



STA Facility Profile

Conestoga College • Doon Campus • Kitchener

Name, location of facility.

The Kenneth Hunter Recreation Centre at Conestoga College is named after the second President of the college. It is located on the Doon Campus in Kitchener.

General facility information.

The Recreation Centre has an Olympic-sized ice surface with seating available for 615 and standing room for 400. The 14,000 sq. ft. double gym seats 489 people with standing room for 200. There are



weight and training rooms in the facility. It is used by a number of college programs as well as community groups. Memberships are available as are hourly rentals to the community. The college has a number of varsity teams that compete in the OCAA. The Athletics Department also operates a number of intramural programs for students.

What types of sports fields are on site?

In addition to the indoor facilities, the college has three slo-pitch/womens fast-pitch diamonds and a soccer field. Varsity, intramural teams and community groups use the fields.

How many employees are involved with turf care at this facility?

There are six staff who work on campus involved with turf care. Peter Schlei is the lead hand for the maintenance staff at the recreation centre and grounds. The centre staff look after the sports turf while grounds staff look after the landscaped areas of the campus. Barry Gurski of the grounds staff is our trades person and is a certified horticulturist. The staff works as a team to maintain all areas.

How many acres of turf are maintained? How many acres of sports turf?

Staff maintain approximately 55 acres of turf at the Doon Campus. This is in addition to two large bush lots, various roads and sidewalks, as well as 13 parking lots. There are about 4.5 acres of sports turf when the immediate areas around the fields are taken into consideration.

What percentage is irrigated?

We have no irrigated turf areas.

What is the primary type of turfgrass? Name of varieties.

We primarily use TT fescues and rye.

Is yearly overseeding part of your sports turf maintenance program?

The sports fields are overseeded on a rotating basis. One field per year is completed in full with stressed areas of other fields getting attention as required.

How many times do you fertilize?

The sports turf is fertilized two or three times each year depending on conditions. We fertilize other prime areas once a year along with overseeding and topdressing as required.

Do you aerate? Topdress?

We aerate the sports turf a minimum of three times a season. Topdressing is completed on a rotating basis similar to the overseeding program.

Has your municipality banned the use of pesticides?

The various municipalities that we have campuses in have not yet banned pesticides. As a college, we have not used pesticides that require posting for two years. Staff has worked with suppliers to find alternatives. We are still experimenting and hope to find suitable alternatives.

Are community user groups involved or have they been involved in the construction/maintenance of this facility? In what manner?

The construction of the sports fields was a joint venture between the college and the City of Kitchener in the early 1980s. Since that time, the college maintains the fields and rents time to community groups when the fields are not required for college programs.

How many hours per year are the fields permitted? Who permits them? Are the fields ever closed during the season to give them a rest? How much input do you have in the amount and timing of use?

The Recreation Centre rents about 2,000 hours per season. Fields are closed for the topdressing and overseeding programs. In addition to this, fields may be closed on the recommendation of Peter Schlei due to weather conditions. Peter, as the lead hand, works closely with recreation staff to determine usage levels.