



**AA Ringette Calgary Foundation
AA Committee Meeting Agenda
June 2, 2021 @ 7 pm via Zoom**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Eva Hasell	Bev Brewster	Phil Bruno	Michelle Byers
Melody Rock	Liane Falconer	Kim Ung	Jeff Ung
Suzanne Hatch	Angie McKnight	Amanda Roach	Caley Mineault
Carrie Hehr	Cheryl Barnabe	Christine Yang	Colin Dyck
Holly Popiel	Jenny McConaghy	Jim Doree	Joan Vlasschaert
Leigh Sauer	Michael Liao	Trevor Meier	Vince Niro

1) CALL TO ORDER - 7:09 pm

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA – [Motion to approve Agenda made by Bev, seconded by Cheryl – approved.](#)

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 24, 2020 COMMITTEE MEETING

- Under the “Sponsorship Coordinator” update, with regards to the Support for Sport program it was reported that “Assuming all teams participate (104 players), this would generate \$15,400 including donations and matching to be split equally amongst the 8 teams (\$1925/team) towards ice expenses”.
- Amendment per Bev (VP Finance) - “Assuming all teams participate (104 players), the requirement is for each player to pledge is \$100. This would generate \$10,400 plus \$5,000 matching proceeds equaling \$15,400 minus any fees to be split equally amongst 8 teams (\$1,925 minus fees towards each team’s ice expenses)”.

[Motion to approve Minutes with amendment made by Melody, seconded by Carrie – approved.](#)

4) REPORTS:

a) **President** (Vacant-Eva acting) *Slide desk presentation posted for viewing by attendees.

i) 2020/2021 season recap:

- Despite the 2020/21 season challenges, AA adapted the tryout schedule and format and built 8 teams. Teams were able to socialize, practice and compete under a highly modified format for about 11 weeks. In February 2021, the AA Board made the very difficult decision to officially cancel the season after the league cancelled our games and Provincial restrictions only allowed for groups of 10 on the ice. Some teams continued practicing on their own, but most hung up their skates at that point.
- With case counts coming down and restrictions lifting, everyone is excited about the prospect of a “normal” season for 2021/22.
- Thank you to our players, coaches and parents for your flexibility and support, even when you may have been disappointed with an announcement. Eva also expressed her gratitude to all of the volunteers, including the Executive, who still gave many hours of their time and energy despite having a truncated season. There was still much work to do and many decisions to be made, and this group never ceased to impress!



ii) RAB & RC AGM updates:

a. RAB:

- RAB AGM – May 17, 2021 via Zoom. Attended by Eva and a few other Executive members.
 - AA delegate allotment was 3 voting members (1 vote for each 50 registered players or part thereof) – AA has 128 players. Financial implications of a restricted 2020/21 season were presented. RAB is optimistic about Provincials 2022 taking place.

b. RC:

- Eva attended multiple RC Board meetings between Dec 2020 & May 2021.
- RC “Organizational Review”:
 - RC is undergoing an Organizational Review. “Proportional Board Representation” is taking effect this month. This means that AA is required to provide at least 1 member (in addition to AA President) to sit on RC Board as a voting member asap! The volunteer needs to come from membership. Eva has approached some coaches re: possible interest.
 - Positions available: (contact Eva for more info re: each position)
 - 1-year Director terms (Coaching Development, Sport Development, Sponsorship)
 - 2-year Executive terms (VP Technical, VP League, VP Finance)
 - **PLEASE CONSIDER HOW YOU CAN HELP OR WHO YOU KNOW THAT CAN HELP!!**
Please also take this back to your teams to try to solicit a volunteer.
- RC AGM:
 - AGM – May 19, 2021 via Zoom. 2020/21 fiscal year ended in \$17K loss due to no casino. Loss was covered by cash balance. 2021/22 draft budget shows loss of \$26K due to no casino. Loss should be covered by cash balance. 2020/21 Return to Play Committee (RTPC) made all league decisions (i.e., league structure, team sizes, cohorts, session dates, etc.).
 - At this time, RC is optimistic for a “normal” start to 2021/22 season. A new RTPC will be created to prepare for all contingencies.
 - CRC 2022 planning is moving forward.

