

## 2022-2023 Season - President's Report

### A Return to Ringette!

We started the season with a very busy month in September with tryouts for all Provincial teams. All our Regional and Provincial teams were finally confirmed in October and after a few stops and starts with Covid concerns we returned to a condensed season. It certainly felt like a return to normal by the end of the 2021-2022 season!

Although teams were not able to participate in as many league games and tournaments, they were able to participate in Regional and Provincial events in March and April and one of our U 19 AA teams travelled to Calgary to compete in the Canadian National Ringette Championships. Looking ahead we can anticipate a normal season next year with a full schedule of games and tournaments, including our own Winterfest Tournament.

With respect to our programming despite still operating under Covid Protocols at the start of the season, Ringette Ontario mandated the implementation of Children's Ringette. All Associations in the Province have been in discussion with Ringette Ontario to ensure that we are following the same program and ensuring our coaches are educated in the program directives. It was a learning year and we will continue to ensure that our youngest players are receiving optimal developmental opportunities.

Some exciting news is our approval of a funding grant from the Ministry of Heritage, Sport Tourism and Culture Industries secured through Ringette Ontario. We will be using these funds to further our marketing and advertising initiatives in the community. We are also looking to add to associations equipment loan program by purchasing goalie equipment for our young players, new loan equipment for our first year players as well equipment for the Fun 1 & Fun 2 Programs.

We continue to work with our neighboring association Kitchener Ringette in the formation of teams at the Provincial and Regional levels to ensure that all players at every level have a team to play on. We look forward to our continued relationship with Kitchener Ringette and other ringette associations in our region as we grow our sport in our communities.

We have also had a great response to our call for volunteers to join the Board or take on a volunteer role in the Association. Waterloo Ringette has been a successful community sport organization for over 50 years and it is because of a dedicated volunteer base. There is always a place to volunteer in the association and I encourage reaching out any time!!

I want to thank our Board of Directors. A special thank you to those that are ending their terms this year. Thank you so much to all you have done for the Association. Thank you to all volunteers, parents and players for making this season a success and I can't wait to get a new and anticipated normal season underway!

Leah Chapman  
President, Waterloo Ringette Association