



Forest Ringette Association
Annual General Meeting
November 23, 2020
President's Address

Dear Members,

As our 2019-20 season of ringette came to a close in a manner that I am sure nobody will ever forget and although the end was abrupt and a major disappointment to many, I take comfort in knowing that our ringette family members followed government regulations and took the necessary precautions to protect themselves and remain safe.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who helped make last season a success! Without a passionate, energetic and dedicated team of volunteers it would be impossible for our association to accomplish providing the positive experience's, skills development and leadership opportunities.

In reflecting on the past season, the Forest Ringette Association had its greatest increase in registration as we introduced the 18+ tournament team division which saw great interest as we welcomed new players to the sport as well as some returning forest alumni. It truly was entertaining and a privilege to watch each of these teams play and represent Forest Extreme Ringette as well as their commitment to the sport and encouraging our younger players as positive role models.

Although our season ended early, our regional and provincial teams enjoyed many accomplishments. Each player enjoyed the rewards of their success, advanced their on and off ice skills and continued to experience the fun of ringette. I would like to extend my congratulations on behalf of the association to last seasons U14A and U16A teams for their achievement of GLRL West Division Winners. I would also like to take a moment and congratulate Leah Koolen on being a recipient of the Gord Bell and Jackie Lajeunesse Scholarship Awards and acknowledge her demonstrated commitment to ringette as a player, coach and a referee. On behalf of the association we wish you all the best and success in your future endeavours.

2019/20 also saw the inauguration of 2 goalie clinics in support of the development of our young athletes and coaches. I would like to thank Dewayne Roberts and Aaron Lucas for their time and efforts. Forest Ringette is truly fortunate to be in a position to leverage the strengths of these individuals.

Our sponsorship efforts were ignited by fresh energy and a passionate love of the community and sport. Efforts to engage with our community and neighbors to collaborate on branding, promotions and ringette awareness were outstanding and reached an all time high. With this community support the FRA was able to make significant investments in uniform and equipment replacement. We continue to create a buzz on social media and with our website.



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At the board level, our efforts continue to primarily focus on the operations of the association. Each year we manage to move the governance needle forward. To help continue to increase transparency of our processes and improve our governance of the association I see the following goals for Forest Ringette.

1. Continued commitment to build teams that offer a balance and best possible playing environments for all to enjoy.
2. Continued fostering sport growth of players, referees and coaches through recruitment, development and retainment.
3. Reduce volunteer strain through increase of volunteerism
4. Long Term Strategic Plan defining the associations long term goals

I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who stepped up to volunteer their time, skills and passion to lead and drive our association to provide a sport that our players will love – for life!

Yours Truly,
Sean Smith
President, Forest Ringette