



2025-26 Season Impact Report

The 2025-26 season of the Cape Community Arena Group (CCAG) brought 670+ hours of ice time and an ever-expanding roster of programs and events for our community. 400 hours of free public open skate - a 20% increase over last season - made the rink a go-to hang out for families with young children, teenagers, working adults, and retirees alike during the darkest days of the year.

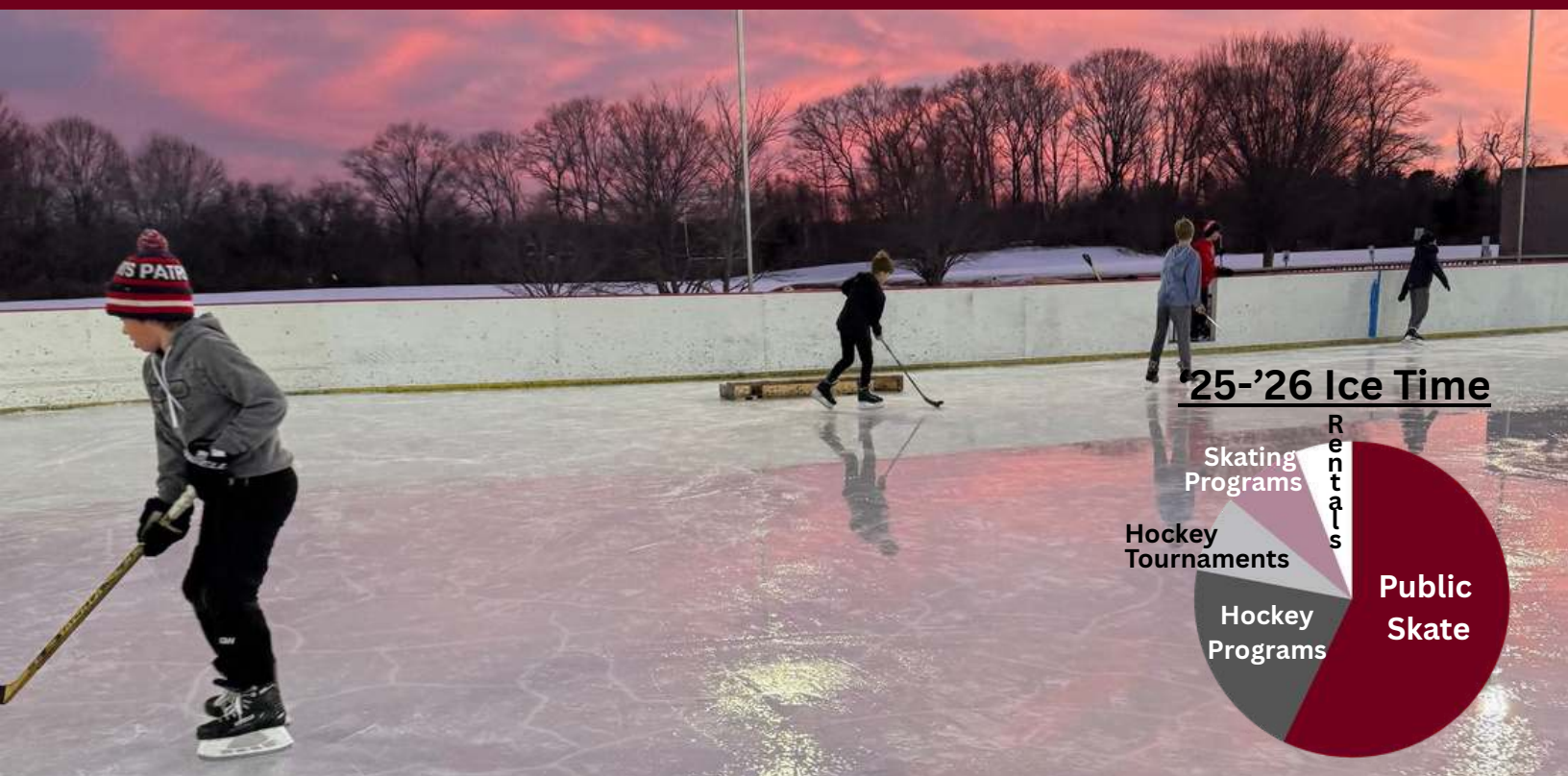
Purchasing our own chiller and replacing costly rental units this past off-season has reduced our operating budget by 15% and shifted us closer toward long-term sustainability. The success of the Cape Arena, and our ability to make such significant capital investments, while still providing the majority of our ice time free to the community, is a direct result of the unwavering support from our generous business sponsors, individual donors, the Town of Cape Elizabeth, and our many dedicated volunteers. The rink stands as a vibrant testament to what a community can achieve through collaboration.

