

GAARA General Meeting - Sept 5, 2017

7PM - Jim Durrell Recreation Centre

Exec Present: Gabrielle Rodrigue (President), Vicki Martin (Secretary), Maureen Carroll (Registrar), Terri-Lyn Campbell (Scheduler/Ice Contracts), Caryn McKee (Coaching Co-ordinator), Kelly Watters (A/B Rep), Tessa Berthelot (Ref-in-Chief), Chanelle Toshev (SILVERSPoon Chair), Elysia Ford (Webmaster), Steve Welch (Elite Development, ERRa), Dave Berthelot (Adult Development, ERRa), Jean-Guy Rodrigue (BB Stats),

Exec Absent: Cassandra Narducci (Vice President), Katie Robinson (Treasurer), Tracy Robillard (C/Dev Rep), Erica Moxness (A Stats), Sean Simons (B Stats), Tanya Martin (C Stats), Melanie Cater (Dev Stats)

Teams Present:

A Division: ABI Sparx, Carleton University Ravens, Fuzion, Houlegans, Nutri-Lawn Panthers, Ottawa Avalanche, Ottawa Blizzard, Ottawa Capitals, The Edge, The Ice, Tux Express, uOttawa Gee Gees, West Ottawa

BB Division: Dilfo Heat, Dino-Mights, Escape Fire Protection, Gatineau, Ice Queens, Ottawa Storm, The Ringers

B Division: Hotshots, Houle Stars, iFathom Mischief, Jaguars, Les Girls, L'il Devils, Metcalfe Falcons, MissFits, Ottawa Blast, West Carleton 7, West Ottawa

C Division: Devils, Goulbourn Shoot-hers, Hot Flashes, Ottawa Eclipse, SNAP, Stealers, Vanier Rebels, West Carleton Tigers

Dev Division: Blue Lightning, East End Ringers, Goldiggers, Metcalfe Hornets, Orleans Eastenders, Ottawa Rookies, White Thunder

Teams Absent: N/A

Item	Discussion	Required Action
Review and approve minutes from April AGM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Minutes approvedAll actions completed	
President's report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The following exec members were elected: President - Gabrielle Rodrigue,	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Positions up for election <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ President ○ Secretar ○ League Schedule ○ Coaching Coordinator ● By-law and Constitution vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Constitution ○ By-law 1: Player Eligibility ○ By-law 2: Team Eligibility ○ By-law 10: Reporting of Game Sheets ○ By-law 18: Discipline ○ By-law 20: Appeals 	<p>Secretary - Vicki Martin, League Scheduler - Terri-Lyn Campbell, Coaching Coordinator - Caryn McKee(no opposition for any, unanimous votes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Voting on the proposed changes to the Constitution passed: all for, no against, no abstain ● Voting on the proposed changes to Bylaw 1: all for, no against, no abstain ● Voting on the proposed changes to Bylaw 2: all for, no against, no abstain ● Voting on the proposed changes to Bylaw 10: all for, no against, no abstain ● Discussion of the proposal to change Bylaw 18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dave Berthelot (Adult Development, ERRA) spoke about the proposal and reasoning behind it. ○ Last year the 20 minutes was raised to 30, this year the question is whether the rule is useful. ○ At the end of last year, the SWIRL rules were adopted for disciplinary issues. ○ Bylaw 18.2 already has some situations with automatic suspensions ○ The intention of the Bylaw was to curb the amount of penalties an individual player gets and to suspend players for a GAARA league game (including play-off games) ○ Last year, a player participated in Silverspoon when they should have been suspended, based on ORA Bylaw 5.3. ○ GAARA is the only league with a rule like this in Ontario. ○ Some players do feel safer because of this rule. ○ The unintended consequences cause more harm than good. ○ The proposal only involved removing the 30 minutes suspension, the other other parts of Bylaw 18 pertaining to suspensions will stay. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vicki to update Constitution and bylaws on the website to reflect changes
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The 30 minute suspension discourages sparing. ○ Some players will purposely take a penalty to be suspended for a regular season game rather than playoffs. ○ GAARA is a very clean league. ○ Because referees may not always be from GAARA, they will not be affected by any changes. ○ The high penalty minutes often come from high sticking, too many men, or penalties caused by “move it or lose it” ○ It was also mentioned that the bylaw should be re-ordered so that the current bylaw 18.4.1 is ordered last. ● Voting on the proposed changes to Bylaw 18: all for, no against, no abstain ● Voting on the proposed changes to Bylaw 20: all for, no against, no abstain 	
<p>Secretary’s report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exec Flowchart ● Dates for November GM and April AGM ● ORA Injury form and Volunteer Recognition Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The flowchart in the Information package was created by Katie Robinson (absent at this meeting). It’s intended to improve communication between GAARA exec and membership by having questions/concerns go to the correct member of the executive. ● November GM: Nov 21, 7PM, Jim Durrell April AGM: Apr 17, 7PM, Jim Durrell (a week later than usual) ● Information package also contained the ORA injury form, which needs to be used for any injuries that occur in order to be covered by insurance. ● Also included was the Volunteer/Player Recognition award nomination forms, GAARA has been underrepresented in these awards, possibly due to lack of awareness. ● There is also the Grace Kelly award, named after a volunteer who ran G&T. Nominations should be sent to the ERRA chair. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elysia to add the flowchart to the website

