



Great Lakes Ringette League

Meeting Agenda

Monday March 6, 2023 - 7:00 pm

ZOOM ONLY

Join Zoom Meeting

ROLL CALL: (State your Association & Full Name)

Central Region (4) – Ajax/Pickering (Heather McMahon), Oshawa (Holly Davies), Sunderland (Derrick O’Grady), Whitby (Elizabeth Gill)

Southern Region (7) – Barrie (Michelle), Burlington (Kate), Cambridge (Cathy), Etobicoke (Karen Webber), Markham-Stouffville (Peter Kennedy), Richmond Hill (Adam Natsheh), Paris (Jen Mayhew)

Western Region (8) – Chatham (Margie Van Oirschot), Dorchester (Shelley Handley), Forest (Jenn Batty), Kitchener (Brian Kettles), London (Melinda Suchard), St. Mary’s (Peter Westelaken), Waterloo (Kinga)

Regrets: Mississauga (Roy Reedon), Mitchell (Jessica Ward)

Absent: Guelph (David Woolcott)

Attendance (From Zoom Participant List): Phil Singeris, Shannon Crinklaw, Tom Anderson, Jim File, James Van Lierop (Southern VP), Nancy Nicolson-Houghtling (Western Competitions), Greg Turner, Chris Sharpe, Andrew Law

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

- No additional items to add
- Motion to approve agenda– St. Mary’s
- Seconded by Cambridge
- No one opposed – Carried

2) Approval of GLRL Meeting Minutes of Jan 16, 2023

- Follow-up Actions
 - Shannon contact RAMP to add 4th period
 - Nancy to send Shannon WRRL penalties – sent March 6th
 - Propose GLRL committee for suggesting who can host teams
- Motion to approve – Chatham
- Seconded by Paris
- No one opposed - Carried

3) 2022 – 2023 GLRL Executive Officers

- President - Phil Singeris
- Vice President - Brian Kettles
- Secretary - Shannon Crinklaw
- Treasurer - Tom Anderson
- Past President - Greg Turner
- Central Region Rep - Holly Davies
- Southern Region Rep - Roy Reeton
- Western Region Rep - Shelley Handley
- Scheduler - Jim File

4) GLRL 2022/23 Season Completion

- Games played to date.
 - o Approx. 45 more games to close out in the month of March
 - o 4 games not played and needing re-schedule as of March 6th
 - o London vs RH U16AA due to ref shortage – RH working on 3 dates with city and will offer to London
 - o Ajax vs RH U19AA due to ref shortage – RH working on 3 dates with city to offer to Ajax
 - o Markham vs Mississauga U16A due to weather – try to reschedule
 - o Markham vs Whitby U19A due to weather– try to reschedule
- Expectation that all game scheduled will be rescheduled prior to Provincials and that a 20-game season is completed for all divisions.
- Reminder to submit scores within 24 hours.

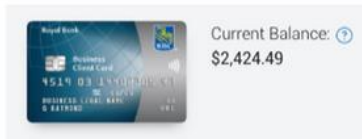
5) GLRL Financial Report - Tom Anderson

- All expenses have been cashed and balances of bank accounts are accurate
- Received a \$500 fine payment
- Unusual state where we are earning \$40/month from interest and was flagged by CRA but small enough amount not to raise concern
- No intention of filing at this time

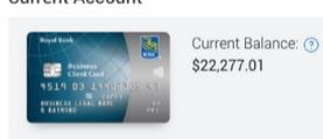
Chequing (2119) ▾

Savings (2127) ▾

Current Account



Current Account



6) Safety Review Rule Change - Brian Kettles & Jim File

- See Draft v.3.1 reviewed with group during the meeting – Document to be shared by Phil
- Updates to rules are meant to support referees to address dangerous play and make the game safer
- Would limit the way videos are submitted including size, refundable fee, waiting 24 hours, etc.
- This document is meant to be a starting point and will evolve as needed and will be shared with the reps
- **Questions:**

- **Etobicoke – will the opposing team and offending player be notified if video is submitted?**
 - Yes, when a video is submitted, both teams involved will be notified
- **Cambridge – are we sure \$150 is enough to submit a video?**
 - \$150 video submission fee would be refunded if video is reviewed and disciplinary action is recommended. \$150 fee would not be refunded if video is reviewed and disciplinary action is not recommended.
 - The fee is meant to minimize the number of videos submitted
 - GLRL reps will be encouraged to be involved and review videos as well
 - Fee would be refundable if they do win the review and fee would be denied
 - RO use to be \$75 for review challenge
- **Chris Sharpe – Will officials be involved in reviewing this document?**
 - Steve Baker is the league official that could review
 - Ok to submit to 3 regions to review with their RICs and will be done before AGM
- **Chris Sharpe – need to understand if people can appeal or not**
 - If follow GLRL appeal process is followed, it would go to the GLRL exec and then there is no path to go forward as RO will not review video.
- **Richmond Hill - What is the due process for defendant (i.e. offender)?**
i.e. prior to the decision being handed down - do they have a chance to give feedback?
- is there an appeal process of defendant doesn't agree?
 - As of right now, the video is submitted to VP, review committee looks at it
 - Review committee makes recommendation and goes to GLRL exec with final decision
 - Decision would go back to the teams involved
 - Appeal process right now would follow same GLRL appeal process
- **Southern Region – need to add language in the document that it's the responsibility of the association to pay the fines and submit videos and not individual teams.**
 - Current process outlined all videos must be submitted through GLRL rep so GLRL rep should be the screener, and nothing will be reviewed unless \$150 submitted
- **Dorchester – requests that the appeal process be documented well because often the whole story cannot be seen in a 45 second video**
 - Need to have the opportunity to get feedback from teams but hesitant to bring players into the appeal process
- **St. Mary's – would previous records for the player be considered when discipline is handed out?**
 - Ideally there would be a database to look at so this could be considered
- **Burlington - Consider emphasizing the intent of this policy to increase safe game play and sportsmanship. Additionally, highlight that this is to address dangerous play, not minor infractions. Include it's our shared responsibility of associations and coaches to coach fair and respectful play.**
- **Nancy – when Western region must complete investigations, it does have to include all parties including coaches, players and any other know witnesses. It's really important to have the whole picture.**
 - Wording will be added to policy to allow for the committee to reach out to coaches, players and other witnesses.
 - Ideally the video will show if its an unsafe event or not. Witness statements need to align with the video.
 - Need to give people the opportunity to respond to the violations and use as a teaching tool