iii) Pursuit of Excellence (POE) update:

a. Introduction to Pursuit of Excellence (IPOE) Proposal:

- RAB meeting held May 17 via Zoom. Meeting was an information session and discussion regarding the Introduction to Pursuit of Excellence (IPOE) program.
- The concept for Pursuit of Excellence (POE) comes from the recommendations of the 2018 *Competition Review and Restructuring Report*. Ringette Canada’s intention is to formalize the Pursuit of Excellence (POE) program standards and operating/delivery methods across Canada.
- RAB’s suggested rollout of IPOE was immediate (for 2021/22 season). If implemented, impact on AA would be that U14AA would be for 2008 (2nd year U14) athletes only. 2009 athletes (1st year U14) pursuing “Excellence” would play Classic (AKA community) and IPOE would be a supplemental program.

b. IPOE Decision:

- RAB met May 25 and voted to delay implementation of IPOE until 2022/23 season.
- Reasons: 1) Due to COVID, the intended schedule of this program would have been compressed into 7 months. Achievable but no guarantee the program could secure necessary ice. 2) COVID restrictions can possibly still impact activities, which could further compress the schedule.



- In 2022/23 season, IPOE program will be the entry point for the Excellence pathway for all U14 athletes (i.e., there will be no U14AA teams outside of IPOE).
 - The IPOE delay does not necessarily delay the launch of full time POE program for the U16 & U19 levels, which was to follow the IPOE launch.
 - RAB's intention is to run a 1-day "experience camp" in December 2021 (presumably for 2009/2010 players who are interested in IPOE).
- c. AA Committee Members Questions/Feedback:
- Will POE take place of the current AA program?
 - As of the 2022/23 season, the AA program will no longer look the same as it does now. The AA association will have to apply to become a Centre of Excellence (COE). Assuming approval, we would offer a POE program for the U16 and U19 levels only.
 - At the U16 & U19 levels, there will no longer be a limited number of spots that players try-out for (i.e., 39 skaters and 3 goalies at the U16 level). Rather, a U16 or U19 player who are determined to be "ready" by meeting POE program standards would be accepted into the POE program. Program standards for acceptance are still being developed (i.e., player readiness questionnaire, qualitative and quantitative measurements of skating/skills/game play, etc.). The number of POE teams offered at U16 and U19 levels will be dependent on how many players demonstrate readiness and meet standards. There will be tiering (i.e., AA, A) within the POE programs.
 - At the U14 level, there will no longer be a "U14AA" program. Rather, U14 players will register in the Classic program and play on a community team (NW, SCRA, BV) and apply for the IPOE program. IPOE is a supplemental program in addition to their regular association team.
 - Overview of IPOE yearly timeframe – Enrollment happens early in the new year. Assessment occurs around March. Player participates in IPOE camps during off-season. Another IPOE camp/tournament happens around Christmas. In new year, enrollment happens for new participants and competitions begin for current participants (i.e., there will likely be equivalents to the current Provincial and Westerns tournaments).
 - Are the 1st year U14s (2009) able to register for U14AA program for the 2021/22 season?
 - Yes-both 2008 and 2009 are able to register for U14AA for upcoming 2021/22 season. In 2022/23 season, 2009 (then 2nd year U14s) will register for Classic program with their Association and apply for the IPOE program.
 - Leigh (Director-At-Large with RAB) reported that Eva has covered the high points for IPOE. RAB will continue to work on details of the roll-out of IPOE over the next few months including information, timelines, sign-up, etc. In terms of information/etc. for POE, this will depend on how much time is left to dedicate to this program after IPOE.

