

**ST. THOMAS RINGETTE ASSOCIATION  
BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE I                      GENERAL**

1.1     Purpose – These By-laws relate to the general conduct of the affairs of the St. Thomas Ringette Association.

1.2     Definitions – The following terms have these meanings in these By-laws:

- a) *Act* – the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010, as amended.
- b) *Auditor* – an individual, partnership, or corporation appointed by the Members at the Annual Meeting to audit the books, accounts, and records of the Corporation for a report to the Members at the next Annual Meeting in accordance with the Act.
- c) *Board* – the Board of Directors of the Corporation.
- d) *Chair* – the President of the Board.
- e) *Corporation* – the St. Thomas Ringette Association.
- f) *Days* – days including weekends and holidays.
- g) *Director* – an individual elected or appointed to serve on the Board pursuant to these By-laws.
- h) *Extraordinary Resolution* – a resolution passed by not less than eighty (80) percent of the votes cast on that resolution.
- i) *In Writing* – shall include both hard copy and electronic communication in a form determined appropriate by the Board.
- j) *Officer* – an individual elected or appointed to serve as an Officer of the Corporation pursuant to these By-laws.
- k) *Ordinary Resolution* – a resolution passed by a majority of the votes cast on that resolution or consented to by all voting Members entitled to vote on that resolution.
- l) *Special Resolution* – a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the votes cast on that resolution. Special Resolutions considered by the Members must be submitted to a Special Meeting of the Members unless each Member present at the meeting consents to the resolution.

1.3     Registered Office – The registered office of the Corporation will be located within the Province of Ontario.

1.4     No Gain for Members – The Corporation will be carried on without the purpose of gain for its Members and any profits or other accretions to the Corporation will be used in promoting its objects.

1.5     Ruling on By-laws – Except as provided in the Act, the Board will have the authority to interpret any provision of these By-laws that is contradictory, ambiguous, or unclear, provided such interpretation is consistent with the objects of the Corporation.

1.6     Conduct of Meetings – Unless otherwise specified in these By-laws, meetings of the Members and meetings of the Board will be conducted according to Robert’s Rules of Order (current edition).

1.7     Interpretation – Words importing the singular will include the plural and vice versa and words importing persons will include bodies corporate. Words importing an organization name, title, or program will include any successor organizational name, title, or program.

**ARTICLE II                      MEMBERSHIP**

2.1     Categories – The Corporation has the following categories of Member:

- a) Player Member – Any individual who is an active participant in the sport of ringette with the Corporation.

- b) Regular Member – Any individual who is a coach, official or administrator of the Corporation.
- c) Director Member – Any individual who is a Director of the Corporation.

2.2 Registration – Each category of Member must register with the Corporation and agree to abide by the Corporation's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations or, if the Member is under the age of 18, have a parent or guardian agree to abide by the Corporation's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations on behalf of the Member.

### **Authority of Members**

2.3 Membership Authority – The Members of the Corporation will have the following powers:

- a) To appoint the Auditor
- b) To amend the By-laws
- c) To elect Directors; and
- d) As provided in the Act and in these By-laws

### **Admission and Renewal of Members**

2.4 Admission and Renewal of Members – Excluding individual who are Directors, any candidate will be admitted or renewed as a Member if:

- a) The candidate member makes an application for membership in a manner prescribed by the Corporation;
- b) The candidate member was previously a Member, the candidate member was a Member in good standing when the candidate ceased to be a Member;
- c) The candidate member has paid fees as prescribed by the Board;
- d) The candidate member agrees to uphold and comply with the Corporation's governing documents;
- e) The candidate member meets any other condition of membership determined by the Board;
- f) For Director Members, the candidate member is not an employee or contractor receiving \$500 or more in compensation from the Corporation;
- g) The candidate member has met the applicable definition listed in Section 2.1; and
- h) Excluding Directors, the candidate member has been approved by Ordinary Resolution by the Board or by any committee or individual delegated this authority by the Board.

### **Membership Fees and Duration**

2.5 Duration – Unless otherwise determined by the Board, membership with the Corporation begins as described below and ends as described below or when the member resigns or is terminated from membership:

- (a) Player Member – begins on the date the Board accepts the member's registration and ends on a date determined by the Board common to all Player Members
- (b) Regular Member – begins on the date the Board accepts the member's registration and ends on a date, determined by the Board, that the Regular Member is no longer acting as a coach, official, or administrator with the Corporation
- (c) Director Member – begins on the date the Director assumes office in accordance with these By-laws and ends when the individual ceases to be a Director.

2.6 Fees – Membership fees will be determined by the Board.

2.7 Deadline – Members will be notified in writing of the membership fees at any time payable, and if the membership fees are not paid within sixty (60) days of the membership renewal date or notice of default, the Member in default will automatically cease to be a Member of the Corporation.

