



Waterloo Ringette Association  
Annual General Meeting  
Minutes



Wednesday July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
7:00-9:00 pm  
Zoom Conference

**Agenda**

**1. Preliminary Matters**

**a. Welcome**

The meeting commenced at 7:05 with quorum.  
Mark thanked everyone for coming.

**b. Zoom Conference Logistics**

Mark covered the logistics for the virtual meeting.

**c. Confirm attendance**

Attendees noted below

**d. Introduction of City of Waterloo Representative – Darren Carter**

Mark welcomed Darren from the City of Waterloo and explained his role. Darren thanked the Board for all their work and for addressing the logistical challenges to hold the AGM meeting.

**e. Approve Minutes of Annual General Meeting, May 30, 2019**

Motion to approve – Janet. Seconded – Greg. Carried – 22 votes for.

**2. President's Report**

Mark provided the President's report. Last season was such an unusual season. There was massive disappointment with cancellations coming in or before the final tournaments. But, importantly, members are listening, staying safe, and keeping positive which will put us on the path to return to the sport we love. Our goal is to have a safe environment. Thanks to all the board members — many hands make light work. Membership last season was down about 10% — really want to grow bunny level and that has been a focus. There was an uptick in interest in the equipment loan which helps get interest in the sport at a low entry cost. We have been able to keep registration fees low, though don't yet know what 2020-2021 fees will look like. Though the season ended early, most of league play and tournaments were completed which was good. We continue to work with all the stakeholders to offer spots to all within environment that offers development and fun. Coaches and bench staff have been leaders and role models — just over 100 including new coach in training position. Without their commitment we can't run. Thanks to Jason for his efforts in tracking and providing opportunities for coach development. Skills clinics continue to be a cornerstone — successful, well attended both power and goalie and NRL. It is a testament to skill in the association that we can leverage to develop our young athletes. We had some great plans for prep for rep, tryout prep, etc. that we had to cancel. Marketing ramped up with more social media, partnership with local vendors on spirit wear which can help improve the brand. Events with Kitchener and Cambridge were held to collaboratively grow the sport in our area. Our 43<sup>rd</sup> Winterfest tournament was held with positive feedback from attendees from attention to detail by the chair and the other volunteers. Tournament timing will hopefully be favourable for next season. At the Board, we focus on operations but also moved the needle on our governance. New player tryout and selection policy outlines the guiding principles on building teams and growing the sport. It's important to have these documented. We also created new by-laws to modernize and comply with provincial legislation. Thanks to Greg and the board members for developing. For next season, 3 challenges. 1) Grow sport — players, coaches and volunteers 2) Collaborate with neighbouring associations on various dimensions 3) Continue to invest in tools to reduce the significant effort for volunteers such as ice scheduling. Thanks to all who stepped up to make this such a great association.

**3. Registrar's Report**

One of the highlights was the change to system called RAMP. Through the new system, we gained a number of efficiencies. Janet spoke to the report and highlighted the numbers which have remained fairly constant with a small uptick at younger ages

**4. Treasurer's Report**

Bobbi-Jo spoke to the financial statements. Net assets went up by \$12k. This is for the year ended June 2019 — year old numbers Net income of \$12k mainly came from hosting provincials which earned \$9k. Winterfest earned \$12k which is biggest fund raiser. Clinics are break even. All else was as expected. Mark added that our favourable financials gives us flexibility to invest into areas such as free ringette for new members

## 5. Executive Reports

- a. Vice President
- b. Provincial Convenor
- c. Regional Convenor
- d. Ice Scheduler
- e. Director of Coaching Development
- f. Director of Player Development
- g. Referee in Chief
- h. Director of Minor Officials
- i. Winterfest Chair
- j. Equipment Manager
- k. Marketing

The board members provided highlights from their reports.

## 6. Resolution for Approval: That the Executive Reports for the 2019–20 Season be Approved

Motion to approve the executive reports. Janet. Seconded. Greg. 25 votes for. Carried

## 7. 2020-2021 Season Update and Questions

Mark provided an update on the 2020-2021 season. There has been lots of activity this week on return to play with announcements from Ringette Canada and Ringette Ontario. Mark provided an overview and encouraged members to review the information. Discussions continue at the regional, provincial and national level. RO town hall talked about Return to Activity in September and Return to Play in January. Mark provided the Ringette Canada Progression stages across the various dimensions. Progression 4 will be back to what we know as ringette which could be a while. Waterloo Ringette is in close contact with the city re policies and ice scheduling. Hopefully there will be collaboration across the various sports to fairly share the ice allocations. City staff are very busy opening up the summer sports in the near term.

