

## **PROVINCIAL CONVENOR REPORT 2022-2023**

Feels like the first season back to normal post COVID, no masks or check ins, tryouts in the spring, full season of games and tournaments, Canada Winter Games, Ontario Winter Games, Provincials, Nationals – it's been a busy year!

Waterloo and Kitchener teamed up for hosting provincial teams again this season

14AA – Kitchener – Meghan Pearse

16AA – Kitchener – Mel Norris

19AA – Waterloo – Kenzie Taylor

12A – Waterloo – Trevor Wheeler

14A – Waterloo – Erin Bates

16A – Waterloo – Laura Tunstall

Each team was formed via a joint selection committee and evaluation committee. There were players from both associations in all provincial teams.

### **Waterloo Teams Provincial Results**

**U19AA-** 19-0-1 league season, GRLR League Champions, Provincial Silver, Nationals Silver

**U16A** – 11-5-4 league season - 4<sup>th</sup> in GRLR, 4 tournament silvers, 2-2-1 record at provincials, finishing third in Tier 1.

**U14A** - 7-10-3 league seasons, 3-1 pool play in Tier 2 provincials, great effort in quarter finals.

**U12A** – GRLR League Champions, Western Regionals U12 event silver medal

U19AA went on to play very well against some tough teams at Nationals in Regina, Saskatchewan, and earned Silver in the consolation round with a 2-1 finish against Team New Brunswick.

This year was also AAA year, to make up for cancelled 2022 OWGs due to COVID. Many of our players participated and Waterloo again was well represented in Arnprior in February 2023

Team Orange OWG Gold - 19AA Jace Cormier, Abby Gelfand

Team Red OWG Silver – 19AA Emily Sharpe, Avery Cairns,

We also had the pleasure of cheering Elyssa Perron and Ella McGoldrick from our 19AA team on Team Ontario at Canada Winter Games in PEI. Well done girls!

The season ended and we went right to tryouts. Another year of working with Kitchener to help ice competitive teams in both centers. Waterloo will be hosting: U19AA U16A U14A. The team selections and formations have been completed and rosters declared. The numbers are low in all neighbouring associations at 14/16 but we are able to ice smaller roster teams, we are excited to see these teams develop. U14 has a roster of 12 skaters, with 2 underage players, and will add 2 U12 AP/two team players in the fall to allow for maximum additional development. U16 will see 12 skaters this season as well.

Waterloo put an intent to host 19A initially, but after tryouts in all 3 local centers, the decision was made to continue with the previously planned 19A KW combined team in Kitchener. Coaches and evaluators had tough decisions to make and in the end a roster of 15 was selected, with 2 AP players. This resulted in the final 4 releases, but one player has been able to secure a spot in Southern.

The u12 program will look different this fall, as there is no U12 Provincial program and there will be no tryouts. Once registration is open and we have a sense of numbers, we will be able to host 'sort outs' and determine if we A, B, or C caliber team(s). There will be no tryouts at other centers, and while the league is still fine tuning the rules around the new process, we will be able to work with Kitchener to ensure all u12 players have a team. The U12 event will return this season, and in March/April we will see all U12 teams attend one event, similar to U12 provincials in the past.

Waterloo has put in a bid to host A provincials in March 2024.

AAA returns for the third year in a row but is now back to its normal cycle. We hope to see lots of Waterloo players on these AAA teams, and they will attend OWG in Thunder Bay in February 2024.