### **Transfer, Suspension, and Termination of Membership**

2.8 Transfer – Membership in the Corporation is non-transferable.

2.9 Suspension – A Member may be suspended, pending the outcome of a discipline hearing in accordance with the Corporation’s policies related to discipline, or by Special Resolution of the Board at a meeting of the Board provided the Member has been given notice of and the opportunity to be heard at such meeting.

2.10 Effects of Suspension – A suspended Member is not in good standing, may not vote at meetings of the Members, is not permitted to have any sport-related involvement with the Corporation, and may be subject to a probationary period before being reinstated to good standing.

2.11 Termination – Membership in the Corporation will terminate immediately upon:

- a) The expiration of the Member’s membership, unless renewed in accordance with these By-laws;
- b) The Member fails to maintain any of the qualifications or conditions of membership described in Section 2.1 of these By-laws;
- c) Resignation by the Member by giving written notice to the Corporation;
- d) Dissolution of the Corporation;
- e) The Member’s death;
- f) A decision made by the Board (or designate) or a disciplinary panel in accordance with these By-laws or the Corporation’s policies; or
- g) By Ordinary Resolution of the Board or of the Members at a duly called meeting, provided fifteen (15) days’ notice is given and the Member is provided with reasons and the opportunity to be heard. Notice will set out the reasons for termination of membership and the Member receiving the notice will be entitled to submit a written submission opposing the termination.

2.12 May Not Resign – A Member may not resign from the Corporation when the Member is subject to disciplinary investigation or action by the Corporation.

2.13 Arrears – A Member will be expelled from the Corporation for failing to pay membership dues or monies owed to the Corporation by the deadline dates prescribed by the Board. Any dues, subscriptions, or other monies owed to the Corporation by suspended or expelled Members will remain due.

2.14 Discipline – A Member may be disciplined in accordance with the Corporation’s policies and procedures relating to the discipline of Members or, upon fifteen (15) days’ written notice to a Member the Board may pass a resolution authorizing disciplinary action or the termination of membership for violating any provision of the articles or By-laws. The notice shall set out the reasons for the disciplinary action or termination of membership. The Member receiving the notice shall be entitled to give the Board a written submission opposing the disciplinary action or termination not less than five (5) days before the end of the 15-day period. The Board shall consider the written submission of the Member before making a final decision regarding disciplinary action or termination of membership.

### **Good Standing**

2.15 Definition – A Member will be in good standing provided that the Member:

- a) Has not been suspended or expelled from membership, or had other membership restrictions or sanctions imposed;
- b) Has completed and remitted all documents as required by the Corporation;
- c) Has complied with the By-laws, policies, and rules of the Corporation;
- d) Is not subject to a disciplinary investigation or action by the Corporation, or if subject to disciplinary action previously, has fulfilled all terms and conditions of such disciplinary action to the satisfaction of the Board; and
- e) Has paid all required membership fees.

2.16 Privileges of Good Standing - Subject to these By-laws and other governing documents of the Corporation, Members in good standing may be entitled to the following privileges:

- a) To serve as a Director or Officer of the Corporation;
- b) To be a member of a Committee of the Corporation;
- c) To attend, participate, and vote at meetings of the Members;
- d) To participate in the Corporation's activities; and
- e) To participate in other events associated with the Corporation.

2.17 Cease to be in Good Standing – Members that cease to be in good standing, as determined by the Board (or designate) or a disciplinary panel, will not be entitled to vote at meetings of the Members or be entitled to the benefits and privileges of membership until such time as the Board is satisfied that the Member has met the definition of good standing.

### **ARTICLE III MEETINGS OF MEMBERS**

3.1 Annual Meeting – The Corporation will hold meetings of Members at such date, time and place as determined by the Board within the Province of Ontario. The Annual Meeting will be held within fifteen (15) months of the last Annual Meeting and within six (6) months of the Corporation's fiscal year end. Any Member, upon request, will be provided, not less than twenty-one (21) days before the annual meeting, with a copy of the approved financial statements, auditor's report (if any) or review engagement report (if any).

3.2 Special Meeting – A Special Meeting of the Members may be called at any time by the President, Ordinary Resolution of the Board or upon the written requisition of ten percent (10%) or more of the voting Members for any purpose connected with the affairs of the Corporation that does not fall within the exceptions listed in the Act or is otherwise inconsistent with the Act, within twenty-one (21) days from the date of the deposit of the requisition. If the Directors do not call a meeting within twenty-one (21) days of receiving the requisition, any Member who signed the requisition may call the meeting.

3.3 Special Business - All business transacted at a Special Meeting of Members and all business transacted at an annual meeting or meetings of Members, except consideration of the financial statements, auditor's report or review engagement report, if any, election of Directors and re-appointment of the incumbent auditor or person conducting the review engagement is special business.

