



# Great Lakes Ringette League

## Meeting Minutes

Monday January 10th - 7:00 pm

ZOOM ONLY

### ROLL CALL:

**Central Region (4)** – Ajax (Allen Ross), Oshawa (Stacey Wright), Sunderland (Krystin O’Grady), Whitby (Elizabeth Gill)

**Southern Region (7)** – Barrie (Jim Van Lierop), Burlington (Jenn Aubertin), Markham (Neil Wang), Mississauga (Roy Reedon), Paris (Michelle Falkiner),

**Western Region (8)** –Dorchester (Shelley Handley), Guelph (David Woolcott), Kitchener (Sid Perron), St. Mary’s (Lisa Linton), Waterloo (Neil Henderson)

**Associations with no GLRL Teams** – Newmarket (Absent), Chatham (Absent), Elora Fergus (Absent)

**Regrets:** Mitchell (Jessica Ward)

**Absent:** Cambridge (Jeremy Slotegraaf), Richmond Hill (Stephen Fraser), Forest (Adam McKinlay), London (Andrew Wilkie)

**Attendance (From Zoom Participant List):** Phil Singeris, Shannon Crinklaw, Chris Sharpe, Tom Anderson, Holly Davies, Nancy Nicolson-Houghtling (Competition Committee Western), Jim File, Andrea Law (VP Southern Region), Greg Turner

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

- Tom Anderson request to discuss if GLRL should incorporate
- Dorchester moved to approve
- Barrie seconded
- Agenda Approved (all in favour)

### 2) Approval of GLRL Meeting Minutes of November 15, 2021

- Motion to approve minutes as reviewed
- Motion to approve – first motion by Dorchester
- Seconded by Mississauga
- Minutes approved (all in favour)

**2021 – 2022 GLRL Executive Officers**

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

**3) Treasurer's Report -Tom Anderson**

**GLRL Team Fees for 2021/22 Season**

- All associations have paid in full for prorated season (\$80 for 16 league games)
- Savings account (team bonds) \$14,565.65
- Chequing account \$6950.79
- No new expenses incurred
- Ringette Ontario Application Cheque is still not cashed.

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**Bank Accounts**

Total: **\$21,516.44** CAD

**Chequing**

**\$6,950.79** CAD

**Savings**

**\$14,565.65** CAD

**4) GLRL Season Schedule moving Forward & Game Changes**

- Goal is to complete 16 games for each division
- Extend season to end of March or April if necessary (after Provincials)
- Rescheduling of games (March 31<sup>st</sup> default date) and any others will be left to the teams involved
- Tournaments in February?
- Provincials & Nationals?

**Discussion Item #4**

- Assumption is that GLRL will resume at some point
- The goal is to complete 16 games and will reduce the number of expected games, if necessary, but goal is to complete 16 games
- A number of tournaments in February have been cancelled by the associations not by health units or Ringette Ontario including:
  - Guelph
  - West Ottawa
  - Richmond Hill
  - Kitchener
  - Newmarket
- Tournaments still on and planning to move forward if possible:

- Paris (vote to occur soon)
- Ajax
- For this year, GLRL is considering extending the season to end of March or April after Provincials. In the past, no games were allowed after Provincial events, but this year would be an exception.
- Provincial events at this time are still planned.
- When league play is allowed, March 31<sup>st</sup> games will need to be re-scheduled by the teams involved. The home team will need to find ice times.
- David Woolcott (Guelph) – the city pulls the ice March 26<sup>th</sup> and rescheduling those games would be difficult. Also concerned with university ice pulled at end of April and usually use this for tryouts.
- Neil Henderson (Waterloo)– are the tournaments that are running going to open more spots for other teams?
  - Looks like most tournaments are being cancelled
- Shelley Handley (Dorchester)- suggestion to have the one-day tournaments again like the beginning of the season to cover the GLRL league games in March/April.
- James Van Lierop (Barrie) – When is Western regionals? March 27-29<sup>th</sup>. Southern region is the beginning of April. Barrie is looking to run a one day of games on the family day weekend now that Newmarket tournament is not happening.
- Tom Anderson – what are thoughts on switching home team and visitor team if ice is not available?
  - Would have to look at costs. Normally the home team pays for ice and officials so if visitor plans to host, there will need to be discussion with the teams before the game to agree.
- Jim File – suggestion to put out questionnaire to see which teams would be willing to participate past March.
  - Are there any teams apprehensive to attend the Provincial Events? – need to find out from teams in the questionnaire
  - If restrictions are not lifted by January 27<sup>th</sup>, then bigger decisions will need to be made around games.
- Tom Anderson – Ajax tourney is asking teams to confirm by Friday and will let GLRL know if spots open.
- Chris Sharpe – Ringette Ontario is suggesting tournaments to consider cancelling until end of February, if anyone is interested in hosting tournaments in March, April, May, June, July, etc. then will most likely have Ringette Ontario support. Need to be looking for ways to expand league play to fill in tournament weekend cancellations. The 3 region chairs need to agree on tryout timing now and plan league items around the tryouts. The teams formed in the Spring cannot play together until after September 1.
- Shelley Handley – can U12A teams also be made in the Spring? This is something that could be considered due to circumstances but is not in the rules right now.
- Stacey Wright – is AAA camp still running as this would affect the one-day tournaments? AAA may have one more event.

