



Great Lakes Ringette League

Meeting Minutes

Monday October 4th, 2021 - 7:00 pm

ZOOM ONLY

ROLL CALL:

Central Region – Ajax (Heather McMahon), Oshawa (Stacey Wright), Sunderland (Krystin O’Grady), Whitby (Elizabeth Gill)

Southern Region – Barrie (Jim Van Lierop), Burlington (Scott Williamson, Sarah Wilson, Jen Aubertin), Cambridge (Jeremy Slotegraaf), Markham (Neil Wang), Mississauga (Roy Reedon), Newmarket (Melanie Fedigan), Paris (Michelle Falkiner), Richmond Hill (Stephen Fraser)

Western Region – Chatham (Eric Vandermeer), Dorchester (Shelley Handley), Elora Fergus (Alison Curtis), Forest (Annette Looper), Guelph (Jared Pulleyblank), Kitchener (Sid Perron), London (Andrew Wilkie), Mitchell (Jessica Ward), St. Mary’s (Lisa Linton), Waterloo (Neil Henderson)

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

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

- Motion to approve agenda
- Motion by London
- Seconded by Guelph
- Added “Review of Covid Restrictions” to Other Business – Requested by Dorchester
- Agenda Approved (all in favour)

2) Approval of GLRL Meeting Minutes of August 30, 2021

- Motion to approve minutes as reviewed
- Motion by Dorchester
- Seconded by Elora Fergus
- Minutes approved (all in favour)

3) 2020 – 2021 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 Reeton
- Western Region Rep - Shelley Handley

4) Treasurer's Report -Tom Anderson

GLRL Team Fees for 2021/22 Season

- **\$80 per team for 16 game schedules, if less we will pro-rate.**
- Have not been spending money, only expenses are regular banking expenses
- GLRL will be paying 50% of scheduling software this year then will look to share the fees across associations for scheduling software fees and ramp website fees. Approximately \$800/year in total.
- When all regions go to RAMP, there will be a cost structure to account for as set out by RAMP.
- Balance \$9500 held in trust and operating balance \$5032.35
- **Date not set yet for league fees to be paid – target will be November 1st**
- If any new teams, will need to also pay a bond cheque. Cambridge, Chatham, and Sunderland will be required to pay \$500 bond.
- All 19 returning associations have bonds in good standing to date.

5) Substitution Rule for 2021/22 Season

The current rule is:

13. Substitutions

B) Maximum number of substitute games played per season for all skaters is 5 games and for all goalies is unlimited.

PROPOSAL: That this rule is waived for this year given the assumption that team rosters will be very tight across the league during this challenging time for player retention. There is also the issue of COVID and whether a team or a portion of their roster is impacted by a positive COVID test.

Discussion:

- It's up to the league to set the number of substitutions
- Andrea gave advice that league just needs to be careful and ensure people follow the intent of the rule as this could lead to escalations at end of year if exploited
- This change could help to deal with vaccination policies as well when traveling to other arenas. The ability to call up will help alleviate the pressure.
- Nancy recommends keeping it at 5 games per player then request an exception for those running into trouble.
- Dorchester raised that this may be more of a concern for U12A age because they are unvaccinated and will be required to quarantine which would affect more girls and potentially whole teams
- Guelph requested GLRL could just make a case-by-case evaluation when they must have someone substitute more than 5 games, and teams can apply for past 5 games to GLRL
- Tom Anderson raised the concern that there is always a wait time whether vaccinated or not which could affect teams and the game schedule
- Whitby asked if we do leave the exception rule needing approval, will they be able reply quickly to requests?

Final Decision:

- **Leave rule as is and will continue to monitor**

- When an association has used a player for 4 times, they should report to executive and request an exemption in advance whenever possible.

6) Planning for 2021/22 Season

- Tryouts – status for each Association? & Team Formation & Declaration for each Association?