3.4 Participation/Holding by Electronic Means – Any person entitled to attend a meeting of Members may participate in the meeting by telephonic or electronic means that permit all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting if the Corporation makes such means available. A person so participating in a meeting is deemed to be present at the meeting. The Board or Members, as the case may be, may determine that the meeting be held entirely by telephonic or electronic means that permit all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting.

3.5 Notice – In accordance with and subject to the Act, notice of the time and place of a meeting of Members shall be given to each Member entitled to vote at the meeting by the following means:

- a) by mail, courier or personal delivery to each member entitled to vote at the meeting, during a period of 10 to 50 days before the day on which the meeting is to be held; or
- b) by telephonic, electronic or other communication facility to each Member entitled to vote at the meeting, during a period of 10 to 50 days before the day on which the meeting is to be held.

Notice of a meeting of Members shall also be given to each Director and to the auditor or person appointed to conduct a review engagement during a period of 10 to 50 days before the day on which the meeting is to be held. Notice of any meeting of Members at which special business is to be transacted shall state the nature of that business in sufficient detail to permit the Member to

form a reasoned judgment on the business and provide the text of any Special Resolution or By-law to be submitted to the meeting. The Directors may fix a record date for determination of Members entitled to receive notice of any meeting of Members in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

3.6 Waiver of Notice – Any person who is entitled to notice of a meeting of the Members may waive notice, and attendance of the person at the meeting is a waiver of notice of the meeting, unless the person attends the meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business on the grounds that the meeting was not lawfully called in accordance with these By-laws.

3.7 Error or Omission in Giving Notice – No error or omission in giving notice of any meeting of the Members shall invalidate the meeting or make void any proceedings taken at the meeting.

3.8 New Business – No other item of business will be included in the notice of the meeting of the Members unless notice in writing of such other item of business, or a Member's proposal, has been submitted to the Board thirty (30) days prior to the meeting of the Members in accordance with procedures as approved by the Board. Copies of all such proposals together with copies of any amendments thereto then proposed by the Board and copies of all resolutions put forward by the Board shall be sent to all Members with the agenda and the notice calling an Annual Meeting.

3.9 Quorum – Ten (10) of the voting Members present will constitute a quorum. If a quorum is present at the opening of a meeting of the Members, the Members present may proceed with the business of the meeting, even if a quorum is not present throughout the meeting. For the purpose of determining quorum, a Member may be present in person or by telephonic or by other electronic means.

3.10 Scrutineers – At the beginning of each meeting, the Board may appoint one or more scrutineers who will be responsible for ensuring that votes are properly cast and counted.

3.11 Adjournments – With the majority consent of the Members present and after quorum is ascertained, the Members may adjourn a meeting of Members and no notice is required for continuation of the meeting if the meeting is held within thirty (30) days. Any business may be brought before or dealt with at any adjourned meeting which might have been brought before or dealt with at the original meeting in accordance with the notice calling the same.

3.12 Attendance – The only persons entitled to attend a meeting of the Members are the Members, the Directors, the auditors of the Corporation (or the person who has been appointed to conduct a review engagement, if any), and others who are entitled or required under any provision of the Act to be present at the meeting. Any other person may be admitted only if invited by the Chair.

3.13 Chair – The chair of Members' meetings shall be the President or the Vice-President if the President is absent or unable to act. If the President and the Vice-President are absent, the Members who are present and entitled to vote at the meeting shall choose a Member to chair the meeting.

### **Voting at Meetings of Members**

3.14 Voting Rights – Members in good standing at the time of the meeting of the Members at which a vote is to be taken have the following voting rights at all meetings of the Members:

- a) Player Members have one vote each.
- b) Regular Members have one vote each.
- c) Director Members have one vote each.

3.15 Voting Powers – Voting Members who are 18 years old or older at the time of the meeting of the Members may exercise their own vote. Voting Members who are younger than 18 years old at the time of the meeting may have their vote exercised at meetings of Members by a parent or guardian. For clarity, a parent or guardian with multiple children registered with the Corporation who are younger than 18 years old may exercise one vote per child. Also, two parents/guardians of the same child who is registered with the Corporation and who is younger than 18 years old may both attend a meeting of the Members but may only exercise one vote. For further clarity, Members who are Directors vote during elections (which includes a sitting Director voting on the issue of their re-election, if applicable).

3.16 Record Date for Voting – The Board may set a date as the record date for the purpose of determining Members entitled to vote at any meeting of Members. The record date must not precede the date on which the meeting is to be held by more than ten (10) days. If no record date is set, the record date is 5:00pm on the day immediately preceding the first date on which the notice is sent or, if no notice is sent, the beginning of the meeting.

3.17 Proxy Voting – No Member shall be permitted to vote by absentee/mail-in or proxy voting. For clarity, a Member entitled to vote at a meeting of Members, who is present via electronic means, may vote by means of a telephonic, electronic or other communication facility if the Corporation has prescribed the procedures for collecting, counting, and reporting the results of any vote that enables the votes to be gathered in a manner that permits their subsequent verification, and permits the tallied votes to be presented to the Corporation without it being possible for the Corporation to identify how each Member voted.

