



Black Gold League – Start Up Meeting
Thursday, August 22, 2023 @ 7:00pm
Online Meeting

1.0 Call to Order

7:03pm

2.0 Introduction & Additions to the Agenda

Chelsea Cameron (BGL)	Wayne Martin (BGL)	Tony Norrad (BGL)	Aaron Bomke (SGRA)	Amanda Forster (SPRA)
Amanda Courture (HRA)	Amy Shipley (LRA)	Brad Murk (SARA)	Colleen Caldwell (SARA)	Gord McQueen (EFCLRA)
Brad Jorgensen (CAS)	Janice Tymko (PRA)	Jay Adamson (CAS)	Jessican Winship (SPRA)	Karen Garlitos (ERC)
Laurelle Loe (SARA)	Lori Unger (LRA)	Michael Greenwood (FSRA)	Mike Baker (LRA)	Nancy Morin (LRA)
Rob Peirson (BGL)	Rob Sigsworth (HRA)	Sandra Fenton (BGL)	Shauna Gryzb (RDR)	Jody Cherdarchuk (ERC)
Lee Shalapay (BGL)	Matt Hunter (SGRA)	Sylvie Dubois (BGL)	Melissa Trider (DVRA)	Sara Emmonds (DVRA)
Heather Henning (CGY AA)	Liz Herbert (ERC)			

No additions to the agenda.

Chelsea Cameron (BGL) motions to adopt agenda, Amy Shipley (LRA) seconds. Motion carried.

3.0 Introduction of BGL Executive and Association Representatives

There was no turnover in the executive from last season.

4.0 Financial

Not a lot to report. Little financial activity over the summer.

Mailed out cheques to close out 2022/23 fiscal year. Some associations did receive large cheques which included the retainers and reimbursement for ref costs as discussed at the

AGM in May.

Once declaration meeting is finished, I will be sending out invoices to cover ref retainers and team league fees for 2023/24. There are no anticipated fee changes for this season as noted at the BGL.

****Note: There will be an additional ~\$40 a team to cover the administration of session 3.**

BGL Reps – if there are any changes in the treasurer role within your association, please ensure the new contact information is provided.

5.0 Information for Ice Allocators & Critical Dates – Sandra

Critical dates were set at the AGM in May, and shared with BGL reps. Please ensure these dates are shared with your association board members.

There was a request for blackouts at the team level at AGM, which has been added to the critical dates. C3 now includes association and team blackouts and has been moved forward 1 week.

Deadline for application to host U10/12 (December 15) has now been added after asking for this at the AGM. This will help award early enough for associations to plan for the event.

Christmas break request @ AGM: Currently Dec 22nd – Jan 5th; is the request to have three weekends off and go until Jan 7th? There are some issues with removing the 3rd weekend re: U16/19A & 14AA. These divisions need to be completed by certain dates to follow proper timelines for sessions 2 & 3, and provincials.

- **Teams could use their blackout request to skip this weekend.**
- **For AWG players, RAB has already requested that this weekend be blacked out as it is a training weekend.**
- **RDR tournament also that weekend?**

Based on feedback, Sandra will schedule that weekend and teams can use blackout request to avoid it if they don't want to play.

There will be 3 blackouts, AA can use theirs at any time, all others have one in session 1 and two in session 2.

6.0 BGL Website and Statistic entry – Lee

Will be using electronic game sheets. Game sheets are ringette specific. We do have requests to add some additional information (goalie information, and time outs, etc.) placed with RAMP – they are working on it.

U16AA/19AA doesn't reflect 4 periods, which meant 4th period needed to be put under OT. Lee will follow up and ask if this can be implemented.

Visiting team will verify the game sheet, same process as last year.

The website currently has the instructions posted for electronic game sheets to

familiarize your association membership with.

BGL Responses for association contact information has passed with only 50% of associations providing the required information – Deadline was August 1st. I've assumed that because it hasn't been updated, that means that it hasn't changed.

Wayne – please ensure BGL Reps and Ice Allocator information is updated to provide current information for the season. Form to fill out is on the website under the critical dates tab.