	# of teams	U12A	U14A	U16A	U19A	U14AA	U16AA	U19AA	Tryouts	Boys
Ajax	5	x	x	x	x		x		Done	No
Barrie	3	x		x		x			Done	No
Burlington	4	x	x				x	x	Done	No
Cambridge	1	x							Done	No
Chatham	1	x							Tryouts not completed. Goalie issue	No
Dorchester	4	x	X		x		x		Oct 24th	No
Elora Fergus	1				x				Goalie Issue	No
Forest	4	x	x	x	x				Oct 24th	No
Guelph	5	x	x	X	x			x	Oct 24 th	No
Kitchener	2					x	x		Oct 9th	No
London	5	x	x	x	x		x		Oct 24 th – U14A goalie issue	No
Markham	4		x	x	x		x		Oct 24th	No
Mississauga	4	x			x	x	x		Not sure on U12A	No
Mitchell	1	x							Oct 5 th	No
Newmarket	1				x				Oct 13 th – TBD based on numbers	Yes – U19A
Oshawa	6	x	x	x	x	x	x		Done	No
Paris	2		x		x				Oct 6th	No
Richmond Hill	7	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	AA Complete – Oct 6 A tryouts – complete Oct 15	No
St. Mary's	3		x	x	x				U14A goalie issue U19A TBD based on numbers Oct 24th	No
Sunderland	3	x	x	x					Done	No
Waterloo	6	x	x	x	x			x (2 teams)	U19AA coaching U12A goalie issue	No

									October 24th	
Whitby	3	x	x					x	Done	No
TOTAL	75	16	14	11	14	5	9	6		

- **Ice Availability Issues per each Association?**

- Hoping to have ice scheduling information out to associations soon
- Whitby may have an issue to block 4 hours in a afternoon with the AAA weekends
- Will need 12 hours per team, 8 home games
- Kitchener, Waterloo not getting 2nd half ice right now, TBD when they will get it

- **Officiating Concerns for AA & A League Games?**

- Officiating numbers are down
- There will be an impact but will also have less teams across the board
- Central region believes they will be ok if 3 ice pads not booked at one time. Using funds to promote more refs to get involved.
- Southern region recruiting refs and training and planning ahead
- Western region has 66 registered refs in the region
- 300 refs in the province which is down from 500 with 50 being level 1 officials

○ **Recommendation: All associations to touch base with their RICs to confirm this is a top priority.**

- **Funfests? What Associations are planning these?**

- Ringette Ontario is allowing Funfests at the beginning of the season although tournaments are not allowed until after January
- Funfests could have impact on GLRL's priority to try and front-load the league play schedule
- Oshawa is having a funfest on November 6th. One day, 3 games.
- Mitchell planning for one in March
- Pickering is looking for December 3-5th weekend
- May reduce the 16-game schedule to 12 game schedules depending on funfest impact

7) Season Scheduling Update

- **Ice Submission Form – Update**

- RAMP was supposed to be released on Friday October 1st with new login and password for association presidents
- RAMP ran into a problem – crash of email so entire system down and not receiving emails
- Should be getting emails by noon October 5th
- Email will give username/password so ice time can be submitted
- Date to submit ice by end of day October 12th
- There is a video tutorial included in the email on how to enter
- Suggested to put ice in for the teams you plan to host, schedule will not be created before October 24th.

- Associations would like to have ice times clumped based on A, and AA to make getting refs easier. Kevin confirmed that when submitting ice, you will be able to assign ice times to level of play. Use the comments section to identify association needs.

- **RGCO Website** <https://thergco.ca/>

- This is where the scheduling will occur
- If you are an association using RAMP website, you will not need this website to see games.
- If you are an association that does not use RAMP website, you will need to use this website to see the games.
- Reporting scores and misconduct will be done through the website

