



## Indus Ringette Association, Monthly Board Meeting

Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 6:30pm at Indus Rec Centre

**Topic:** May 2026 IRA Board Meeting

**Time:** May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026 06:30 PM MST

**Where:** Indus Rec Centre, Meeting Room

### 1. Welcome & Introductions

6:32pm meeting started, with a round table of introductions.

### 2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Melissa Connelly motioned to accept the meeting minutes as presented, Cindy Medernach seconded.

Meeting minutes were approved as presented.

### 3. Coach & Player Development Update

A presentation was provided by Nelson from Ballistic Goaltending. He explained the history of BIG, his staff, offerings of camps, on-ice training, classroom training, dryland, goalie mentorship and chats led by Pete Fry, and coach/player drill and practice plan packages.

Current offerings: Current summer camp offerings are mainly in July are are booking up quickly with some space in U10, U16, U19 available. There is an upcoming gear fitting session with Adrenalin on July 18<sup>th</sup>, and pre-conditioning goalie training to be offered August 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. Goalie training for the 2026-27 season is already booking up as well with many Calgary and Zone2 teams. Cost is \$90/hr + \$25 extra per each goalie; \$150/hr for group goalie training, \$150/hr for group classroom training, \$150/hr for dryland. Nelson will send details on each offering along with additional pricing.

Action: Tamara/Kayce – Work with Kyle to find ice times for goalie training. Reach out to Goalie Development @ Strathmore (Allie Egen). Prepare a detailed development plan with schedule, cost, and offering type for goalies, as well as team development. Determine what the charge would be to players for various development offerings, if any. Present this plan at the next meeting.

Action: Tamara/Kayce – add to the coach application for late summer/September that Indus intends to staff a goalie coach per team. Determine how we could formally develop junior coaches to ensure longevity in our coaching staff.

#### **4. President's Report**

Updates from the recent CRL Monthly and RAB AGM meetings:

Chinook Ringette League is looking to separate from Calgary Ringette League. They would create separate bylaws and policies, budgets. IRA will need to know the timing and impacts of this change; for example, how will this impact ice scheduling and ref assignments.

The RAB tiering committee presented data analytics on trends of competitiveness over the last 3 years by each tier in U16 and U19. Generally, most tiers have improved. They also evaluated the addition of a U19C division for next season but were not ready to make that recommendation at this time (expect that a C division will not be added). They are suggesting players who want less of a commitment choose to join the Flex program which is more of a shinny style program. Affiliation policies are being looked at and may be adjusted for next season to ensure they are only used to create viable teams and not to gain extra development.

RAB representative discussed the challenges of tiering and evaluating for the U10 division, and that age, skill, and other factors should all be considered. There was also a discussion about half ice vs. full ice for evaluations with a recommendation to use half ice. Indus has asked for a formal evaluations criterion to be published but no commitment has been given at this time.

Action: An Indus sub-committee will be stood up to develop a detailed and measurable rubric and procedure for evaluating the U10 age group. Participants for this committee include Adrian Kubitza (chair), Chelsea Burnett, Cindy Medernach, Tamara Gehring, Jason Green, Kristin Nelson, Kyle McKellar. The committee will take into consideration the survey feedback gathered from Jason Green, as well as the Step2 half ice to full ice change that occurs mid-season, as well as our ability to make viable teams based on projected registration numbers. The draft evaluations procedure is to be presented at the next meeting.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report**

Scott has finalized the Financial Statements from last year, which will be included in the posted AGM minutes. IRA's deficit was (\$18,000) last year, which looks to be the trend year over year with similar deficits in 2023/24 and 2024/25. To offset rising costs, IRA needs to look at increasing fundraising.

Treasury activities – balances in bank accounts: \$50K main account, \$13K RBC account, \$10K AGLC under \$20K, TOTM currently at \$45K but payments need to be made.

Action: Cathy Niegarth (fundraising coordinator) will investigate applying for a Casino as a fundraising opportunity.

Action: Scott (treasurer) to request the final payment from Strathmore to settle last season's evaluations costs (\$3K outstanding owed to Indus)

Action: Rob (registrar) will add volunteer bonds to registration in RAMP for next year for the families who did not complete their hours, as well as any other outstanding fees.

Action: Scott will track the incoming volunteer bond income for next season to use it to fund player development and other opportunities.

## **6. Evaluations Coordinator Update**

It was voted in the AGM that we will continue using a 3<sup>rd</sup> party for evaluations for all RISE teams. Sports Evaluations wants a 3-year contract.

Changes to this year's evaluations: 1.) Responsibilities and decision-making processes need to be clarified for all evaluations committee members for this season to avoid confusion. 2.) Volunteer shifts need to be created in advance with clear direction to parents on what sessions they cannot attend (ie: cannot be on the bench with your child, cannot be logging in players in your age division). 3.) Evaluations need to be completed quicker this season to get our tournament requests in by the new Sept 20<sup>th</sup> deadline as per RAB.

Action: RISE committee to discuss whether to continue with Sports Evaluations and a 3 year contract or to use a different 3<sup>rd</sup> party. Decision to be made before evaluations open on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Action: Adrian (eval coordinator) to develop detailed evaluations plan for next season. Present this plan at the next meeting.

Action: Trevor (VP) to share with Melissa (Volunteer coordinator) how to create volunteer signup sheets through RAMP. Each event coordinator (evaluations, tournaments, other competitions, come try ringette, pub night, etc.) are to create these shifts through RAMP this year for ease of tracking. This will also serve as a record for parents to look up their volunteer commitments.

## **7. Ice Scheduler Update**

Suggestion for improvement this season is to have 1 source of truth for the entire RISE (and perhaps U10 in both associations as well) schedule. There were too many sources and lack of timely updates between websites, RAMP, spreadsheets, etc. last year.