I am thrilled to present our 2nd annual season impact report to you, our valued community and supporters. This report provides an overview of our activities, operations, and support over the 2025-26 winter. It also outlines our future plans to ensure we continue to evolve to meet community needs and remain a sustainable asset for years to come. I hope you also take the opportunity to scan the QR code in the bottom right to view the video of our story.

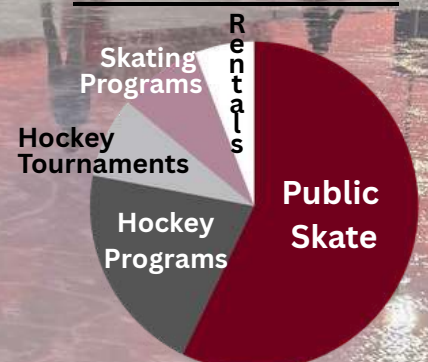
We have achieved incredible milestones during the 2025-26 season and are excited about our continued journey.

Julie M Furt
CCAG Board Chair

View the video of our story -->



25-'26 Ice Time





"Thank you for an amazing season. What a gem we have here in town - we are lucky. We spent our last rink time there last night - and to see my 6 year old have the confidence to play pond hockey with kids his age and a bit older, that he doesn't know - for close to 2 hours, was priceless.

The volunteers do an incredible job - we are very lucky to have them - as well as the organizers! I can't begin to even fathom how much work goes into it all - Thank you! We had an awesome season on the ice this year - my son is sad the rink is closed but is already looking forward to playing again next year!"

- Katrina Aspinwall, Cape Resident



SKATING

Our skating programs continue to reach participants of all ages, from age 3 to 60+, making skating accessible to the entire community. Over 125 of our youngest skaters hit the ice in our Super Skate program under the watchful eyes of youth community volunteers supervised by a professional skating coach.

We also added weekly freestyle skate ice time to the schedule for local figure skaters for the first time this year - a welcome addition for those struggling to find ice at a reasonable time of day.

Monica Malcolmson
Skating Programs

Skating Classes

- Super Skate
 - Penguins (Ages 3-5)
 - Polar Bears (Ages 6-10)
- Beginner
- Basic Skills
- Creative Movement on Ice
- Power Skating
- Adult Skating

video ➔



Cumberland County Winter Special Olympics



Cumberland County hosted its first ever Winter Olympics at Gull Crest Fields in January. Cape Arena was the host of the speed skating competition. Cape Middle School students organized the event and local schools attended to cheer on the athletes.

Photo Credit: Connor Barrett





Gus Pfueller, a third grader at Pond Cove, said it best while playing goalie for the first time under the lights at Cape Arena, "This is the moment of my Life!" Gus was one of the 61 players who participated in our flagship Espinal Family Youth Hockey Program for 1st through 8th graders that featured outstanding coaching from former AHL-standout Kent Hulst and current Maine Mariners players.

Our six hockey programs enrolled over 238-players, including 45 women; wow. A special thanks to all our participants and to the 28 volunteer coaches who made this happen!

And, if all our younger girls keep playing, we will be able to dress an all Cape 2027-28 Girls Middle School Ice Hockey Program for the first time ever.

Stay tuned, and have fun this off-season. We look forward to lacing them up with you again next year.

