

St. Marys Ringette Association Annual General Meeting May 6th 2020 – 7pm via Zoom

Attendees

A. Martin, A. Hachler, A. Hollistelle, A Cunningham, B. Feeney, B. Green, B. Pickel, C. Venn, C. Mckichan, C. Hutton, C. McMichael, C. Sharpe, C.Graham, G. Shearer, E.Thomson, I. Mckichan, J. Burlingham, J. Brodhagen(Jason) J.Brodhagen(Jen), J. Vermieren, J.Cates, J.Habermahl, K. Mclean, K.Garniss, K. Jennings, K. Linton, L.Boyer, L.Black, L. Linton, M.Jennings, M. Murphy, M. Grant, M.Garniss, M. Lynch, T. Fluttert, M.Richardson, N.Pickel, P. Westlaken, R.Myers, R. Shaerer, R. Green, R.Forrester, S. Devries, S.Unich, S. Goad. T. Sterkenburg, T. Hunter, S. Forbes, S. Robertson, V.Goad, G.Borg, D.Cunningham

Meeting called to order: Lisa Linton

1. Ringette Ontario Sanction for 2020-2021 Executive Board of Directors

- all incoming board of directors members must have governance training completed by September 1, 2020
- all incoming board of directors members must sign a directors agreement
- all incoming board of directors members must read, understand and sign the “Code of Conduct and Ethics Policy”
- all incoming board of directors members must review and sign the “Conflict of Interest Policy”
- strongly encourage that all board of directors take the “ Respect in Sport for Parents” by September 1, 2020

Question from B. Green as to why there were sanctions placed on the board from Ringette Ontario.

Response from C. Sharpe

- multiple appeals, investigations and issues with the board of directors and SMRA
- communication between RO and SMRA need to be more fluid
- the need to understand the obligation that each board member has
- understanding conflict of interest

2. 2019-2020 AGM Minutes Approval

- Motion to approve: C. McKichan Second: C. Hutton – passes

3. Presidents Report

Well we all know I enjoy a little time with the attention on me whether it be here on the zoom screen or the karaoke machine. I want to start of cheery and bubbly like I always do – lift you all up for a great job this year, but the elephant in the room says otherwise, so lets face that elephant head on. My goal at the beginning of the season was to be transparent – the good the bad and the ugly. Chris Sharpe and Peter are in our meeting today as it was advised to us by RO to have WRRRA presence at our AGM. I believe all of our on ice teams had a fantastic year, yet your executive team struggled. And for that I take the fall. I was voted in to be a leader, be kind and transparent. And although I put my heart and soul and everything I could give into this associations, genuinely doing my best I failed. Kind messages in my inbox for not standing for president nomination may suggest otherwise. But our board has faced multiple formal complaints, 2 tribunals within western region. And late last week hit our pride pretty hard with some tough allegations of our wrongdoing from Western Region/ORR. Errors in

judgement, repeated conflicts of interest, misapprehension of fact and have not created an environment of transparency and collaboration with their members.

I learned the 24 hour rule is real – in all life situations. Receiving such gut-wrenching news when we have all worked so hard brought me to a pretty dark place. I had a rough week – as did many of our members.

I have crawled out of my dark hole, planted a new crop of corn enjoyed the fresh air with my family and took time to reflect. For some things, now in the light I see where I went terribly wrong, and for those things I sincerely apologise and will accept my actions my repercussions. I am in the process of accepting apologizing and moving forward.

But I would not be able to sleep tonight if I didn't mention my extreme disgust on the level this got to. We are Volunteers. A group of 12 – all with different opinion's situations, emotions and reasons for being part of this board. We are here for a children's sport – not an essential, a children's sport. A place to make friends, learn teamwork, and make some fantastic memories along the way. Lies stretching the truth, twisting and turning emails conversations, stink eyes in the hallway, allegations, out of context conversations or decisions made for personal gain or even worse not speaking up when the lies lay before you and you know they are in fact lies. This sport is about the kids not the parents Having said that – I hope to lay this negativity to rest. Right here right now and whomever takes over the new board, I encourage you to work tirelessly to create a space without negativity. Our members deserve this.

To start this new momentum, I want to share with you some of our greatest accomplishments of this past season. Starring with my very favourite, maintain membership with our open C team, these girls are the lifeline of our sport, they give back whenever we ask – I know we were planning a big old surprise to honour them on March 22nd that has been postponed, but I am very grateful that you girls want to remain part of the Snipers family.

Chris Came into this family late in the game, he brought forward many perspectives, from help with accounting questions, ice scheduling, membership also with Dorchester board of directors experience and a has a daughter that is goalie – he gave many unique fresh perspectives and was an absolute asset to this team.

