



**SIX RIVERS
YOUTH SPORTS**

Our Mission

To promote youth sports and recreation through the creation of an ice arena and multi-use athletic center that is easily accessible to local schools, youth sporting organizations and all community members in our region.

Six Rivers Youth Sports is a non-profit sports and recreation organization located in Topsham, Maine. We serve fifteen communities in the Midcoast region, including Bath, Brunswick, Freeport, Harpswell, Lisbon and beyond. Our facilities are available to groups that provide athletic opportunities and resources for youth and community members of all ages. These facilities currently include a 65'x150' indoor turf room and plans for a partially enclosed, refrigerated, NHL-sized ice rink.



Our Commitment to Access

At Six Rivers we are committed to fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment for all youth, their coaches, parents, and supporters, and taking action to alleviate barriers to sports access.

We will do this by:

- ▶ Communicating about the importance of inclusion in sports to teams and community members using our facilities and modeling this in our organizational policies and procedures
- ▶ Building strategic partnerships with organizations that serve populations without or with limited access to sports to offer reduced or no cost usage of our facilities
- ▶ Dedicating funds for these partnership initiatives and reduced usage fees for our facilities

Our History

Continuing a tradition of ice skating and hockey in Midcoast Maine

The Early Years 1950's - 1970's

Building on a long tradition of skating and hockey that began in the 1950's, Sid Watson and a handful of volunteers officially form Midcoast Youth Hockey Association in 1971.

1980's

Local ice skating and hockey communities' demand for ice time far outgrows the capacity of Bowdoin College's original Dayton Arena (built in 1956).

1990's

Brunswick Skating Club organizes as a 501(c)(3) building on decades of figure skater training and fun.

2009

Bowdoin College opens the new Watson Arena. Peak demand (4-9 PM weekdays) for ice time by the surrounding communities is 2-3 times what the facility can provide.

Since 2018

Our team engages the local community around a series of fun outdoor rinks to bring the skating community together in support of a new ice arena.

2019

Midcoast Ice LLC charters as a subsidiary of Midcoast Youth Hockey Association and commences planning and permitting of a new ice arena for the community.

2021

Six Rivers Youth Sports incorporates as an independent nonprofit and raises more than a half million dollars to cover planning, permits and acquisition of property for the new multi-use sports facility.

December 2021

Six Rivers closes on the purchase of 7 acres and the former Roller World building at 20 Atwood Road in Topsham, Maine.

Today

While we work toward our vision, Six Rivers operates and rents a turf room, collaborating with more than a dozen local youth sports leagues, recreation organizations, and scholastic programs who will also use the new sports facility.

Our Vision

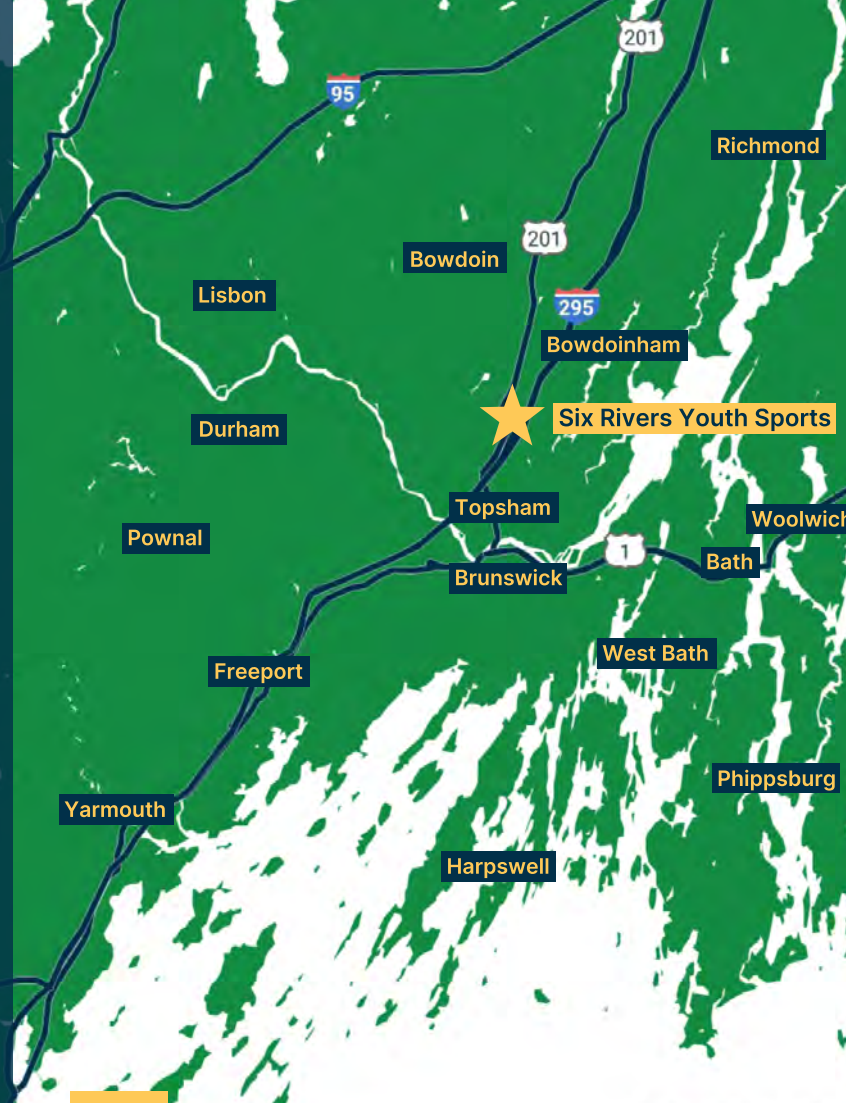
Our facilities will be a vibrant community resource for youth and athletes of all ages to learn and enjoy healthy athletic activities close to home and alongside friends. The high demand for ice skating, hockey, curling, soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, baseball, softball and more will be met with an inclusive environment that fosters youth development and healthy activities for people of all abilities and income.

