



AA Ringette Calgary Foundation (2013) Committee Meeting MINUTES

Jan 24, 2024

Stew Fairbanks Room, Flames Community Arena

Attendance: 31 (Quorum = 22)

BOARD	U14AA-1	U14AA-2	U14AA-3	U16AA-1	U16AA-2	U16AA-3	U19AA-1	U19AA-2
Cheryl Barnabe <i>President</i>	Caley Cobbe-Gareau	Shannon Klimpke	Erin Seaman	Cam Heise	Stefanie Bichsel	Charitina Stelbaska	Allan Russel	Charlotte Walker
Sean Jozsa <i>VP Ops</i>	Alex Miller <i>Coach Admin</i>	Dave Patton <i>Goalie Dev.</i>	Michelle Kinasewich	Michelle McMillan	Angela Rudnicki <i>Team Photos</i>	Annette Kolisnyk <i>Ice Sched.</i>	Jenny McConaghy <i>Manager Mentor</i>	Daxton Lesko
Heather Henning <i>VP League</i>	Kristy Assaly <i>Banquet, Tournament</i>		Yvonne Choe		Adrian Mitchell <i>Equipment</i>	Andrea Nicholas	Brad Tilford <i>Intro Skate</i>	Jean Armstrong
Michelle Byers <i>Treasurer</i>	Rachel Meyer <i>Athlete Dev.</i>				Lesley Ruault <i>Parent Admin</i>	Amanda Roach <i>Registrar</i>		
Becky Scheer <i>Secretary</i>					Christine Profili <i>RIO</i>			

- 1) **Call to Order:** 7:01pm
 - Land Acknowledgement read
- 2) **Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda made by Amanda Roach, seconded by Cam Heise. All were in favour. Motion carried.
- 3) **Approval of Minutes from Dec 20, 2023 Meeting:** Motion to approve minutes made by Amanda Roach, seconded by Alan Russell. All were in favour. Motion carried.
- 4) **2023/24 Committee Reports**
 - **President (Cheryl B.)**
 - Tournament attendance: acknowledging our teams that participated in tournaments recently
 - Red Deer
 - U14AA: Blue won silver, Red finished 3rd, White finished 4th
 - U16AA: Peak won gold, Strike won silver
 - Pierrefonds, QC
 - U16AA: Attack finished 3rd in their Round Robin pool
 - EGRT – All 8 of our teams attended the 38th annual Esso Golden Ring Tournament:
 - U14AA: Blue won gold, White placed 3rd in their Round Robin pool, Red placed 4th in their Round Robin pool
 - U16AA: Strike won gold, Attack advanced to semifinals, Peak placed 3rd in their Round Robin pool
 - U19AA: Combat won gold, Crew placed 4th in their Round Robin pool