Action: Kyle (ice scheduler) to look at a way to publish the entire schedule on both IRA and SMRA websites which would be in real time for any changes. This could potentially be a google sheet, google calendar or other form.

#### **8. Referee – in – Chief Update**

Marnie is working on a summary of games reffed by each ref last season, as well as a projection of what level they would be reffing for 2026/27. She will also keep the board apprised of upcoming referee courses offered in August/September.

#### **9. Equipment Coordinator update**

Cindy has received almost everyone's returned equipment, there are just a couple of items outstanding.

Action: Cindy will purchase rings from 'New to Me' sports and make sure they are appropriate quality (not Taiwanese brand). She will also look at what needs to be stocked in the first aid kits and replenish.

Action: Trevor (VP) will donate ice packs for all teams for next season (thank you!)

#### **10. Grants & Fundraising Update**

Waiting on updates from applications, many grants closed in April.

#### **11. Coaches Game and Year-End Party Update**

The coaches' game made \$587, offset by the SMRA windup cost of \$328 and the pins and banner cost of \$160 (net \$99 income). Lots of fun was had at the coaches game with the kids enjoying bossing their coaches around.

Recommendations for improvements for next season:

- Look at hosting a banquet to have time to visit with families and celebrate players. Options are to host an Indus team only banquet or jointly host with Strathmore but split into 2 banquets – one for younger players and one for older players, targeted to what they enjoy.
- Purchase fabric banners instead of the paper ones
- Already have extra '10 year' IRA pins for next season's wrap up
- Track that the same person doesn't get the 'full circle' award more than once
- Look to host the coaches' game as a mid-season fundraiser instead
- Pick a date far in advance and include all levels of teams.
- Ensure that everyone on the ice has proper equipment and are properly insured as its not a RAB sanctioned event.

## **12. Come Try Ringette Update**

The Come Try Ringette event will be hosted on June 20<sup>th</sup> 2-3pm at CRCA Red Rink.

Laura also plans to attend the GO Girl event in Chestermere to advertise Ringette.

It is recommended to investigate IRA offering Spring Ringette, as well as the Learn to Play program which could be covered through RAB grants. There is an opportunity for junior coaches / older players to run these programs.

Action: Laura (CTR Coordinator from last season) will get RAB sanctioning with QR code and will advertise in the communities and will put out a volunteer shift sheet to get help on and off the ice.

Action: Need the Come Try Ringette Coordinator role to be filled! Suggestions to have Alyssa or Kristin take this position again.

Action: Kyle (ice scheduler) to look at CRCA ice availability for this spring/summer to see if there's an opportunity to host the learn to play program.

## **13. Registrar update**

Registration will open June 1<sup>st</sup>. It will be open until August 31<sup>st</sup> as per our policies & procedures.

There are concerns with the number of U19 players across both Indus and Strathmore and if teams will be oversized. Need to look at player projections to determine next steps (waitlist, limit team size, etc.)

A vote was taken on whether to include a \$100 cash call in the U10 registration fee. 8 voted against it, 4 voted for it. Cash call will not be included this season; teams can handle their own fundraising/ cash calls.

Action: RISE committee to discuss alignment with Strathmore on registration cutoff dates.

Action: IRA and SMRA presidents to meet with CRCA / BVAS about their fee requirements and get a decision on how to proceed. Needs to be done before we open registration.

Action: Rob (registrar) to put in a social media disclaimer, and a photo approval disclaimer in the registration this season. Will also investigate adding medical information into the registration form.

Action: Holly (secretary) will send Rob a comparison of 'other' costs for both Indus and Strathmore to be communicated to registrants so there are no surprises when players are moved between associations to form RISE teams. Players are to follow the requirements of their team's host association.

## **14. Tournament update**

Ringette Alberta is changing how all teams across the province apply for tournaments, to make tourney allocations and travel equitable for all. Tournament hosts are to apply for sanctioning in August at the latest with estimated teams to be hosted (use tiering committee feedback to determine this). Host are not to include divisions in their tournaments that they do not have in their association. Team declarations must be in to RAB by Sept 19<sup>th</sup>, and tournament applications are to be submitted by Sept 20<sup>th</sup>. The intention is that each team rank the tourneys they would like to attend, and will be assigned 1 home, 1 away, and 1 local. Additional spots may be opened for more tournaments to attend should there be room. The process for accepting or applying for out of province tournaments is still TBD. Discussed if Ice Angels could be extended to include all Indus teams and be revamped to also be a memorial tournament in Taya Arnold's honour.

Action: Need a Tournament Coordinator ASAP!!

Action: RISE committee to determine what hosted teams each association would take this year based on projected registration numbers, so we can plan for which association can include which teams in their home tournaments.

Action: Kyle (ice scheduler) to determine if Indus could host all of our home teams during the Ice Angels weekend, and what ice would be required to do so; this would mean Strathmore wouldn't have to host the Indus based teams like they did last year which was a struggle to get that much ice. Holly to send estimated ice requirements based on initial projections.

## **15. RISE Committees**

Danny (past president) is stepping down from the RISE committee. Holly (secretary) volunteered to be a new member on the RISE committee. Look to open the meetings to all board committee volunteer positions to attend and will publish meeting minutes to our members.

## **16. Policy update meeting**

Will host a policy review meeting later in the summer after receiving the Chinook league and U10 evaluations committee update. Looking to have new policies drafted to present in a special meeting in September for a vote by all members.

## **17. Positions hand over**

Please complete position handovers and training. All '[xxxx@indusringette.ca](mailto:xxxx@indusringette.ca)' email addresses should be reassigned with updated passwords to the new role owner. Holly will send out a form for documenting your position responsibilities, tasks, and deadlines.

**9:22pm Meeting Adjourned.**