The Need

This is a time of both need and opportunity in youth sports

The need for athletic facilities including a new ice rink is well known in our region, and highlighted by the importance for youth and people of all ages to engage in their community through athletics and active recreation on a daily basis.

Especially during the winter and Maine's long shoulder seasons, participants in ice skating, hockey, curling, soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, baseball, softball and more all struggle to find facilities—particularly during periods of inaccessible outdoor fields in fall, winter and spring.



15 Maine Communities

87,500 Residents

16,800 Youth under age 18

Within **25** minutes of Six Rivers

Youth want to play the sports they love

However, opportunities are too often limited by available facilities, travel and cost. While this need crosses all sports, limited ice time provides a striking example of the limitations on our youth:

The combined regional ice time demand for youth hockey, scholastic hockey, figure skating, and recreational skating is more than double that which is available at Bowdoin's Watson Arena.

Figure skating clubs lack ice time to fully implement their programs and indoor public skating is not available in our region.

Youth hockey teams average 1.5 hours of car time for each hour of skating requiring travel to Falmouth, Auburn, Augusta and beyond. Some kids give up hockey altogether and others never try skating at all.

High school students have limited weekly practice time and rise at 4 a.m. or even earlier to practice yielding a sleep routine that is not compatible with rigorous academic schedules and adolescent development.

“There is long-standing need in our community for a venue dedicated to ice skating and four-season sports for our young people. More than ever, the benefits of daily exercise and fun activity are vital to the health and well being of children and people of all ages.”

- Dr. William Wilkoff, Retired Pediatrician, Brunswick



Our Plan

Campaign to **Raise the Rink**

Six Rivers Youth Sports will build and operate a new ice arena and multi-sport facility that will be a vibrant community resource for youth and athletes of all ages to learn and enjoy healthy athletic activities close to home and alongside friends.

Once built, the regional, multi-use, right-sized, management approach will generate sufficient income to sustain a first class facility that our youth deserve.

Our Goal

\$500,000 - raised to secure the opportunity

\$1,750,000
Phase 1: Building the Base

\$2,000,000
Phase 2: Making the Ice

\$750,000
Phase 3: Game On!

Campaign Total: \$5,000,000



Location: 20 Atwood Road in Topsham, Maine



A PLACE FOR ALL SEASONS, DESIGNED FOR EVERYONE

- NHL-sized, refrigerated, partially-enclosed ice rink with raised seating to improve viewing and a heated viewing area for cold winter days
- Renovate existing ~22,000 square foot building to house locker rooms and 65'x150' indoor turf field
- Thoughtfully designed for easy access to playing and viewing areas for disabled users

- The arena will provide ice from November through March and quickly pivot to provide a sheltered multi-purpose sports floor during spring, summer, and fall
- Welcoming lobby that integrates two spaces and provides an enjoyable and comfortable waiting place for visitors to gather



And You

Giving so youth and athletes of all ages can enjoy healthy athletic activities close to home and alongside friends

The pandemic has exacerbated a persistent decline in the number of American children who regularly play team sports, according to data from the Sports and Fitness Industry Association, but organizers of local leagues say Maine kids have bucked the trend by filling up rosters at impressive rates. While Maine youth are eager to play the sports they love, opportunities are often limited by available facilities, travel and cost.

A gift to the Campaign to Raise the Rink is an investment in youth recreation, healthy living, and our community.

How to Give

We are grateful for gifts of all sizes

Cash or Check

Payable to Six Rivers Youth Sports or go online to sixriversyouthsports.org

Pledge

A multi-year pledge is welcome with a payment schedule based upon your needs. We recommend a 3-year commitment but can accommodate a longer period if desired.

Transfer of Securities

Gifts of appreciated securities can provide immediate tax benefits. Please consult your tax advisor.

Donor Advised Fund Transfer

We work closely with Maine Community Foundation and can accept a gift from your donor advised fund at MCF or any other charitable giving foundation.

Planned Gifts: IRAs, Bequests and Trusts

Naming Six Rivers Youth Sports as the beneficiary of a planned giving vehicle can provide tax and financial planning benefits to you and Six Rivers.

No matter how you choose to give, we are GRATEFUL for your support!



SIX RIVERS YOUTH SPORTS

PO Box 254 | Topsham, ME 04086
sixriversyouthsports@gmail.com

www.sixriversyouthsports.org

Six Rivers Youth Sports ★

Cathance River

Muddy River

Androscoggin River

Merrymeeting Bay

Abagadasset River

Kennebec River

Eastern River