



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

POSITION REPORTING FOR: Tournament Directors	REPORT DATE: Sunday, April 7, 2024
PERSON REPORTING: Tiffany Zender	WILL YOU BE ATTENDING IN PERSON?: No. I will be on a flight, and will not be able to join online either.

- As I will be away for this meeting, I am going to delay tabling the following discussion points until May. I am away May 2-5, and May 16-19, and May 23-June 2. I would really like to physically be in the room for these discussions, but I understand that it is very difficult to work around my crazy schedule. So, I will do my best to be able to join online if I am not physically available to attend.

Discussion Points to be tabled for meeting in May. It's good to take a look now so we all have ideas to bring to the table. This will help move the conversation along so we can make this as efficient as possible.

- We will use provincials rules going forward for our medal game minor officials. Most people in our association are not comfortable running the clock and scoreboard for higher level divisions. We really have to think of a way to get qualified people to work these shifts. Any suggestions would be helpful.
- We had a bit of an issue with volunteer shifts for our Committee members. When we first sent our committee the volunteer sign up, there were **63** shifts and only **32** Committee members. We had originally told them they would have to work **two, 4 hour shifts**. When told this they were understandably very upset. During a discussion with Aaron on the subject, a suggestion was made to entice committee members to take on the extra shifts: the idea was to offer **\$25/2hour shift**. This small gesture was enough to make the committee members feel heard and understood. Michelle Thoben (iVolunteer coordinator), Rae-Lynn, and myself worked very hard to lean out the volunteer positions, and we were able to whittle it down to 43 shifts. That meant that there would be 11 extra shifts for a max payout of \$550. This was within our budget, and in fact allowed us to raise even more money as our Plinko game and Croc Charm sales alone brought in more than this. At the May meeting we will look to

discuss with the board what kind of parameters should be worked within when making these financial decisions and when we should look to form a sub committee.

- Rae-Lynn and I are actively looking for 2 *Tournament Coordinators* to help us out with the 2025 Tournament. The purpose of these coordinators would be to learn so they can take over for us for the 2026 tournament. This would not be a board position, just a step above a committee volunteer. Please start talking to people and have anyone interested contact us at Tournament@sprucegroveringette.com .

- Some ideas for next year...
 - Our Tournament committee was amazing this year. They put in 14 hours of meetings, 4+ tournament volunteer hours, and countless hours on their own time. Also they raised around \$24,000.00 in sponsorship money. It is really underestimated what our committee puts into our association. We would like to see our committee members compensated in some way for their efforts. Perhaps not requiring committee members to work a bingo shift or something like that. We would love to hear your suggestions at the next meeting.
 - It has been suggested that the board gives permission to someone on the tournament Activities Committee to post directly to SGRA social media. Heather did a great job, but the tournament is a lot. It would be much better for everyone if someone from our tournament Activities committee could go on and schedule all of the posts for the tournament. This of course is a board decision which we will discuss.
 - Rae-Lynn and I suggest considering moving away from using **Sport Accommodations** for hotel bookings next year. As we received complaints during the tournament, some of which concerned safety. As much as the \$3,000.00 kick back is nice, we would hate to see anything happen to one of the visiting teams because Team Sport Accomodotions chose a seedy hotel. Of course this would be a board decision.



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

POSITION REPORTING FOR: U10	REPORT DATE: April 7, 2024
PERSON REPORTING: Anthony Wierenga	WILL YOU BE ATTENDING IN PERSON?: Yes

We wrapped up the 2023/2024 season for U10 by putting together a Prep skate for players potentially playing full ice ringette for the 2024/2025 season. The first session was Step3 game play and the second session was U12 game play. Happy to report it was very successful and I received plenty of positive feedback. It also gave me a good opportunity to receive team jerseys and equipment bags back. Big shout out to Abby and Lindsay for getting some junior referees out to those sessions as well!

Congratulations are also in order for our Step 3 team who brought home a banner as well for winning BGL!

Received some feedback from the Active Start team about the half year registrations. Overall they aren't a big fan of allowing athletes to join halfway through the season. They had some conflict with those parents as far as being involved with the team (reluctant to give seed money and just volunteering in particular). I told them that's a Ringette Alberta thing and most likely we will still have to offer that option. Also, regarding the Active Start program it would be nice to find an experienced female coach to take on the lead and have them coach not just the players but parents to give them an early boost of ringette knowledge. I realize it's a bit of an ask but an hour ice time a week isn't a huge commitment. Just a thought for the overall development of the program and for SGRA.

Also, a big thanks to everyone on the board and the association. I have been proud to be a part of the board and proud of how dedicated everyone is, our association is incredibly respected throughout the community because of that. I can't count how many times I have heard from hockey community members how impressed they are about the ringette culture we have established. Our Sweetheart tourney in particular has been front and center in that!



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

POSITION REPORTING FOR: Coach Director	REPORT DATE: 2024-04-07
PERSON REPORTING: Breanne Brown	WILL YOU BE ATTENDING IN PERSON? Yes

This year I am trying to elicit interest in coaching earlier, so people do not have to apply over July/August while they're enjoying vacation time and the board is not spending time over the summer reaching out to people as we have in years past. This will still need to happen, but hopefully to a lesser extent. In addition, information has been sent out for "off-season" coach clinics" to allow coaches to update their credentials when they're not nearly as busy with the teams. Applications have opened up and there are a total of 17 responses so far (*some for assisting*):

- U10 = 6
- U12 = 3
- U14 = 2
- U16 = 1
- U19 = 1

Year-end coach reviews have opened up and will remain open for another week. A total of 29 responses have been received so far. We're hearing feedback from various sources, but those individuals have not yet submitted written feedback. An email went out to all managers requesting a reminder be sent to their team.



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

POSITION REPORTING FOR: U16 Director	REPORT DATE: 2024APR11
PERSON REPORTING: Kelly Lang	WILL YOU BE ATTENDING IN PERSON?: Yes

Now that the 2023/24 Ringette season has come to a completion I would like to take this time to thank all the Athletes, Coaches, Volunteers and parents for their contributions. It takes a village to raise a Ringette Team!

There were a couple of disciplinary decisions and rulings made by BGL that were enforced by RAB regarding various SGRA U16 players. Those rulings were controversial with the presence of video for each and the SGRA board inquired as such. Those inquiries were ignored and referred to the RAB appeal process that appears to be inefficient and untimely.

All the U16 teams positively represented SGRA through their sportsmanship and community spirit. The 16AA Riot in their inaugural rebrand season had a strong showing and finished near the top in both BGL league play and RAB provincials.

The U16A team was competitive and brought home Gold from the tournament from Hinton, as well as, displayed their community spirit in winning the Spruce Food Bank Female Hygiene Product challenge with 357 donated items.

The U16B team was presented with a challenging season that was met by positive player development and fellowship. With that in mind, the outcome of a successful season shall not be measured by the win and loss record of a team, rather focused on positive player development and the relationships between teammates.

The SGRA board members will review RAB and BGL tiering recommendations and align all decisions to improve SGRA programming and player development in the future.