



# WORL 2013 – 2014 President's Report

April 7, 2014

WORL, the Western Ontario Ringette League for A and AA Provincial Ringette teams in Western Region will wrap up its playing season with the League AGM on Tuesday April 8, 2014. This year was our 10<sup>th</sup> as a League in Ontario Ringette. As evident by our Western Region teams playing and placing at Association tournaments throughout the year and by our medal performances at Provincials, our League, its members have had another very successful Ringette season, Congratulations and Well Done! The collective success of this League, its member Associations, teams and athletes is due in large part to the many hours of dedicated work by our volunteers. To each Association represented, thank you.

## Membership

We had **16** member Associations and **48** Provincial teams competing in our League and or the combined WORL/CORL League this year. 37 provincial A teams and 11 provincial AA teams.

## League Play

Divisional Champions were determined by League play. The 2013-14 League Champions:

U12-Provincial Petite	Guelph
U14 A:	London
U14 AA:	Waterloo
U16 A:	Forest
U16AA:	Guelph
U19A:	Elora Fergus
U19AA:	Guelph
Open A:	Waterloo- Dawson

Congratulations to each Western Region team that earned post season successes at Provincials, and the U12 Provincial event, well done! Good Luck to our teams travelling to Nationals and to the selected teams heading to the Eastern Championships.

## 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 2013-2014 Ringette year did not see one tribunal in our Region; that is two years in a row!

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 100's of emails and his dedication to our League, on behalf of the League, I want to THANK YOU!

## **Officiating**

Thank you to Denise Pelletier, Referee in Chief for Western Region and to Steve Baker, WORL Referee Scheduler, for their dedication and commitment to our League. Every game sees 3 teams on the ice, the visiting team, the home team and the team of officials. We would not have a successful League without their continued support. To each and every on-ice and off-ice official that participated in a League game this year, thank you.

We need to continue to recruit, train and develop our officials. Don't be afraid to thank them once in a while!

## **League Scheduling of Games**

Tim McCann, WORL League Scheduler – thank you for all the work you have done for this League over the years. You have taken one of the most difficult assignments and organized the chaos that comes with gathering ice times, blackouts, added tournaments, missed email instructions by Associations and prepared a schedule that you receive very little praise or compliments on. On behalf of the League – well done and thank you Tim!

(Tim will be relinquishing his duties as scheduler for WORL and the League will be looking for a League scheduler for the 2014-2015 season.)

## **Challenges**

- We need to continue to work together as neighboring Associations to offer the right level of play to all of our athletes. Continued communication and transparency is needed to offer A/AA teams that are competitive and have viable numbers to sustain the playing season.
- We need to find opportunities to showcase our great sport so that we can grow our membership at all levels...beginning with our youngest players and we need to reach out to communities that do not offer Ringette yet as a choice during the winter months.
- Continue to find a healthy balance in our distribution of AA, A, B and C teams...so that we don't grow one level of our sport at the expense of another.

## **Concluding Remarks**

Thank you for another successful year of Ringette, to each one of our Association representatives, to the League conveners and to the League executive members: Dan Dawson, Vice Chair, Sherry Townes, League Secretary and Lori Adams, Treasurer, this League does not operate without your continued support! Enjoy your summer and I look forward to seeing you in the Rinks next Season.

Mike Guiler