Pat Butsch
Hockey Programs

Hockey for All

Hockey Program Participation

- Kids Learn to Play Hockey - 36
- Espinal Family Youth Hockey Program (Grades 1-8) - 61
- Adult Learn to Play Hockey - 20
- Cape Hockey Club - 86
- Ladies Pond Hockey - 15
- 60+ Pond Hockey - 20



MLK Youth Pond Hockey Tournament Highlights

On MLK day, the Cape Community Arena hosted a one day pond hockey tournament for 75+ kids aged 6 to 13. The tournament lasted all day and a lot of kids played and participated. The thing that makes this tournament so special is that it is for kids run by kids, meaning that all the refs, coaches, and volunteers were kids. Even though it was snowing while the tournament was held, the volunteers were able to keep the ice clean and the tournament running.

"I like playing and coaching the kids. A lot of the kids are really nice. I just finished coaching 10u." said Callum McGivney, an 11 year old hockey player.

At the end of the day 24 games had been played across 3 age groups with the champions being the Flames for 8u, the Maple Leafs for 10u, and the Ducks for 12u.

*Credit: Cape Courier article dated February 4, 2026 by Oliver & Jacoby Furt
Photo Credit: Ang Foley*



6 Tournaments, 76 teams, 600 participants

- NYE Youth Pond Hockey (10U, 12U, 14U)
- MLK Day Youth Pond Hockey (8U, 10U, 12U)
- 2 Mites Tournaments (8U)
- Adult Winter Pond Hockey Classic
- Ladies Pond Hockey Tournament

The Cape Rink Growing Women's Hockey

Watch Tournament
Highlights



Eight teams, 48+ women, PWHL-inspired jerseys thanks to sponsor BeautyUnis, and serious talent on the ice. A sudden-win OT showdown crowned Team Toronto champs. What a night!



Thank You
Sponsors





Patrons
Oxford
INSURANCE

Monica Dambach



Shaheen
& Gordon
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



MAINE STONE
SCAPES CAPE-ELIZ-ME

OPTICLIFF LAW
A different kind of law firm.



TAMMARO
LANDSCAPING



Sponsorships provided
>250+ hours of ice time
to be free to the public



RE/MAX
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ROCKY BOTTOM
FISHERIES



2025-26 Friends of the Rink

Diamond Circle: \$25,000+

Anonymous
Tom & Hillary Egan Family
Town of Cape Elizabeth

Platinum Circle: \$10,000+

The Espinal Family
The Furt Family
The Liston Family
Robert & Beth Ann Sirois

Gold Circle: \$5,000+

Phineas W. Sprague
Memorial Foundation

Silver Circle: \$2,000+

Sandra Bonomo
The Brandeis Family
Meghan Connelly
& Andrew Davis
Reed Gramse
Richard & Nancy Lemieux
Alison Tumas
Ben Wojcik

Bronze Circle: \$1,000+

60+ Pond Hockey Club
Stephanie Austin &
Robin Fernald
Jonathan Bush & Fay Rotenberg
Butsch and Kerr Family
Angel Caldera
The D'Angelo Family
Jonathan Feeley & Jenny Lupica
In Honor of Joan Feeley

Bronze Circle: \$1,000+

Thomas M. and Joan M.
Feeley Charitable Trust
The Fisher Family
Crosley & Emily Jackson
Mary & Dana Kempton
Christine & Michael Kleinman
The Little Family
Paul Muscat
Kerry Novak
The Riley Family
Michael Rumo
The Sezak Family
Town of Cape Elizabeth
Bottle Shed Grant
Devon & Jack Wood
Hart and Werner Family
Adam and Leah Young

Leader: \$500+

Nicholas Beal
Florence Braff
Brett & Julia Brown
Curtis Brown
CEHS Environmental Club
Phil Coupe
Susan Desgrosseilliers
The Dienstag Family
The Dionne-Eguren Family
Lauren Glennon
Mr. David A & Dr. Anna M
Goldenheim
Christopher Grennon
Sarah Haskell
Ann & Doug Kaplan
Elizabeth Kirby
Mat Leighton

Leader: \$500+

Lindsay Leone
Stephen Maturo
Duncan & Erin McAllister
Benjamin Morrill
Hanna & Sam O'Meara
Brendon Pomeroy
Philip St. Germain
Karl & Kay Sze

