



## Waterloo Ringette Association Annual General Meeting

Tuesday June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
7:00-9:00 pm  
Zoom Conference



### Agenda

#### 1. Preliminary Matters

##### a. Welcome

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

##### b. Zoom Conference Logistics

Paul covered the logistics for the virtual meeting.

##### c. Confirm attendance

Attendees noted below

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

Leah welcomed Darren from the City of Waterloo and explained his role. Darren thanked the Board for all their work.

##### e. Approve Minutes of Annual General Meeting, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Motion to approve: Janet Seconded: Mark. Carried.

#### 2. President's Report

Leah shared the following messages with the members.

Waterloo Ringette's goal this past season was to keep our membership engaged, while providing developmental opportunities for our players and coaches.

We started our season planning in August 2020. As an Association our task was to get the players back on the ice and provide an alternate season while following Public Health mandates and direction from Ringette Ontario to ensure all participants safety.

Thanks to an amazing group of volunteers who did an incredible amount of work to coordinate programming for the Fall of 2020, we were able to provide distanced practices and ice times for all players ages U6 to U19. As restrictions eased and we moved further into Fall 2020 we were able to organize inter-squad games and some exhibition games at some age groups with our neighbouring association Kitchener.

As restrictions were ramped up again in late 2020 and into 2021 we had to return to our distance programming which unfortunately led to our ending of programming for the season.

I cannot thank our volunteer coaches enough, many of whom were on the ice with multiple groups and who were tasked with planning and running practices in this environment. They provided instruction and opportunity for development under unbelievable circumstances.

A huge thank you as well to all our parents who ensured we as an Association were compliant with Covid safety precautions allowing Waterloo Ringette to run successful programming for our players.

All in all it was a challenging season and I am happy to be looking forward to 2021-2022 season!

#### 3. Registrar's Report

Janet spoke to the registrar's report which was included with the AGM material. Registration was 81% of the prior season, which was a good result considering the impact of COVID, including not being able to run Come Try Ringette. Janet thanked all volunteers and coaches for putting in an effort she has not seen before in her long association with Waterloo Ringette.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report

Bobbi-Jo spoke to the financial statements that were included with the AGM material. The biggest item to highlight was the change to our year-end with the new by-laws that came into effect following last year's AGM. Our year end

changed from end of June to end of March so this year's financial statements span 9 months. Our balance sheet is similar to last year – with effectively the same cash. The income statement was break-even as designed with member fees covering our variable costs and with the City of Waterloo grant covering overhead costs. All in all, this was a good result.

## **5. Executive Reports**

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

Leah mentioned the other executive reports that were included with the AGM material and asked the members if there were any questions. No questions were raised.

## **6. Resolution for Approval: That the Executive Reports for the 2020–21 Season be Approved**

Motion to approve: Roland. Seconded: Neil. Carried

## **7. 2021-2022 Season Update and Questions**

Leah provided the following updates on the 2021-2022 Season.

We are now in a situation in Waterloo where we are waiting to make our move to Step 2 with the rest of the province. We need to get to Step 3 to start indoor sports. Ringette Ontario has provided some guidance for season planning with respect to Provincial level play and it will also apply to Regional Play in terms of when league play will start, tournament play and regional events.

Pre-Season programming is in discussion at this time to get players back on the ice in mid to late August 2021. As part of the Preparation Period, Ringette Ontario has advised clubs that we are required to provide 2-4 ice times to athletes wishing to be evaluated for teams in the Fall. As an association we would like to provide all players the opportunity to get to the ice before the start of the season if wanted

The Evaluation Phase will start the beginning of September dependant of Public health Guidelines. Team formation at the Provincial level will occur at this time. Regional team formation will also take place about this time. Exhibition games are also permitted to determine final provincial rosters.

The next period is team specific preparation which includes promoting team bonding, developing team culture, endurance and tactical training.