Lee has been working with RAB and RAMP to ensure electronic game sheets are effective and ready to go for league play.

Game sheet cost - \$500 flat rate for remainder of season last year. This year is \$1000, with no limit on game sheets. Will be cheaper than paper sheets and will be covered by BGL and no. We can use them for exhibitions and tournaments if want.

RAMP is working on tournament software. If not fully set up by your tournament, they could grant associations 'league' status to have access to the additional tools for their tournament.

To ice allocators: it is very important that when ice is submitted, allocators are using the appropriate arena names/codes that RAMP uses (which have been sent out). This will help with back-end processes. If we use the wrong code, it will create issues from schedules to ref assignments. Very important that this information is passed along.

Colleen – rough idea about electronic game sheets (turkey ring). We're using team snap unless you have any idea if we should be using RAMP instead. Let me know – Lee will look into.

Wayne – not forcing to use RAMP tournament either btw. Associations can choose to use platform of their choice.

7.0 Referee-In-Chief – Sylvie

Greater Edmonton area (FT. SASK, BMT, SHP, SGR, LED) are using RAMP, and assume SARA will join next year. Not fully integrated for reffing yet as there are some issues with mileage that has to be sorted out.

If REF RAMP goes sideways, we have ARBITER membership until February and we will move back if we need to.

Will be a trial year, so please be cognizant of potential issues.

Rate increase: Mileage is staying the same. Round trip cap has been extended (from 10km to 18km roundtrip) which will help us align with the Chinook league. Most associations will see a 2-7% increase. Retainers are not changing – because mileage threshold is increasing it will offset the game rate increase.

Not a rule change (2019-2021 are still valid). Lots of changes coming down from Ringette Canada but nothing that effects associations, just officials.

Will be hosting an intro to rules, I will facilitate 2 session to U12/14 coaching staff. Hoping to have it in person and virtual. Will discuss rules and penalty calls, and dealing with perceptions and avoiding confrontation with new and old officials. Also set expectations for behavior on both sides.

½ ice officials – RAB is going to pilot a program that RAB runs. (means no cost to AB associations). Geared to 12-13 years, level 0. Will be for all ½ ice games. Training isn't quite available, and logistics still need to be sorted out.

Ref would wear a pinny only – facilitate minor infractions, goals, violations, and game start. Hopefully integrate this program (1st stripes) in session 2 this season. Due to changes and the new platform introduction, we wouldn't have anyone available until session 2 to support these new potential refs.

Amy Shipley – are all coaches expected to attend this rule meeting. Sylvie – no only if they are interested.

Wayne – ref responses? Sylvie – 50% response rate last year, in the first week this season we have 50%, and now we are going to be in around 85-90% return rate for officials this year, which is fantastic!

Laurelle Loe (SARA) – do we need to be in BGL to use level 0 officials. Sylvie – our plan was to use on ice officials on S2 games not S1. Plus, RAB's plan is that there is the never anyone alone policy so the refs would need a mentor on the ice as well.

Amanda Forster (SPRA) – exhibition games and availability re: refs. Sylvie – should follow the same format as last year as that worked well. Lee and Christine can work towards ensuring games are loaded into RAMP for ref assigning as well.

8.0 BGL Operations Manual – changes for 2023/2024

8.1 Number of league games

Some divisions wanted fewer games, and some wanted more (U19B & AA). Several discussions were had between AGM and this meeting to flesh out who wants more games, or less, and how that will impact the coming season.

We do review LTAD to establish game number limits. We have made some changes over the years but try to follow LTAD guidelines.

Based on the survey sent out, there were no indications that anyone wanted less games. The number of games will remain at 18 for U19B.

There was mixed feedback for AA teams and game numbers; however, the majority wanted an increase in number of games. AA will be the most impacted by increasing the number of games by 2 per team (ice, refs, schedule, and provincials). Recommendation based on feedback is to increase the number of games from 14 to 16 for this season.

Jody Cherdarchuk (ERC) will there be an opportunity to provide feedback on the number of games or has this been decided? Wayne – operational changes will be finalized in September. I'm fine taking this back to your association to get further feedback. If any associations are reconsidering, please let us know in advance of the September meeting.