Contributor: \$250+

The Backman Family
Brandon Bannock
Rick Barkhuff
Joel & Kim Bassett
Whitney Beeler
Erin Belfort
Jeffrey Berman
Richard Blake
Christopher Boniakowski
Brooks Bornhofft
Christina Bourdeaux
Brianna Boutin
Mike Brangwynne
Robert Brewer
Jeffrey Burch
Charles Carroll
John Charlebois
Paul Coronite
Lauren Croteau
Danielle & David Dane
Jill Darling
Ben Davis
Sean Diffley
Jake Edwards
Leslie Fissmer
Brittney Freeman

Thank you to all who donated in-kind gifts this season. We don't have records of each and every gift but your generosity is truly appreciated.

2025-26 Friends of the Rink

Contributor: \$250+

Rufus Frost
Sean Gallagher
Kirsten Goethert
Hunt Grobert
Margaret Guillaume
Drew Guthrie
Patrick Hackett
Zachary Hanna
Travis Hayes
Natalie Hoch
Melisa Hooper
James Huebener
William Hunscher
Jenna Isaacson Pfueller
Scott Johnson
Patrick Kertes
Brigitte Kingsbury
Andrew Kraus
Alex Kremer
Jason Lachance
Peter Landis
The Lions Club
of Cape Elizabeth
Evan Livada
Jennifer Loring
Bernard Lyons
Celine Mainville
Tom Martin
Thomas McAteer
Alexis McCoy
Kim McDevitt
Alex McFarlane
Hilary Mitchell
Kenneth Moon
Wiley & Caroline Muller
Bethany Mutter

Contributor: \$250+

Jacqueline Newell
Patrick & Linda
Nicholas
Janet O'Toole
Anna Patterson
Charles Patterson
Thaddeus Pecorak
Lindsey Piirainen
Eliza Rauscher
Clara Rautenberg
Brian Reid
Michael Riegelman
Jonathan Rizzo
Michael Roberts
Tish Rzeszutko
Jonathan Sahrbeck
Ben Sampson
Kate Saucier
Jamie Sevigny
Mark St. John
Amanda St. Peter
Benjamin Starobin
Grey Terry
Timothy Trachimowicz
Nina & Robert
Trowbridge
Kevin Turner
Lauren Wendell
David Werdelin

Friend: \$100+

Angela Amano
Emily Andrews
Robert, Linda &
Joseph Ayotte
Barbara Babkirk
David Bagdasarian

Friend: \$100+

Douglas Bagin
Ari Berman
Sara Best
Jared Bisogni
David Boomer
Jeanine Bourke
Emma Brackett
Nancy Breul
Janet Brown
Molly Brown
Elizabeth Brownell
Laverne Chambers
Sonia Croft
Monica Dambach
Kyle Dancause
Anita Davidson
Jeff Davis
Nancy
DellaMattera
Ryan Deveau
Pauline Doane
Krystal Drolet
James Dunlop
Melisa Filipos
Adam Foster
Webster
Sarah Gagne
Sarah Gayer
Barry Gleason
Mark Goldstein
John Grew
Brian Guthrie
Thomas Hall
Nancy Hawes
Joe Higgins
Sara Hirshon

Friend: \$100+

Anna van Huystee
Ben Johnston
Caroline Kendall
Paul Kim
Jonathan Kirby
Kate-Lyn Knight
Barbara Lamson
Laura Larmon
Andrew Libby
Jack Lombard
Peter MacDonald
Erica Maguire
Henry Nuckles
Henry Owen
Philip Owen
William Owens
Heidi Peterson
Michael Pittenger
Amanda Poltak
Hailey Roberts
Annah Sawyer
Peter Skapinsky
Craig Smith
Daniel Steinberg
Courtney Tait
Mary Ticknor
Paul Treworgy
Amy Turrin
Amy Twitchell
Justin Waligory
Kaitlyn Weidenbach
Richardson White
Genevieve Whiting
David Williams
Julie Wooden
Rahfa Zerikly



A Game-Changing Investment: Our New Chiller

This past offseason, CCAG made a strategic investment in the rink's future by purchasing our own chiller and replacing the costly rental units used in previous years. This single upgrade shifts us much closer toward long-term sustainability. Financed through a 5-year, \$160,000 loan with Skowhegan Savings Bank, we immediately reduced our overall operating budget by 15%. The financial outlook is even brighter moving forward: owning the equipment is projected to reduce these specific costs by more than 50% over the next five years during the term of the loan, and by a staggering 95% in the long term once it is fully paid off.

