



**West Ottawa Ringette Association (WORA)
Annual General Meeting (AGM)
May 22, 2018**

Location: Kanata Recreation Centre (KRC)

Time: 7:00 pm

Executive in Attendance: Cynthia McMinn (President), Alison Press (Vice President), Barry Gorham (Director - Competitive Programs), Rob MacDonald (Director – Regional Programs), Greg Thomas (Director of Logistics), Abi Sills (Director of Administration), Mandy van Vliet (Secretary), Dee Blaine (Registrar), Chris Ellison (Treasurer), Mark McGaraughty (Director of Player Development)

Members in Attendance

Julia Gorham, Ted Wilson, Rich Wyatt, Kimberly Janeczek, Brenda Clarke, Derek Couturier, Holiday Little, Kyle Clattenburg, Melanie Mathers Cote, Peter Dippel, Bonnie Fioravanti, Andree Nunnikhoven, Deb Jackson, Lana Cameron, Andrea Godin, Annette Clark, Kevin Landry, Brian Fallis

Actions & Motions are added to the WORA Board Operating Spreadsheet maintained by the Secretary.

Agenda:

1. Call to order – introduction of the Board
2. Acceptance of the Agenda for the 2018 AGM
3. Acceptance of the Minutes from the 2017 AGM
4. Report of the Directors
5. Financial Report
6. Election of Directors
7. NCRRL / ERRRA Update
8. New Business
9. Draw for Free Registration
10. Adjournment

1. Call to Order

It was acknowledged that we had quorum and Cynthia McMinn called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. 27 people attended so we had quorum.

Cynthia McMinn thanked members for attending and introduced the Board of Directors.

2. Acceptance of the Agenda for the 2018 AGM

Cynthia reviewed the Agenda for the meeting.

MOTION by Alison Press to accept the agenda for the AGM meeting. Seconded by Rich Wyatt. Vote in favour. Motion carried.

3. Acceptance of Minutes of 2017 AGM

MOTION by Mark McGaraughty to accept the 2017 Minutes of the AGM. Seconded by Melanie Mathers-Cote. Vote in favour. Motion carried.

4. Cynthia briefly reviewed the highlights of last year's season.

a) 2017-18 season's highlights:

President's Report

- Registration remained stable at 320 players.
- WORA hosted 21 teams and our bunny program
- Unable to host a U16A team, but a joint team was formed with Nepean
- 2018 West Ottawa tournament hosted 68 teams from Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia. 6 West Ottawa teams received medals!
- Provincial Results:
 - U19A Gorham team won Silver in the McCarthy Division
 - U14AA won the Sportsmanship Award
 - U14A Leboutillier won Gold in the Lajeunesse Division
 - U12P Fioravanti won Silver in the Brown division
- NCRRL Year End – 8 WORA teams won medals across most divisions
- Held 2 “Come Try Ringette” events: September and April. 20 new players registered with WORA after the fall session. 45 skaters attended the spring session.

b) Thank you!

Cynthia thanked many people who have helped this year.

- Team Staff and Parents for all the hours you devote
- Thanks to our 4 Coaches in Training
- Special Thanks to all our Coordinators & Conveners

c) Player Development Update

- New role this year on the Board
- Skating Programs
 - Positive feedback on Next Gen treadmill skating program
 - Maintained our partnership with GSC for Power Skating and Bunny program – plan to continue this partnership
 - Piloted new competitive skating and dryland program with Peak Centre. Continuing with Peak for the skating program. Looking at dryland options.
 - Continued our goalie program with Dave Stathos. Will be moving this in-house next year.
 - Comments/questions from the floor:

- Goalie clinics did not have ringette instructor. We explained there was a WORA ringette instructor at the classes.
- Will there be other development programs like shooting clinics? Mark explained about the shooting clinics that we offered using the ice following U16/U19 competitive games.
- Why would we look at a program other than Peak for the competitive dryland. We responded that it was based on feedback received in the survey and from coaches, and that some people preferred Greco as dryland. We confirmed that we will not jeopardize the skating program for the dryland.
- Comment that the Power Skating for U12 teams was much better this year.
- Why has treadmill budget been reduce for next season – will be addressed in Finance section.