- Ringette Calgary updates
 - SportzSoft being phased out; all scheduling and ice will be in RAMP next season
 - volunteer needed as Casino Coordinator
- Policy review
 - Updated policies approved by RCal; final step is approval by AA committee
 - **Motion to approve and adopt the updated versions of Policy 3 and Policy 10 as presented made by Sean Jozsa, seconded by Dave Patton. All were in favour. Motion carried.**
 - thanks to Brad K and Davor G for your work on this special project
- RAB updates
 - special meeting on Jan 10 to go through financial status and increasing costs of insurance, litigation; currently using reserve fund to cover the excess but will need to increase fees
 - Safe Sport reporting - "Alias" button has been active all season, 6 submissions so far of which 2 are progressing to next level for investigation; costs ramp up when investigations proceed forward; all the different levels of appeals is also where costs rack up so looking at changing how many levels of appeals are permissible
 - RAB Cup and RAB Challenge registration opens on Feb 1st
- Provincials / WCRCs / CRCs
 - Provincials Host confirmed as Sherwood Park: U14AA will be in Sherwood Park; U16AA will be largely in Spruce Grove and St Albert region, U19AA will be in various locations in the area
 - WCRCs: Alberta has been awarded 4 spots for U14AA; no AA host spot awarded
 - CRCs: Alberta has been awarded 4 spots for U16AA and 4 spots for U19AA; noted that Alberta did not receive the Wild Card draw for an additional spot this year
- U14AA Recruitment Task Force
 - Davor Gugolj has taken a lead on the committee; had a meeting on Jan 11 with approx 15 U14AA representatives attending
 - discussed ideas and initiatives that can happen now and in the future, for example
 - U16AA Attack handed out medals at EGRT and will do a buddy practice with U12A SCRA team
 - U14AA Blue is doing a buddy practice with a U12 BV team
 - U12 NW team looking to buddy practice
 - parents please wear AA branding at rinks; continue positive word-of-mouth
 - looking at hosting a goalie clinic and an Intro to AA skate before end of season
 - Please contact Cheryl or Davor with any other ideas or if you'd like to be involved
- **VP League (Heather H.)**
 - Ice Allocator (Annette / Cristina):
 - all schedules assigned up to Feb 21; reminder that only one ice time during the week leading into provincials so book extra ice if you need it
 - will allocate ice after provincials to teams still playing into March
 - lots of ice in March so please don't purchase additional ice; last allocation is March 28th so will need to purchase your own if need any after that date



- Equipment Coordinator (Adrian):
 - coaches asking for medical supplies to be replenished, and need to replace one kit that was stolen at an away tournament
 - jersey redesign project
 - compiled 5 vendors to approach so far and looking to add 2 more; trying to target local vendors to avoid supply chain issues and service turn-around
 - constructing the working group to review the proposals to short list (board, parent, player, coach representatives)
 - hoping to have samples ready to reveal at banquet
 - note that we're not changing logo, need to stay with red / blue pants colours; just need jerseys refreshed as the current inventory is in terrible condition
- Athlete Development (Rachel): nothing to report
- Goalie Development (Dave):
 - looking to schedule one more session before provincials; securing ice and booking Bobbi
 - possibly bring out U12 prospects and also affiliates, so will need a full ice allocation
- Coach Admin (Alex):
 - coaching CI evaluations are underway to be completed by January 31
- Parent Admin (Lesley): nothing to report
- Manager Mentor (Jenny): nothing to report
- Jr Coach Program (Becky / Jen):
 - mid-season check in was sent out in early Jan; things are going well, no concerns at this time
 - JCs or ACs at home associations - please invite your teams to watch your games
- EGRT Reps (Charlotte / Melody / Rachel / Jocelyn)
 - thank you to our team families for volunteering!
- Safety Lead (Cheryl):
 - attended a meeting with Ringette Canada and the UofC Sport Injury Prevention Research group on data gathered from Calgary studies; were looking at injuries and various issues like helmet fit, usage of mouth guards and shoulder pads
 - ringette has approximately double the number of physical contacts (with players or surfaces such as ice or boards) compared to similar levels of girls hockey
 - noted that shoulder injury rates are 3x compared to girls hockey
 - also noted skate blade incidents
 - Ringette Canada continuing to gather and review data for potential policy changes around shoulder pads and also possibly mouth guards
 - At this time, a Committee member made a motion from the floor to establish an association mandate requiring all AA Calgary players to wear shoulder pads. The committee discussed the motion at length prior to putting it to a vote:
 - Does a formal policy need to be developed? There is a formal process as per AA Ringette Calgary bylaws for any new policy or policy revision. Agreed that an actual policy would be too rigid as any adjustments would need to go to Ringette Calgary approval process.