Beyond the financials, the new chiller has remarkably improved both our environmental footprint and the skater experience. The upgraded system operates with incredible efficiency, utilizing approximately 30% less electricity than our previous rental setups. It also resulted in vastly improved ice quality, resulting in fewer seasonal ice issues caused by direct sunlight. The new unit is so robust and powerful that we actually discovered the ice can sometimes get too cold! Ultimately, this purchase was a major win for our budget, our environment, and our community's time on the ice.



Capital Investment Spotlight



Financial Overview

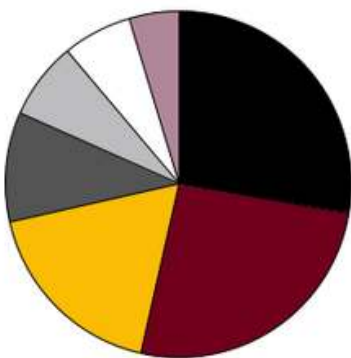
As CCG continues to grow, so does our financial foundation. Below is a breakdown of our revenue streams and operational expenditures for the 2025-26 season.

Key Income Highlights: Advertising and Programming made up over half of our revenue stream, followed closely by Tournaments, generous Donations, Town support, and Fundraising Events.

Key Expense Highlights: Maintenance—specifically the seasonal set-up and take-down of the temporary rink—dominates our costs at over 40% of the budget. Utilities and Programming Costs follow as our next largest operational expenses.

Cape Rink '25-'26 OpEx Income

● Advertising ● Programming ● Tournaments
● Town of CE ● Donations ● Fundraising Events
● Ice Rentals & Parties



This season, the support from our community has been truly breathtaking. I am thrilled to report that we fundraised nearly \$460,000 during the 2025-26 season, with half going toward our operational funds and half dedicated to capital projects fundraising.

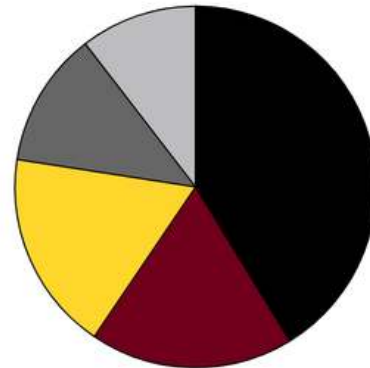
We cannot thank our generous donors enough. Because of you, we raised \$31,000 toward the operating budget through our Friends of the Rink donations, and an incredible \$230,000 toward our Capital Campaign.

Our community events were also a massive success. Our Lei the Slab Gala in November raised over \$41,000 alone! Combined with the joy of other beloved fundraising events like Skate with Santa & Friends and RinkFest, we brought our community together while securing the financial future of the arena. Thank you to everyone who donated, attended, and volunteered!

Whitney Liston
Events and Fundraising Chair

Cape Rink '25-'26 Operating Costs

● Maintenance (including set-up & take-down) ● Utilities ● Programming Costs
● Infrastructure & Operations ● Equipment (Chiller & Tractor)



The 2025-26 season for Cape Arena was marked by robust community engagement and strategic financial investments. We finished the season in a strong position, with an OpEx Income of \$230k compared to OpEx Expenses of \$191k.

A major financial milestone this year was transitioning from renting to owning our chiller, with CCAG spending \$115k on the purchase. This included a 20% down payment on the unit, a warranty plan, the parts needed to connect the chiller to the rink coolant system, and beginning loan payments on a \$160k, 60-month loan from Skowhegan Savings Bank. Compared to the \$74k spent on chiller rentals in 2024-25, our costs next season will drop to just \$37.5k—roughly half the price of renting.