3.18 Voting by Electronic Means – A Member may vote by electronic means if:

- a) The Corporation has made available a procedure that permits voting by electronic means;
- b) The votes may be verified as having been made by the Member entitled to vote; and
- c) The Corporation is not able to identify how each Member voted.

3.19 Determination of Votes – Votes will be determined by a show of hands, orally, or electronic ballot, except in the case of elections which require a secret ballot, unless a secret or recorded ballot is requested by a Member.

3.20 Resolutions – Except as otherwise provided in these By-laws, an Ordinary Resolution will decide each issue. In the case of a tie, the issue is defeated.

## **ARTICLE IV GOVERNANCE**

### **Composition of the Board**

4.1 Directors – The Board will consist of between three (3) and twenty (20) Director positions.

4.2 Number of Directors – Prior to a meeting of the Members at which Directors will be elected, the Board will determine the number of Director-at-Large positions on the Board provided that:

- a) The Board has been empowered by the Members, by Special Resolution, to determine the number of Director positions; and
- b) The determination of the number of Director positions on the Board does not have the effect of shortening the term of a sitting Director

4.3 Portfolios – Directors may be appointed by the Board to serve as Directors of various portfolios related to the operations of the Corporation. Directors may have more than one portfolio and may be assigned and removed duties by Ordinary Resolution of the Board.

### **Eligibility of Directors**

4.4 Eligibility – To be eligible to serve as a Director, an individual must:

- a) Be eighteen (18) years of age or older;
- b) Not be a paid employee or contractor of the Corporation;
- c) Not have been found under the *Substitute Decisions Act, 1992* or under the *Mental Health Act* to be incapable of managing property;
- d) Have not been declared incapable by a court in Canada or in another country; and
- e) Not have the status of bankrupt.

### **Election of Directors**

4.5 Nominations Committee – The Board may appoint a Nominations Committee. If appointed, The Nominations Committee will be responsible to solicit and receive nominations for the election of the Directors.

4.6 Nomination – Any nomination of an individual for election as a Director will:

- a) Include the written consent of the nominee by signed or electronic signature;
- b) Comply with the procedures established by the Nominations Committee (if appointed); and
- c) Be submitted to the Registered Office of the Corporation seven (7) days prior to the Annual Meeting. This timeline may be extended by Ordinary Resolution of the Board.

4.7 Nominations from the Floor – If a position on the Board is vacant and there are no nominees, an individual will be permitted to be nominated from the floor for that position at a meeting of the Members. Such nomination will require a nominator and seconder from the voting Members present and will also require the attendance at the meeting and verbal or written acceptance of the nomination by the individual.

4.8 Circulation of Nominations – Valid nominations will be circulated to Members at the Annual Meeting prior to the elections.

4.9 Election – At each meeting of the Members at which elections are held, elections will be held for any Director position for which the incumbent Director's term is expiring and/or any Director position that is vacant.

4.10 Election – Elections for Director position will be decided in accordance with the following:

- a) One Valid Nomination – Winner elected by Ordinary Resolution.
- b) Two or More Valid Nominations – The nominee(s) receiving the greatest number of votes and an Ordinary Resolution will be elected. In the case of a run-off ballot, the nominee receiving the fewest votes will be deleted from the list of nominees and a second vote will be conducted. If there continues to be a tie and more nominees than positions, the nominee receiving the fewest votes will be deleted from the list of nominees until there remains the appropriate number of nominees for the position(s) or until a winner is declared.

4.11 Post-Election Eligibility – An elected Director who does not meet the eligibility requirements for election as Director will have thirty (30) days to become eligible for the position or will be removed as a Director of the Corporation.

4.12 Terms – Directors will serve terms of two (2) years and will hold office until they or their successors have been duly elected in accordance with these By-laws, unless they resign, or are removed from or vacate their office.

4.13 Director Consent – An individual who is elected or appointed to be a Director must consent in writing to hold office as a Director before or within ten (10) days of their election or appointment. Any individual who does not provide consent within the time limit is not a Director and is deemed not to have been elected or appointed to hold office as a Director. The requirement to consent does not apply to a Director who is re-elected or reappointed when there has been no break in their term of office.

## **Resignation and Removal of Directors**

4.14 Resignation – A Director may resign from the Board at any time by presenting their notice of resignation to the Board. This resignation will become effective the date on which the notice is received by the Secretary or at the time specified in the notice, whichever is later. When a Director who is subject to a disciplinary investigation or action of the Corporation resigns, that Director will nonetheless be subject to any sanctions or consequences resulting from the disciplinary investigation or action.