Andrea our webmaster/bond babe. She is one of my 2 secret secretaries – she brought forward the new guideline for bond hours, I think for the first time ever, we had every spot filled at our tournament. She created the “blue ring review” a way to help us be more consistently transparent as a board. The survey reviews were loving Andrea's newsletter. Andrea just never seems to stop, she raised her hand time and time again when help is needed. Andrea did all the leg work to get our policies updated. Seriously this girl can do it all! But my most favourite thing you bring to the board is your compassion – you have a huge heart and you stick up for the underdog and you wear your heart on your sleeve and bring so many great traits to this board.

Sarah was roped in over the summer – told her it was easy... she could do it all from home. Her learning curve was steep, but she strapped on them hiking shoes and faced that mountain. A wise woman once told me when ice scheduler come up for grabs... SIT on your hands. Thank you for stepping into this extremely challenging role – the season simply cannot function without all your hard work.

Carol – Is our seasoned Pro at Equipment manager. She keeps the ringette room from being funky, but even more important – ensures that all teams have what they need. She has said in the past hat this is her last season helping on the board, I think that was 5 season ago. Her name is not on the nomination list to continue on the board, but I wouldn't bet against it. Thank you Carol for all your hard work and the fresh perspective you bring.

Cathy- I could get a little misty here, I roped Cathy into joining the board many many moons ago, she is a work force, get done what needs to get done, This year she kept our freezers full of chicken, headed up the very successful bottle drive, and gave us all one heck of a hangover following the epic karaoke

wing night. I know this past year for you has been hard outside the board, but thank you for never giving up on us. You have set the biggest fundraising goal we have ever seen.

Christen – Our Promotions director, I'm not sure if you have ever seen the list of all that promotions entails... but it is a lot –This job supports almost all the activities we do over the season. she kept the memes and information coming your way via social media, she hosted 2 CTR events, kept the community up to date on all our happenings kept us looking good In our snipers gear and designed and ordered our new sniper medals- and got the funds to make that happen. Beyond all this Christen took on both Head coach position on the U10 Graham team AND took over the LTS program in the New Year. You have a way with kids that is like no other, we are very lucky to have you as part of this board and I am happy that you are choosing to stick around.

Rebecca – Head coach to our amazing u12 team that was successful enough to move up to PP in the New Year. All the while balancing 2 open Teams, a Diner and oh yea, player coach development too. She has a passion for this sport like no other. She hosted the coaching course here in St Marys and successfully obtained coaching certificates for 5-6 new coaches, Created coaches corner a support group for our coaches, she ran power skating session and the main focus for the year was goalie development – with over 15 kids within our association attending the clinics a child attending from every age division and 2 maybe 3 that will dedicate to this position next season at U12.

Kim – WRRL – took her role and rocked it. For those of you who know Kim her personality is infectious and you just want to be around her. She also assistant coached the u7 team this year too.

Melanie – we really gave it to you this year – with the website switch over to RAMP and launching the new Registration system with RAMP. This was a year of learning curves with this role and you killed it. I do hope you stick with this role and I know how many hours you put into making it the success that it is.

Nicole – Secretary like no other, have you seen this girls notes... they are unbelievable, all the while coaching the U7 team. She has a way with the little people. I know that at Christmas time, you had a record – where not one u7 kid had cried yet this season.

Erin – You were unsure, about the treasurer role, but you jumped in and ran with it, switching banks getting the QuickBooks up and running for our board incorporation. Not only this but jumping into the assistant coach role for u10 where there was a need. You went above and beyond

Carrie – A passion for the sport like I have NEVER seen before. Your list is long really really long – you have dedicated full time hours to this sport and association, Vice President, Head coach U10, Chaired an extremely successful full tournament than went extremely smooth. You have a way with the kids that gets them excited about the sport – growing the 2010 age group from 3, 10 and I think we are now at 19. You introduced us to Snipe Academy, got the kids excited for AAA games, encouraged, you have a way with promoting the sport and getting people excited. You know we struggled with goalies early in the season and you made the goalie the most important position on the ice. Beyond all of your hard work, you were rock, said yes to Everything I needed often long before I asked, drafting emails for me doing much of the leg work and not getting the credit you deserve. You sought out clarification when needed and tried to be sure of a decision before you made it. Thank you for being my sidekick. Together as a board we also had a very successful parade turn out, applied for multiple town grants, we hosted for the first time a provincial information night to try and create transparency. Hosted and fostered in 8 level 1 refs. Had the best turnout for a Lincolns hockey game when it was Snipers night, showcasing our sport and our little players singing voices. We hit the slopes at river valley, and sang our hearts out at wing night. We were successful to co host the 2021 U12PP provincials- (which was revoked with the introduction of COVID). We moved over to RAMP website, incorporated our association, updated all our policies and worked with a lawyer to update SMRA bylaws. We invited in WRRRA to our meeting to help do better as a group.

