

News from the City of Dearborn

Dearborn – Clean and Safe

John B. O'Reilly, Jr., Mayor

Department of Public Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 22, 2008

DISC named top ice arena in Michigan by popular hockey magazine

DEARBORN, Mich. – Most Dearborn residents are aware of what a fantastic facility the Dearborn Ice Skating Center is.

But now hockey players and skaters across the state will also know which city has the best rink.

Michigan Hockey Magazine recently bestowed Dearborn's DISC with the coveted title of "Best Arena" in the Quest of the Best Arena contest. The honor was awarded by the magazine after a poll of its readers determined that it was the best among some 120 other rinks throughout the state.

Rink manager Kirk Young said the DISC has a statewide reputation for having "good ice," exceptionally clean facilities and excellent customer service.

"The staff here is experienced, and they do a really good job. Customer service really is a high priority," Young said.

Mayor John B. O'Reilly, Jr. congratulated the staff for earning this award.

"We're proud to offer such an excellent facility for our residents and visitors," said Mayor O'Reilly. "The people of Dearborn value recreation, and continue to support the city's long commitment to providing the best opportunities possible."

Some 40 hockey teams call the DISC their home, including teams in the Dearborn Hockey Association, Dearborn High School team, Hockey North America, Michigan Masters Hockey and Dearborn Polar Mite.

This means at least 400 different teams play there throughout one year, including league play and tournaments.

And, the rink is also home to the popular Dearborn Figure Skating club, as well as the Dearborn Crystalette Synchronized Skating Teams.

This means plenty of DISC exposure, as well as competition from surrounding rinks for ice time rental.

Young said hockey and figure skating clubs have their choice of many rinks following the "explosion of rinks" about a decade ago. That's why it's critical to hold onto the existing customers, and give them a reason to keep coming back to the DISC, he said.

"We were all surprised and honored by the award," Young said. "It means that people are taking notice of what we're doing."

Built in 1971, the DISC received a major renovation in 1998, with the addition of the second rink, facility upgrades and parking lot improvements that

brought 700 on-site spaces. Then the original ice surface was expanded to NHL regulations size in 2002.

Other rink features include the upper level viewing and banquet room, seating in the main arena for up to 1,500, two upper level private party rooms, eight team rooms, a 1,000 square-foot pro shop and food concessions.

Young said he was glad the city was able to upgrade the rink several years ago.

“We’re very fortunate that the city and its administration is supportive to all the recreational offerings of Recreation Department,” he said.

For more information about the City of Dearborn, visit the website at www.dearborn.org. To learn more about the DISC, click on the DISC icon under the Dearborn Recreation Department on the city’s website.

PHOTO CAPTION:

Photo courtesy of the City of Dearborn

Michigan Hockey Magazine recently bestowed Dearborn’s DISC with the coveted title of “Best Arena” in the Quest of the Best Arena contest. The honor was awarded by the magazine after a poll of its readers determined that it was the best among some 120 rinks throughout the state. Shown here (from left) is the award-winning DISC staff: Amanda Greco, Lindsay Koval, Brian Haddad, Sarah Hull, Jason Staszal, Kirk Young, Brian Levangie, Holly Teets, Ben Romero, Rose Hampton, Mo Kadry, and Mickey Jesue.

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DISC named best ice arena, May 2008