4.15 Vacate Office – The office of any Director will be vacated automatically if:

- a) The Director resigns;
- b) The Director is found to be incapable of managing property by a court or under Ontario law;
- c) The Director is found by a court to be incapable;
- d) The Director becomes bankrupt; or
- e) The Director dies.

4.16 Removal – An elected Director may be removed by Ordinary Resolution of the Members at a Special Meeting of the Members provided the Director has been given reasonable written notice of, and the opportunity to be present and to be heard at, such a meeting.

## **Filling a Vacancy on the Board**

4.17 Vacancy – When the position of a Director becomes vacant for whatever reason and there is still a quorum of Directors, the Board may appoint a qualified individual to fill the position for the remainder of the term. Alternatively, the Board may decide, by Ordinary Resolution, that one or more Directors will execute the duties of the vacant Director position for the remainder of the unexpired term. If a Director is removed by the Members at a meeting of the Members, the Members may elect a Director to fill the unexpired term at the same meeting.

## **Meetings of the Board**

4.18 Call of Meeting – A meeting of the Board will be held at any time and place as determined by the Chair or by written requisition of at least three (3) Directors.

4.19 Chair – The Chair will be the Chair of all meetings of the Board unless another individual is designated to be the Chair by the Chair. In the absence of the Chair, or if the meeting of the Board was not called by the Chair, the Board will appoint an individual to Chair the meeting.

4.20 Notice – Written notice, served other than by mail, of meetings of the Board will be given to all Directors at least five (5) days prior to the scheduled meeting. Notice served by mail will be sent at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting. No notice of a meeting of the Board is required if all Directors waive notice, or if those absent consent to the meeting being held in their absence. If a quorum of Directors is present, each newly elected or appointed Board may, without notice, hold its first meeting immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Corporation.

4.21 Regular Meetings - The Board may appoint a day or days in any month or months for regular meetings of the Board at a place and hour to be named. A copy of any resolution of the Board fixing the place and time of such regular meetings of the Board shall be sent to each Director forthwith after being passed, but no other notice shall be required for any such regular meeting except if notice is required under the Act.

4.22 Board Meeting with New Directors – For a first meeting of the Board held immediately following the election of Directors at a meeting of the Members, or for a meeting of the Board at which a Director is appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board, it is not necessary to give notice of the meeting to the newly elected or appointed Director(s).



- 4.23 Number of Meetings – The Board will hold at least four (4) meetings per year.
- 4.24 Quorum – At any meeting of the Board, quorum will be a majority of the Directors holding office, but never less than three (3).
- 4.25 Voting – Each Director is entitled to one vote. Voting will be by a show of hands, written, or orally unless at least one (1) Director present requests a secret ballot. Resolutions will be passed by Ordinary Resolution. In the case of a tie, the resolution is defeated.
- 4.26 Dissent at Meeting - Subject to the Act, a Director who is present at a Board meeting or a meeting of a committee of Directors is deemed to have consented to any resolution passed or action taken at the meeting unless:
- a) the Director requests a dissent to be entered in the minutes of the meeting; or
  - b) the Director sends a written dissent to the secretary of the meeting before the meeting is adjourned; or
  - c) the Director sends a dissent by registered mail or delivers it to the registered office of the Corporation immediately after the meeting is adjourned; provided that a Director who votes for or consents to a resolution may not dissent.
- 4.27 Dissent of Absent Director - A Director who was not present at a meeting at which a resolution was passed or action taken is deemed to have consented to the resolution or action unless, within seven (7) days after becoming aware of the resolution or action, the Director:
- a) causes a dissent to be placed with the minutes of the meeting; or
  - b) sends a dissent by registered mail or delivers it to the registered office of the Corporation.
- 4.28 No Alternate Directors – No person shall act for an absent Director at a meeting of the Board.
- 4.29 Written Resolutions – A resolution in writing signed by all the Directors (including electronic confirmation) is as valid as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board.
- 4.30 Attendance at Meetings – Meetings of the Board will be closed to Members and the public except by invitation of the Board.
- 4.31 Meetings by Telephone or Electronic Means – A meeting of the Board may be held by telephone conference call or by means of other telecommunications/electronic technology. Directors who participate in a meeting by telecommunications technology are considered to have attended the meeting. Additionally, for an in-person meeting of the Board, a Director may, if all the Directors of the Corporation consent, participate in a meeting of the Directors by telephonic or electronic means provided that all participants are able to adequately communicate during the meeting.

#### **Duties of Directors**

- 4.32 Standard of Care – Every Director will:
- a) Act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Corporation; and
  - b) Exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances.

#### **Powers of the Board**

4.33 Powers of the Corporation – Except as otherwise provided in the Act or these By-laws, the Board has the powers of the Corporation and may delegate any of its powers, duties, and functions.

