

	<h2 style="margin: 0;">WESTERN REGION GENERAL MEETING</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">Feb 20, 2020 Spruce Lodge, Stratford 7-9pm</p>
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Agenda

- 1) Welcome – Chris Sharpe
- 2) Roll Call - Mark

Executive:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair – Chris Sharpe	<input type="checkbox"/> Past Chair – Brian Breckles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 st VP WORL – Phil Singeris
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 nd VP WRRL – Jason Vermeiren	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secretary – Mark DeLaFranier	<input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer – Astrid Eastman

Coordinators:

<input type="checkbox"/> Elite – Peter Westelaken	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coaching – John Mezenberg	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership – Melinda Shuchard
<input type="checkbox"/> Officiating – Denise Pelletier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> G&T – Nancy Nicolson-Houghtling	<input type="checkbox"/> G&T – Jordan Kovats
<input type="checkbox"/> Sport – Tania Pettitt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Webmaster – Keith Kaiser	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adult – Stephanie Smith

Associations:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chatham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dorchester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elora-Fergus
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exeter-Seaforth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goderich
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guelph	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hanover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kitchener
<input type="checkbox"/> London	<input type="checkbox"/> London Open	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mitchell
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Owen Sound	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Owen Sound Ladies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWIRL
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> St. Marys	<input type="checkbox"/> St. Thomas
<input type="checkbox"/> St. Thomas Adult	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tillsonburg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waterloo
<input type="checkbox"/> Wellington North	<input type="checkbox"/> Western University	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Woolwich
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WRIARA		

- 3) Adopt Minutes of Previous November 21st, 2019 meeting – Mark

Motion to accept – Chatham, Dorest, Passed

- 4) Reports

All submitted director reports are available on the website:

<http://www.wrra.ca/reports/022020.php>

- a) Officiating Coordinator – Denise Pelletier
 - i) No questions

- b) Treasurer – Astrid Eastman
 - i) No questions.
 - ii) Chris highlighted the point that we will not likely incur some expenses due to some programs not being run.

- c) Coaching Coordinator – John Mezenberg
 - i) Suggestion that a general announcement so that everybody is aware
 - ii) Perhaps some coaching coordinators are not passing along the information
 - iii) Could the new website offer a service that we could leverage to help share the information.
 - iv) There is great value in attending these sessions.

- d) G&T Coordinator – Nancy Nicolson-Houghtling & Jordan Kovats
 - i) Couple of applications for U12P Provincial Event, meeting next week, hope to announce in about 2-3 weeks
 - ii) Discussion in regard to U12P hosting “provincials”. As part of the competition review, there is concern that the athletes have not reached a level of competition understanding. Significant driver of these changes is Sport Canada increasing requirements of adoption of LTAD.
 - iii) 2021-22 U14A group will likely not be all inclusive due to lack of ice, officials and the school of thought that “this is a provincial event” and teams should be competing to attend
 - (1) 2019-20 – there was 25 teams
 - iv) There have been a few issues around high running scores. Coaches need to be reminded that they need to throttle back and adjust game play to discourage further goals. Northeast has a rule that a coach is given a misconduct penalty and a game suspension for games that have a > 10 goal differential.

- e) Membership Services Coordinator – Melinda Suchard
 - i) No report submitted
 - ii) Melinda looking to retire, and the region is looking for a volunteer to take over this coordinator position.

- f) Webmaster – Keith Kaiser
 - i) No report submitted
 - ii) Brian still looking at the new website. Getting a quote from RAMP and OneDB

- g) Elite Coordinator – Peter Westerlaken
 - i) Peter looking to retire, and the region is looking for a volunteer to take over this coordinator position.

