



Western Region Ringette Association

Region Chair's Report

WRRA General Region Meeting – Dec 1, 2022

The fall has been as usual very busy with starting of leagues and development events. The teams are back to playing in away and local tournaments. To be honest, it feels so good to see the sport functioning close to how it did prior to the pandemic.

I want to say a special thanks for all the league volunteers that have helped get WRRL and GRRL off the ground this year. It was great to see the volunteer support come together to make it happen. Also, the AAA and Team O are also going forward with great success and excitement.

The region is working on our top 10 priorities so please review and if you have questions please reach out to the lead on the projects. There are some important developments and changes that are ongoing behind the scenes in RO that I feel should be brought to the table to ensure everyone is aware and that there are no surprises in the future.

- 1) Coaches committee is no longer formally meeting. Coaching directors exist only at the region levels to help their association coaching directors best they can. Adam has notified me that he will be stepping down at the end of this season
- 2) Competitions committee does still exist; however, the group is finding it hard to navigate the unclear waters about what their mandate is or will continue to be. They have (at their own desire) remained available to help with provincials, tournament schedule review etc. It is my expectation that the committee may just decide to disband out of uncertain future
- 3) Officiating committee has had limited engagement, there is no formal feedback from the committee, and it is likely this group will fold when current leadership leaves.
- 4) RO has started work to create an advisory committee with the purpose of reviewing the current “operating model” specifically with the purposes of determining if the region model needs to change or stay. This committee is being chaired by the RO president Sarah Padfield.
- 5) RO is soon to begin the process of “Sport Recognition” with the government of Ontario. This is the process which sport groups go through to determine their funding for years to come.
- 6) Strategic plan continues to be worked on. There was wide consensus on the five strategic objectives of:

- Create a culture that promotes respect, integrity, and delivers a positive ringette experience for all.
- Deliberately grow the sport.
- Provide value-add development opportunities to the ringette community.
- Be a leading sport organization delivering best practices in governance.
- Ensure Operational Excellence is the foundation of everything we do

However, there remains many opinions/ perspectives about the key measures of success and actions needed for each of the above to be achieved. The board continues to work on this. If you have thoughts about this, I would love to hear your input.

- 7) Ramp has launch (Albeit not very smoothly) for tournaments. Recognition of the challenges especially on resources the board has allocated up to \$25K to help future tournaments with manpower resources to help make the tournaments go smoother (wrt to Ramp)

I would like to request that all presidents ensure that each of their board members complete a conflict-of-interest form. This document will be sent out to each president soon by Mark or myself. You can keep this in your board files. It is best practice that all your board members complete this each year. During any discussions that your board or this board has where conflict may exist this needs to be “in the open” and the person should eliminate themselves from that decision or vote. If you ever have a case where too many of the board members are in conflict on an important topic, reach out us as the region and we will do our best to provide you with input or representation.

We will be asking our region committee participants to complete the form, to ensure fair and transparent management of conflict. Which tends to become an issue around team formation most often.

One last thing, for the 2023 A/AA team formations, as part of the team willing to host forms you will have to commit to a training session with your parents on the team tryout process. WRRA will work to create a standard document you can use for this training. We need to work to ensure our parents and athletes know how the process works and what athlete movement is possible.

Yours in Ringette.



Chris Sharpe, Chair Western Region
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WRRA Top Priorities -2022/2023 Season

UPDATED: 30-Nov-22

**Team Leader
(of the Rock
Band)**

Team Members (Rock Stars)

Status Notes

#	Project (Rock)	Description - Overview (Initial but can be modified by team lead)	Team Leader (of the Rock Band)	Team Members (Rock Stars)	Status Notes
1	Team Formation	Successfully manage through B/C team formation	Jason	B/C Play Committee	Manage team formation in a way to minimize time to complete so B/C league play can start as soon as possible this season
2	RAMP Gamesheets	Launch Ramp Gamesheets for WORL and GLRL game play in WRRA	Chris		Work and cultivate possible candidates. RIC is not a heavy role, but critical for season to go smoothly
3	Marketing incl New Branding	Roll out Marketing plan for 2022 - Specifically free stick program, Rogers marketing. Finalize new Logo for the region	Megan	Assocation Marketing Reps	Launch new free stick program, Marketing Plan
4	Goalie Clinics	Have 4 Goalie Clinics through out the region in 2022/23 season	Mark	Cam	Arrange 4 clinics, need to formalize budget with region. 4 locations proposed currently are: London area, Goderich/Chatham area, Waterloo area and St. Mary's Tentative dates: Oct 02, Oct 16, Oct 23, Nov 06
5	Officials	Find and secure new RIC for WRRA	Mark	Rest of Board of Directors	Work and cultivate possible candidates. RIC is not a heavy role, but critical for season to go smoothly
6	Tryouts	Work with other region to beter align start of AA/A tryouts in Spring of 2023	Shelley	Chris Sharpe	Working on updating team formation rules.
7	Tryouts	Develop electronic method for tracking player releases	Elly	Shelley/Peter	Is there a method we can develop to eliminate manual/paper releases and offers? Speak with someone who can manage data bases? Request RO support this project. Can Ramp be used?
8	Player movement	Work with other regions to permit easier process to allow for player movement over region boundaries	Chris	Elly Simpson	Southern Region and Central Region. Southern Region has formally notified Chris they do not wish to change the way boundaries effect player movement next season
9	League Scheduling	Need to find more efficiant way for GLRL can schedule season. Submission of ice that better aligns with team needs	TBD	Phil Singeris & Jim File	Should Age/ level of team dictate type/time of ice that needs to be submitted?
10	Parent Education	Parent engagment and education about the sport	Assocation Presidents	Shelley/Jason	Each assocation put on a minimum of one Parent Education session on a topic of their choosing this season. Any U12A potential host assocations must create pathway for parents to learn about what it means to participate in Provincial play