d) Director of Administration (Abi Sills)

- Updated Return from Injury and Goalie Rebate Policy
- Updated other documents including Bench Staff Qualifications, updated Manager’s Manual, and Coaches’ Information document
- Purchased new awards trophies
- Abi highlighted the winners of each of the awards this year:
- **LOUISE E. HALLOWAY AWARD “volunteer of the year”**
Peter Dippel
- **MARY GREEN AWARD “outstanding service and dedication”**
Alison Press
- **ROB MACKEAN AWARD “Novice coach award”**
Andree Nunnikhoven
- **RUTH BAKER AWARD “Belle Leadership”**
Emily McMahan
- **J.D.GREEN AWARD “to the team who demonstrates true team spirit”**
U14 Klassen and U12 McGaraughty

e) Logistics highlights: (Greg Thomas)

- Ice Allocation
 - Will be working with a new ice allocation rep at the city
 - 2018/19 season will now include ice for goalie clinics, we will host a U16A team, and we will have 2 U14AA teams (22.5 team equivalents) – which means more ice will be needed. We have started reaching out to cost private ice to help fill this gap.
- City has agreed to start a contract early for fall tryout ice. This should help in our scheduling.
- We provided the city with our player distribution as we continue to request more ice in Kanata given our membership distribution.
- We had a double-whammy on our tryout ice this year in the budget because of the large 2005 cohort as they did U12 tryouts in the fall and U14 in the spring.
- Question: Did the price go up for city ice? Answer: No – it has not gone up for this year.

5. Financial Report: Chris Ellison

Revenue Highlights

- Registration and Grocery Card fundraising program / opt out provide the bulk of the revenue
- Tournament continues to be an excellent fundraiser for the Association (\$8000)

Expense Highlights

- Ice remains the biggest cost to the organization
- Expenses that were higher than expected this past season
 - Goalie Clinics cost increased
 - Treadmill cost increased
 - Paypal fee increased
- Investments were made in skills development and equipment
- Question from the floor: Are we allocating funds for encouraging goalies? Answer: We continue with our goalie rewards program, goalie development clinics, goalie rebate program, and our Goalie Coordinator position – all initiatives that we believe have been successful in helping us attract and develop more goalies in our association. the years.

Budget

- Budgets in May are based on conservative scenarios
- Over the last 3 years there has been a significant investment in equipment. We are trying to spread this out over future years (for example - with the jersey reserve fund)
- Moving to in house goalie clinic will reduce costs
- Last 4 years we have run at a loss to reduce our cash on hand. Goal is \$30000 cash reserve.
- New items in 2018/19 budget:
 - Continuing to invest in goalie clinics (at no cost to the goalies)
 - We will be amending Goalie Rebate policy to provide a refund of registration cost for the first year only
 - Question from the floor: Have we done the cost/benefit analysis of how much this will save the association vs will we lose some goalies? Answer: We decided that the money is better invested in goalie development, as well as goalie equipment which is available from the association. We feel the incentive for the first year registration is fair. Families can either invest in their own equipment – or they can continue to use association equipment. Debbie Jackson mentioned that she has used goalie skates – and asked if the association would be interested in using them?
 - Proposing registration fee increase of \$25
 - Targeting purchase of one new set of jerseys. Question: How long do jerseys last? Do name bars need to be on the jerseys? Answer: They can last up to 10 years if they are well cared for. Name bars do not have to be on the jerseys – this is the choice of teams and parents. There is an example of a hockey association that no longer allows name bars to be sewed on jerseys. It was also discussed that we do charge a fee for damaged jerseys.

Chris talked about the handouts including the budget and financial statements.

MOTION by Chris Ellison to accept the May 31, 2017 Notice to Reader prepared by van Berkom & Ritz. Seconded by Alison Press. Vote in favour. Motion carried.

MOTION by Chris Ellison to appoint van Berkom & Ritz as our external accountants for the year ending May 31, 2018. Seconded by Barry Gorham. Vote in favour. Motion carried.