4.34 Empowered – The Board is empowered, including but not limited to:

- a) Make policies and procedures or manage the affairs of the Corporation for the purpose of furthering the objects and purposes of the Corporation in accordance with the Act and these By-laws;
- b) Make policies and procedures relating to the discipline of Members and Registrants, and have the authority to discipline Members and Registrants in accordance with such policies and procedures;
- c) Make policies and procedures relating to the management of disputes within the Corporation and deal with disputes in accordance with such policies and procedures;
- d) Employ or engage under contract such persons as it deems necessary to carry out the work of the Corporation;
- e) Determine registration procedures, determine membership fees, and determine other registration requirements;
- f) Enable the Corporation to receive donations, benefits, bequests, distribution of investment capital and income for the purpose of furthering the objects and purposes of the Corporation;
- g) Make expenditures for the purpose of furthering the objects and purposes of the Corporation;
- h) Invest funds for the purpose of furthering the objects and purposes of the Corporation;
- i) Manage the Corporation's assets and resources expenditures for the purpose of furthering the objects and purposes of the Corporation;
- j) Borrow money upon the credit of the Corporation as it deems necessary in accordance with these By-laws; and
- k) Perform any other duties from time to time as may be in the best interests of the Corporation.

## **ARTICLE V                      OFFICERS**

5.1 Composition – The Officer positions are the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President and Registrar.

5.2 Term – The term of the Officers will be two (2) years or until they or their successors are elected or appointed. The term of an Officer will align with their term as a Director and no person will hold a position as an Officer if they are not a Director.

5.3 Election – The Officers of the Corporation will be elected by the Board of Directors. At the first meeting of the Board of Directors held following the election of new Directors, the Directors will elect bi-annually the following:

- a) President, Secretary, and Registrar.
- b) Vice-President and Treasurer

4.35 Voting – Directors may nominate themselves for any Officer position. Once a Director is elected to an Officer position, they may not nominate themselves for another Officer position. Elections will be decided by majority vote of the Directors in accordance with the following:

- a) One Valid Nominee for an Office – Winner declared by acclamation.
- b) Two or More Valid Nominees for an Office – Winner is the nominee receiving the greatest number of votes. In the case of a tie, a runoff vote will be conducted. Only those nominees who were tied for the greatest number of votes will appear on the run-off ballot. The nominee receiving the greatest number of votes will be declared the winner. Additional runoff votes may occur if required.

4.36 Duties – The duties of Officers are as follows:

- a) The President will be the chair of the Board, will preside at the Annual and Special Meetings of the Corporation and at meetings of the Board unless otherwise designated, will be the official spokesperson of the Corporation, will oversee and supervise office staff, and will perform such other duties as may from time to time be established by the Board.
- b) The Vice-President will, in the absence or disability of the President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President, and will perform such other duties as may from time to time be established by the Board.
- c) The Secretary will be responsible for the documentation of all amendments to the Corporation's By-laws, will ensure that all official documents and records of the Corporation are properly kept, cause to be recorded the minutes of all meetings, will prepare and submit to each meeting of the Members and other meetings a report of all activities since the previous meeting of the Members or other meetings, will give due notice to all Members of the meeting of the Members of the Corporation, and will perform such other duties as may from time to time be established by the Board.
- d) The Treasurer will, subject to the powers and duties of the Board, file all financial and corporate returns required by the Act and any other provincial or federal legislation in accordance with applicable legislation, keep proper accounting records as required by the Act, will cause to be deposited all monies received by the Corporation in the Corporation's bank account, will supervise the management and the disbursement of funds of the Corporation, when required will provide the Board with an account of financial transactions and the financial position of the Corporation, will prepare annual budgets, and will perform such other duties as may from time to time be established by the Board.
- e) The Registrar will, be responsible for ensuring that registrations are opened each year no later than the end of August and that all necessary arrangements are made for the smooth and orderly running of the registration process, ensure all necessary forms are available online, provide instruction as to the proper way to register (i.e., when, where, forms to fill, registration fee etc.), keep all waiting lists for each age group, when necessary, keep a register of all players in the Corporation and be responsible for the eligibility of all players, register all players with the Ontario Ringette Association and Ringette Canada, be responsible for and provide TRFs, and all other applicable reports/forms to head coaches and will perform such other duties as may from time to time be established by the Board.
- f) The Past President will be an advisor to the President and Executive Committee and will assist the President in whatever duties requested by the President, act as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee for purposes of filling the offices to be elected at the Annual General Meeting, be Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, if deemed necessary, by the Executive for purposes of nominating members to the Executive to replace members who have resigned or been suspended, shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive and shall only serve a one-year term of office and will perform such other duties as may from time to time be established by the Board. In the absence of a Vice-President, the Past President may assume the responsibilities of the Vice-President as outlined above.

4.37 Delegation of Duties – At the discretion of the Officer and with approval by Ordinary Resolution of the Board, any Officer may delegate any duties of that office to appropriate staff or committee of the Corporation, or to another Officer or Director.