Darren reported that rec services team is working on plans that balance public health directives with facility constraints and working with various associations. The city just did soft reopen of indoor facilities for city camps and affiliated groups on a request basis. Visit City of Waterloo website for updates.

Mark offered to collect any questions for the city and work through Darren to get responses.

## 8. Nominations / Election of Executive Positions – chaired by Darren Carter

Mark mentioned WORL/CORL was not included and will be added as 8j. Darren then provided an overview of the process.

### a. President

Darren asked for nominations for President. No nominations were put forward and so the position will remain open. Mark will help out until the board appoints an interim president.

### b. Vice-President

Darren asked for nominations. Markus nominated Mike Richardson. Greg withdrew his name. Mike acclaimed.

### c. Referee-in-Chief

Darren asked for nominations from floor. Shawn willing to stand. Shawn acclaimed.

### d. Director of Minor Officials

Darren asked for nominations. Markus willing to stand. Markus acclaimed.

### e. Webmaster

Darren asked for nominations. Kinga Cormier was put forward and accepted the nomination. No other nominations. Kinga acclaimed.

### f. Ice Scheduler

Darren asked for nominations. Ben offered to stand for one more year. Ben acclaimed.

### g. Provincial Convenor

Darren asked for nominations. Leah willing to stand. Leah acclaimed.

### h. Regional Convenor

Darren asked for nominations. There were no nominations. The position will remain open. Neil willing to assist.

### i. Director of Fundraising

Darren asked for nominations. Mel Norris was put forward and accepted the nomination. No other nominations. Mel acclaimed.

### j. WORL/CORL Representative

Darren asked for nominations. Leah willing to stand. Leah acclaimed.

9. **Resolution for Approval: That the draft by-laws distributed in advance of the meeting and dated May 28, 2020 be approved and come into effect immediately after the AGM with the exception of the board composition, which will come into effect at the 2021 AGM.**

Greg spoke to the process which started three years ago. These by-law changes bring in line with provincial not-for-profit Corporations Act (not yet acclaimed). A law firm drafted model by-laws that a number of associations have adopted.

Notable changes vs current. Enhanced member rights such as proxy voting. Clarified membership. One of the bigger changes was the board structure. The current body is large (21) and above a typical target. The new by-laws moves the board composition to more directors at large with only named officers which provides more flexibility for members to take on key volunteer roles without having to join board.

Mark mentioned that Kitchener, St Mary's and Western Region also recently adopted new by-laws and other associations are interested. This is a good thing from a governance perspective and should provide for greater consistency. Thanks to Greg and board members who worked on this.

Mark read the resolution included in the agenda. Moved by Greg. Seconded by Maureen. Votes for 23. None against. Carried

10. **Other Business**

None

11. **The date of the next board meeting:**

July 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

12. **Motion to Adjourn**

Mark thanked all who stepped up to volunteer. Our players are so thankful to all of you.

Greg thanked Mark. Thanks for all you have accomplished. You have positioned our association for continued growth and success. You have brought a unique enthusiastic and collaborative style. Thanks, Mark, on behalf of the Board.

Mark thanked Greg for his six years of service and all the accomplishments on governance and in other areas over that time. Mike has some big shoes to fill.

Motion to adjourn. Kinga. Seconded. Janet

**Attending the AGM on July 8th**

Paul Fryer

Janet Lanteigne

Roland Lynn

Carolyn Baltaz

Mark DeLaFranier

Bobbi-Jo Schweitzer

Jason Nyman

Denise Totzke

Markus Bogad

Maureen Tomlinson

Darren Carter (City of Waterloo)

Andria Johnson

Leah Chapman

Ben Cairns

Neil Henderson

Mike Richardson

Liz Richardson

Greg Conley

Marsha Ferguson

Christine Jacobson (Woolwich)

Mel Norris

Mike Gawel  
Darren Thomson  
Linda Thomson  
Meghan Tracy  
Kinga Cormier  
David Caldarelli  
Bree Brick  
Chris Sharpe  
Laura Tunstall  
Steve Hooper  
Chin Lee