



Western Region Ringette League

Annual General Meeting - Wednesday, April 15/2015

Spruce Lodge - Stratford

Brian Woolley called the meeting to order at 7:35PM.

Executive Present - Brian Woolley, Nancy Nicolson-Houghtling, Brian Hesse, Chris McMichael, Mike Sharpe, Kevin Beuermann, Mike Koolen

Executive Absent - Soph Katsademas, Kendra Vermilyea, Doug Deneau

ASSOCIATIONS PRESENT: Chatham, Dorchester, Elora/Fergus, Exeter/Seaforth, Forest, Goderich, Guelph, Hanover, Kitchener, London, Mitchell, Owen Sound, St. Clements, St. Mary's, St. Thomas, Tillsonburg, Waterloo

ASSOCIATIONS ABSENT: Wellington North, Woolwich

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR APRIL AGM MEETING: London, seconded by St. Mary's. Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 9th/2014: Forest, seconded Elora/Fergus. Carried.

Business arising from the last meeting minutes:

Come Try Ringette

- utilized to help grow the sport
 - developed by Ringette Canada
 - there will be a CTR link on the website
 - training (certification) sessions will be run to properly teach the concept of CTR
 - feedback will be given on the website of the pros/cons of the CTR program
- CTR - contact person. Jodi Walsh. jodi.walsh9@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE REPORTS:

PRESIDENT (Brian Woolley)

- report is attached

VICE PRESIDENT (Doug Deneau)

- nothing to report

TREASURER (Soph Katsademas)

- report attached

COMMISSIONER'S (WEST) (Kevin Beuermann)

- very minor problems that had to be handled (4 in total)

COMMISSIONER'S (EAST) (Michael Sharpe)

- had to deal with one association on a 'not enough player' issue (minor problem)

STATISTICIAN (Chris McMichael)

- report attached

REFEREE-IN-CHIEF (Mike Koolen)

- nothing to report

WESTERN SCHEDULER (Nancy Nicholson-Houghtling)

- 10 teams playing U8
- 56 teams playing U10/U12/U14
- 21 teams playing U16/U19

EASTERN SCHEDULER (Kendra Vermilyea)

- nothing to report

Motion to accept reports: Owen Sound, seconded by Exeter/Seaforth. Carried.

LEAGUE BANNER PRESENTATIONS

U9 EAST CHAMPION - Wellington North
U9 WEST CHAMPION - Chatham

U10 EAST CHAMPION - Waterloo
U10 WEST CHAMPION - Dorchester

U12 EAST CHAMPION - Hanover
U12 WEST CHAMPION - Mitchell

U14 EAST CHAMPION - Kitchener
U14 WEST CHAMPION - Goderich

U16 EAST CHAMPION - Hanover
U16 WEST CHAMPION - Mitchell

U19 EAST CHAMPION - St. Clements
U19 WEST CHAMPION - Mitchell

LEAGUE SCHEDULE

Proposed dates: Document is attached.

Regionals proposed to be Mar 24-26/2016 (Thurs, Fri, Sat), leaving Easter Sunday for family events.

Regionals to be held in London.

ELECTIONS

President - Brian Woolley will stay on as president of the WRRL for another year.

VP - Doug Deneau does not wish to carry on with this position. One year role that will come up for the two year cycle next year.

Treasurer - Soph will carry on a treasurer if no one else would like to do the position.

Secretary - Brian Hesse would like to step away from this position and take on another role within executive.

East Commissioner - Michael Sharp will stay on in this position.

Eastern Scheduler - Kendra Vermilyea will stay on in this position.

Western Scheduler - up for election.

Statistician - Chris McMichael will stay on in this position.

Western Commissioner - up for election. Kevin Beuermann will stay on if no one else would like the position.

Referee in Chief - up for election.

VICE PRESIDENT

Nominations for VP for the WRRL league 2015/2016 season.

London rep will find someone to fill the position. Acclaimed.

WESTERN SCHEDULER POSITION

Brian Hesse (Goderich) has been nominated and accepted the position.

Acclaimed.

SECRETARY POSITION

Nominations for Secretary for the WRRL league 2015/2016 season.

St Clements rep will find someone to fill the role. Acclaimed.

Exeter/Seaforth rep will find someone to fill the role if St Clements cannot find a volunteer.

TREASURER POSITION

Nominations for treasurer for the WRRL league 2015/2016 season.

Tillsonburg rep will find someone to fill the role. Acclaimed.

WESTERN COMMISSIONER

Nominations for Western Commissioner for the WRRL league 2015/2016 season.

St. Thomas rep will find someone to fill the role. Acclaimed.

REFEREE IN CHIEF

Nominations for the referee in chief for the WRRL league 2015/2016 season.

Forest rep will find someone to fill the role. Acclaimed.

NEW BUSINESS

Wellington North was wondering what other associations pay their time keepers/shot clock operators.

Time Keepers - \$5.

Shot Clock Operators - \$10

St. Thomas - gives their volunteers community service hours to fulfil their high school requirement.

Guelph - uses parents to teach those parents that it isn't as simple as it seems. The parents will then have a greater respect for doing the shot.

Forest has increasing concerns about regional teams using goalies (boys) who are playing rep hockey.

Discussion:

- should there be rules in place for 'part time' boy goalies?
- the worry is that there may not be any girl goalies in three years
- should we allow U8 teams to have a full time goalie?
- do we ask these hockey goalies to 'pick a sport' and only allow them to play either ringette or hockey?

Action Item

Develop some guidelines for allowing hockey goalies, hockey forwards, hockey defence when allowing him/her to play a certain level of ringette.