- Not the process that GLRL was going for. It's not meant to be a full investigation but can look at expanding investigation if video is showing unsafe action
- The desire for this process is to have the video submission be the only evidence being used to decide the situation with an option for an appeal if additional supplementary information is handed in.
- **Sunderland - Does RO have any policy on Disciplinary review or video review?**
 - No RO currently does not have a policy
 - RO Discipline / Complaints Policy (doesn't include video review though): <https://ringetteontario.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/DISCIPLINE-AND-COMPLAINTS-POLICY-July-2020.pdf>
- **Chris Sharpe – it's important to have some gatekeepers for this process including associations, and GLRL reps. Need to avoid adding penalties above and beyond what officials have already given on the ice.**
 - Good point and needs to be reviewed with RICs
 - Ensure that additional penalties aren't being given out on top of other penalties already given
 - Need to narrow the scope of what can be overridden and what cannot and be specific
 - GLRL needs to be careful if they want to override a decision
- **Forest - Is there going to be a timeline of when to submit a video, for example you have 1 week after a game to submit it? Just wondering so people don't decide a month later to submit a video.**
 - Need to review timeframe in policy that video submission must meet
- **Burlington - Isn't there already a process in place for penalty calls that have been made outside GLRL through RO? Associations? Wouldn't this only be for dangerous play that was not called?**
 - Need to focus on dangerous play items which was the intent, not overriding ref calls
- **Holly – its really important whatever format it takes, GLRL needs to demonstrate that we take safety seriously and this supports this. This policy will be a work in progress and interested to see what videos actually get submitted and may show patterns that need to be addressed and we need to wait and see.**
- **Next Steps: Phil to send out the document to all reps to review and will review at AGM**

7) Planning for 2023/24 Season

- **Tryouts**
 - Regions are in control of the tryout process and have outlined process and key dates
 - Western region has tryouts starting after April 15th weekend. AA tryouts are mid-April to first week in May and then A tryouts are in May.
 - Central region has tryout timelines similar. AA tryouts to be completed by April 30th weekend and A tryouts to be completed by May 21st weekend.
 - Southern region has tryout timelines the exact same as Western region.
 - **Next Steps: Phil to send out document to understand what regions plan to host so GLRL understands the size of divisions that will be for the upcoming season. Document to be sent out in April.**
 - Western region asked if any other associations are planning to host U14AA. Both Southern and Central are planning to host U14AA.
- **Team Declaration Process**
 - GLRL has no input into the process or tryouts and its up to the regions to manage the process
 - Associations should ensure they have the proper and sufficient ice times to host A & AA teams

8) U12A Division for 2023/24 Season

- U12 is no longer considered provincial level and is considered regional level. No releases any more allowed except for specific conditions which are being discussed within the regions and Ringette Ontario.
- Regions have been meeting on new format and U12 scheduling will be done within regional play and will no longer be part of GLRL.
- U12 will be treated the same at all levels, will be co-ed and will have end of year championship.
- If U12 players try out for U14 and have the capability, they should play.
- **Next Steps: Need to update bylaws and rules to remove U12 language.**

9) GLRL Division Champions & Banners

- Champions will be declared at end of season
- Each champion team will have choice of banner, trophies or medals as coordinated through Tom Anderson
- Tom Anderson will coordinate and potentially use a different vendor.
- Ideally, it would be great to present the banners at the AGM if possible.

10) Gord Bell Award

- **Application posted on GLRL website.**
- **Deadline to submit – April 30, 2023**
- Request to GLRL reps to provide information on the award to their associations
- No applications received at this point

11) Other Business

- **Candidates for GLRL Executive for 2023/24 Season**
 - 2-year term up for voting – President and Secretary
 - Phil will be stepping down but will stay on as Past President to support the new President
 - Consider other regions to fill positions to allow for balance among regions
- **AGM Meeting**
 - Would ideally like to invite Gord Bell award winners and have banners for winning teams
 - Need to declare teams being hosted and whether they are mixed or female only
 - Roy Reedon has looked into rental of rooms at Iceland Arena for in-person meeting
 - How does everyone feel about in person meeting?
 - Support from most associations
 - Chatham may have a hard time attending
 - Monday May 15th already has WRRRL meeting

12) Next Meeting – AGM – Monday, May 15th – In Person or Virtual?

- Will look at different dates and have it in person

13) Motion to adjourn

- Motion to approve – London
- Seconded by Cambridge
- **No one opposed - Carried**