<p>Registrar's report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All templates must be input by Sept 15, teams need to send them in ASAP • TRFs will be created between now and Nov 	
<p>Scheduler's report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fall schedule has been posted online • Creating the schedule was a very big job, over 100 hours of work. Terri-Lynn thanked to Jean-Guy Rodrigue, Steve Welch, Joanne Frolek, and Kim Medaglia for their help. • This year's ice is very similar to last year. • Teams in the ice pool do not have a "home" ice slot and will play home games on any GAARA ice. • Tournaments should be submitted ASAP, GAARA will try to help with conflicts. There may be fines if a team has to default a game because of a tournament • More information about the scheduling process will be presented at the Nov GM. • There are 22 games in the season, 18 regular, 4 play-offs (except for Dev). The aim was for 1 game a week, but since only 23 weekends are available for scheduling, teams will have games back-to-back and gaps • March issues: because of March Break and several tournaments, there was not a lot of available time in March. We had to keep some Break ice, not as much as previous years • GAARA wants to increase transparency about the ice process, this will also to be discussed in further detail in Nov 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terri-Lynn to present information about the scheduling/ice contracts process at the Nov GM
<p>Division Reps reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team rep phone numbers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelly is now the A/BB/B Rep, and Tracy is C/Dev Rep • To help with the game cancellation process, the Division Reps will collect phone numbers for team reps and distribute them. Team reps will only receive contact info for other reps in their division. • The contact info for the Ref-in-chief, who 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelly and Tracy to distribute contact info

	<p>must be contacted about cancelled games, and the Division Reps will also be included.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Do not call Ref-in-chief for any issues other than game cancellation. ● Phoning other team reps should only happen when you are cancelling a game the day of. For earlier cancellations, make sure you get a response. If you leave a message, get confirmation that it has been heard. ● If a team reps phone number in the contact sheet should be different than what was submitted in the Registration package, let Maureen know ● Sending a text is also as good as a phone call, just avoid email only because some people may not have access to their email in a timely manner. ● If teams have a home game, they need to make sure to bring bring gamesheet and minor officials 	
Webmaster's report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Schedule is posted, and team names & contacts have been updated. ● Let Elysia know if anything needs to be changed ● Arena names now match Google, other names listed in brackets (ex. Potvin). Elysia will add information about which ice pad games are on for arenas with multiple ice surfaces. ● The spares list is as up-to-date as possible, let Elysia know if you want your name added ● Teams looking for players are also listed. ● The FAQ is going to be updated, let Elysia know if there's something you think should be there. ● Everyone should join the Facebook group, great way to communicate with other teams. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elysia to add ice pad information to the schedule when necessary
Silverspoon report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The tournament will be the first weekend of March, 2-4. ● Registration is getting approved right 	

	<p>now, we hope to be open for registration in the next week or 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Registration will be for A through to Dev, though divisions will only run if enough teams register. ● We're trying to improve every year and new events, if you have any ideas let Chanelle know. ● There is a Facebook group for Silverspoon as well, it's the same group every year, the name is just updated. ● Very few GAARA games scheduled for Silverspoon weekend, if you aren't in the tournament then you may have no league games that weekend. 	
<p>Adult Development Coordinator's report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ERRA has a Come Try Ringette program for adult development, Dave has already spoken to the exec about this program. Silverspoon is looking into running a Come Try event during the tournament. 	
<p>New business/ Roundtable</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Since Katie is on vacation, Gaby collected money from the teams who had cheques at the meeting. ● E-transfers can still be sent to Katie but they may not be chased until after Sept 17. The same thing goes for cheques. ● Maureen has list of what is owed by each team. ● Motion to adjourn: 8:09 PM 	