



## G&T Report – Western Region AGM

### **Provincials:**

This year's provincials was a bit different from past years as it was an all-inclusive event without qualifiers or rankings. Western teams played hard and came home with some hardware in addition to advancing to Easterns and/or Nationals!

Our medalists include:

U14A Black Dorchester Silver

U14A Red London Silver

U14A Red Guelph Bronze

U16AA London Bronze

U16A Forest Silver

U19AA Waterloo-V Silver

U19A Dorchester Gold

U19A Forest Silver

18+AA Waterloo-D Silver

18+U Western University - Gold

18+U University of Guelph - Silver

### **Leagues**

In spite of late starts and COVID interruptions, our teams were able to participate in league play once again this year.

WRRL revised their schedules after the January shutdown to ensure as many teams as possible saw game play before the end of the season.

GLRL also had to do some rescheduling, including a meeting with all ice schedulers, which seemed to work well.

Thanks to all associations and teams for helping address these challenges as smoothly as possible.

### **Regionals**

Huge thank you to London Ringette for taking over the hosting responsibilities from WRRRA this year. We had a very well organized tournament!

Participation statistics:

78 teams (including 6 U12A teams)

146 Games

1018 Players

538 penalties

1257 Goals!

**Save the Date: Next year's Regionals will be held April 14-16, 2023. More information to follow!!**

### **Competitions Committee Responsibilities vs the RO Office**

Ringette Ontario has moved many responsibilities from the committees to the office.

So far, Competitions continues to be responsible for:

1. Tournament schedule approvals
2. Substitution approvals
3. Suspension management

Jordan was onsite for AA Provincials as a Competitions Representative.

In Western Region, Competitions also supports our leagues and our year-end Regional Event.

### **Tournaments – Hosts**

Please watch for any updates from the RO office.

### **Tournaments - Teams**

The office has advised that tournament assignments will no longer be done. Plans are in the works for qualifying tournaments for Provincial level teams. Please watch for communications from Ringette Ontario for these changes.

All teams should plan their tournaments well in advance.

Please also ensure that you follow the tournament's deposit and payment policy.

All tournaments are still required to submit their schedules 4 weeks in advance for approval by the competitions Committee. This also allows any ice returns to be completed within. All teams should be aware that there are sanctions for withdrawing from a registered tournament. This is based on the

tournament's published deadlines and the required schedule submission dates.

Deciding to pull out of a tournament can have a significant impact not only to the host but also the other teams in your division.

### **Suspensions**

The suspension for a major penalty in the last 4 minutes of the game was put on hold for the 2020-2021 season and continued into 2021-2022, based on a decision by the RO Board. Please watch for any announcements as to whether this will be permanent or put back into place.

With only 2 tournaments, we had a couple of coach and player suspensions, but very few. Let's try to keep it that way going into next season!!

### **Competitions Committee Representation**

In Western Region is represented by both Nancy Nicolson-Houghtling and Jordan Kovats. Having 2 reps has been very beneficial as we have been able to share the workload.

Jordan Kovats is unfortunately leaving the "team". While I am willing to continue in this role, or supporting a new person in this role, members should be aware that while I am still an active member of Kitchener Ringette, my permanent residence is now in Eastern Region.

We are looking for one or two people who would be interested in moving into this role. Is this you??

Changes in the last 2 years (RO/Board)

1. Re-introduction of B/C for regional divisions U12 to U19
  - a. In order to ensure meaningful play at Western Regionals, teams were placed in competitive groups by the WRRL. This was a bit challenging due to less games than a normal season. As in the past, coach and/or association regional convenor input was part of the seeding process. Many thanks to Jason for preparing an advance list to keep us on track!
2. U12 Provincial changed to U12A (no tiering)
  - a. In order to ensure meaningful play at Southern and Western Regionals, teams were placed in competitive groupings (managed by GLRL). These 2 events were attended by teams from Western, Southern, Central, and North East.
3. Provincial Events were invitational for this year only, with no split grouping except when the group was unmanageably large. Then the group was split by random draw. All round robin opponents were also by random draw.
4. The 18+A division was moved out of the A Provincials (4 day event) to the Adult Challenge Cup (3 day event). This change was made 6 weeks prior to the original event. The revised event was attended by 16 teams in one division.
5. 2022 Provincial Events had a reduced number of Round Robin, but this varied by division:
  - a. 18+AA, 18+A had 4 RR games
    - i. 18+A was originally advertised as 5 games, over a 3 day schedule. The 5th game was dropped 2 weeks before the event when it was learned that the one game was to be played on Thursday night, prior to the advertised dates of the tournament. A significant number of teams were not able to field players on

that short notice.

- b. 18+U had 6 RR games
  - c. U19AA and U16AA had 5 RR games
  - d. U14AA had 6 RR games
  - e. U19A, U16A, U14A had 5 RR games
  - f. Pricing was adjusted accordingly ...
- 6. Provincial Fees were increased \$200 from 2019-2020 rates for one less guaranteed game.
  - 7. The RO office ran AA's hosted in Kitchener-Waterloo.
  - 8. Eastern Region ran A's hosted in Ottawa.

#### **Proposed Changes for Next Year ?**

While the Competitions Committee is not directly responsible for these changes, watch for:

- 1. Information about qualifiers for provincials
- 2. Revised limitations on the number of teams attending provincial events
- 3. Potential move of 18+A divisions permanently to the Adult Challenge Cup

Yours in Ringette,

Nancy Nicolson-Houghtling, Competitions Western Region