We also want to formally thank the Town for paying up to \$35k each season for electricity. We are thrilled to report that with the efficiency of our new chiller, our electricity bill was down 30% year-over-year, coming in at just \$23.5k.

Our top expense remains associated with the set-up and take-down each season. Because we are on a temporary site that must be fully restored each year, these maintenance efforts represent over 40% of our entire operating budget.

Alex Kremer
Treasurer and Tax Chair

The Path Ahead: Building a Permanent Home



CCAG has made significant strides in our mission to establish a permanent, community-owned facility. A pivotal milestone was reached last year when the Town Council officially approved our proposal to proceed to the Planning Board. To navigate this complex regulatory and design phase, CCAG retained John Mitchell & Associates to assist in our planning and permitting efforts. They are working closely with Board Member Mike Backman—who is generously donating the arena's design work through his firm, Waterhouse Design—to actively drive site plan developments, landscape architecture considerations, and environmental assessments. These activities - which CCAG has invested more than \$62,000 - have been critical in advancing our CE Amended Site Plan Application and DEP Site Location Application, ensuring the project meets all necessary town and state requirements.

With the permitting groundwork underway, we have mapped out a comprehensive four-phase construction timeline targeted to begin in March 2027. This phased approach was deliberately engineered to avoid disrupting the usage of Gull Crest. This ensures the area remains a vibrant, accessible, four-season resource for the entire community.



**Build Our Rink:
Scan to Donate**





Phased Construction Timeline

Our target timeline outlines a steady progression toward a fully covered arena:

- **Phase 1 (March 2027 – November 2027):** With an estimated cost of \$1.4 million, this phase centers entirely on essential site work and infrastructure. Key activities include moving the Gull Crest parking lot closer to the ball fields, temporarily relocating the existing storage building, and executing site grading and erosion control. This phase also covers the installation of stormwater management systems, such as biofilter beds, and pouring structural concrete, including continuous footings and a frost wall.
- **Phase 2 (March 2028 – November 2028):** This phase focuses on installing comprehensive site utilities, including water, sanitary sewer, electric, telephone, and cable lines. It will also feature the construction of a new storage building for the Town and the pouring of the main concrete ice rink slab with embedded coolant lines.
- **Phase 3 (March 2029 – November 2029):** Major building construction commences with the erection of the steel frame, followed by the installation of the roof and a solar array. Conditioned spaces will be built for utilities, the Zamboni, and public bathrooms. Site improvements during this phase include a retaining wall, exterior lighting, signage, and landscaping plantings.
- **Phase 4 (March 2030 – November 2030):** The final stretch will wrap up building construction with interior and exterior finishes, and complete final site improvements, such as finished pavement.

The estimated total cost for all phases of the project ranges from \$5 million to \$7 million. CCAG currently maintains \$200,000 in our CapEx account as we continue to fundraise.



The Heart of the Ice: Our Volunteers



Our volunteers, ranging in age from 7 to over 70, contribute an estimated **10,000 hours** each year to make CCAG a success. From rink build-outs and site improvements to Zamboni operation, ice maintenance, and concessions, our volunteers do it all. Whether it is event planning, fundraising, class instruction, tournament organization, photography, bookkeeping, or volunteer training, we simply could not execute a season or build our future without this amazing community of over **200 volunteers**.



Thank You from the CCAG Board

Mike Backman

- *Rink Management*

Pat Butsch

- *Hockey Programs*

Meghan Connelly

- *Legal, Contracts, Recordkeeping & Purchasing*

Kailee D'Angelo

- *Rink Operations*

Julie Furt

- *Chair*

Hunt Grobert

- *Ice Management*

Crosley Jackson

- *Revenue*

Alex Kremer

- *Treasurer & Tax*

Scott Liston

- *Town Liaison*

Whitney Liston

- *Fundraising & Events*

Monica Malcomson

- *Skating Programs*

Christopher Rizzo

- *IT & Marketing Communications*

Founders & Board Advisors

- Jay Brandeis
- Chris Hooper
- Sam Sezak

Join the Board: We are currently recruiting a Grant Writing Chair!