iv) Team Info for 2021-2022 season:

- The number of teams, team sizes, and composition (skaters/goalies) that AA fields requires RC Board approval. This will be done for the 2021/22 season at the upcoming RC Board meeting.
- Recommendations from AA Executive regarding team formation for 2021/22 season:
 - 3 teams – U14AA, 3 teams – U16AA, 2 teams – U19AA
 - No declaration of team sizes at this time (12-15 skaters, not necessarily the same in each age group). Wait until: 1) we know if we'll have a "normal" start to season, and (2) if the upcoming IPOE program change affects U14AA registration amongst 2009s.
 - Request 2 goalies per U19AA team (Note - this has been requested in past years but never approved by RC)



- Request “first call” on affiliate skaters in divisions with teams of 13 or less.
- Request “first call” on affiliate goaltenders in U16AA & U19AA
- If health restrictions (cohorts) impact our season, affiliates may not be an option for any team/position).

Motion to approve the above recommendations from AA Executive regarding team formation for 2021/22 season made by Melody, seconded by Suzanne – approved.

v) Coaching applications:

- HC & AC applications will be accepted May 28-June 11.
- HC application questions were updated to align with the information the Selection Committee is looking for when interviewing applicants. Updates have been posted on the website.
- Head Coaches will be announced on website in late June/early July.

vi) Volunteer requirements for upcoming season:

- In addition to the one (1) RC Board position that is required asap, AA is also requiring volunteers for critical AA positions for upcoming 2021/22 season: **1) President, 2) Ice Coordinator, 3)...or shadow any of the Board positions.**
 - To find out more information about role description/responsibilities, please reach out to Eva or a Board member. Information can also be found in the AA Operating Policies & Procedures manual – Section 6.
 - Roles can be shared between 2 people if it makes it more manageable! Great opportunity to get involved in the direction and decision-making of the new incoming programs (IPOE/POE). There will be a lot of support from RAB as they want these programs to succeed!
 - Jeff prepared a job description for Ice Scheduler - gives a good overview of the role (contact Secretary for a copy). May be changes to the role with IPOE (i.e., 40% less work due to no U14AA ice requirements – RAB will (initially) be responsible for securing IPOE ice).
- **If you are interested, please reach out to a Board member now (vs. Fall) to express interest and start a conversation!** This is the last off-season for many of the volunteers (i.e., President, Ice Scheduler), which is when all the planning happens for the upcoming season. If you wait to volunteer until the fall, the opportunity for fall preparation knowledge transfer will be gone!
- **Please bring this information back to your teams to look for volunteers to take on these key positions otherwise AA will not be able to operate!**
- Feedback was raised that a barrier to volunteering for the Board was not knowing if your player would make the program year-to-year. Discussion that this barrier may change with the POE changes (i.e., no longer only a select number of spots available, acceptance to POE based on readiness). Traditionally most volunteers are parents of players moving into U16 as they have had 1-2 year in the program to learn how it works – this is not mandatory though!



b) **VP League** (Phil/Melody)

i) General updates (Phil/Melody)

- a. Black Gold League (BGL) AGM – Presented by Melody (slide desk posted for viewing by attendees)
 - Attended BGL AGM on May 18 (U19AA level)
 - Our U19AA teams will continue to participate in BGL for 2021/22 season. If inter-provincial travel is restricted/cohorts in effect, our teams will stay in our region and play Zone 2 U19AA, perhaps U of L Open A too?
 - Central AA will not be fielding any teams in any division. No word yet on AA teams from Red Deer Ringette.

ii) Committee updates:

a. Ice Coordinator (Jeff)

