



Saratoga Springs Recreation Department

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To: Recreation Commission
Date: February 9, 2021
From: John Hirliman
Subject: Live Barn

The Saratoga Springs Ice Rinks and Recreation Center are used to welcoming guests through our doors on a daily basis. During this unprecedented time with COVID-19, that may be different as we continue to open up skating and gym use. Grandparents will not be able to stand at the rink and watch their grandkids during a Saturday morning Intro to Ice Skating session and siblings may not be able to cheer on their brother or sister during a basketball game. Things all together look different, so we wanted to come up with a way that those people had the option to still view their players and have it be safe for everyone.

Live Barn offers the ability to watch your favorite athletes from any electronic device with internet and never miss a lesson or the game winning goal. A subscription-based program allowing anyone to stream what is going on in the rink and gym at any given time.

With a paid subscription:

- ✓ Parents can catch all the action as it happens without stepping foot into the rinks or gym.
- ✓ Extended family can watch games or events in real time without traveling or having to miss the event because they are not in town; offering a safe alternative for many.
- ✓ Coaches can log into a saved game and watch game film with their team to give their team a different prospective and help their team improve, as an added bonus.

Live Barn has different subscription plans that start at \$17.95 and go up to \$27.95 a month features differ on the subscription you choose. The rinks and Rec Center have the ability to turn off streaming when it is not needed or during games and events where the teams are already providing that service to their fans. The streaming can also be turned off if the user groups do not want to be viewed, for example a game day skate or a closed tryout. The City would gain a revenue source, by receiving 30% of each paid subscription. Live barn also installs all their own equipment and runs the service off their own internet connection, so there is no cost to the City for providing this service to the public. Notifications of the program, if approved, will be advertised and added to the waiver language for all user groups. There are 97 rinks in New York that currently have Live Barn in their arenas providing this service, including many rinks in our area, Clifton Park, Glens Falls, Frear park, and Schenectady County just to name a few.

This service will be a great addition to the Saratoga Springs Recreation Department during this time. It will allow many families and friends to stay connected to their athletes with the restrictions of mass gatherings still in place. It is my recommendation that we award the 6-year contract to Live Barn to provide exclusive live streaming at the Saratoga Springs Ice Rinks and Recreation Center.

Thank You,
John Hirliman
Administrative Director
Saratoga Springs Recreation Department

Our mission is to create fun, safe, affordable activities, and to enrich the community's quality of life through outstanding recreation programs, resources, and facilities for all individuals.