

Ice Manager Report for the 2022-2023 Season.

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This was my sixth year acting as the ice manager for the Waterloo Ringette Association (WRA).

As the ice manager, my primary responsibility is to ensure that Waterloo Ringette's allocation of ice is distributed in a balanced and timely manner for home games, practices, power skating, skills clinics, special events and tryouts. During the 2022-2023 season, Waterloo Ringette used approximately 650 hours of ice (not including away games).

This past season, WRA had 18 teams competing at various age and skill levels. These teams participate in four leagues throughout Ontario (WRRL, GLRL, SWIRL) or nationally (NRL). Each league builds their game schedules in different ways, with different procedures and timelines and are published in late-September or early October.

Notable Items from the Season:

Two teams at the Fun2 Level

In October, the decision was made to split our Fun2 group into two smaller teams. As we were already locked into our ice contract through to January, this caused some logistical challenges for these teams as they were asked to practice together on 1/2 the ice surface and share one dressing room. For January-March, we were able to secure additional ice, allowing these teams to practice together on the full ice surface. Thank you to these players and coaches for your flexibility this past season.

The Addition of a New Adult Team

This past season, the Open B Rockets played their first season as part of the SWIRL league. I worked with the team Manager to secure ice schedule games for this team. The team will be back next season, which is great to hear.

Adding more Full Ice Practices for Our Rep Teams

This past season, the Board of Directors voted to increase the number of full-ice practices that our A/AA teams received. These teams felt it was necessary that the bulk of their practices were conducted using the full ice surface, instead of sharing ice. Registration fees were adjusted accordingly for these teams.

Looking Forward to Next Season:

Adding more Full Ice Practices for Our Regional Teams

The increased number of full ice practices for Rep teams was a success and as a result, the Board of Directors has voted to increase the number of full-ice practices that our regional teams will receive next season.