- Jeff is in the midst of planning evaluation ice for the end Aug/Sept. He should know in the next 7-14 days about ice availability for evaluations - just waiting for confirmation from a few arenas (East Twin, Winsport, Great Plains). He was not able to speak with anyone at the City of Calgary re: ice availability due to pandemic office closures.
- Current plan is for 5 ice times for the U14AA and U16AA levels and 4 for the U19AA level. Last year evaluation ice times were 75 min in length (to accommodate for possible COVID eval scenarios). Jeff is looking at booking 2-hour ice slots for upcoming U19AA evals to accommodate anticipated number of registrants. This will mean less ice times so more players assigned per bench, but more scrimmage time to showcase all players/goaltenders.
- Rink updates. Winsport is prioritizing women's hockey and ringette, and Seven Chiefs is adding more ice availability. AA could possibly pick up more ice at these arenas. Max Bell, Rose Kohn, and Jimmie Condon arenas will all be closed until Jan 2022, which will impact fall ice availability for teams. Jimmie Condon is being upgraded to larger ice surface.
- Jeff feels that between the ice gains/losses of the arenas, AA may be looking at a net loss for ice time this fall.
- Calgary Hockey Development Hub approached RC to offer ice, and RC has approached AA to see if there is any interest in using this facility. The facility is a smaller ice surface so would only be available for specialized practices (\$180/hr). Feedback from a few committee members who are coaches is that there would be interest in using it for skill development purposes. Jeff will also reach out to coaches from last year for feedback. Jeff to follow up with RC with decision.

b. Equipment (Cori/Christine)

- Cori has turned over the keys to Christine and has gone through the inventory with her. Christine will organize in late June.

c. Safety (Cheryl/Janel)

- No updates. Everyone has been super safe at home!

d. Jr. Coach Program (Caley)

- The plan for this upcoming season is to bring more structure to the Jr. Coach program. An application form is being developed and will be available soon. Caley will be in communication with U14AA head coaches and Jr. Coach placement will be based on HC interest/needs.

e. Coach Admin & Parent Admin (Carrie/Holly)

- Re: Parent Admin - no updates from Holly.



- Re: Coach Admin:
 - Carrie has reached out to coaches re: expired police checks. Normally these would have been renewed around CRCs.
 - If you know someone who is applying to coach, please have them contact Carrie for a Police Information Check (PIC) letter. Coach Code of Conduct Pledge now has to be submitted with coach application.
- f. Player Development/Dryland (Suzanne)
 - Suzanne wondering if there are surveys or parent feedback to help guide which dryland providers to contact/use. Eva reported a few years back, AA reached out to a couple of different dryland programs and based on this Vergie was booked for U14AA level. Given IPOE changes in 2022/23 season, AA will likely stick with Vergie for this upcoming season. U16/U19 coaches select their own dryland providers. Given the past season, no feedback survey done.
 - Eva has reached out to past dryland committee rep to contact Suzanne - will follow up again to connect them.
 - Suzanne would be interested in working with Carrie re: goalie development - would be great if Carrie/Suzanne could work together.
- g. Goalie Development (Carrie)
 - No updates.
- h. Centre of Excellence-COE (Michelle)
 - No updates other than what was previously reported by Eva. Eva/Board to meet separately with Michelle to bring her up to speed re: May 17 meeting, given that only specific stakeholders were invited to that meeting.
- i. EGRT (Jenny)
 - No updates. EGRT tried to do some social media events to keep out-of-townners engaged but unfortunately was not as successful as they had hoped. Stay tuned for next year!
- j. UAA (Daxton)
 - No updates - not present.
- c) **VP Operations** (Mike M. – not present)
 - i) General updates (Eva for Mike M. – not present)
 - AA Board had been working on updating AA Operating Policies & Procedures. Given the past season, these updates did not end up being brought forth to the Committee for review. This will be done at a future Committee meeting, then will subsequently be brought forward to RC for approval.
 - Summer would normally be a busy time for booking tournaments/hotels. Once AA hears from RAB that tournament sanctioning has been approved for the upcoming season, Wendy (tournament coordinator) will move forward on getting these booked.
 - Evaluations. It is possible we may still encounter COVID restrictions from facility operators for evals/fall season. Last year with restrictions, parents were not allowed into facilities during evals. There was some positive feedback about this change from some members/coaches/evaluators. AA looking for feedback about whether parents should be allowed in the arenas during evals for upcoming season. Please reach out to Mike M. with any feedback.



