



# WRRL REPORT

## April 18th, 2024

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### **CROSS LEAGUE PLAY:**

- U19, U16 and U12A all played teams across all three regions. In most cases, this was very well received and allowed teams to play against like teams, play a variety of teams and allowed the pools at regionals to be more balanced.
- Distance travel seems to be the #1 concern - although some teams would rather travel and have close games than have blow-outs.

### **REGIONALS:**

- Regionals seem to go really well. London and I received a lot of compliments (I had nothing to do with it - just sent to me)
- Pools seemed to be fairly equal in play which led to a couple of overtime gold medal games.
- We had 94 teams and included teams from Southern and Central from U14-U19. Looking to have 1 large regional event next year - approximately 130 teams.
- We did have 2 coach suspensions (Fun3, U14), 1 coach (Fun3) had to provide a written apology for behaviour toward officials as it was his last game so suspension would mean nothing.
- There were a few player suspensions for match penalties.
- We did not seem to have the same issues as last year - however behaviour towards officials continues to be an issue.

### **UNPLAYED GAMES:**

- There were several unplayed games this year - U19 was the largest group with unplayed games. Biggest reason was lack of officials for games (all age groups), lack of players (U19 age group) - some teams did face fines and were paid.

### **MIXED TEAM RATIO:**

- Most people were happy with the rule of 2 males on the ice at any time.
- The rule did not lessen the harassment boys faced on and off the ice.
- There is no easy solution, especially when it is difficult for boys to play at the A/AA level when they are capable of doing so.



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### **COMPLAINTS:**

- WRRL received 15 complaints this season for a variety of reasons including unsportsmanlike play by players and bench staff, dangerous play by players, failure to follow fair play rules, illegal substitutions and poor behaviour by fans. All complaints were followed up by WRRL or WRRRA and recorded.

### **OFFICIAL TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT**

- Associations paid out a total of \$11, 958.00 ranging from \$90 to \$3,770.
- WRRL was able to reimburse \$6440 back to associations based on the following:
  - Under \$200 no refund
  - \$200-\$500 - 50% refund
  - \$500-\$1500 - 60% refund
  - \$1500+ - 65% refund - with a maximum refund of \$1500.
- All associations were thankful for the reimbursement.

### **OVERALL**

I would like to express my gratitude to all the officials and bench staff who have made this ringette season truly remarkable. To our officials, thank you for your dedication, professionalism, and fairness on the ice. Your commitment to upholding the integrity of the game has not gone unnoticed. Without your expertise and hard work, our games would not have been possible. To the bench staff, thank you for your tireless efforts behind the scenes. You have been the backbone of our teams, and I am grateful for everything you do. It is important to recognize that without the dedication of our officials and bench staff, there would be no league. Your passion for the game and your commitment to excellence have been the driving force behind our season.

I would also like to say thank-you to Mark DeLaFranier, WRRRA Chair and the WRRL executive for all of your support this season in my first year as Chair - it has meant a great deal to me.

Shelley Handley  
WRRL Chair