

May 2, 2019

Western Ontario Ringette League – WORL A/AA

The Western Ontario Ringette League (WORL) for A and AA Provincial Ringette teams in Western Region has completed the 2018/19 Ringette playing season with the League AGM having been held on Monday, April 15, 2019.

Western Region through our member Association teams, experienced tremendous success throughout the season having medal performances at tournaments across Ontario as well as at Provincials and National events - Western Region is the cream of the crop!

To each Association, their teams and the many athletes, none of these achievements would be possible without the parents and the many hours of dedicated work by our volunteers - Thank you!

Membership

We had 18-member Associations and 48 Provincial teams competing in our League play this year. 23 Provincial AA teams, 17 Provincial A teams and 8 U12P teams.

League Play

Divisional Champions were determined by League play. The 2017/18 League Champions:

U12-PP - Forest
U14 A - Guelph
U14 AA - Waterloo
U16 A - Forest
U16AA - Waterloo
U19A - Guelph
U19AA - Guelph
Open AA –Waterloo-Dawson

Congratulations to each Western Region team that earned post season successes at Provincials, the Canadian Ringette Championships and the Eastern Ringette Championships.

There have been ongoing meetings this past season involving WORL and CORL reps and the directors of Western, Southern and Central Regions. The proposal for a new league named G.L.R.L (Great Lakes Ringette League) has been proposed for all AA, A & U12P teams. This would require a new Governance structure and rules for this league.

AA teams have been playing under a combined league for many years, this would bring all the A teams in the 3 Regions to be scheduled games under this new league. The U12P teams would also have their games scheduled under this new league but would continue to play teams only within their respective Regions. Scheduling and travel are major discussion points but there is a desire to get greater exposure for the A teams. Setting up an East-West loop is desirable.

Any final proposals for a merger will be presented at a special WORL meeting in the next few months for approval. All Association WORL Representatives have been updated throughout this process and I encourage discussion and concerns brought forward through them.

Player Tryout and Selection Process

The Player Tryout and Selection Process, by which we communicate, select and present our teams for play is one of this League's most valuable assets. Open communication and presentation through the website continues to define our League and showcase us as the premier League in Ontario. The Player Intent and Team Tracking spreadsheet has been very effective in keeping an open and transparent approach to managing team development and player movement. Peter Westelaken spends countless hours maintaining and supporting this League by updating this spreadsheet, his attention to detail, the collating of some 800 plus emails and his dedication to our sport, on behalf of the League, I want to THANK YOU!

Officiating

Denise Pelletier, Referee in Chief for Western Region
Steve Baker, WORL Referee Scheduler
Association Referee in Chief's

Thank you to our officials, on-ice and off-ice, for their dedication and commitment to our League. We would not have a successful League without their continued support. We need to continue to recruit, train and develop our officials.

League Scheduling of Games

Shelley Klassen, WORL League Scheduler – Scheduling over 300 League games and reschedules is not an easy task. Thank you Shelley for all the work you did to organize and produce this League schedule for our teams and Associations.

To each one of our Association representatives, to the division conveners and to the League executive members – Shelley Handley, Lori Adams & Chris Sharpe. Thank you all very much! This league cannot operate without all your continued support.

This has been my fourth year as WORL President. It is quite evident that the strong foundation of WORL has been built through the hard work of years gone by, the leadership of past members and the collective involvement of current members.

Next WORL meeting is scheduled for – Mon, August 26, 2019 – Dorchester Library

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