



Great Lakes Ringette League

Meeting Agenda

Monday November 17th, 2025 - 7:00 pm

ZOOM ONLY

ROLL CALL: (State your Association & Full Name)

Position/Association	Name	Present/Absent/Regrets
President	Shannon Crinklaw	Present
Vice President	Brian Kettles	Regrets
Past President	Phil Singeris	Regrets
Scheduler	Jim File	Present
Treasurer	Ron McArthur	Present
Secretary	Carrie McKichan	Present
RIC	Emma Bragg Smith	Present
Director at Large 1	Holly Davies	Present
Director at Large 2	Adam Natsheh	Present
Director at Large 3	Aaron Kratt	Present
Scheduler 1	Steve Baker	Absent
Scheduler 2	Tara Armstrong	Absent
Schedule 3	Rob Ellis	Absent
Ajax (Observer)		
Barrie	Jim File	Present
Burlington	Tony Verghesse	Present
Cambridge	Michelle Whissell	Regrets
Chatham	Eric Vandermeer	Absent
Dorchester	Nicole Lindsay	Present
Elora Fergus	Jolene West	Present
Etobicoke	Erin Filey/ Aaron Kratt	Present
Forest	Rachel Orvis	Present
Guelph	Jared Pulleybank	Present
Hamilton	Scott Eason	Present
Kitchener	Jessica Ward	Absent
London	Jess Walker	Present
Markham (Observer)		
Mississauga	Andrea Law	Absent
Mitchell	Carrie McKichan	Present
Oshawa	Holly Davies	Present
Paris	Jen Mayhew	Present

Richmond Hill	Scott Dyer	Present
St. Catharine's	Kara Sanders	Present
St. Mary's	Brienna Lee Feeney	Present
Sudbury	Shawn Bomhhower	Regrets
Sunderland	April Carter	Present
Tillsonburg	Matt Freeland	Present
Waterloo	Courtney Proudfoot	Present
Whitby	Stacey Beck	Present

Others in Attendance:

1) Requests for items to be added to the agenda & approval of agenda.

Guelph Mitchell

2) Approval of GLRL Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2025

- Link: [Link to Meeting Minutes](#)

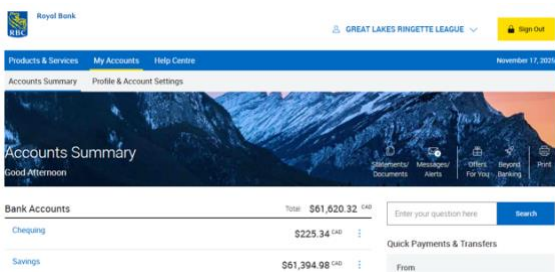
Send email about Goalie Committee

Mitchell Barrie

3) 2025 – 2026 GLRL Executive Officers

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • President | - Shannon Crinklaw |
| • Vice President | - Brian Kettles |
| • Secretary | - Carrie McKichan |
| • Treasurer | - Ron McArthur |
| • Past President | - Phil Singeris |
| • At Large Rep #1 | - Holly Davies |
| • At Large Rep #2 | -Adam Natsheh |
| • At Large Rep #3 | - Aaron Kratt |
| • GLRL Board Observers: | |
| Scheduler | - Jim File |
| Referee in Chief (RIC) | -Emma Bragg-Smith |
| Referee Scheduler | -Steve Baker: Western Region Area |
| Referee Scheduler | -Rob Elis: Southern Region Area |
| Referee Scheduler | -Tara Armstrong: Central Region Area |

4) Financial Report –Ron McArthur



	THIS YEAR 2025-2026 Sept/Oct	Last Year 2024-2025 Sept/Oct
Total Mileage Spend	\$7070	\$10,079
Games Refereed	149	143
Percent of Yearly Schedule	26.1%	27.6%
Referees Paid	63	78
Average Mileage Cost / Game	\$47.45	\$70.48
Average Mileage Pay / Ref	\$112	\$129

The league has reduced referee mileage expenses substantially, saving money while maintaining game coverage in the first two months of the season.