Sandra – Ice allocators need to submit ice on Sept 1st. If you hand in a lot of ice, the number of games will not impact your associations, but if you don't submit enough ice then the increase in games will be something you have to discuss prior to ice submission. This will lead to use of neutral ice if additional games means your short ice.

8.2 Inclusion of U16C level

As a reminder - RAB is launching this level this year. Will be incorporated into the operation manual. Will operate similar format to 16B.

8.3 Minor officials to be provided by both team: home (time clock, game sheet) and away (shot clock, penalty box) teams

Decided at the AGM. We also discussed that we would reduce the number from 5 to 4. Helps with number of people in smaller size arenas.

8.4 Travel

Sandra – making sure we're all on the same page.

Double headers are for FTMC and HIN. Play the same team twice typically when you head there; when they come to YEG area, they play two different teams. This is for ranking purposes to ensure that all teams play a variety of each other.

19AA – CGY and Zone 2 will play two games. They do play two different teams. (Issues as the second team is fresh, versus a true double header.) Didn't feel that any changes were needed to this process. Ice slots can also be challenging with large breaks and then leaving YEG or CGY late. Will be encouraging ice allocators to provide better ice options to try alleviating this issue.

There was a request from RDR and LAC that when they travel to YEG that they would play two games. We do need to make sure that association members are aware of this request so no surprises. We can accommodate this request if these associations want to move to this format.

8.5 Automatic suspension/fines/penalties

Rob has been working on this to ensure better coverage for players with excess penalty minutes. Will be some changes to the operational manual to ensure issues that showed up last season don't arise this season.

9.0 2022/2023 Season Overview

9.1 Estimate of # of Teams and Divisions

We hosted 149 teams last season.

Estimate of 151 teams this season.

Black Gold League																		
2023-24 Team Estimates																		
	U10			U12			U14				U16				U19			Total
	S1	S2	S3	C	B	A	C	B	A	AA	C	B	A	AA	B	A	AA	
BMT	1	1	1		1			1	1			1	1		1	1		10
CEN										1				1				2
CGY																	2	2
DVY		1						1										2
EDM	2	3	1	2	1	1	2	1	1		2	1	1		1	1		20
ERC										1				1			1	3
FMC				1	1		1				1							4
FSK	2	2	2		1	1		1				1	1					11
HIN		2			1						1							4
LAC			1		2			2			1	1			1			8
LED	1	1			1			1					1					5
PEM	1	1			1			1				1			1			6
RDR			1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1			1	1		11
SGV	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1		1	1	17
SPK	4	4	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	1		2	1	1	2	1	1	27
STA			2	2	3	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	18
ZZ																	1	1
	12	17	11	9	16	6	7	12	7	5	6	10	7	5	8	6	7	151
Total		40			31			31				28			21			

10.0 Association Round Table

BMT – Not in attendance.

CEN – CAS is hosting a 3 on 3 tournament on December 27 and 28. Info on our association website. We host it in the Blackfalds arenas. It has been a really fun tournament the last couple of years. We are looking to add U10 teams if any are interested.

CGY – Nothing.

DVY – Nothing.

EFRC – Silver Ring Nov 24-26, AC Jan 19-21st.

ERC – Nothing.

FSK – JRC under renovation. Limited spectator availability. Split up tournament 1st weekend December, Jamboree will be later in Jan/Feb.

HIN – nothing.

LAC – nothing.

LED – Wild Thing tournament Jan 12-14.

PEM – Nothing.

RDR – nothing.

SGRA – nothing.

SPRK – Platinum ring Nov 9-12.

SARA –Turkey Oct 6-9, reg opens just after the long weekend.

11.0 Next Meeting: Team Declarations - Tuesday, September 26, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m., Zoom

Wayne will need any team looking to declare U14AA and below outside of their UAA score to contact him prior so team can be discussed prior to the declaration meeting.

Will review and adopt changes of the operation manual at the declaration meeting.

Championship banner and how we pick the winner will also be discussed at this meeting (leftover AGM issue).

Adjourned: 8:44pm

DRAFT