## 5) U12A Division – Reseeding

### • Regional Year End Championships – Western Region & Southern/Central Region

- Revised the U12A division and broke into 3 different divisions and added new schedule
- For future seasons, need to complete first half and 2<sup>nd</sup> half schedule for U12A
- Phil has had several questions for the year-end championships, this is the first year that U12A is not having a provincial year end event.
- Southern/Central will go to Hamilton April 14-16 and Western region will go to London March 27-29
- Phil approached the Western region chair to host 2 divisions of U12A teams – being considered. Would the teams consider going to a different region for end of year?
  - Western Regionals can accommodate up to 10 teams
  - Southern/Central Regionals should be able to accommodate up to 7 teams at minimum
  - Is there a way to have the whole division go to a regional championship? Need to understand how teams feel?
    - Dorchester is willing to travel

- Sunderland has some concerns with hotel costs for families with events in different spots
- Burlington would not have an issue but needs to confirm with families
- Richmond Hill should not have an issue
- Western region needs to know by this weekend for # of teams for Western Championship
- Barrie believes they will go to either one but need to confirm with coach
- Waterloo would have to check with the coach
- Guelph not sure with being Easter weekend
- Oshawa doesn't think there is an issue but needs to confirm
- Whitby doesn't think there is an issue
- GLRL reps to go back to their associations and U12A teams to confirm which championships the team is willing to go to.
- Oshawa is still working with RO to host U18+ event the weekend of April 1<sup>st</sup> (Challenge Cup).

## 6) U16A Division – Male Goalie and Issue around Male Players

- At the beginning of the season at the October meeting, GLRL requested all associations to identify if there were any males attending tryouts. Associations identified.
- Schedules were put together as female only teams.
- There is opportunity to allow males in the sport, but they must be identified, and procedures followed.
- GLRL is a female only league and if an association brings forward a male player wishing to play on a team, GLRL will accept the male player into the league as long as there are opponents available to play them.
- GLRL does not force female teams to play mixed teams. It's an option to teams to play against mixed teams if desired as per the Ringette Ontario guidelines.
- In October, GLRL had an association use a male goalie without notifying the league.
- An investigation was conducted, and it was identified that the team used the male player illegally without notifying the league or teams involved. The association was fined, and the two games were forfeited.
- GLRL then asked the association if they want to continue to use the male player and surveyed the whole division asking which teams would be willing to play the mixed team and 8/9 teams said they would play the mixed team for league play and one team requested that the games not count.
- GLRL has approved that male player (mixed team) to play in the league. GLRL decision has no impact on Provincials and Tournaments.
- GLRL is trying to do better, and the rules committee will help put in better policies for declaring teams and determining opponents of the teams.
- Communications made to all associations in GLRL that teams were to be declared as per TRF deadline and no further changes can be made.

## 7) GLRL Rules Changes

### - Rules Review Sub-Committee Established

- Phil Singeris
- Shannon Crinklaw
- Neil Henderson
- Michelle Falkiner
- Elizabeth Gill

**- Meeting Set for Mon Jan 24<sup>th</sup> @7pm via Zoom**

- Additional rules need to be put in place to make next season run better
  - Request for additional people to volunteer for committee – no requests to join at this time

**8) Other Business**

- League Incorporation
  - As of right now, GLRL is not incorporated which creates further liability.
  - Changes at Ringette Ontario so now GLRL is recognized as a member of Ringette Ontario
  - Tom Anderson has reached out to Steve Indig (Ringette Ontario rep) and quoted fees of \$500 plus some other additional fees
  - Andrea Law requesting that all regional and GLRL incorporate together to save admin costs.
  - Neil Henderson asked if there is any way to just fall under Ringette Ontario as incorporating does increase the burden of filing, etc.
  - David Woolcott – what is the benefit for incorporating? The biggest protection is legal protection. For example, if there was a human rights claim, we would be limited our personal liability.
  - Jim File – anyone on the executive can be exposed to legal implications if not incorporated.
  - Ringette Ontario just started the sanctioning process this year and next year will be more formal.
  - Request to better understand what coverage is provided from Ringette Ontario.
  - Neil Henderson raised concerns about additional risk when associations are handling money and the risk with money interactions.

**9) Next Meeting – Monday February 7, 2022 – 7:00 via ZOOM**

**10) Motion to adjourn**

First by Dorchester

Seconded by Burlington

All in favour – Meeting Adjourned

**Action Items:**

- Jim File to put together a questionnaire for associations to state which teams would be willing to participate past March and if there are one day ice available for a bunch of league games.
- GLRL reps to speak to U12A teams and see if the team is willing to go to London for March 27-29 or Hamilton for April 14-16 or both.
- Follow up with Ringette Ontario on what is included in our membership including protections for the executive.