- **Total mileage spending was just under \$7,100 for September and October**, down from over **\$10,000 last year** despite playing **six more games** this year, reflecting nearly **a quarter of the yearly schedule**
 - This reduction results from hub weekends consolidating games and better referee scheduling via the upgraded Ramp system.
 - Ron emphasized that while early results are promising, the full-year outlook remains uncertain due to upcoming AAA tournaments pulling top referees, which may increase travel costs later.
 - The new system plans to assign referees to nearby games to minimize travel, improving cost efficiency.
 - This reduction strengthens the league's financial position and lessens budget pressure on referee expenses.
- The league has played a **higher percentage of costly U19AA and U16AA games (44% vs 37% last year)**, indicating better handling of the more difficult-to-schedule matches.
 - This supports the effectiveness of hub weekends in managing referee coverage for higher-level games.

- Emma confirmed that data on referee payments by game level will be pulled from Arbiter to further analyze travel costs and payments.
- This insight will help refine cost controls and scheduling strategies for future seasons.
- Ron reported **bank balances near \$62,000**, with payments made to all but five representatives, and all other expenses tracking according to the budget.
 - Given the current trend, no additional team fees are expected this year, unlike the previous season where two were required.
 - The finance team will continue close monitoring to confirm this optimistic outlook.

5) Discipline Committee – Brian Kettles

- Updated on Committee Submissions – 1 submission U16A

The discipline committee is functioning effectively with quick turnaround times and clear procedures to address safety concerns.

- The committee handled one submission this year concerning a **U16 game on October 19th**, with a decision made by October 31st, under a two-week review period.
 - The committee ruled **no supplementary discipline was required**, and the \$300 submission fee was forfeited.
 - Brian chairs the committee with additional members from various associations, ensuring conflicts of interest are removed for objective reviews.
- The committee focuses on incidents with **intent to hurt not seen by referees during the game**, relying on video evidence no longer than **45 seconds**.
 - They evaluate factors like injury risk, reckless play near boards, and player intent to maintain safety without overriding referees' authority during games.
- Communication about suspensions is coordinated through game sheets and centralized by Josh at Ringette Ontario to ensure league-wide awareness, though tournament suspensions may be delayed in appearing in league records.

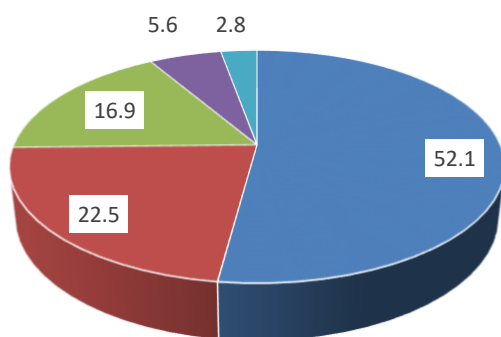
6) GLRL Administration

- **Reminder for re-scheduling – Game Change Form auto emails**
 - Use Game Change Form on website
 - All games waiting for agreed dates can be set to March 31, 2026 as default date
- **RO AGM – November 12th** – No update for League

The league reinforced the importance and efficiency of the game change form process to maintain clear communication and minimize scheduling confusion.

- **98 game change forms were submitted between August and November**, compared to **71 last year** for the same period, showing increased use of the system.

- Over **half (52%)** were **administrative changes** like time shifts or arena corrections, which help keep schedules accurate.
- **22% related to tournament conflicts**, often due to last-minute tournament acceptances requiring quick schedule adjustments.
- **16% were teams not available** for various reasons such as lack of goalie or fundraising events.
- Only **5% were scheduling errors**, indicating strong initial scheduling quality.

[illegible]

☐	ID	#	Date	Start Time	Home	Visitor	Arena	Finished	T v
☐	1632864	25191023	10/25/2025	5:00 PM	London U19A	Forest U19A	Maitland Recreation Centre	No	
☐	1632863	25191022	10/25/2025	5:30 PM	Waterloo U19A	Sunderland U19A	RIM Park Manulife Financial Sportsplex - Optimist	No	

Waterloo & London looking into it.