ii) Committee updates:

a. Registrar (Amanda)

- The following are the registration dates and fees that are now posted on website:
 - Tryout registration opens June 15.
 - Early Bird rate of \$100 applies from June 15 to June 30.
 - Regular rate of \$175 applies from July 1 to August 3
 - Tryout registration closes August 3. Late registrations will not be accepted – no exceptions.
- Registration packages are now set up on-line and ready to go for early bird registration. AA looking to change merchant provider from Chase to Paystone (same merchant used by RAMP).
- Eva reported that Board was looking for input from Committee with regards to the registration fees and dates. Some of the factors considered in setting registration dates/fees were reviewed including: early bird delayed in order to get direction from RAB re: IPOE and time to get website/reg systems; early bird closure date & lower reg fee to encourage players to register early – this helps to plan for evals; Aug 3 deadline allows for planning required last-minute changes for evals). After review, there were no questions or feedback from the Committee members.

b. Communications/Social Media/Webmaster (Michael L.)

- No major updates aside from the usual attempts to break website security.
- There are a lot of time-consuming changes that are happening to the website right now due to COVID-related changes made to it last year. Please ensure that lots of advance notice is given to Michael for any posts/changes needed.

c. Intro to AA (Trevor)

- No updates. The Intro to AA sessions did not happen in Spring 2021 as there was no RAB sanctioning for the event.

d. Ring It On (RIO) (Kevin/Paul/Mike M.)

- Eva reported on behalf of Kevin/Paul/Mike M – not present. Great Plains reached out to AA offering ice for this tournament for Sept 24-26/21 so ice is now booked. AA has until August 23th (30 days in advance) to make a decision as to whether to pay, cancel the whole contract, or cancel only certain blocks of the ice contract. The decision as to whether the tournament will happen depends on RAB sanctioning, but it would need to be scheduled well before Aug 23 if it is happening. Bev said that a budget will need to be put together in order to know what to charge teams if the tournament goes ahead. Referee costs may be higher this upcoming season.

e. Evaluations (Mike M.)

- Eva reported on behalf of Mike M – not present. See above VP Operations general updates re: question of allowing spectators in facilities during evals this season. No other updates.

f. Tournaments/Hotels/Bus (Wendy):

- Eva reported on behalf of Wendy - not present. All associations are still waiting to hear from RAB re: tournament sanctioning for upcoming season. Z2 may be offering the Rusty Ring tournament for the U14AA. Central AA has indicated that they will no longer be organizing the Lacombe tournament. There has been no other discussion from other Associations re: regular tournaments offered.