These are the reasons we end this chapter on a high note. We did it team – All the goals we set for ourselves as a board we met or even far surpassed. I feel accomplished and worthy and at the end of all

of this – I hold my head up proud for an amazing year!

4. Treasurers Report

- extra money in the budget due to lost ice times (covid-19) and surpassing our fundraising goal for the year
- \$ in the account
- agreement for half ice board sharing with SMHA signed

Motion to Approve: M. Richardson, Second: L. Black – passed

5. Registrars Report

- good year for membership
- transition between the old registration system to RAMP
- as of May 6th 2020 there are 68 registrants for the 2020-2021 season
- few minor glitches with system

6. Committee Reports

- Bond Coordinator/Webmaster
 - change in bond hours – a positive change, hours that needed to be covered were always covered
 - new website is up and running
- Fundraising
 - amazing year for fundraising
 - bottle drive was a wonderful success

Motion to Approve Reports: K. Garniss, Second: M. Murphy – passed

7. Constitution/Bylaw Amendments

- changing wording for “Constitution” to “Bylaws”
- modelled after Ringette Ontario
- worked with a sports lawyer to develop bylaws

B.Green questioning Draft Bylaws in the areas of voting for President, Past President and Proxy voting

Item A: Proxy

- questions regarding how it will work
- proxy voting is common
- is it necessary to proxy vote with the changing of technology and the use of holding meeting online

motion to vote on proxy voting at a later date : L. Black, Second: E. Thomson – not approved

motion for new board to review proxy voting : A. Hachler, Second: B.Green – passed

Item B: President voting – leave as is

Item C: Past President Voting

- add an example

- has to accept the position, voting in of the past president

Motion to table President/Past President voting until next AGM: B.Green, Second: R. Green
not passed

Motion to leave Past President wording as is proposed: C. McKichan, Second: G. Shearer
Objections: R. Green, B.Green
Abstain: 0
Motion Carried

Amended motion to accept new bylaws with changes as agreed upon: M. Richardson Second: N.Pickel
Objections: 0
Abstain: 0
Motion Carried

8. Executive Board of Directors Positions

Current (2019-2020)	
President : Lisa Linton	President : M. Lynch intent, no objections - acclaimed
Vice President : Carrie McKichan	Vice President : K. Garniss intent, no objections - acclaimed
Secretary : Nicole Pickel - Resigned	Secretary : C. Mckichan nominates B.Feeney – accepts, no objections - acclaimed
Treasurer : Erin Thomson	Treasurer : R. Green intent, R. Shearer nominates Erin Thomson – accepts G. Shearer nominates A. Cunningham - decline E. Thomson
Registrar : Melanie Murphy	Registrar : M. Murphy Intent – no objections - acclaimed
Fundraising Chair :Cathy Hutton	Fundraising Chair : Nomination C. Hutton – accepts, no objections - acclaimed
Sponsorship Director : Kelsey Schaefer - Resigned	Sponsorship Director : Terri Fluttert intent – no objections - acclaimed
Promotions Director : Christen Graham	Promotions Director : Rebecca Shearer intent, Nomination A. Cunningham - declined – no objections - acclaimed
Ice Scheduler : Sarah Devries	Ice Scheduler : M.Grant nominates L.Linton – declines, S. Forbes nominates C. Mckichan-declines, Lori Black intent – no objections - acclaimed
Equipment Manager : Carol Venn	Equipment Manager : K.Garniss nominates A.

	Hachler – declines C. McKichan nominates B.Pickel – accepts – no objections - acclaimed
WORL Rep: Chris McMichael	WORL Rep: Jason Brodhagen intent, Nomination A. Cunningham – decline – no objections - acclaimed
WRRL Rep: Kim Garniss	WRRL Rep: Christen Graham intent – no objections - acclaimed
Bond Coordinator/Webmaster: Andrea Martin	Bond Coordinator/Webmaster: R. Shearer nominates A. Martin – accepts – no objections - acclaimed
Coach & Player Development : Rebecca Myers	Coach & Player Development : Rebecca Myers Intent – no objections - acclaimed

9.New Business

- Looking for tournament chair

Motion to Close: E. Thomson, Second: C.Venn