

Donny Snow

Oct 20. 2009

Racine County Park and Recreation Department

Dear Mr Snow,

The Wisconsin Thunder is a wheelchair Basketball team in Southeastern Wisconsin that is comprised of disabled players that compete in the National Wheelchair Basketball Association. I coached the Southshore Breakers in Racine for 20 years and we played our home games at the John Bryant center. When I first organized the team in 1979 Don Bostick at the Bryant center was the only one in the city to help us by allowing us to practice and play our games for minimal costs. If Don would not have helped our team we could never have started a team in Racine. Last season our team played 30 games, all on the road, because we could not afford the \$200 fee at the Bryant center to host games. We have access to a small gym in Milwaukee for practices but it is not a regulation size gym. We have done fundraising to help pay for travel expenses for our team covering mileage, hotels, etc, the team has travelled on 4 hour road trips playing in Iowa to return in the evening so we could save money for hotels, players while some work are mostly on fixed incomes. The team we have now is currently ranked # 2 in the Nation in Division 3 of the NWBA which has 71 teams across the United States. Last season we made the Division 3 Championship game in Denver Colorado, losing the game to a team from Canada. It made me disappointed to know that people of Racine did not see this team, one of the best teams I ever coached, one of our players Savoy Brown was named MVP of the national tournament. The Thunder representing Wisconsin is known to many people across the US. this gives us respect and recognition as one of the best teams in America. Yet we didn't have one home game last season, because we do not have a funds to pay for the facility to host home games. I hope that you can help our team by waiving the fees for our usage of the John Bryant Center. We would only need the gym 3 or 4 times from November to February, we play double headers in the afternoon usually on Saturdays at 1 and 3 pm. Thanks for considering our request to bring our team back to Wisconsin.

Carlos Mireles- Coach /Wisconsin Thunder

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