

The Cobourg Lawn Bowling Club Submission for Parking Passes for the 2023 season

Historical data on the club's use of Parking Passes on Queen & Church Streets (the streets adjacent to the club that have meters)

Prior to 2009 when parking meters were installed on Queen & Church Streets, our members & guests did not have problems parking close to the club. When meters were installed the CLBC executive recognized that this would be a significant issue for our members & guests who would now need to pay hourly for parking. We would see a decrease in membership as many, especially our seniors who make up approx. 80% of our adult members, would be unwilling and often unable, to pay the new parking fee each time they come to the club. Some members do not live in Cobourg & would not be eligible to purchase a resident's pass. It would also affect participation in our tournaments where bowlers are at the club for 7 hours. Many of our out-of-town participants would probably stop coming if they had to pay the new parking fee of \$30-\$40 to park their car. Out of town bowlers bring their own set of bowls, which are heavy, as well as a lunch, so parking near the facility is a necessity for them.

The Cobourg Lawn Bowling Club has remained a vibrant part of the community and Victoria Park for the past 116 years. Its members will always need parking near the facility for the same reasons as we have outlined in this and all previous applications for a municipal grant for parking permits on Queen & Church streets. Most other sports facilities (i.e. CCC, Curling Club) in Cobourg do not charge their participants for parking, why should the Lawn Bowling Club be any different just because of its location.

After working with 40 passes for the past few years, **we believe 40 is the minimum number we require to adequately cover our activities.** It must be emphasized that most of the passes are not used most of the time. Only those few members who volunteer their time for club maintenance make frequent use of a pass and their activities generally occur at non-peak times when the majority for the spaces are empty anyway. All other passes are only issued for the specific time a member or guest is engaged in a club related activity.

The historical data summarized in the table on the following page indicates that ever since meters were installed on Queen & Church Streets, the Town of Cobourg has recognized the need of the Cobourg Lawn Bowling Club to be issued parking passes for use by its members and guests for the times when they are at the club. Our submission this year is simply a request for the Town of Cobourg to continue the existing practice of supporting the lawn bowling club by issuing at least the 40 passes it requires.

Historical Data on Parking Passes Given /Granted to CLBC by the Town of Cobourg

Year	# Passes Granted	
2009		Parking meters installed on Queen & Church Streets adjacent to the CLBC.
2010	150	Sufficient for all members to have one pass, plus extras for visitors.
2011	70	As there are only about 65 metered spaces on Queen & Church, 150 passes are not required, and the Town reduced the number to 70. All members did not automatically get a pass. Passes were numbered and records kept on when they were taken out & returned, and by whom. In this way we controlled their usage.
2012	70	We requested 70 & were given 70.
2013	50	While we again requested 70 passes, we were only given 50. This meant we needed to monitor their use even more carefully. Everyone, except for a few selected members, were given a pass <u>only for time they were at the club</u> engaged in club related activities.
2014	50	We found we could manage with 50; so, we requested 50 & were given 50.
2015	50	We requested 50 passes and were given 50 passes.
2016	40	We requested 50 but were given only 25. We approached the town expressing our concern that while we did not need 50 all the time, there are occasions when 25 would not cover all those needing passes. Subsequently, the town gave us 40 passes. We managed with only 40 passes but upon occasion it was difficult. We continued to monitor their use closely. Everyone, except a select few who need to be at the club frequently to maintain the facility, signed for a pass only when needed and returned it the same day.
2017	40	We received 40 passes and continued to distribute & monitor as we did in 2016. Introduction of Municipal Grant Application (Policy No. FIN-ADM1)
2018	40	2018 was the first year the Town of Cobourg required that a Grant Application be completed, to acquire the parking passes that are essential to our club's operation. Our application in the fall of 2017, for the 2018 season was approved & the CLBC received an In-Kind grant for 40 parking passes. As in past years we continued to monitor the use of these passes.
2019	40	Our application in the fall of 2018, for an In-Kind grant for 40 parking passes for the 2019 season was once again approved. As in past years we continued to monitor the use of these passes.
2020/21	40	Our applications for an In-Kind grant for 40 parking passes for the 2020 & 2021 seasons were approved. However, due to COVID-19 very few of the passes were used in 2020 & 2021, as many activities were cancelled.
2022	40	Our application for an In-Kind grant of 40 parking passes for 2022 bowling season was once again approved and were used extensively They are essential to our club's survival.