

## **Notes from Black Gold League AGM**

Saturday, May 14, 2023 12:31pm-4:42pm

### **Elected Positions**

- President – Wayne
- VP – Rob
- Secretary – Chelsea
- Treasurer – Tony
- BGL Ref in Chief Sylvie

### **Appointed Positions**

- Statistician – Lee
- Webmaster – Lee
- Scheduler – Sandra
- Referee Assignor – Kim and Christine
- Officials Development – Dan
- Ref Admin – Taylor

**Executive Reports** – they will email the reports, but I took some notes on important subjects that would affect our association...

- **President**
  - Officials – There is a major shortage.
  - Association need to work hard on spectator and coach behavior.
- **VP**
  - Spectator liaison – coaches/managers need to get better at recording this on game sheets.
  - Association may receive fines for not listing spectator liaison.
- **Treasurer**
  - Associations will be receiving refund for reffing for Session 3. Officials retainers from last season will be returned.
  - Going forward Session 3 fees will be added to league fees (approx.. \$35/team)
- **Web and Stats**
  - Lee is cleaning up the web page to get rid of old information.
    - Electronic game sheets will be user-friendly and easy to find.
    - Ticker will be used for session 3 only.
  - Electronic game sheets show in real time on the website.
  - Many ice allocators are using outdated codes that do not exist in RAMP.
    - BGL will be sending a list of all the new RAMP codes so everyone can start using them.

- All players have to be listed **exactly** the same every game, every year in order to be able to consistently find their stats. Associations should decide what this will be to keep it consistent throughout the years. (i.e. Ally Jones or A. Jones, etc.)
  - Chinook League is being mandated by RAB to use RAMP for consistency.
- **Scheduler**
  - Christmas break blackout times – Ice Allocator should vie for blackout dates during PSD break and or any other school division that is affected.
- **Officials Report**
  - A lot of ringette refs were lost during COVID.
  - We currently are working with a lot of new refs.
  - Refs took on a lot more games than they usually do in a season.
  - Anticipating an increase in players, but we aren't recruiting enough refs to keep up with this increase.
  - Ref Clinics will be held online and in person – BGL is still building the material for this.
  - BGL would like to have more mentor reffing where possible instead of 2 newer refs working together.
  - BGL is proposing an increase to pay structure for refs.
  - BGL will reimburse refs for clinics after their 5<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> game that they work.
  - Try to recruit parents or other adults to become refs.
  - Zero tolerance for abusive behaviour toward refs.
  - U12 and U14 coaches need to be better educated on rule application so they understand the refs better.
  - Sylvie will be putting together a video for coaches and parents to view in hopes that they will better understand and cut down on confusion and tension.
- U10 windup – Step 3 championship format was well received. We will continue to use this format with banners and medals.
  - Intent for hosting U10 and U12 championships can be submitted as soon as an association knows they want to host. The critical date for this will be set to sometime right after repooling in order to give associations enough time to plan.
- February and March Session 3 ice scheduling is difficult for associations because BGL has all of the ice so the association's allocators are getting a lot of flack from parents and coaches because their schedule is unknown until the week of... - BGL will try to figure out how to make this more fair to the associations. It is complicated.
- It was suggested that no banners be given out for session 2. Both Banners for black and gold will be given out, but perhaps it will be done at a different time.
  - Session 3 is actually playdowns, but RAB will not let us call it playdowns.
  - Until repooling, we can't start counting games toward league championships.
  - This is what makes the timing a bit difficult to determine.
- Grand Prairie and Peace River have approached BGL to join our U12 Championships. The general consensus was that we should not allow them to join the championships, but encourage them to apply to our tournaments. A league championship should remain with teams within the league.

### **League Play**

- 129 exhibition games were scheduled in the 22/23 season.
- Refs are overworked
- It was suggested that practice ice for exhibition games not be allowed at A levels or higher.  
Teams may source out their own ice and pay for it on their own.
  - This may reduce the number of exhibition games and free up refs.
- Associations should survey players (14A-U19AA) at the end of session 1 and again at the end of session 2 to find out
  - How do they feel about the number of games played?
  - Are they feeling burned out?
  - Do they feel they have enough time to practice?

### **Tournaments**

- In session 1 there are 7 tournaments. This creates major problems for ice allocators and BGL due to too many reschedules. Not sure what to do about it, but maybe something can be brought to BGL at the August meeting.

### **Minor Officials**

- Going back to pre-covid ways...
  - Home – in charge of score clock, electronic game sheets, and one door.
  - Away – in charge of shot clock and one door
  - Going to go to 4 minor officials per game (can have 5 if they want)
    - 2 Home
    - 2 Away

### **Electronic Game Sheets**

- Mandatory for 23/24 season
- A manual will be sent out to teach how to use it.
- Goal tender MUST be added in order for it to work.
- It was suggested that 3 people per team be in charge of game sheets for the season. These people will be the keepers of the codes.
- Managers will receive the codes. They will distribute to the 3 game sheet keepers.
- Minor officials and parent liaison MUST be added to every game sheet.
- Cost of electronic game sheets is the same or less than paper game sheets.

### **Travel**

- Lacombe and Red Deer will play double headers when they travel or host away teams to cut down on time and cost of travel.

### **Discipline Policy**

- Criteria for automatic suspension for penalty minutes will be amended.

### **Roundtable discussion**

- Pembina would like to combine with SGRA for coaching and player development clinics. They will be reaching out to us via email to start a conversation.
- St. Albert needs ice for their tournament in October. If there is any extra ice, they will buy it from us or any other neighboring associations.
- Idea for teams, have 2 parents tracking shots. Helps with goalie development.