



LORL
LOWER ONTARIO RINGETTE LEAGUE

**Annual Report
2026**

**LOWER
ONTARIO
RINGETTE
LEAGUE**



Table of Contents

AGM Agenda	2
President's Report - Shelley Handley	3
Vice President's Report - James Van Lierop	4
Treasurer Report - Jessica Walker	5
Divisions Report - Scott Walker	8
Scheduling Report - Chris Ouellette	8
Communications Report - Steve Bengner	9
Officiating Report - Jessica Verutis / Emma Bragg-Smith	10
Adult Ringette Report - Janet in't Veldt	10
Competitions Report - Michelle Linton	10
Addendum 1 - FUN3 Tiering	11
Addendum 2 - New Business and Other Information	12

AGM Agenda

1. Welcome & Call to Order – **Shelley Handley**
2. Roll Call – **Shelley Handley**
3. Establish a vote count and verification – **Shelley Handley**

Bylaw 3.8 - 50% quorum
Bylaw 3.13 – 1 vote per member
4. Motion to approve agenda – **Shelley Handley**
5. Motion to approve [Minutes for AGM 2025](#) -**Shelley Handley**
6. 2025-26 Reports - **Executive**
7. 2026-2027 Budget Proposal - **Jessica Walker**
8. FUN 3 Tiering Vote (see motion below)
9. 2025 Elections – **James Van Lierop**
 1. PRESIDENT-James Van Lierop (nominee)
 2. VICE PRESIDENT – (1 year) Scott Walker (nominee)
 3. SECRETARY-Wendy Stirbet (willing to stand)
 4. TREASURER-Jessica Walker (nominee)
 5. DIRECTOR-OFFICIATING-Emma Bragg-Smith, Jessica Verutis (willing to stand)
 6. DIRECTOR-COMMUNICATIONS- Steve Bengner (willing to stand)
 7. DIRECTOR-DIVISIONS-Vacant
10. New Business - see new policies on the next page - **Shelley Handley**
11. Member Questions – **Shelley Handley**
12. Adjournment - **Shelley Handley**

President's Report - Shelley Handley

As I conclude my term as the inaugural President of LORL, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the past season and the growth of our league over its first two Years.

Overall, this has been a successful season, with strong participation, continued development, and a commitment across all associations to providing meaningful opportunities for our athletes. That said, there remains important work ahead as we continue to grow and improve.

The most significant concern expressed by our membership continues to be player safety, both on and off the ice. This includes not only the physical well-being of players, but also the environment in which they compete. The behaviour of spectators toward players and officials has been raised repeatedly, and it is an area that requires ongoing attention, education, and accountability across all levels of our league.

Another ongoing area of discussion is the role of boys in ringette and how best to manage this evolving aspect of our sport. Ringette Canada has conducted national research examining perceptions and participation related to males in ringette; however, that report has not yet been shared publicly. In response, LORL will be undertaking its own research initiative in partnership with York University, with Wendy Stirbet serving as the league lead. This work will be critical in helping us make informed, thoughtful decisions moving forward.

We are also looking ahead to opportunities for growth, particularly in expanding our Adult League (18+ BB, B, CC, and C divisions). This represents an important pathway for lifelong participation in our sport and an area with strong potential for development. This coming season, we are proud to introduce a regional-level scholarship program for all LORL players, continuing the legacy of Mary and Keith Kaiser from the former Western Region. This initiative reflects our commitment to supporting our athletes both within and beyond the sport

LORL 2026 Annual Report

I would also like to officially welcome Greater Sudbury to LORL. Their commitment to participating at the “B” level and the dedication shown by their players is commendable, and we are excited to have them as part of our league.

None of this would be possible without the incredible dedication of our Board of Directors. I extend my sincere thanks for their ongoing support, leadership, and the countless hours they have invested in ensuring the success of this league. Similarly, I want to acknowledge all Association Presidents for their hard work and commitment. It is not an easy role, and it often comes with challenges, but it is essential to the strength of our sport.

As the league’s first President, it has been an honour to help build the foundation of LORL. I firmly believe that we have established a strong and sustainable base, and I am confident that the league will continue to grow stronger and better in the years ahead.

Thank you.

Shelley Handley

LORL President

Vice President’s Report - James Van Lierop

Treasurer Report - Jessica Walker



Statement of Operations For the year ending May 31, 2026

Income	
LORL Fees	\$ 38,750.00
Tournament Revenue	9,375.00
Bank Account Interest	439.19
Total Revenue	\$ 48,564.19
Expenses	
Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 18,000.00
Tournament Expenses	7,455.89
Scheduling Expenses	4,043.15
Referee Expenses	2,379.50
Basecamp Fees	1,500.00
Ringette Ontario Fees	1,000.00
RAMP Fees	813.75
Bank Fees	66.20
Total Expenses	\$ 35,258.49
Surplus (deficit)	\$ 13,305.70

