



Great Lakes Ringette League

Meeting Minutes

Monday January 15, 2024 - 7:00 pm

ZOOM ONLY

ROLL CALL: (State your Association & Full Name)

Central Region (4) – Ajax/Pickering (Heather McMahon), Oshawa (Holly Davies), Sunderland (Andrea James), Whitby (Christine Senior)

Southern Region (8) – Barrie (James Van Lierop), Burlington (Kevin Aubertin), Cambridge (Bethany Van Der Kooy), Etobicoke (Erin Filey), Paris (Sarah), Richmond Hill (Adam Natsheh), Mississauga (Carole MacDonald), Markham-Stouffville (Barbara Brumwell),

Western Region (9) –Dorchester (Mike Reaume), Forest (Jenn Batty), Kitchener (Natalie Piggott), Mitchell (Tracy Nugent),

Northern Region (1) - Greater Sudbury (Troy McLaughlin)

Regrets: Guelph (Freedom Warne), Chatham (Eric Vandermeer), St. Mary's (Peter Westelaken),

Absent:, London (Melinda Suchard), Waterloo (Leah Chapman)

Attendance (From Zoom Participant List): Shannon Crinklaw, Chris Sharpe, Brian Kettles, Shae Stanbra (Western Rep), Jim File, Roy Reedon (Southern Rep), Tom Anderson

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

- No items requested to add

2) Approval of GLRL Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2023

- Motion to approve – Dorchester
- Seconded by Barrie
- No one opposed - Carried.

3) 2023 – 2024 GLRL Executive Officers

- Spots for election at AGM this May– Vice President & Treasurer
 - Brian is willing to stay on as Vice President
 - Tom does not want to stay on

4) Financial Report

- Recently signed up for electronic signature approvals for e-transfers
 - Will pay \$2.50 per e-transfer and will have all the appropriate controls in place
- Not a lot of transactions since last meeting

Royal Bank
GREAT LAKES RINGETTE LEAGUE
Sign Out
January 15, 2024
Products & Services My Accounts Help Centre
Accounts Summary Profile & Account Settings
Accounts Summary
Good Evening
Statements/ Documents Messages/ Alerts Offers For You Beyond Banking Print
Bank Accounts Total: \$28,089.98 CAD
Chequing \$840.08 CAD
Savings \$27,249.90 CAD
Quick Payments & Transfers
From

5) Discipline Committee Status

- No Activity to date and no formal complaints submitted for review
- \$300 has been a deterrent to ensure people think twice if its worth submitting or not which was its purpose
- Jim has mentioned that having the committee in existence is also a deterrent to rough behaviour and provides an avenue for people to use if they have outrage
- Reps have been telling coaches and associations (Forest, Mississauga)
- Communication about this committee is the first thing you see when you log onto the GLRL website
- **Action Item: Ask the GLRL reps to ensure the associations are aware in particular the coaches are aware**

6) Incorporation

- Next Steps for GLRL Incorporation – Status Update
- Work with lawyers is in process
- Bylaws must be updated for AGM in order to incorporate
- Southern & Central Region is dissolving as of March 2024 so will need to determine how this affects our bylaws to be updated
- **Action Item: Executive to put out questionnaire on how associations would want to see representation and look to change bylaws based on input and allowing for representation in the executive from all areas as per the original intent of the bylaws. This is due to the potential dissolving of Central and Southern Regions in April 2024**

7) Major Penalties in League Play

- Major Penalties not being tracked by Ringette Ontario
- Ringette Ontario thought the league was tracking but GLRL has not been tracking. There are reports in RAMP that help identify penalties that can be used.
- In the past, if a major penalty was reported, Competition committees were notified by email
 - Competition would reach out to coach to reiterate the rules around major penalties and how the penalty or suspension needed to be served
 - The committee and coach would need to confirm suspension is served in league game or tournament
- How would RAMP pick up 10 minutes for players and 30 minutes for coaches? It would not currently.
 - Suggestion: Ref to sign off on game sheets

- **Action Item: Shannon to reach out to RAMP to see if we can get a report on Major Penalties and if we can build in emails to notify certain people and teams.**
 - **Need report from RAMP and need email notifications**
 - **Is there a code that goes into the game sheet for players or coaches are ejected**
- **Interim Solution: Shannon to build google form on the GLRL website for coaches to report Major Penalties resulting in Match Suspension– must do it within 24 hours. Need to put in key instructions when to use the form.**

