



WESTERN REGION GENERAL MEETING

April 19, 2011

Chair's Report

As the Director of Western Region I am inspired by the passion, pride and commitment that our volunteers give to their players, their communities and to our sport. I am also honored to be the Director of what continues to be the largest and most successful Regions in Ontario.

The WRRL continues to do an excellent job managing and developing the skill set of our players at the Regional level. Evidence of this was the well balanced competitiveness of our Regional Tournament held in Guelph and Elora Fergus. Many thanks goes out to all of the volunteers who once again made this event a very successful one.

The WORL also does a superior job at providing our Provincial level players with a excellent opportunity to hone their skills and develop into elite Ringette players. Teams from our Region were very successful at the U12 Provincial event in West Ferris, at the Provincial A Championships in Ottawa, at the Provincial AA Championships in Whitby. I am sure our Elite Coordinator Mary Kaiser will make reference to all of these teams in her report.

I would like to extend special congratulations to the St. Clements Rockets for winning U19AA gold and the London Lynx for capturing the U16AA silver medal at the National Championships last weekend in Burnaby British Columbia. Congratulations also to the Guelph and Elora Fergus U14AA teams and the Waterloo Open A Duncan teams for winning gold this past weekend at the Eastern Canadian Championships in Quebec.

Final congratulations to the 5 Western Region teams that brought home the Sportsmanship awards from the Provincial Championships.

On a more sobering note the year has not been without controversy. The Region held 3 Tribunals and was involved in three Appeals at the ORA level. All pertained to either player movement or player relocation.

The ORA AGM is being held June 1st – 3rd at the Delta Armories in London. It is a great opportunity to have your voice heard, your vote counted and to have the rest of the province see what Western Region is all about. At the very least it would be great to have the Presidents from all of our associations present at the ORA AGM.

As you are aware London will be hosting 2012 U19 World Ringette Championships. It will give all of our players an opportunity to see world class Ringette right here in our own back yard. So be sure to promote this event throughout your association.

I will finish off by thanking my fellow executive members and coordinators not only for their support but also for the administrative work they do to ensure your needs are met at the Regional level. Like many of you they are parents or grandparents of players, they are members of bench staffs, they are actively involved with their local associations and yet they still give their volunteer time to sit on this board.

Thank you very much and have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Peter Westelaken
Director, Western Region