LORL 2026 Annual Report



Statement of Financial Position
As of May 31, 2026

Assets	
Bank - Chequing	\$ 39,147.58
Bank - Savings - Association Bonds	21,504.98
Accounts Receivable - Club Fees	1,600.00
Total Assets	\$ 62,252.56
Liabilities	
Accrued Liabilities - Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 18,000.00
Accounts Payable & Other Accrued Liabilities	3,105.97
Total Liabilities	\$ 21,105.97
Equity	\$ 41,146.59
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$ 62,252.56

LORL 2026 Annual Report



	Actual 25-26	Budget 26-27
Income		
LORL Fees	38,750.00	40,000.00
Tournament Revenue	9,375.00	13,125.00
Bank Account Interest	439.19	
Total Revenue	48,564.19	53,125.00
Expenses		
Mileage Reimbursement	18,000.00	20,000.00
Tournament Expenses	7,455.89	10,000.00
Scholarship	-	5,000.00
Scheduling Expenses	4,043.15	5,000.00
Referee Expenses	2,379.50	3,000.00
Basecamp Fees	1,500.00	1,500.00
Ringette Ontario Fees	1,000.00	1,200.00
RAMP Fees	813.75	1,000.00
Bank Fees	66.20	
Total Expenses	35,258.49	46,700.00
Surplus (deficit)	13,305.70	6,425.00

Divisions Report - Scott Walker

The season began with strong participation, as over 175 teams from FUN2 through to U19 took part. As the season progressed, additional FUN2 teams joined, contributing to growth ahead of the mid-season reseeding for FUN3 and U12 divisions. The second half of the season placed a greater emphasis on aligning teams by skill level, resulting in more balanced and competitive play across the FUN3 and U12 age groups.

The 2025–2026 season concluded with the LORL Year-End Tournament in London, which featured closely contested matches and a high level of competition. Notably, nine elimination games required overtime, highlighting the intensity and parity among teams.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Jade Legacy for her contributions as U12 Convenor, and to Steve Benger for his support as U14 Convenor.

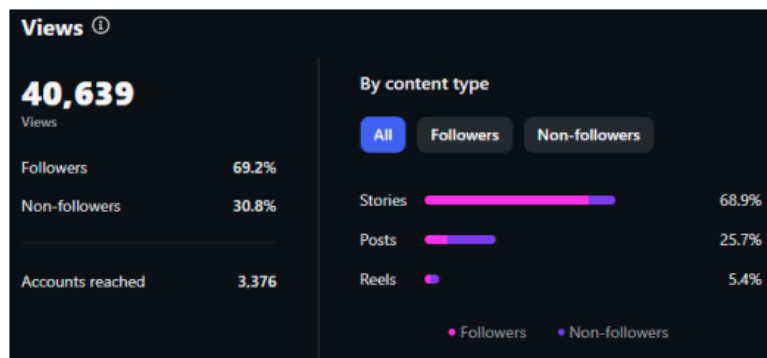
Scheduling Report - Chris Ouellette

Highlights from the previous season:

- 188 teams participated in LORL (an increase of 10 teams over last season)
- 1,749 regular-season games scheduled
- Multiple loops formed by geography where possible to ease travel distances
- Comparative pairing of teams with similar skills to promote equal competition in the 2nd half
- Double-header games provided where feasible to make travel less onerous
- Inclusion of some North Region teams to provide variety and additional competition
- FUN2 teams expanding as league play gains more popularity for this age group
- Games scheduled for the full season in September for U16 & U19 teams

Communications Report - Steve Benger

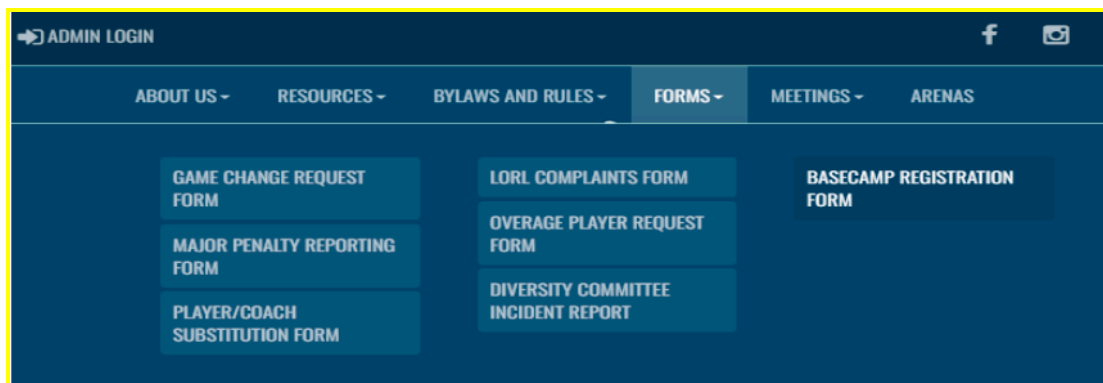
As this ringette season comes to a close, I want to send a huge thank you to the entire LORL community. Taking over mid-term as Communications Director a year ago was definitely nerve-wracking, but watching our social media presence grow so rapidly this season has been incredibly rewarding. That growth is largely thanks to your associations liking, sharing, and cross-promoting our content—not just within LORL, but across the entire ringette community. Thank you for your amazing support!



