**GAARA All Members Meeting**

**August 27, 2024**

**Ellwood Hall, Jim Durrell Rec Centre**

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| **Executive Member** | **Attendance** |
| Nanci Laroche, *President* | ✓ |
| Brenda Clarke, *Vice President* | Abs |
| Betty Shields, *Treasurer* | ✓ |
| Allyssia Chamberland, *Secretary* | Abs |
| Erin Miller, *Coaching Director* | Abs |
| Brigitte McGuey, *Registrar* |  |
| Lisa Kiviaho, *A Division Director* | ✓ |
| Larissa Dupuis, *BB Division Director* | ✓ |
| Erica Beaulne, *B Division Director* | ✓ |
| Patrick Pilon, C *Division Director* | ✓ |
| Dominique Danis, *Dev Division Director* | Abs |
| Isabelle Lachapelle *League Scheduler* | ✓ |
| Gabrielle Rodrigue, *Chief Statistician* | ✓ |
| Nigel Nobel-Hearle, *Referee-in-Chief* | Abs |
| Jenn Nusbaum, *Web Administrator* | ✓ |
| Vacant, *Tournament Chair* | Abs |
| Dave Berthelot, ERRA *Adult Development Coordinator* | ✓ |

1. **Meeting was called to order by Nanci at 7:06 PM.**

* All teams present except for Falcons (BB)

1. **Approval of Minutes for May 28 2024 Annual General Meeting**

* No errors or edits reported
* There was insufficient interest in forming a Masters B/BB Division. When looking at the ages of the players on the teams just about everyone one has players under 35. A sub-committee will be formed to look at viable options. Will advertise on the GAARA website when we start looking for members.
* Motion 08-27-01: To accept the minutes of May 28 2024 AGM as presented

Vanier Rebels/GLORI, All in Favour, **Carried**

1. President’s Report

* Introduction of the Board of Directors – Members present introduced themselves
* Silverspoon Tournament Director – The tournament is scheduled for Feb 21-23, 2025. If no one volunteers to be the Tournament Director we will have to cancel the tournament. Rosanna Tyrer volunteered and was appointed Tournament Director.
* 2024-2025 Operational Procedures Manual:
* Following new sections have been added: Confidentiality Policy, Respect of Officials Policy, and Board Conflict of Interest Policy.
* League Rules and Regulations has changes. The most significant changes can be found in Sections 7 (Cancellations) and 8 (Defaults). We are trying to reduce the waste of ice due to defaults. Not only is ice expensive but if the games are not played Officials don’t get paid and teams lose games. Rule 8.2 has been introduced with the objective of seeing games played. If played it will still be a default but with no fines. If not played, then the team deciding not to play shall be fined $450. This is steep but high fines have proven to be the only successful deterrent at the 18+ level. We sincerely hope not to have to apply the fine to any team this season.
* Team reps were reminded to review the entire Operational Procedures Manual. Changes are highlighted in yellow.
* Players are not to be removed from the roster by the teams. Only the Registrar and Chief Statistician are allowed to remove players.

1. Treasurer’s report

* The proposed Budget had been circulated to all team reps by email prior to the general meeting
* Was asked if there is still a large reserve – it was explained that as a corporation we must keep the equivalent of a year’s operating costs in reserve. We did not increase team fees this season due to the reserve. The reserve is also higher because of fines from last season and refunding the scheduling software.
* Motion 08-27-02 to Approve the 2024-2025 Budget

Betty/Nutri-Lawn Panthers, **Carried** with 1 Abstention

1. Registrar’s Report

* Player registration is on-going. After Nov 1 any addition has to be approved by RO.
* Bench Staff registration will be opening soon

1. Scheduler’s Report

* A software program had been purchased but it failed to function properly, and purchase was cancelled and refunded. Schedule is therefore being done manually.
* Partial schedule will be released shortly (had to wait for replacement ice for Brewer due to delays in opening of the arena).
* If you are participating in any tournaments before Christmas, please email the scheduler asap
* March break is blocked off as are the Fridays & Saturdays of Nepean, GCRA, and Silverspoon tournament weekends. Games may be scheduled after 7pm on the GAARA Sunday pool ice.
* We have not been given 11pm games
* No playoffs for all divisions. Top 2 teams will advance to the league finals on Championship Day
* Season Dates:
* First games: September 6th
* Last league game: March 30th
* League Championship Day: April 6th

1. Coaching Director’s Report

* Reminder that every team must have at least 1 registered bench staff member. That person must meet the qualifications for the position they have registered for. See GAARA website for requirements.

1. Web Administrator’s report

* We were approved for the free Microsoft for not-for-profits.
* Work will commence shortly on the Board and team emails.

1. Committee Reports

* Player Evaluation Committee (PEC)
* To date there have been 140 new player requests and 13 requests to move down a division
* Reminder to all team reps to ensure all new players have submitted their Player History Form and received PEC decision BEFORE they register in RAMP on your team.
* The process is the same for Goalies, player history form asks if they are a player or a goaltender
* Player History form needs to be complete in order for PEC to properly evaluate. Incomplete forms will delay the approval process. If there is any additional information (such as surgeries, injuries, etc) it is important for the player to include this in the Additional Information section at the end of the form.
* The request for a male goalie at C was denied as not all C teams agreed to playing co-ed.
* A player may ask the PEC for reconsideration of the decision, once. If the decision remains the same and the player wishes to contest the decision, they must file an appeal.

1. New Buisiness

* Adult Provincial Championships for BB and below (formerly known as the OAIC) will be held in Ajax March 27-30th.
* RO has changed the substitution rules for tournaments. GAARA has reached out to RO for clarification as the new rules allow you to substitute up to your roster size with no maximum number of substitutes. However it is considered a composite team when you have six players from any on team.
* If anyone is interested in becoming a ref -please contact our Referee-in-Chief. There is a need for more refs!

1. Adjournment

* Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm