

GAARA Annual General Meeting
April 4, 2023
Nepean Sportsplex

Executive Member	Attendance
Nanci Laroche, <i>President</i>	✓
Brenda Clarke, <i>Vice President</i>	✓
Nigel Nobel-Hearle, <i>Referee-in-Chief</i>	✓
Nancy Durning, <i>Registrar</i>	✓
Betty Shields, <i>Treasurer</i>	✓
Nicole Henry, <i>Secretary</i>	✓
Caryn McKee, <i>Coaching Coordinator</i>	✓
Steve Welch, <i>A Division Rep, Games & Tournaments</i>	✓
Tracey McDonald, <i>BB Division Rep</i>	✓
Tracy Robillard, <i>C/Dev Division Rep</i>	✓
Jody MacInnis, <i>Stats A</i>	
Gabrielle Rodrigue, <i>Stats BB, COVID Safety Leader & RAMP Support Rep</i>	✓
Sean Simons, <i>Stats B</i>	
Michelle Chartrand, <i>Stats C</i>	
Lori Adkin, <i>Stats Dev</i>	
Elysia Ford, <i>Web Administrator & Tournament Director</i>	✓
Dave Berthelot, <i>Adult Development Coordinator</i>	✓

Division	Teams Present	Teams Absent
A	Carleton University Ravens, Houlegans, Nepean Blue Ravens, Nutri-lawn Panthers, Ottawa Avalanche, Ottawa Blizzard, Rink Rats, The Ice, Tux Express, West Ottawa A	Gatineau Snacks
BB	Diablos, Dino-Mights, Falcons, Ice Queens, iFathom Mischief, Ottawa Blast, Ottawa Capitals, Ottawa Storm, Ringers, South Side Snipers, Vortex BB, West Ottawa BB	Gatineau
B	Devils, Hot Shots, Houle Stars, Jaguars, Les Girls, L'il Devils, Metcalfe, Falcons, Vanier Rebels, Vortex B1, Vortex B2, West Carleton 7, West Carleton Tigers, West Ottawa B, Young Guns	
C	Blue Storm, East End Ringers, Goulbourn Shoot-hers, Hot Flashes, Ottawa Eclipse, SNAP	
DEV	Blue Lightning, Blue Thunder, Falcon A535, Glori, Mid Ice Crisis, Goldiggers, Orleans Eastenders, Ottawa Rookies	Dragonettes

Meeting was called to order by Nanci at 7:07 PM

1. Adoption of Agenda: No additions

2. Minutes from the September 2022 General Meeting

- No errors, omissions, questions or concerns regarding the minutes. Move to accept: Gaby Rodrigue, seconded by Sarah (Rebels). None abstaining. Motion carried, all approved.

3. Presidents Report - Provided by Nanci

- Thank you for an excellent season! It was a year of growth for the association, expanding from 45 to 52 teams. This proved challenging for scheduling, officiating etc. we thank you for your patience.
- Thank you for your patience with RAMP. Hopefully some of the more significant issues will be fixed for next season. Competitions has submitted a request to RAMP to address these issues.
- Cheat sheet for teams - the executive plans to provide a one-page cheat sheet for teams with regards to RAMP etc. at the September GM meeting.

4. Vice President's Report - Brenda

- Player evaluations were challenging this year.
 - Note to teams - Please provide as much information as possible to ensure that players are playing at the appropriate level.
 - Executive is implementing a player evaluation committee for next season. The form will be updated.
 - Evaluations submitted for next season will be reviewed by the player evaluation committee by the end of June. Gatineau teams - the exec will be meeting with the Gatineau exec in the coming months to discuss next season and review this season. Gatineau will have more thorough evaluations next year.

5. Treasurer's Report - Betty

- Report was distributed earlier today to all teams via email (April 4, 2023)
- Projects net revenue is approximately \$3100, which is on target.
- Significant increase in officiating costs due to the increase in the official fees. There will be another \$3 increase in September and their travel will be officially changed this fall.
- Ringette Ontario covered the RAMP gamesheet code (\$1.50 per game) this past season. GAARA may have to take on this cost next season as RO has not stated if they will continue to cover it - team fees would increase as a result.