- Can it be established as an association rule / expectation like other player gear mandates? (ie. only AA stickers on helmets, players must wear AA apparel to games) Agreed this is the better approach, but challenges with enforcing.
 - Discussion around personal choice vs safety issue.
 - Recognized this requirement would be very unpopular with many players, especially the older divisions. Concerns expressed for affecting play of those who haven't worn them for several years.
 - Members agreed that they want their player to wear shoulder pads but they get push back since they are not required equipment. Would be easier if it was an association expectation.
 - Point made that mandating safety equipment is not a player decision. Safety outweighs concerns that they are "too hot" or "too bulky".
 - What about players who are adult aged (18, 19 year olds)? They are playing in minor ringette, not Adult open ringette. Other safety gear is required regardless of age such as helmet cages, neck guards, girdles. Any requirement should apply equally to all.
 - Discussion around roll out.
 - Phase in with U14 and follow them up as they move through the divisions? Shoulder pads are already widely used in U14AA, and a few used in U16AA.
 - Data shows injuries more prevalent in U19. (*Data slides from UofC have been requested to provide background for the Committee.*)
 - Will make it harder to get buy-in from players if it doesn't apply to everyone. Most fair approach is to require for all.
 - Agreed it should not be effective until next season starting at August tryouts.
 - Noted that many other AA associations in Alberta have made shoulder pads required or strongly recommended (ie. Sherwood Park, Spruce Grove, Zone 2, Central Alberta)
 - Noted that shoulder pads may be required in Ontario (*unconfirmed*), so teams travelling there should have them in their gear bags just in case the refs enforce
 - Opportunity for dissident opinions provided, none stated.
 - **Motion to mandate the wearing of shoulder pads / protectors for all U14-U19 aged AA Ringette Calgary players effective August 2024 made by Christine Profili, seconded by Adrian Mitchell. Vote: 2 opposed, 0 abstained, 28 in favour. Motion carried.**
 - The discussion will continue at the next meeting to further develop details, expand on feedback from the membership, and amend as needed to build on this new mandate.
- **VP Operations (Aaron / Sean)**
 - Registrar (Amanda): nothing to report
 - Webmaster (Brad M):
 - managers please send photos of your tournament successes for our website history
 - Social Media (Regan M): nothing to report
 - Teamwear / Logo Coordinator (Jenny / Jocelyn):
 - update may be needed for team wear once the jersey redesign is completed



- UAA Coordinator (Paul W): nothing to report
- Team Photo Coordinator (Angela): nothing to report
- Tournament Coordinator (Kristy): nothing to report
- Banquet Coordinator (Kristy):
 - capacity is 360 people which would allow for our players + 2 parents; likely not affiliates
 - will likely need 2-3 volunteers per team
 - U19s managers: let Kristy know what players are retiring this season so they can be honoured
- Awards Coordinator (Michelle C): nothing to report
- Intro to AA Spring Skate Coordinator (Brad T): nothing to report
- RIO Coordinator (Christine P / Sarah B): nothing to report
- **VP Finance** (Michelle R) - no report
- **Treasurer** (Michelle B)
 - Budget and Team Costs
 - will send out update to teams, not much new info from last meeting
 - AGLC reports and use of proceeds: if you applied as a team then you need to do that reporting
 - If you are not using the team bank account, please keep a minimal balance to cover bank fees
 - looking to move to a new bank in March
 - should we raise fees to help reduce the team cost confusion? - this will be a discussion in April at our budget meeting
 - reminder that there will be a large ice cost in March for any teams after provincials
 - what happens if only 3 teams are playing into March, do all 8 of the teams still help cover that cost? - no, only teams that are playing will be allocated and responsible for the costs
 - If your teams are trading ice, please let the ice allocator know so we can reconcile the costs
 - Don't trade your ice with teams outside our association; needs to go back to ice allocators
- **Secretary** (Becky S) - nothing to report
- **RATH Rep** (Regan M) – nothing to report
- **RAB Rep** (Brandon C) – nothing to report

5) **New Business / Other**

6) **Next Meeting Date:** Feb 28, 2024 at 7pm at FCA Stew Fairbanks

7) **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Heather Henning, seconded by Alex Miller. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

