

Western Region G&T Report – April 2015

The Associations of Western Region hosted 11 tournaments including one 3-on-3 tournament, one pre-season tournament and A Provincials. Please continue to encourage your teams to support our local tournaments, at both the provincial and regional level.

This year we saw a total of more player suspensions than coaching suspensions. The player suspensions included 4 Match penalties at regionals which will carry over into next season. Carry over suspensions are “on the books” indefinitely until served, carry across the province, and will be supported by all other provinces when they are aware of them. The suspension would then be served against games with the player’s new team.

This is a considerable improvement from last season however all associations need to continue to remind coaches, especially new/newer coaches of the expectation of behaviour when on the bench.

Regionals:

Regionals was enjoyed by 85 teams from U8 to U19. This is down 10 teams from last year. 3 teams did not participate (does not include U8).

This is the first year for the coach’s meeting prior to Regionals. The same format will be used going forward.

This is the first year (recently) that coaches have participated in the seeding for the Regionals tournament. The process worked well and went amazingly smoothly and quickly (under an hour!). The scores at the regional event reflected the success of this approach.

This year the 18+ Regional teams participated in the OAIC, in Niagara Falls, instead of Regionals. This caused some conflicts for parents, coaches, and officials. OAIC has been advised of our dates for next year.

2016 Regionals – tentatively March 24-26. This is over the Easter weekend due to the calendar and ice availability, and is scheduled as Thursday to Saturday to allow families to enjoy Easter Sunday together.

2016 Provincials

- AA March 10-13 Waterloo
- A March 17-20 Timmins
- U12 April 7-10, City of Ottawa

2017 Provincials

- Applications are currently being accepted for all provincial events

G&T Review of Changes for this year:

- G&T assigned tournaments for the provincial “A” teams
 - o Matchups within the tournaments were implemented this year. This dramatically improved the overall exposure to for provincial A teams.
- AA and A Provincials – no overtime on round-robin games
 - o Change to medals format – in divisions with less than 8 teams, the Sunday format is 2v3 (loser wins bronze) then winner plays 1st for Gold. This initially met resistance however at the end of the events, teams were pleased with the outcome.
- U12 Provincials – change to medal structure
 - o Concerns about naming and which tier is which will be addressed at the SCM’s

- Consistent Runtime rules
 - o Reminder that this applies to both tournament and league/exhibition play.
- Consistent U8 rules
 - o Fairly well utilized
 - o Reminder that this applies to both tournament and league/exhibition play.
 - o If there is extra time available, time can be added to the 2nd period.
 - o Change to goalies early in the season caused some confusion – hopefully this is now sorted out and will be fully implemented next season.
- U7 “games”
 - o U7’s do not official play games
 - o If U7’s are playing a “game” towards the end of the season, the U8 format should be followed with 2 minute buzzers.
 - o U7’s should not dress goalies.
- Hotels – CSTT
 - o Some associations were not able to find suitable accommodations and were able to work with CSTT to find different properties.

G&T Motions this season affecting teams and tournaments:

MOTION D5-13-28 Carried THAT: 18+ Open Provincial players may play as a substitute for two tournaments in a season. The goaltender is exempt, as long as the goaltender is substituting for a goaltender. Any player that appears on more than two TRF Adjustment Forms constitutes violation of Sanction Rules (goaltender exempt), unless written Games and Tournaments approval is received.

MOTION D5-13-29 Carried THAT: If a misconduct penalty is assessed against a player or bench staff member during play, the player or bench staff member shall receive an automatic one (1) game suspension to be served in the next regularly scheduled game. (Note that this was housekeeping as it was not clear for bench staff in the previous wording)

Motion AGM-14-14 Carried: "That Section 8.1 of the Games and Tournaments rules be amended as follows: Where procedure violations occur, they should be communicated to the Regional or Provincial association convener, or to the regional G&T convener, who will counsel/warn the offending party/association and also notify both the appropriate Regional Committee and the association executive. An association will be fined if there is an out-of-pocket cost which results from the infraction, which is then repaid through the fine. Otherwise, rules violations will result in a warning. A fine will result if, after a warning, a subsequent procedural violation is brought to the attention of the Convener and/or Regional Committee and/or there is a history of violations by an association from year to year"

Motion D1-14-15 Carried: "To approve a one year trial for the Northeast allowing two team player contracts between A and AA players, within the following parameters (see below), with a formal review to be presented to the board by the Athlete Rep, Northeast Region Director, Membership Services Coordinator and G&T Coordinator at the conclusion of the 2014-2015 season".