The Competition Period is anticipated to start in December, again dependant on Public Health Guidelines while tournament play will not start until 2022.

Provincial and Regional events are slated to take place in Spring 2021. These include :

- Qualifier Events (for applicable divisions)
- Provincial Championships
- Region based Championships
- Canadian Ringette Championships
- Eastern Canadian Championships

From an Association standpoint we are accepting coaching applications as well and confirming our teams intentions for the coming season

Best efforts are being made to prepare to pivot quickly when we get the go ahead to move forward. As we have learned over the last year plans have to be flexible.

This coming season brings some familiar challenges as well. 1) Season planning as we continue to ease restrictions,

2) Growing our sport — players, coaches and volunteers 3) Collaborating with neighbouring associations in team formation at the provincial and regional level 3) Continue to invest in our volunteers with training and mentoring opportunities for their development and the development of our players and 4) increase volunteer involvement of our parents.

To that end I would like to take the opportunity to encourage all our membership to look to volunteer for the association. There are opportunities at the Board level, key roles in the association and throughout the season directly working with teams, helping at our tournaments, fundraising and helping grow our sport in our community. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any of our Boards members.

I once again want to thank our amazing Board of Directors, a thank you to those ending your terms, our volunteers, parents and players for making the best of this past unprecedented year. I look forward to the upcoming season and seeing everyone back at the arena!

There were no questions.

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

Darren provided an overview of the election process prior to speaking to each role below.

### **a. President**

Darren asked for nominations from the floor and noted that Leah Chapman was willing to stand. No further nominations were put forward. Leah was acclaimed as President.

### **b. Secretary**

Darren asked for nominations from the floor and noted that Ben Cairns was willing to stand. No further nominations were put forward. Ben was acclaimed as Secretary.

### **c. Director-at-Large (six positions)**

Darren asked for nominations from floor and noted that Neil Henderson, Roland Lynn, Denise Totzke, Carolyn Baltaz and Paul Fryer were willing to stand. No further nominations were put forward. Neil, Roland, Denise, Carolyn, and Paul were acclaimed as Directors-at-Large. One Director-at-Large position remained open following the elections.

## **9. Other Business**

Neil talked about the Ringette Ontario changes to the U12 program — a move to push U12 more to regional than provincial for competition to better align to Long Term Athlete Development. Ontario is currently an outlier - this change would bring Ontario in line with Ringette Canada. The higher level of U12 will be renamed U12A rather than U12P. Championships would move to a regional basis but with additional activities. Nothing has been finalized. U12A may have boys and mixed divisions, though that depends on interest, but supports diversity and inclusion.

Carolyn added that her understanding was that AA would be for girls, A for boys and asked if that meant girls, if don't make AA, would play regional? Neil said it was confusing but that is not the intent. May have boys, girls and mixed divisions.

Leah talked about the changes to AA/A championships over the next two years. More to come.

Leak also talked about AAA which is held every two years. Rather than teams for each region as in prior AAA years, there will be 6 balanced teams drawn from all regions and up to 6 development teams. There has been lots of interest in the program across Ontario and, in particular, within Western region. The AAA program will start in August with tryouts in October. The only drawback of not having regional AAA teams is more travel.

## **10. The date of the next board meeting:**

The date for the next board meeting was set for Thursday July 15, 2021

## **11. Motion to Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn: Mike Seconded: Bobbi-Jo.

Attendees

Paul Fryer

Leah Chapman

Roland Lynn

Darren Carter (City of Waterloo)

Bobbi-Jo Schweitzer  
Janet Lanteigne  
Mike Richardson  
Meghan Tracy  
Kinga Cormier  
Maureen Tomlinson  
Carolyn Baltaz  
Christine Jakobson  
Shawn Ross  
Jason Nyman  
Ben Cairns  
Emily Moran  
Neil Henderson  
Darren Thomson  
Mark DelaFraniel  
Markus Bogad  
Denise Totzke