4.38 Other Officers – The Board may determine other Officer positions and appoint individuals to fill those positions. Other Officers need not be Directors and would not be members of the Board.

## **ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES**

### **Committees**

6.1 Appointment of Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees – The Board may appoint such standing and ad-hoc committees as it deems necessary for managing the affairs of the Corporation. The Board may appoint and remove members of these committees or provide for the election of members of these committees, may prescribe the duties and terms of reference of these committees, and may delegate to any of these committees any of its powers, duties, and functions.

6.2 Composition – The Board may appoint and remove any member of a standing or ad-hoc committee at any time and for any reason.

6.3 Chair Ex-officio – The Chair (or their appointed designate) will be an ex-officio and non-voting member of all standing and ad-hoc committees of the Corporation.

6.4 Debts – No committee will have the authority to incur debts in the name of the Corporation.

## **ARTICLE VII FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

7.1 Fiscal Year – Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the fiscal year of the Corporation will be May 1st to April 30<sup>th</sup>.

7.2 Bank – The banking business of the Corporation will be conducted at such financial institution as the Board may determine.

7.3 Auditors – At each Annual Meeting the Members may appoint an auditor to audit, conduct a review engagement or notice to reader of the books, accounts and records of the Corporation in accordance with the Act. The auditor will hold office until the next Annual Meeting. The auditor will not be an employee, Officer, or Director of the Corporation and must be permitted to conduct an audit or review engagement of the Corporation under the *Public Accounting Act, 2004*, as amended. When the Corporation's revenue for the previous fiscal year was less than the amount prescribed in the Act, the Members may decline, by Extraordinary Resolution, to appoint an auditor. Alternatively, when the Corporation's revenue for the previous fiscal year was greater than the amount prescribed in the Act, the Members may, by Extraordinary Resolution, chose to conduct a review engagement or notice to reader in lieu of an audit, as stated in the Act.

7.4 Annual Financial Statements – The Directors will approve financial statements (evidenced by signature of one or more Directors) of the Corporation of the last fiscal year of the Corporation but not more than six (6) months before the Annual Meeting and present the approved financial statements before the Members at every Annual Meeting. A copy of the Annual Financial Statements will be provided to any Member requesting a copy of the Financial Statements not less than twenty-one (21) days before the Annual Meeting. The Financial Statements will include:

- a) The financial statements;
- b) The auditor's report or review engagement (if any); and
- c) Any further information respecting the financial position of the Corporation.

7.5 Books and Records – The necessary books and records of the Corporation required by these By-laws or by applicable law will be necessarily and properly kept. The books and records include, but are not limited to:

- a) The Corporation's articles and By-laws;
- b) The minutes of meetings of the Members and of any committee of Members;

- c) The resolutions of the Members and of any committee of Members;
- d) The minutes of meetings of the Directors or any committee of Directors;
- e) The resolutions of the Directors and of any committee of Directors;
- f) A register of Directors;
- g) A register of Officers;
- h) A register of Members; and
- i) Account records adequate to enable the Directors to ascertain the financial position of the Corporation on a quarterly basis.

7.6 Minutes of meetings of the Board and Board Resolutions – Minutes of meetings of the Board and Board Resolutions are confidential and may only be open for inspection by Members in good standing by request to the Board.

7.7 Signing Authority – The signing authority of the Corporation shall be vested in the President and Treasurer of the Corporation and such other persons as the Board, by Ordinary Resolution, may authorize in specific instances. The signatures or electronic authorization of two of these designated people shall be required on any financial instrument of the Corporation. The signing authorities will ensure that any financial instrument executed is done by two people who are not related or have a conflict of interest relating to the financial instrument.

7.8 Property – The Corporation may acquire, lease, sell, or otherwise dispose of securities, lands, buildings, or other property, or any right or interest therein, for such consideration and upon such terms and conditions as the Board may determine.

7.9 Borrowing – The Corporation may borrow funds under such terms and conditions as the Board may determine, as permitted by the Act.

7.10 Borrowing Restriction – The Members may, by Special Resolution, restrict the borrowing powers of the Board but a restriction so imposed expires at the next Annual Meeting.

#### **Remuneration**

7.11 No Remuneration – All Directors, Officers and members of committees will serve their term of office without remuneration (unless approved at a meeting of the Members) except for reimbursement of expenses as approved by the Board. This section does not preclude a Director or member of a committee from providing goods or services to the Corporation under contract or for purchase. Any Director or member of a committee will disclose the conflict/potential conflict in accordance with these By-laws.

#### **Conflict of Interest**

7.12 Conflict of Interest – A Director, Officer or member of a committee who has an interest, or who may be perceived as having an interest, in a proposed contract or transaction with the Corporation will disclose fully and promptly the nature and extent of such interest to the Board or Committee, as the case may be, will refrain from voting or speaking in debate on such contract or transaction, will refrain from influencing the decision on such contract or transaction, and will otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act regarding conflict of interest.