- g. Teamwear (Jenny)
 - No significant updates. AA cut back on a lot of mandatory gear last year. Jenny wondering about adding in a new optional item this year – would like to support the Ringette Store as possible. Please contact Jenny with any suggestions.
 - Discussion that given this will be the last traditional year for our U14AA program, there may need to be a conversation about what gear should be mandatory. Another consideration is that the AA program logo may be re-branded as soon as 2022/23 season, should AA be accepted as a COE.
 - h. AA Photos (Angie)
 - No updates.
 - i. Manager Mentor (Melody)
 - No updates.
- d) **VP Finance** (Bev)
- i) Financial updates (Bev) *Please note that all information presented below is current as of May 31/21 and is subject to change. Final AA 2020/21 financials will be presented at the next AGM for approval.
 - a. Profit and Loss (slide posted for viewing by attendees)
 - For 2020/21 season, Total Income was \$129, 957.27 and Total Operating Expenses were \$122,697.33. AA did make a net profit of \$7259.94 last season.
 - It is important to note that this profit was not as a result of player registration fees, rather mainly from income from the try-out fees (evals in Aug/Sept). There were a higher number of players than expected that registered for try-outs, resulting in revenues being higher than expenses for evals.
 - b. Balance Sheet (slide posted for viewing by attendees)
 - Review of AA Ringette Calgary Balance Sheet as of May 31/21. Total Assets=\$157,984,88. Total Liabilities=\$96,474.46. Total Equity=\$61,510.42.
 - The breakdown in assets is as follows: \$90,429.37 in Cash/Bank Assets, \$59,150 in Other Current Assets, and \$8,405.51 in Long-term Assets (equipment-shot clocks/jerseys). The \$59,150 in Other Current Assets are GICs that mature 2022 – done to increase the amount of interest gained in a GIC vs. regular bank account. The Casino GIC of \$28,150 is 50% of money earned from the November 2020 casino. This leaves approx \$28,000 that will be used to off-set ice in 2021/22 season. (Note – casino money is allocated over 24 months so that it can be used over two seasons to off-set ice expenses)
 - For liabilities, the Casino - deferred contributions are accounted for in the Business Savings account (\$60,694.43). There are some deferred funds that have been set aside for hosting provincials in the future. These were earned when AA hosted provincials a few years ago. For the Registration fees – deferred contributions, part of the registration fees is allocated to an equipment fund to replace jerseys, shot clocks and other permanent assets. There will need to be a decision made with what to do with the equipment fund moving forward since there will not be a need to replace current AA jerseys with the move to POE. The jerseys and shot clocks will be fully depreciated at the end of next season.
 - c. Player Refunds by Team (slide posted for viewing by attendees)
 - Each player received a refund from AA. Each player may have also received a refund from their team from additional cash calls and/or fundraising that was done on a team level. It is important to know the AA refund portion vs. the team refund portion.



- For the “AA” portion of the refund, there was a “player registration fee” and a “team ice/player” portion of the refund. For the “player registration fee” portion, AA issued refunds to players calculated solely on the registration fee not used for expenses during season. The “team ice/player” portion came from additional money that was collected from teams that was to have been used for ice but was not, due to COVID arena closures/ice time cancellations/etc. A refund package which detailed the AA portion of the refund was sent out to each treasurer to share with families. If you did not receive this, please ask your Team Treasurer.
- For the “team” portion of the refund, please contact your Team Treasurer for details.
- Bev passed along a huge thank you to all the Team Treasurers for their hard work this year. The program would not be a success without them!

ii) Committee updates:

a. Casino (Melissa)

- Update from Bev – Melissa not present. AA was very fortunate to have had the November 2020 casino. AA earned about \$56,000 which is consistent with the amount that has been received in the past. This will help with budgeting in future seasons.

b. Sponsorship (Mike)

- Update from Bev – Mike not present. Thank you to all who participated in the Flames Support for Sport! The return to each team was greater than \$100/player and that money went to off-set each team’s ice expenses. For more detailed information, please see the calculation package sent to Team Treasurers.

c. Fundraising (Vacant-Bev)

- None happened this past season but will be required again for upcoming season.

5) NEW BUSINESS/OTHER:

- Registration fees – Bev reported that in past years, registration fees have ranged between \$1000-\$1200. This was lowered to \$800 last season knowing that the teams were not going to be participating in the tournaments that they would in a regular, non-COVID season. Bev would like to propose that the registration fee be set at \$1000 for the upcoming season, which would include the player fee (approx. \$965) and a credit card fee (approx. \$50/player). If any member has any questions about how registration fees are set, please contact Bev for information.

Motion to approve registration fees to be set at \$1000 for 2021/22 season made by Bev, seconded by Carrie - approved.

6) NEXT MEETING DATE – TBD at this point. The current Committee remains intact until 2021/22 AGM. If needed, a special meeting could be called. AGM date to be set for the fall (normally October).

7) ADJOURNMENT – 8:57 pm