6. Registrar's Report - Nancy

- 768 players registered in GAARA this year.
- Registration for next season:
 - A preregistration form will be added to the website indicating intent for next season
 - All teams must register by mid-August, following which individual players can register - dates will be emailed to the teams ASAP.
- Team RO fees will be paid to the treasurer via the team representative. RO will invoice the association twice a year. Team calculator will be updated.
- Spares pay the RO fee and then \$25 to be registered as a spare. Teams can have up to 22 players on their roster.

7. Coaching Coordinator Report - Caryn

- Police checks are no longer required
- Courses are running starting the end of April. Courses will be posted on the website.

8. Referee-in-chief Report - Nigel

- Recruitment went well this year - 12 new referees.
- Email Nigel if you want to join. Referees will ref GAARA and eastern region games.
- No formal complaints from the refs this year.
- Reminder to teams - Referees deserve respect on the ice. Referees will not change their call on a penalty or goal.

9. Division Reps

- General Info for all teams:
 - If teams need rings please let Steve know - \$7.75 plus tax/ring which may be reduced if the order is high enough.
 - Reminder regarding injury reports - reports need to be submitted within the time limit (within 10 days of the incident) to ensure that the file is opened and insurance can cover it. Receipts for physio etc. are submitted AFTER reporting the incident. Inform division representatives of the incident.
 - Encourage new players to join as a spare if they cannot find a team.
- A Division (Steve):
 - Provincials next season will not be all inclusive, may return to having prelims (7-10 teams max). Provincials could include central and northeast regions. More information will be forwarded when available.
- BB Division (Tracey):
 - No division specific updates
- C Division (Tracy):
 - Main challenge is the lack of teams.
- DEV Division (Tracy):
 - Three new teams this year, which was challenging due to differences in levels of play.

- Next Season:
 - Once intent is received the DEV teams will be contacted regarding a meeting to discuss next season. Teams will review the best way to structure next season, reviewing what worked for new teams, such as having new teams play each other more at the start of the season.

10. Tournament Chair

- 22 teams over the four divisions. A division was not hosted due to a lack of interest from teams.
- There was a profit this year due to fundraising
- Next Season - continue to hold the tournament the last weekend in February

11. Approval of the Constitution and bylaws

- Motion to accept: Dave seconded by Steve. None abstaining, or voting against. All in favour, motion carried. New constitution is effective as of tomorrow (April 5, 2023). It will be posted on the website ASAP.

12. New Business

- 2023-24 Playing Season - considering a survey sent to all teams and their players in the next few weeks. Include in survey to have playoff format changed to top two teams play with no playoffs
 - Start of Season: propose September 8
 - Holiday Break: December 18-January 4
 - Games over March Break: propose eliminate games from Monday -Sunday. No games over Easter.
 - Championship finals - top two teams in each division play, no playoffs

AGM Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM

Election of the Directors (Board)

- Vice-President: Brenda has offered to stay on as VP, no further nominations from the floor. Motion to appoint Brenda as VP, Becca and seconded by Dave. None abstaining, motion carried.
- Treasurer: Betty has offered to continue as Treasurer, no further nominations from the floor. Motion to appoint Betty, Isabelle and seconded by Lisa. None abstaining, motion carried
- Registrar: Nancy has offered to continue as Registrar, with no nominations from the floor. Motion to appoint Nancy as Registrar, Sara and seconded by Elysia. None abstaining, motion carried.
- Division Reps:
 - Nominations for A: no volunteers from the floor.

- BB: Larissa offered, motion to nominate Larissa as BB division rep: Becca, and seconded by Steve. Motion carried.
- B: No volunteers
- C: No volunteers
- Dev: Julie Paradis and Mackenzie Swanson have offered to be co-reps. Executive agrees to two reps as it is a large division. Motion to accept: Steve seconded by Tanya. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 PM