEXISTENCE

April 20, 2026
Burlington City Hall

Building a welcoming community through equitable access to recreation

Our Commitment to Fairness

Burlington's growing diversity includes strong community interest in cricket. We believe **equitable access to safe recreation** matters for all residents.

We ask for **equal, consistent standards** across all sports and facilities, and respectful dialogue free from bias.

Key Principles:

- Equal treatment across all sports facilities
- Respectful dialogue and community engagement
- Safety and enjoyment for all park users

Our Commitments to the Community

Good Neighbors

Manage noise, respect parking and pathways, keep spaces clean

Safety Education

Continue safety education for players and volunteers

Discourage Unpermitted Play

Report and discourage unpermitted play on the field

Participate in Engagement

Participate in City-led engagement with residents

 Community Impact: **Positive**

Diversity: **High**

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

April 20, 2026

Burlington City Hall

A clear path forward for Central Park



VOTE AGAINST PAUSE

Oppose Section 18.2 "Central Park Cricket (ADM-02-26)"



PROCEED WITH RENOVATIONS

Execute the safety-focused reconfiguration in 2026 as planned

Comprehensive Solution Plan

Strengthen Enforcement

Early-morning by-law and park staff patrols

Strict permit verification during peak playing times

Multi-language signage with rules.)

Clear reporting QR codes for residents

Improve Engagement

Establish regular resident advisory touchpoints each season

Publish clear, accessible organized play schedules

Implement direct incident reporting hotline/system

Coordinate with other sports to minimize conflicts

Advance Future Planning

Develop additional dedicated cricket fields per Live and Play Plan

Explore City View Park dedicated facility

Investigate Sherwood Forest Park feasibility

Relieve pressure on the shared Central Park field long-term

CALL TO ACTION

April 20, 2026

Burlington City Hall

Vote against the pause motion - Support Central Park renovations



Keep Central Park Renovations Moving

For safety, fairness, and the future of cricket in Burlington

✓ Vote Against Section 18.2 (ADM-02-26)

Oppose the motion to pause planned renovations at the Central Park Cricket Pitch. The safety improvements are necessary and overdue.

✓ Support City Staff Implementation

Allow the Director of Recreation and Director of Engineering to proceed with the safety-focused reconfiguration.



Halton Cricket Club

Ready to collaborate with residents and City

Safety First

Protecting the community



Safety Improvements

Relocate pitch away from homes



Fair Treatment

Equal standards for all sports



Community

350+ active members

SOURCES AND REFERENCES

April 20, 2026

Burlington City Hall

Evidence-based documentation for Central Park cricket pitch renovations

City of Burlington Sources

City of Burlington — Outdoor Play

Location and availability of cricket pitch at Central Park.

www.burlington.ca/en/recreation/outdoor-play.aspx

Code of Conduct — Cricket Pitch Standards

Safety protocols and playing conditions for Central Park cricket pitch.

www.burlington.ca/en/recreation/code-of-conduct.aspx

Live and Play Plan (June 2024)

Comprehensive 20-30 year plan for parks and recreation facilities.

[View PDF Document](#)

Media and Additional Sources

InsideHalton — Cricket Field Reconfiguration

News article on planned renovations to improve safety at Central Park.

www.insidehalton.com/...

Turf & Rec — Park Reconfiguration

Article on Burlington park changes to prevent errant cricket balls.

www.turfandrec.com/..

Rent a Facility or Park

Booking information for sports facilities in Burlington.

www.burlington.ca/...