

### **Active Start & U10 Director:**

We had a Successful season for all U10 teams. Currently working on getting feedback from coaches and managers to see where we can improve.

The week of March 20th the association is putting on two prep skates to get the U10's familiar with Step3 and U12 rule sets (full ice, shot clock, etc)

### **U12 Director:**

All four teams competed in the Black Gold League Championships and finished the season off well including a gold medal win by U12C-2 and a gold medal win by U12B! Way to go team!

There was a minor social media concern raised by one of the other associations which was well managed by the SGRA team affected and they provided notification to the Director but did not need additional support to resolve the matter.

### **U14 Director:**

U14AA went to provincials and are advancing to Westerns at the end of March.

U14A completed their season sadly did not qualify for provincials.

U14B completed their season did not qualify for provincials.

U14C advanced to provincials and placed second.

No unresolved issues from the season outstanding to my knowledge.

### **U16 Director:**

All U16 teams have completed the 2022/23 season!

- U16AA came in 3rd in their division and attended provincials!
- U16A came in 6th place in their division.
- U16B tied for 4th in their pool.

I have canvassed the head coaches and managers separately for feedback on what our association can improve upon to assist volunteers for next year. I am waiting on more responses to come, but a few ideas provided thus far include:

- Create a Flex program or C team for U16B (*Fenna POELZER has been sitting on committee for this*);
- Have the board communicate to parents and players at the start of season and frequently throughout about player/parent conduct to take pressure off coaches/managers;
- Have Board address cell phone usage and social media as this continues to be an issue despite frequent reminders by team staff (*can board purchase [this](#) for each team in U14*

*and above? Jersey numbers can go on and team can see whose phone is missing to self-regulate)\*\*\*VOTE\*\*\**

- Reduce team sizes (*each team had 17 players this year*);
- Develop a road map for coaches on how to address specific issues;
- Create a support network for coaches;
- Request for Live Barn in our rinks.

### Sweetheart Director:

- Overall, the 2023 Sweetheart Tournament was a success! Very positive vibes from most everyone we dealt with. All the teams seemed to really enjoy the tournament and the activities we provided for them.
- **68** teams from Alberta and Saskatchewan participated with **956** athletes and their families coming through the TLC, Stu Barnes, Grant Fuhr and Glenn Hall arenas
- **\$10,709.00** in cash, **\$12,881.75** on square for Raffle and silent auction. (I couldn't separate the square payments so some of that is for socks).
- **\$2,244.30** in cash for sucker tree and socks.
- **\$41,900.00** in team cheques received.
- **\$22,450.00** received in sponsorship.
- We aren't sure what the ice costs or ref costs were. The rest of the expenses for tournament were **\$ 18,466.28**
- **Vendor**, Pressed YYC said the weekend was very successful.
- The **medals** we used (donut shaped) were great. Everyone seemed to really like them.
- People were extremely positive about the tournament; many commented that it was very well organized and would be applying to return next year. People also enjoyed their **swag** bags in particular the socks and heart glasses. Heart and Hustle (Keychain and Gatorade) awards were also well received.
- We had a few issues with coaches, players, and fan behavior. Most were handled verbally and that seemed to work. However, the coach for Airdrie U14C was **suspended** for 2 tournament games for abusive language towards refs.
- St. Albert U12C had to **forfeit** 3 of their wins due to the use of too many affiliate players (using affiliates when roster is over 12 players).
- Some ideas for next year...
  - Sweetheart Tournament Coordinators **meet with team parents** to talk about Sweetheart Committee volunteer opportunity in order to obtain volunteers.
  - Put more pressure on Agrena to open their **concessions** during tournament games. All other facilities were very cooperative about opening.
  - Look at not using **Sport Accommodations** for hotel bookings next year. We received complaints about this service this year, but we aren't sure if that warrants not using them. Would like to discuss this with Joline to see how much money we receive from their service.
  - Advertise Come Try Ringette at the tournament with posters and maybe a table.

- Have a small scale Come Try Ringette hour on one of the ice sheets at the Tri during the tournament (if we have enough ice available for this of course).
  - We could advertise this at schools starting in the fall.
- Steeper **fines** for individuals not signing up for shifts or no shows. We had two people not show up for one final game in the box. Thank goodness we had some good people step up to help out.
- Coordinators will ask responsible committee members to help out at a higher level during the **tournament weekend** so they can have breaks. The weekend is too much for coordinators. No one wants to volunteer for the coordinator position because of the hours put in over the tournament weekend. We need to make the position appear less daunting. It is a great position and very rewarding, but we just need to tweak those hours on the tournament weekend.

### **Officiating:**

There were a few incidents of coaches from other associations mistreating referees during the Sweetheart tournament, resulting in one suspension and a few verbal warnings. Thanks to all who supported our referees all season! We will be recruiting for refs starting late next month and will provide information to our members to ensure that anyone interested has a chance to apply. There are no ref courses scheduled until the fall.

### **Flex Program:**

Efforts to get the flex program to gain traction in the Edmonton area remain slow though Calgary was able to support the program for the second session this season. We continue to work with RAB to try and get this option available to our players who may choose to leave the sport due to school/work/other conflicts that do not provide enough time to play Classic ringette. If Flex is offered in the coming season, SGRA will likely be asked to provide a one hour ice slot for this team about every second week.

### **Player Development:**

Working on a 3 on 3 tournament.