- 1- For the development of a more competitive team in Northeast Region,

- 2- The AA team will be formed at the beginning of the season, all players on that teams will be registered with ORA, (List of player will be provided to the regional G&T Coordinator)
- 3- At the discretion of the Northeast AA coach, the Northeast AA team could be attending two to four AA tournaments
- 4- Regional G&T coordinator will make sure that there is no conflict between A and AA tournaments,(Player can only attend one tournament per weekend)
- 5- Northeast AA teams formed under two teams agreement (A/AA) will not attend AA Provincials
- 6- This be in place at the beginning of the 2014-15 season

This was successful in the 2015-2016 season.

MOTION D2-14-18 *defeated* THAT: That beginning with the 2015/16 season, there will be three (3) tournaments per region given the opportunity to host AA divisions and four (4) tournaments per region given the opportunity to host A divisions. Each region will can set their own criteria for selecting the tournaments to host. If the regions are selecting the hosts, then the names of the associations hosting are to be submitted to the ORA office by June 30th. Should a region not wish to exercise the opportunity to select the hosts within their region, the hosts for that region will be determined by the Provincial G&T Committee during the sanctioning conference call held in early July.

MOTION D2-14-19 Carried THAT: The beginning with the 2015 AA if there are 12 teams or fewer in a division, they will play together in an unbalanced format. If there are 13 teams the division will be split into two (2) tiers based on rankings with seven (7) teams in the top tier and six (6) teams in the lower tier. The two tiers will be independent of each other and there will be no crossover between tiers. If there are 14 teams the division will be split into two (2) tiers based on rankings with seven (7) teams in each tier. The two tiers will be independent of each other and there will be no crossover between tiers. If there are fifteen teams or more, the division will be split into two (2) tiers based on ranking. Both tiers will have a minimum of seven (7) teams. The two tiers will be independent of each other and there will be no crossover between tiers.

MOTION D2-14-20 THAT: The maximum average number of games per day over the duration of a tournament is two. One day tournaments are exempt from this rule.

MOTION D2-14-22 THAT: There must be a mandatory Coaches Meeting prior to the beginning of all Regional Championships. (note: this was an officiating motion at the October 3rd 2014 ORA Board meeting. Regional G&T was not aware of this motion until late February. Hence the short notice for the Regionals coaching meeting).

MOTION: D4-14-09 Carried THAT: Beginning in July 2015, the U19A teams will be required to submit at the August SCM.

MOTION: D4-14-10 Carried THAT: Beginning with the 2015/2016 season, the total number of teams attending the AA Provincials at the 18+ Open A Jacks division will be capped at 10.

G&T Motions from last season to keep in mind:

MOTION: D2-13-20 Carried THAT: If a team attends more than the maximum number of tournaments as per the compliance rules without written authorization from Sport

Development at U10 and below or from G&T at U12, then the team will not be allowed to participate in Provincial Events.

MOTION: D2-13-21 Carried THAT: The definitions for a Tournament, a Funfest and an Exhibition Game be approved as written:

☐ Tournament: This term refers to an event where game results will be used to determine standings, rankings or qualification for a championship, including semi-finals and finals.

☐ Funfest: This term refers to an event that is non-profit, is limited to one day per division, is limited to two (2) games per team for U12 and below and to three (3) games per team for U14 and above. There will be no semis, finals or awards. This event will not be used to determine standings, rankings or qualifications for a championship including semi-finals or finals. This event will not count towards the maximum number of tournaments a team can attend. All Funfests must be sanctioned.

☐ Exhibition Game: This term refers to a maximum of two (2) games played between the same two teams on a single day. Participation is by invitation. There is no registration fee, however, there can be an agreement between the two teams to share the cost of the ice and the officials.

MOTION D4-13-11 Carried THAT: The maximum number of guaranteed games at an invitational tournament will be four (4).

MOTION D4-13-16 Carried THAT: The winner of the 18+ Open A McCarthy tier at the A Provincial Championship will automatically be registered in the 18+ Open A Jacks Division for the subsequent season. This will be effective at the 2014 A Provincial Championships.

The April Standing Committee meeting is being held this weekend.

Calendar reminders for the upcoming season:

- June 30th – Tournament applications to be received by the office. Late applications may be subject to surcharge and/or refusal.
- Mid-July – AA Provincials budget to be submitted to G&T for review and finalization of fees at the August SCM
- AA, U14A, U16A, U19A tournament selections to be submitted by approximately July 15th. Public release expected approximately August 21st. Please watch for the Ringette Flash with the confirmed dates.
- U12PP, 18+A & A-Jacks tournament selections to be submitted in early Sept (dates to be confirmed)

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