



**ANNUAL REPORT – 2020/21**  
**Director of Coach Development**  
**Waterloo Ringette Association**

**Jason Nyman – Director of Coach Development**

[coachdevelopment@waterlooringette.com](mailto:coachdevelopment@waterlooringette.com)

[waterlooringette.com](http://waterlooringette.com)



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

2020/21 COACH DEVELOPMENT REPORT _____	3
Season Summary _____	3
Looking Ahead _____	3
2020/21 COACH DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY _____	4
2020/21 Coach Development Key Activities and Initiatives _____	4
2020/21 Coach Development Summary Continued _____	5
PREPARING FOR the 2020/21 SEASON _____	6
Coach Selection for 2020/21 Season _____	6
Ringette Ontario Mandated Changes for the 2021/22 Season _____	6
FINAL THOUGHTS AND THANKS _____	7
Final Thoughts _____	7
Thanks _____	7

# 2020/21 COACH DEVELOPMENT REPORT

## Season Summary

The 2020/21 ringette season was impacted significantly by the COVID19 pandemic. Traditional teams were not formed. Instead, practice squads/bubbles were formed and they changed at times over the course of the season. Coaches, trainers and other bench staff stepped up to run the squads. Coaches ran practices wearing surgical masks, with social distancing and all other directives put in place by Ringette Ontario and/or public health. Over 50 volunteers supported our players with coaching both on and off the ice.

As the Director of Coach Development, I assisted Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Junior Coaches, Trainers, On-Ice Assistants and Managers by helping them obtain, maintain, and advance their bench staff certifications. Furthermore, I helped ensure coaches and bench staff were complying with Ringette Ontario's Return to Ringette Guidelines and modified coaching requirements during the pandemic.

*The 2020/21 season saw a modified Return to Ringette during the various waves of the COVID19 pandemic. Over 50 volunteers supported teams with coaching and development.*

## Looking Ahead

Preparations for the 2021/22 season are already underway. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to result in significant delays from the usual coach selection timeframes. Coach selection will take place through the summer of 2021 in preparation for a return to the ice once restrictions are lifted.

Ringette Ontario's Return to Ringette guidelines remain in place. Coach pathways for the 2021/22 season have not yet been updated by Ringette Ontario.

It has been my pleasure to serve Waterloo Ringette Association and its members as the Director of Coach Development through this modified season.

Jason Nyman  
Director of Coach Development  
June 8, 2021

# 2020/21 COACH DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY

## 2020/21 Coach Development Key Activities and Initiatives

- Organized coach selection committees for the 2020/21 season
- Engaged new Coaches and Jr Coaches and assisted with certification
- Updated and revised WRA Coaches Handbook September 2020
- Organized and held the Mandatory Coaches Meeting on September 2, 2021 via Zoom
- Advised coaches of the 2020/21 Ringette Ontario Return to Ringette guidelines and modified bench staff requirements along with coach update meetings and communications.



- Communicated regularly with coaches regarding upcoming courses and professional development opportunities
- Corresponded frequently with coaches and other bench staff to ensure compliance with completing courses and other certifications
- Offered support and resource materials to new coaches within the association
- Promoted WRA power skating, goalie clinics and other player development opportunities to coaches
- Continually updated the 2020/21 WRA Bench Staff Certification database
- Participated as required with the WRA Return to Ringette Committee with respect to coaching and bench staff coverage
- Attended WRAA Director of Coaches Meeting
- Attended all WRA board meetings and contributed to the discussions

## 2020/21 Coach Development Summary Continued

- Distributed WRRRA and Ringette Ontario coach developer communications to coaches
- Collaborated with Kitchener Ringette Association coach developer regarding modified season changes as well as shoulder pad requirements within their association.
- Conducted an end-of-season coaching feedback initiative for the modified season
- Responded to over 250 emails regarding WRA coach development activities
- Prepared for the 2021/22 season

# PREPARING FOR THE 2020/21 SEASON

## Coach Selection for 2020/21 Season

- Coach selection committees will be formed for the 2021/22 season in the summer of 2021
- Interviews and committee discussions will likely be conducted via teleconferencing again for the 2021/22 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Recruitment efforts will be undertaken for teams currently lacking a coach for next season

## Ringette Ontario Mandated Changes for the 2021/22 Season

- Ringette Ontario has not announced any specific changes to coach requirements for the 2021/22 season at the time of this report.
- In the previous season, all teams were required to have a trainer on their bench for the 2020/21 season. This applies to all teams in the U19 division and below.
- Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders course is a mandatory course now for coaching at most levels. This applies to all coaches and trainers for teams U19 and below.
- Safe Sport Training is another course that has been developed and is available as a free course to coaches and their bench staff. It is highly recommended to take this course. Other courses available include Leading a Return to Sport Participation and Keeping Girls in Sport. As the Director of Coach Development, I will advocate that all WRA coaches and bench staff consider taking this training.

# FINAL THOUGHTS AND THANKS

## Final Thoughts

It has been my pleasure to serve as the Director of Coach Development for the past two years. I have endeavored to promote a culture of excellence, professionalism and continuous advancement for our coaches and bench staff within the Waterloo Ringette Association. Coaches and bench staff members support our ringette players and allow the sport to be passed on to future generations.



## Thanks

I would like to thank our President (Leah Chapman), our Vice-President (Mike Richardson) and the entire Waterloo Ringette Association Board for their support and assistance this past season with respect to my role as the Director of Coach Development. The future of Ringette in our community is dependent upon the many volunteers who work behind the scenes to ensure our players have every opportunity to grow and develop in their chosen sport.

Jason Nyman  
Director of Coach Development  
June 8, 2021

*“Thank you WRA Board,  
Coaches and Bench Staff for  
making a Return to Ringette  
successful in 2020/21.”*