7) Scheduling Update – Jim File

- Scheduling Feedback
- Survey sent out to get feedback around the Hub Weekends – **Due November 28th**

Hub weekends have improved scheduling efficiency and are being evaluated for expansion, with positive feedback from referees and mixed feedback from teams.

- The league completed **hub weekends in October**, consolidating games to reduce travel and improve referee availability.
 - Jim noted the **September 6th start date was too early** for some teams, suggesting a later start like September 13th might reduce complaints while still using available ice effectively.
 - Teams appreciated the shorter travel and double-header formats, which reduced game day duration significantly.
 - Some teams experienced long-distance travel for a single game on hub days, highlighting a need to better balance travel demands in future hubs.
 - The league plans to survey associations by the following Friday, encouraging input from coaches and presidents especially at the 16AA and 19AA levels.
- Emma confirmed referees loved the hub weekend setup and want more of it, while Jim sees potential to extend hubs to the A level with some associations submitting **six hours of ice each for a second half hub day** to ease officiating challenges.
 - Hub weekends work best when associations with significant ice blocks host, enabling local games and balanced scheduling.
 - For the A level, hubs will likely only host home teams' games due to fewer participants, requiring different cost and schedule models than for double A levels.
 - The league will analyze cost structures to ensure hubs remain financially viable across different levels.
- Survey distribution was clarified to be primarily to GLRL reps and association boards to avoid overwhelming parents directly, with coaches encouraged to gather parent feedback and summarize it.
 - This approach aims to balance wide input with manageable data quality.
 - Courtney noted coaches and parents often have differing views, so collecting both perspectives through coaches is critical.

8) Officials Update – Emma

Improved processes are needed to ensure all officials receive game codes and properly sign game sheets, supporting accurate records and compliance.

- There is inconsistency in officials signing game sheets, with some games missing official signatures or codes.
 - The league confirmed that **official game codes are included in schedules sent to minor officials**, but officials often fail to receive or track these codes timely.
 - Emma noted a practical fix is providing referees with a **sticky note containing the game code** to simplify the signing process during busy game days.
- The league will send a reminder email to association presidents and referee chiefs stressing the importance of distributing game codes to officials before games.
 - This step is essential because referees have many responsibilities and need to avoid delays signing sheets due to missing codes.
- Technical constraints prevent game codes from being uploaded directly into the scheduling platform Arbiter because codes originate from Ramp, requiring manual sharing.
- Officials requested that **game facilities keep gates open at least two hours after games** to allow referees, especially those doing double headers, to complete digital signoffs where Wi-Fi or cell signal may be limited inside dressing rooms.

9) U14AA Game Format changes for 2026

The league is grappling with new Ringette Ontario rules requiring **two 17-minute periods for 14AA games**, which conflict with current ice rental and scheduling norms.

- Associations reported that **75-minute ice blocks worked well** for 14AA games at Oshawa and Nepean with the extended period format, while standard 60-minute blocks caused delays and scheduling issues.
 - Tara and Holly noted that renting ice in hour-long blocks creates a cost and scheduling nightmare when five extra minutes are required.
 - Single-pad rinks have fewer issues, but twin or multi-pad arenas face constraints with overlapping ice times.
- The league is considering maintaining the current **two 15-minute period format for league play in 2026** due to cost and logistical concerns, while allowing tournaments to use the new standard.
 - Jim plans to compile feedback on ice availability, costs, and curfew impacts to present a clear case at the AGM for the league's position.
 - Reducing warm-up times to accommodate longer periods is risky due to injury concerns and practicality.
- Multiple speakers agreed the new 17-minute period rule is impractical for league play, with high costs that could impact teams' ability to host.

- The league must decide soon to guide associations planning to host 14AA teams next year.
- The league recognizes that tournament ice scheduling is more flexible, allowing better accommodation of longer games than rigid league ice rental contracts.

10) Meeting Schedule for Year:

- Mon Jan 19 – 7:00 pm
- Mon Feb 23 – 7:00pm
- AGM - TBD

11) Motion to adjourn. Guelph Dorchester