(LORL Instagram - Last 90 Days)

UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION:

LORL REPS - Please head over to LORL.ca to update your association's Board contact details on the Basecamp registration form. If you've already filled it out previously, FOLLOWING YOUR AGMS, please submit it again so we can ensure all information is accurate and current.



Officiating Report - Jessica Verutis / Emma Bragg-Smith

Adult Ringette Report - Janet in't Veldt

This year we had 15 adult teams mainly from the eastern and central region registered for the 2025-2026 season. I would like to thank all the players, bench staff and office for a successful season.

We hope to run the Adult Cup for the 2026-2027 season.

We are hopeful that more adult teams will join LORL next season.

Competitions Report - Michelle Linton

Year two in the books! There were lots of great games, connections and some upsets but another year is complete.

The executive has learned more and grown and I think our league is strong and growing itself with more teams than last year Hopefully all our age groups will continue to thrive and grow.

Substitutions submitted. Some of these were submitted but not used, but more than 90% were (this includes league and year end games).

League Stats:

FUN3 – 228

Bench Staff - 151

U12A - 61

Goalie – 127

U12B - 259

Skaters – 645

U14 - 84

U16 - 113

We will continue to watch and work with teams on their subs and penalties as we grow and change in our sport.

U19 – 173

Addendum 1 - FUN3 Tiering

Preamble:

1. Tiering will be 1st priority, geography will be second priority
2. Team placement can be adjusted for the second half of the season
3. Clubs may choose to tier or balance teams if they have multiple FUN 3 teams. If teams are balanced, they must be placed in the same tiering division for league play.
4. There will be NO crossover play between tiers - refer to point 1
5. A minimum of 6 teams are needed to create a loop
6. In order for the motion to pass, $\frac{2}{3}$ majority is needed
7. If the motion passes, it will be subject to RO approval

Motion: For the 2026–2027 season, the FUN3 division shall be organized into tiers based on each team’s self-assessed level of play. Wherever possible, teams of comparable skill level shall be grouped according to geographic proximity.

Addendum 2 - New Business and Other Information

LORL Team Fees:

- FUN2: \$150 (\$100 for teams starting in January)
- FUN3 to U19: \$200
- Adult teams: \$50 - Change

Year End Tournament

- RO will NOT be running a U12 Event. This significantly increases the teams for our event.
- The package to Host will be sent out tomorrow. Deadline is June 30, 2026
- Ideally it will be held on one weekend with one club hosting or a couple co-hosting.
- Preferred dates: March 25-27 (Easter) OR April 2-4, 2027

Division Convenors

- We will be asking for Division Convenors at our first general meeting in September. If you are interested or know somebody who would be good for this job, please reach out to the Divisions Director at divisions@lorl.ca.

Team Formation

- U14-U19 teams must be submitted to LORL by Sept. 14, 2026 and FUN 2 to U12 must be submitted by Sept. 21, 2026 so the schedule can be made. Please close registration and schedule ice with this date in mind if sorts need to be completed.

Ice Submission

- Ice submission and black out dates must be submitted by Sept. 14, 2026

Game Play

- U14-U19 games will start Oct. 3, 2026
- FUN 3 and U12 games will start Oct. 10, 2026
- FUN 2 will start Nov. 7, 2026

League Play

- U16 and up will have a schedule made for the entire season - no reseeding. This will happen at the year-end tournament. If the number of teams allows division based on geography it will occur, if not, all teams will play each other.
- For U14 and lower, LORL will be divided by geography (3 areas or 2 areas based on number of teams - 12A may be the exception) with reseeding in December.

Blackout Dates

- Blackout dates are for tournaments only or other events at your home arena. Blackout dates will not be accepted for either end of March break or Family day weekend. This is what substitution requests are for.

Mixed Ringette: LORL will continue as a mixed league from Fun levels to U19. The following will still apply to U14 and up:

- 51% of skaters on the ice must identify as female, while goalies will be excluded from this calculation. Under this model, the maximum number of male skaters permitted during 5 v 5 play would be two and when playing short-handed it would be one.

Overaged Players

- Overage players MUST be approved by LORL. LORL will then send all requests to RO for final approval.
- Overage players may only be from one age group older and female - exceptions will only be made for very rare circumstances.

Underaged Players

- • ALL requests for U14 and up will need to go through Ringette Ontario
- • No approvals are needed for FUN 2- U12.

NEW RULE

Spectator Behaviour

As a league, many of the complaints we had to deal with this year were not about players, but about the behaviour of adults. This is a trend across all sports and not just an issue with Ringette. As a result, we will be dealing with poor behaviour of adults very harshly. The volunteers at LORL cannot be at all games, so we will need the cooperation of Associations. The following process will be added to our rules:

1. **First offence** of poor spectator behaviour towards officials or players or in front of players will go to the association to deal with, on top of any other penalties administered by officials
2. **Second offence** will be a \$1000 fine to the team. Teams will not be able to play until the fine is paid in full
3. **Third offence**, the team will not be allowed to attend the LORL year-end event - if the third offence is a bench staff member, they will not be allowed on a TRF in any capacity in LORL for 3 years.