### **ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS**

8.1 Voting – Subject to Article XIII (when applicable), these By-laws may only be amended, revised, repealed or added to by:

- a) Ordinary Resolution of the Board. The new, amended, or revised By-law is effective until the next meeting of the Members and, except for those amendments that are considered fundamental changes, the voting Members may confirm, reject or amend the By-laws by Ordinary Resolution. A new, amended, or revised By-law that is not ratified by the Members ceases to have effect and no

new By-law of the same or like substance has any effect until ratified at a meeting of the Members;  
or

- b) A Member entitled to vote who may make a proposal to make, amend, or repeal a By-law in accordance with the Act which requires at least sixty (60) days' notice. The new, amended, or repealed By-law will be submitted to the Members at the next meeting of Members and, except for those amendments that are considered fundamental changes, the voting Members may confirm, reject or amend the By-laws by Ordinary Resolution.

## **ARTICLE IX NOTICE**

9.1 Written Notice – In these By-laws, written notice will mean notice which is hand-delivered or provided by mail, electronic mail or courier to the address of record of the individual, Director, Officer, or Member, as applicable. It is the obligation of the Director, Officer or Member (as applicable) to provide a current address for notification under this provision to the Board.

9.2 Date of Notice – Date of notice will be the date on which receipt of the notice is confirmed verbally where the notice is hand-delivered, electronically where the notice is faxed or emailed, or in writing where the notice is couriered, or in the case of notice that is provided by mail, five (5) days after the date the mail is post-marked.

9.3 Undelivered Notices - If any notice given to a Member is returned on two consecutive occasions because such Member cannot be found, the Corporation shall not be required to give any further notices to such Member until such Member informs the Corporation in writing of his or her new address.

9.4 Error in Notice – The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting of the Board or of the Members, the failure of any Director or Member to receive notice, or an error in any notice which does not affect its substance will not invalidate any action taken at the meeting.

## **ARTICLE X DISSOLUTION**

10.1 Dissolution – Upon dissolution of the Corporation and after payment of all debts and liabilities, its remaining property shall be distributed to not-for-profit or charitable organizations which carry on their work solely in the province of Ontario, as determined by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE XI INDEMNIFICATION**

11.1 Will Indemnify – The Corporation will indemnify and hold harmless out of the funds of the Corporation each Director and any individual who acts at the Corporation's request in a similar capacity, their heirs, executors and administrators from and against any and all claims, charges, expenses, demands, actions or costs, including an amount paid to settle an action or satisfy a judgment, which may arise or be incurred as a result of occupying the position or performing the duties of a Director and/or any individual who acts at the Corporation's request in a similar capacity.

11.2 Will Not Indemnify – The Corporation will not indemnify a Director or any individual who acts at the Corporation's request in a similar capacity for acts of fraud, dishonesty, bad faith, breach of any statutory duty or responsibility imposed upon them under the Act. For further clarity, the Corporation will not indemnify an individual unless:

- a) The individual acted honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Corporation;  
and
- b) If the matter is a criminal or administrative proceeding that is enforced by a monetary penalty, the individual had reasonable grounds for believing that their conduct was lawful.

11.3 Insurance – The Corporation will maintain in force Directors and Officers liability insurance at all times.

**ARTICLE XII FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES**

12.1 Fundamental Changes – A Special Resolution of all Members (whether voting or non-voting) is required to make the following fundamental changes to the By-laws or articles of the Corporation. Fundamental Changes are defined as follows:

- a) Change the Corporation’s name;
- b) Add, change or remove any restriction on the activities that the Corporation may carry on;
- c) Create a new category of Members;
- d) Change a condition required for being a Member;
- e) Change the designation of any category of Members or add, change or remove any rights and conditions of any such category;
- f) Divide any category of Members into two or more categories and fix the rights and conditions of each category;
- g) Add, change or remove a provision respecting the transfer of a membership;
- h) Increase or decrease the number of, or the minimum or maximum number of, Directors;
- i) Change the purposes of the Corporation;
- j) Change to whom the property remaining on liquidation after the discharge of any liabilities of the Corporation is to be distributed;
- k) Change the manner of giving notice to Members entitled to vote at a meeting of Members;
- l) Change the method of voting by Members not in attendance at a meeting of the Members; or
- m) Add, change or remove any other provision that is permitted by the Act.

**ARTICLE XIII ADOPTION OF THESE BY-LAWS**

13.1 Ratification – These By-laws were ratified by the Members of the Corporation at a meeting of Members duly called and held on May 8, 2024.

13.2 Repeal of Prior By-laws – In ratifying these By-laws, the Members of the Corporation repeal all prior By-laws of the Corporation provided that such repeal does not impair the validity of any action done pursuant to the repealed By-laws.