

**SWIRL Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 7, 2020, 7:30pm**  
**Finkle Street Tap & Grill**  
**450 Simcoe St., Woodstock**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order/Roll call**

Ayr, **Cambridge Coyotes (TT)**, Dorchester, Guelph 586ers (TT), Guelph Cougars, Kitchener Bandits, Kitchener Nites, Kitchener Rebels, Kitchener Wild, London B, London Storm, London Strike, Mitchell, North Dumfries Cougars, Royal City Ravens (TT), St. Clements, St. Marys, St. Thomas, Southern Ontario Fury (TT), Stratford Stingers, Stratford Thunder (TT), Tillsonburg, Waterloo Fury, Waterloo Immortals, Vipers, Woodstock, Woolwich Beez, Woolwich Legends

- Meeting called to order at 7:31pm
- London B - late; Cambridge Coyotes TT - absent

**2. Agenda Additions**

- Jane: 4, g, iv: Department concerns
- Tammy: e-transfers for team fees

**3. Approval of September 2019 Meeting Minutes**

- Moved by St. Thomas, seconded by 586ers.
- Discussion: Correct 568 to 586ers
- All in favour. Motion carried.

**4. 2019-2020 Executive Reports:**

**a. Chair/Vice-Chair Reports** - Laura Pfanner/Tori Wood

- Laura: Nothing to report
- Tori: Has been dealing with requests for reimbursements (1/2 ice, officials) for late (visiting team) cancellations.

**b. Financial Report** - Connie Sanders

- Dorchester, Kitchener Wild and Tillsonburg will have money returned for players who registered for the 2019-2020 season but who are no longer playing.
- Current balance: \$1857.61.

**c. Registrar's Report** - Tammy Mast

- Tammy reported liking Ringette Ontario's new registration system (RAMP) as changes are immediate and it's much more accurate in calculating monies due based on registrations. In the end we were short \$3.50, which we covered.

**d. Scheduler's Report** - Brenna Veats

- If teams can offer ice times on a variety of days it would make scheduling easier as many teams have Sunday ice.
- Teams were asked to ensure that tournament dates are provided in September and are correct as many games had to be changed which delayed the Master Schedule by one week.
- Question from the floor: Can there be games scheduled earlier than the first week in November? Yes, if teams are available and have ice.
- NOTE: Team/player registration MUST be complete before players can step on the ice.
- HOME teams must enter game changes online so Brenna can update the posted Master Schedule.

e. **Statistician's Report** - Michelle Bryant

- Teams have been advised re issues with reporting. More emails will be sent.
- Game results are to be entered online and game sheets sent to Michelle within 72 HOURS of the completion of the game (HOME teams for SWIRL games, BOTH teams for ALL tournament and exhibition games).
- Please remember to include the DATE & TEAMS in the subject line of the e-mail.

f. **Secretary's Report** - Lindsay Julian: Nothing to report.

g. **Disciplinary Chair's Report** - Jane Larkworthy

i. Review of penalties and suspensions:

- Nov. 30/19: Misconduct penalties (each carrying a 1-game suspension) were assessed to one player on each team during SWIRL play. This game was the front end of a back-to-back, with the second game scheduled less than 24 hours after the first. As it turned out, the second game was cancelled (weather) delaying the suspension games. Additionally, one of the players involved was a "repeat offender" who SWIRL's Discipline Committee determined would be suspended for one additional game. The player with the single game suspension served that on Dec. 14/19. The other player served her first game of her suspension on Jan. 5/20 (delayed due to a number of game cancellations) and will serve her second game on Jan. 18/20. **Note:** This situation, in which games were scheduled within 24 hours of each other, triggered a proposed change to SWIRL's Operating Manual (J iv) paragraphs 1 & 2) to require teams to report ejections and submit game sheets prior to the offending team's next game (see Operating Manual section of these minutes).
- Dec. 8/19: A player was "evicted" from the final game of the St. Marys tournament. Although no penalty was recorded on the game sheet, an individual "excused" a from game is assumed to have been assessed a Misconduct penalty (which carries a 1-game suspension). That suspension has been served.
- Dec. 8/19: A player who was formerly a member of a SWIRL team, and who had two games remaining on a SWIRL-imposed suspension from the 2016-2017 season, was discovered participating in the 2019 St. Marys tournament with a current SWIRL team (which was not a member of SWIRL at the time of the suspension). SWIRL approached RO which directed us to ADP and G & T with our request that this player fulfill the remaining two games of her carryover suspension from 2016-2017 during her current team's first two games of the 2020 Cambridge tournament. RO concurred and those two games have now been served. As a side note, the former team of this player was aware that she had returned to play this year (after a two-season hiatus) but failed to advise either SWIRL that she was playing again nor the player's new team that she was under suspension. Further, they failed, as I had requested in writing in my e-mail to them re SWIRL's Discipline Committee's decision on supplemental discipline, to forward that e-mail to the suspended player advising of her additional two-game carryover suspension. As such, neither the player nor her new team were aware that this player was currently under suspension, and SWIRL did not know that this player had returned to play. This "failure to communicate" could have resulted in further suspension of the player and/or a monetary penalty to her new team. Frankly, SWIRL expects better of its member teams. SWIRL member teams are encouraged to do their part to ensure that SWIRL's instructions are followed and that SWIRL is "kept in the loop" when it comes to situations such as this.