MOTION by Chris Ellison to approve the 2018-19 Budget. Seconded by Debbie Jackson. Vote in favour. Motion carried.

6. Election of Directors

Cynthia explained that our Board is comprised of 10 directors and the directorships are 2-year terms, staggered so that usually five seats are up for re-election each year.

As per our by-laws, the membership elect volunteers as directors although not into specific positions. When the group of directors get together for their first meeting, they will appoint people into the various roles that need to be filled based on people's interests and talents. The directors operate as a team and the focus is on getting people who are committed to working in the best interest of the whole association and all of our players. All the positions require a fair amount of work. This is why we encourage potential board members to come forward in advance so they can learn what is involved with what they are getting into.

This year there are five seats up for re-election. Five are currently held by Alison Press, Dee Blaine, Barry Gorham, Mandy van Vliet, and Greg Thomas.

MOTION by Cynthia McMinn to declare 5 seats on the Board of Directors as vacant. Seconded by Rob MacDonald. Vote in favour. Motion carried.

The following candidates had made themselves known to the Board in advance of the AGM – Kyle Clattenburg, Barry Gorham, Monja Deluca, Lan Cameron, Alison Press. Cynthia then solicited further nominations from the floor. There were no interested parties.

MOTION by Chris Ellison to nominate Kyle Clattenburg, Barry Gorham, Monja Deluca, Lan Cameron, Alison Press to the Board of Directors. Seconded by Rob MacDonald. Vote in favour. Motion carried.

All nominees accepted their nominations.

Given that five seats were vacant, all nominations were acclaimed to the Board of Executive.

7. Update on ERR/NCRRRL matters – Cynthia McMinn

- ORA registration increase of \$2 per player
- ERR Updates
 - New ranking system for A/AA teams
 - TRF adjustments will not be accepted after 48 hrs prior to tournament start
 - No fair ice requirement for U16A during last 10 minutes in Provincials
 - All coach training needs be completed by Nov 1
 - 2019/20 season U8 will be half ice games. Pilot will happen this year in Kitchener/Waterloo.
 - 2020/21 benches will need a dedicated trainer
 - We will provide additional information to members and coaching staff on these items once available
- 2019 Provincials
 - March 7-10 – Waterloo (U16AA, U19AA, all 18+)

- March 14-17 – West Ferris (U14AA, U14A, U16A, U19A)
 - March 21-24 – Guelph (U12)
- Question from the floor: Question asked about issues with year end tournament and if those will be discussed at NCRRL meeting. For example – not being able to use call-ups at that tournament. Response was that this will likely be on the agenda for discussion.
- Cynthia talked about our usual strategy for minimum and maximum team sizes – which did not work out this past year for our U9 teams. We will be looking at caps this year to avoid this situation next season (teams that were too small).

8. New Business

- WORA has applied to host A Provincials March 2020. Rich Wyatt talked about previous experience that the region will help out, and other teams in the area will also help out.
- Planning to pilot a new approach to tryout jerseys for the upcoming season.
- Questions from the floor:
 - Will we get feedback from the pilot before making a decision to go forward? It was also noted that it might be more difficult for evaluators to look at 3 numbers. Answer: We said it is not likely because management of pinnies takes a lot of volunteer time and investment.
 - Is our policy that all players trying out get at least 3 sessions? For example – if it is an Out of Association player whose own association is hosting a team at the same level – why do we keep them on the ice for so many sessions? Answer: Each player trying out gets 2 sessions. We had an unusually high number of out of association players this year due to ice scheduling – our tryouts were earlier than for other associations.
 - Can we extend the Peak skating sessions beyond December? Answer: We are looking at this with Peak.
 - Why Bunnyfest is scheduled the same Sunday as the end of our tournament? It feels like the Bunnies are added in at the end and it creates a lot of scheduling conflicts with the tournament. Could we perhaps schedule it the Sunday afternoon before the tournament and position as a ‘kick-off’ to the tournament? Answer: We will look into this for next year.

9. Free Registration Draw

The draw for the Free Registration was held. Kevin Landry is the winner.

10. Adjournment

MOTION by Alison Press to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Rich Wyatt. Vote in favour. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.