- **Schedule Format - AA Teams**

- **Schedule Format – A Teams**

- **Schedule Format – U12A**

(8 teams) U12A EAST	(8 teams) U12A WEST	(7 teams) U14A EAST	(6 teams) U14A WEST	(7 teams) U16A EAST	(5 teams) U16A WEST	(6 teams) U19A EAST	(8 teams) U19A WEST
Ajax-Pickering Barrie Burlington Mississauga Oshawa Richmond Hill Sunderland Whitby	Cambridge Chatham Dorchester Forest Guelph London Mitchell Waterloo	Ajax-Pickering Burlington Markham-Stouffville Oshawa Richmond Hill Sunderland Whitby	Forest Guelph London Paris St Mary's Waterloo	Ajax-Pickering Barrie Markham-Stouffville Newmarket Oshawa Richmond Hill Sunderland	Forest Guelph London St Mary's Waterloo	Ajax-Pickering Markham-Stouffville Mississauga Newmarket Oshawa Richmond Hill	Dorchester Elora Fergus Forest Guelph London Paris St Mary's Waterloo
(5 teams) U14AA	(5 teams) U16AA	(7 teams) U19AA					
Barrie Kitchener Mississauga Oshawa Richmond Hill	Ajax-Pickering Burlington Dorchester Kitchener London Markham-Stouffville Mississauga Oshawa	Burlington Guelph London Richmond Hill Waterloo #1 Waterloo #2 Whitby					

- Will consider crossover for U14A, U16A and U19A
- Some people may not know if they want crossover until they play other teams
- Request to associations to ask teams if they are ok with crossover or opposed to it

- **Number of games per division**

- Target is for 16 game schedules

- **U16AA & U19AA game format**

- Suggestion to not have 1.5-hour games and reduce to 1-hour games just for this year to allow for better scheduling
- Many associations have already allotted for this time
- Concern that some coaches are not going to be happy about this change
- Associations that want to change:
 - None
 - Waterloo has some limits with 2-hour block
 - **Overwhelming majority to keep 1.5 hours for U16AA and U19AA games**

- **2nd half Tournaments – Tentative dates and have not been approved**

- Cambridge – Jan 7-9

- Whitby – Jan 7-9
- Waterloo – Jan 14-15
- Burlington – January 14-15
- Guelph – Feb 10-13
- Richmond Hill – Feb 4-6
- Newmarket – Feb 18-20
- Paris – Feb 18-20
- Kitchener – Feb 18-20
- Kingston – January 28th
- Ajax – Feb 11th
- Western Ottawa – Feb 10th
- Niagara Falls – March 4-6th

*****President will receive email with sanctioned tournament to communicate to the teams when finalized**

8) GLRL Meeting Schedule for the Season

- **Mon Nov. 15, 2021**
- **Mon Jan. 10, 2022**
- **Mon Feb. 7, 2022**
- **AGM – May/June???**

9) Other Business

- **Covid Restriction Review raised by Dorchester**
 - Some arenas require all people over the age of 12 to be vaccinated (players and spectators)
 - Some arenas required only spectators over the age of 12 need to be vaccinated and not players
 - Recommendation: Have Arena protocols listed on your website for people to easily find
 - Associations requiring players to be vaccinated:
 - Newmarket – region requires all players must be vaccinated
 - Richmond Hill – region requires all players must be vaccinated
 - Markham – region requires all players must be vaccinated
 - St. Mary's - arena requires all players to be vaccinated
 - London Association requires all players to be vaccinated but the arena allows entry of non-vaccinated players
- **A Provincial Host**
 - No A level provincial host right now
 - If they cannot find A host, will have tough decisions to make
 - Suggested dates March 17-20th
 - Usually, 6 game guarantee but may be less
 - Request for associations to talk to their executive boards and arena to consider hosting
- **Regional Championships**
 - Western Regional Championship is March 25-27 in London
 - Southern Regional Championship is April 15-18th
- **Review of Website & Adding teams to Ramp (demonstration)**

- Kevin Sweeney reviewed how to enter teams in Ramp and see the link with the website
- Associations will need support from their Webmasters and Registrar and maybe Kevin to enter teams and link together sites
- Format for naming teams is "London-U12A". If you have two teams, include the coaches initial such as "London-U12A-M"

10) Next Meeting – Monday Nov 15, 2021 – 7:00 via ZOOM

11) Motion to adjourn

- Motion to Adjourn
- Approved by Guelph
- 2nd by Waterloo
- Meeting Adjourned (all in favour)

Action Items:

- Tom to provide payment instructions via email to all associations
- Associations to check with Referee in Chief to confirm planning for the season and adequate number of refs
- Associations to check with team to see if they are in favour or opposed to cross over games
- Associations to update website to include COVID protocols for other associations to see if visiting
- Kevin to provide email details on what needs to be done to link teams to ramp and website to Association Presidents, Webmasters, and Ice Schedulers