ii. Carryover suspensions:

In addition to the carryover suspension from 2016-2017 described above, a Head Coach, who was (as a repeat offender) suspended for two additional games at the end of the 2018-2019 season, served his remaining two games at the beginning of the current season.

### iii. Major, Match and Misconduct Penalty Reporting Process:

- Majors must be included in on-line results reporting comments.
- A reminder that Major (and ejection/suspension) penalties assessed during sanctioned play that are not served during that tournament carry over to SWIRL.
- SWIRL's reporting and supervision policies re Match/Misconduct penalties assessed during SWIRL play are outlined in Section J iv) p. 9 of SWIRL's Operating Manual (posted to the SWIRL web site which is part of the WRRRA web site ([wrra.ca](http://wrra.ca))).

### iv. Department concerns:

- Jane requested that this agenda item be added in order to provide a forum for teams to discuss concerns about how their opponents are handling themselves during games.
- SWIRL has one formal complaint about one team. Are there others?
- If teams are reluctant to discuss concerns about other teams during the meeting they are encouraged to e-mail their concerns to Jane.

## 5. SWIRL Operating Manual - Jane Larkworthy

- A change to Section G iv) of SWIRL's current Operating Manual was circulated in advance of this meeting for review and discussion by attending teams.
- In summary, the proposed change was intended to address the issue of HOME teams not advising visiting teams until they arrive at the venue that games have been cancelled.
- Discussion ensued as to the amount of work involved in reimbursing teams on the basis of mileage (which would on an honour system) vs. applying a set fine.
- A motion to approve the change, as presented, was defeated.
- Teams were asked to take this issue back to their teams and then let Jane know (by e-mail, ASAP) their team's position so she can prepare a new amendment for the Sept/20 SWIRL meeting.
- Jane also proposed a change to Section J iv) requiring teams to report ejections and submit game sheets prior to the offending team's next game.
- Moved by Jane Larkworthy, seconded by 586ers. Carried (and effective immediately).

## 6. League Updates:

- a. Seeding Issues - Brenna Veats: E-mail Brenna on crossover games if teams are badly mismatched.
- b. Substitution Issues - Brenna Veats: E-mail Brenna or Jane if there are issues or concerns.
- c. Privacy and Confidentiality:
  - Please remember to Bcc group e-mails!
  - Please update your group e-mail lists so that we are only contacting CURRENT SWIRL membership

## 7. New Business:

- e-transfers: A poll of attending teams showed moderate interest in having the ability to make payments to SWIRL via e-transfer. Connie will find out whether our account permits e-transfers and, if so, the related costs and/or restrictions.

## 8. Western Region Meetings (Spruce Lodge, Stratford, 7:00 pm):

- **February 20/20:** Royal City Ravens
- **April 30/20:** Kitchener Wild
- **Sept. 2020:** Waterloo Immortals

**9. Announcements:**

a. **Tournaments:** Current listings are on the RO website.

b. **Coaching & Officiating:** Refer to Western Region web site ([www.wrra.ca](http://www.wrra.ca)).

10. **Next SWIRL meeting:** Sunday, September 20, 2020, 2:00 pm, Finkle Street Tap & Grill, 450 Simcoe St., Woodstock.

11. **Adjournment:** Moved by Kitchener Bandits, seconded by 586ers. Carried (8:51 pm).