8) Parent Conduct and support of Ref

- Ref Shortage for Games
- Associations need to be tougher on their parents and coaches when dealing with Refs
- Kitchener no longer has warnings for parents, going right to ejecting parents if the need arises
- Emails received after the last GLRL meeting, where 2 league games required parents to be removed from the arena completely and associations need to back up the refs. It's hard to find refs and parents need to make aware.
- We have some associations filing complaints against refs unnecessarily which is not helping the ref situation either
- Is there a way for GLRL to help pay for evaluations and feedback for refs to help out? Something to look at for double headers.
- In order to see the league continue and succeed, GLRL needs to consider stepping in to ensure there is enough refs to continue play as Ringette Ontario doesn't seem to be watching this.
- Is the league at risk for abused refs? There would be risk if we don't support them, but they are not considered employees.
- GLRL is receiving Game Change forms due to Shortage of officials so this is a concern
- AAA games also not helping with shortage of officials
- **Action Item: Chris to share Kitchener email "Zero Tolerance of Abuse of Officials"**
- **Action Item: GLRL to send out blanket notice around Abuse of Officials and Shortage of Refs to Coaches, GLRL reps and Presidents. Put notice on GLRL Website as well.**
- **Action Item: Chris to find out how official evaluators are compensated**

9) Team Formation for 2024-2025

- Should GLRL provide guidelines
- Status Quo for Team Formation will occur for this upcoming season as per Ringette Ontario but if there is no region, how is that being coordinated by the Region?
- Ringette Ontario has not modified policies around region guidance and the borders will remain the same
- GLRL will not get involved over the regions for Team Formation
- Last year there was a request for GLRL to provide guidelines around ice time, size of rinks (distance between blue lines) and officials level that are needed to host different levels of play. These would not be requirements but would be recommendations.
- Need to differentiate what is a requirement vs a recommendation
- Associations stated that this may be helpful for smaller associations but won't affect the # of players and cross border issues.
- **Action Items: Chris to find out if an example already exists and we will review. Shae has an example from Western Region.**
- **Action Items: GLRL exec to look at putting something together with recommendations for what the league is expecting when an association hosts a certain level of team. U14A and up.**

10) Games not completed to date

- Paris vs. St. Mary's – requested for a tournament game to replace a league game
 - GLRL Rules require Exec approval to substitute a game
 - Problem is that common ice time cannot be found
 - GLRL would like the game to be played as league game
 - This is under executive review
- Mississauga has ice but dates didn't work so looking to buy more ice
- Richmond Hill & Ajax have agreed to date but need to buy ice to make it happen
- London U19A re-scheduled because of No Goalie and has not been re-scheduled
- Oshawa and Whitby will be re-scheduled

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<input type="checkbox"/>	ID	#	Date	Start Time	Home	Visitor	Arena	Finished	Team Verified	Club Verified	
<input type="checkbox"/>	906583	2316201	03/31/2024		Mississauga Mustangs U16AA	Richmond Hill Lightning U16AA	Iceland Arena Rink 1	No			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Home RSVP Away RSVP Cancel <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	906671	2319205	03/31/2024		Richmond Hill Lightning U19AA	Ajax Pickering Power U19AA	Ed Sackfield Arena North	No			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Home RSVP Away RSVP Cancel <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	907098	2319133	03/31/2024		London Lynx U19A	Forest Xtreme U19A	Kinsmen Arena B London	No			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Home RSVP Away RSVP Cancel <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	907103	2319138	03/31/2024		Oshawa Storm U19A	Whitby Wild U19A	Delpark Homes Centre	No			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Home RSVP Away RSVP Cancel <input type="checkbox"/>

11) Other Business:

- Championships
 - General interest in having year-end championship received by email
 - A new idea: looking at possibility of structure like "Prospect Weekend" tournaments in hockey where the top 32 athletes get invited out to a day/event and would be in conjunction with NRL.
 - Ajax-Pickering – would like the year-end event to be more focussed on the teams that miss out on the provincial event
 - Mississauga – the all-star weekend would be targeting the same players who are already in the AAA program and would not be touching the other players
 - Oshawa – the teams that don't make it to provincials especially in U16A and U19A need to stay motivated. Oshawa hosting U18A tournament for all the teams that didn't make provincials at the end of March. If GLRL communicated at the beginning of the season knowing there is a year-end tournament, that would keep people motivated.
 - Ringette Ontario is trying to make provincials mean more. Feedback from other years is to bring qualifiers back.
 - Preference would be to focus on teams that do not make provincials vs. an all-star weekend.
 - Discussion needs to occur around who would host this event, is it run by GLRL volunteers, or would the host still host even if their teams don't play.
 - **Action Item: More thinking by the executive about how a year-end tournament would work**

12) Next Meeting – Monday Feb 26, 2024 – 7:00 via ZOOM

13) Motion to adjourn.

- Motion to approve – Brian Kettles

- Seconded by Burlington
- No one opposed - Carried.