- ii) John mentioned that we were lucky to have 3 players from our region to play on team Canada – Maddy McLean, Lidia Ducan, Megan Hanton-Fong. On the Sr. Team we had Markel.
 - iii) Susana from Finland – there is a biography coming out in May.
 - iv) Finland has been to world championships for the past 4 years, they have a very strong development program – 4-5 years of development. Not only for ringette, but also for hockey.
- h) Sport Development – Tania Pettitt
- i) No report submitted
 - ii) Chris provided an update that we were not unable to find a lead for the goalie clinic.
- i) Adult Development – Stephanie Smith
- i) Friendly reminder that substitution forms need to be in 48 hours in advance!
- j) 1st Vice President WORL – Phil Singeris
- i) WORL tryout process should be finalized and ready for launch by mid week of Feb 24
- k) 2nd Vice President WRRL – Janson Vermeiren
- i) AGM will be changing due to U12P event overlapping
 - ii) Seeking a host for the 2021 regionals
- l) Chair – Chris Sharpe
- i) Fair ice policy – under review at tournaments
 - ii) Screening Policy – updates to the policy impact how all associations
 - (1) Once in a blue moon
 - (2) Sterling – can your check be shared with other associations? Sports? Organizations? I think so.
 - iii) Social Media – change rooms, bathrooms should not be posted on association social media feeds.
 - iv) Reminder to submit the dates for your AGM
 - v) Marketing – Intrigue Media, cost estimate is around \$20k to run a impactful marketing program. Chris reviewed with other regions and there is interest in pooling funds for a combined program. Look at leveraging media created from Ringette Ontario over the past 2 years.
 - (1) Discussion around growing the sport, but encountering the ice availability constraints.
 - (2) Develop reusable content that associations can just snag and use
- 5) Notices to Associations

a) Parent Education Sessions

Please note that all associations are requested to hold a parent education session prior to the end of the season. The goal of this session is to increase awareness of the policies and processes in place for each association and provide an open informal venue for parents to asked questions. Please let Chris know if you have any questions.

b) Reminder, to all associations to send in their AGM dates to Keith.

WRRRA is planning on attending all associations AGM meetings and to facilitate scheduling, it is imperative that your AGM date is submitted.

6) New Business

a) Marketing Grant Update - Chris

- i) Grants awarded to St. Thomas for \$1500 and Dorchester for \$1000
- ii) Proposal to adjust program for 2020-21 to budget \$6000, cap request at \$1500 and association may only apply once.

b) RO Policy and Competition Review Update – Chris

- i) LOTS of more admin and pushing a lot of processes and policies down to people!
- ii) Apprehension around all the activities that RO is working on and fear of mandatory pushing down tasks to smaller associations
- iii) Season Checklist / Playbook
- iv) Meeting discussions need to go beyond table talk and formalized
- v) Do we have a gap in our communications?

~~c) Goalie Clinics Update – Tania~~

d) WRRRA Logo Contest Update – Chris

e) Tournament Committee Update – Nancy

~~f) Regionals Update – Nancy~~

g) Project Updates

- i) Marketing and Branding – Chris
- ii) Player Development – Tania
- iii) Coaching Development – John
- iv) Web Site Remodel – Brian
- v) IT Infrastructure – Astrid
- vi) Children’s Ringette – Tania
- vii) Parent Education – Jason

- viii) Association Audit – Chris
- ix) Referee Recruitment and Training – Denise
- x) Volunteer Recruitment – Stephanie

h) 2020-21 Children's Ringette – Open Discussion

In the upcoming season, it is expected that Ringette Canada will mandate the Children's Ringette program be implemented across the board. This slot is reserved for an open discussion among associations to look at ideas on how we will move forward to implement this program.

- Chris working with RO to understand the rules, framework and format
- U7 and U8 ½ ice – use the Guelph model
- U9 will like fold and U10 will be a 2-year age group, will be communicated by end of this season.
 - o Watch for over age players at U10, you will have U8 and possibly some U7
- Small nets, talk with your local hockey association to see if equipment can be rented, shared, borrowed, etc.
- Separate ice, by easiest means
- See Ringette Canada Resources:
 - o <https://www.ringette.ca/programs/childrensringette/>
- G&T policy under playing rules, but it includes sport development rules about U9/U10 about balancing teams. U14 and U16 are no longer present in the division. U14B/C, U16B/C – you can make a B and a C team. This means associations can tier, but there is no tryouts and they are called 'sort outs'
- Every team must have a female coach (head or assistant), must be physically on the bench. A bench staff can be substituted at any time.

7) Announcements

- a) None

8) Motion to Adjourn

- a) Tillsonburg, Exeter-Seaforth.