St. Thomas - big thank you to the WRRL for approving 4 over age players for their U16 team.

- had a concern that some of the teams didn't get to play at West End Arena at Regionals
- noticed that the gold medal games had inexperienced referees on ice instead of using more seasoned referees for those gold medal games
- had a concern that U12 West banner winner should have been St. Thomas instead of Mitchell

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Forest, seconded Dorchester. Carried.

WRRRA AGM Meeting – April 15, 2015

WRRRL President's Report

This marks the end of the second year of my term as WRRRL President. My main objective at the beginning of the year was to make improvements from previous years and from my perspective I believe that objective was met.

First, we had perfect attendance from all Associations at each of the WRRRL meetings we held. This has been critical to our success this past year in order to ensure that each Association is fully aware of the requirements to make our season run smoothly.

Second, we had 2 very important meetings this year that led to a season with very few issues to resolve. The second half re-seeding meeting in December was instrumental in ensuring that there was more competitive play among teams of equal skill. While this can never be 100% accurate due to the number of teams, location, etc, the equality of competition was usually much better in the second half.

Further, the most important meeting of the WRRRL year was held in Dorchester on March 10. All Association reps and a member from each WRRRL team's bench staff were invited to this Regionals tournament seeding meeting. Out of 87 U8 to U19 teams in Western Region there was approximately 70 bench staffs represented. The seeding for the Regionals tournament was done efficiently and cooperatively. To date, there have been no complaints regarding the pool seeding at the tournament and so this was a great improvement over previous years. However, the critical aspect of this meeting was a pre-Regionals tournament presentation by Nancy Nicolson-Houghtling regarding the ORA/Western Region Code of Conduct zero tolerance policy. This was done to pre-empt any issues among all participants on and off the ice and the main objective was to protect our officials with the hope of avoiding events that happened during the 2014 tournament. Other than a discussion with a U9 coach and a couple player incidents at U19, the level of respect and sportsmanship displayed throughout the tournament was stellar. Great job everyone!

At the end of the 2013/2014 season WRRRL we discussed the need to increase our player enrollment across Western Region. I don't think it can be argued that all Associations would like to have more children playing and particularly at the house league level to help ensure Associations can remain alive which in turn will help diminish the amount of travel required. An ad-hoc group led by Wanda McHarg of Hanover met once and this project continues to inch along. Several associations have embarked on aggressive plans to grow the sport locally. There has also been discussion around re-starting the sport in towns where ringette used to thrive or even new towns where there are facilities and youth available. We must realize that all of this is a long term project and won't be achieved overnight. Western Region must continue to work together in many aspects to grow the sport.

Finally, I want to thank everyone in front of and behind the scenes in Western Region that help bring this great sport of ringette to our youth. We need more adults (young and mature) to participate at all aspects, from bench staff personnel to tournament helpers in order to spread out the work load. Yes, the biggest problem with minor sport is the parents but conversely, without them none of this would work.

**Respectfully submitted,
Brian Woolley - WRRRL President**

WRRL Statistician Report – 2014/2015

Only 30 games were not submitted this year, below is the list of those games highlighted are those home teams with more than 1 missing game. Coaches were contacted if a game was not submitted and asked to submit or use the website to update the new date for a reschedule game. These are the results used for reseeding for second half of the season, and regional tournament. So I believe a reminder to each coach at the beginning of the season about the process is important.

Game	Division	Visitor	Vscore	Home	Hscore	Actual Date	Actual Time	Actual Arena
U09-W25	U09	Exeter/Seaforth		Dorchester		12/7/2014	12:30 PM	Thames Centre
U09-W21	U09	Mitchell		Dorchester		12/14/2014	12:30 PM	Thames Centre
U09-W20	U09	Dorchester		Exeter/Seaforth		12/13/2014	1:00 PM	Seaforth
U09-E25	U09	Waterloo Gold		Guelph		12/12/2014	6:00 PM	Victoria
U09-E57	U09	Kitchener		Waterloo-Thorndyke		1/24/2015	5:00 PM	Moses Springer
U09-E63	U09	Kitchener		Wellington North		2/14/2015	12:00 PM	Arthur
U10-W89	U10	St Marys		Chatham		4/1/2015	12:00 AM	Erickson
U10-W90	U10	London Green		Chatham		4/1/2015	12:00 AM	Erickson
U10-W10	U10	London Green		Goderich		12/20/2014	12:00 PM	Goderich Memorial
U10-W59	U10	Dorchester		St Marys		1/24/2015	10:00 AM	Mary
U10-W53	U10	London Green		St Marys		1/29/2015	7:15 PM	Mary
U10-W27	U10	Goderich		Tillsonburg		2/22/2015	12:15 PM	Colin Campbell
U10-E30	U10	Guelph - Carberry		Waterloo		12/21/2014	10:00 AM	Albert McCormick East
U10-E69	U10	Guelph-Carberry		Waterloo		3/1/2015	5:00 PM	Moses Springer
U12-W138	U12	Dorchester		Exeter/Seaforth		2/14/2015	2:00 PM	Seaforth
U12-W50	U12	Goderich-Blue		St Thomas		3/3/2015	6:00 PM	Timken
U14-E64	U14	Woolwich		Guelph		2/14/2015	5:00 PM	Victoria
U14-E29	U14	Guelph		Owen Sound		12/13/2014	4:00 PM	Julie MacArthur Rec
U14-E67	U14	Waterloo		Owen Sound		2/21/2015	5:00 PM	Juilie McArthur Rec
U16-226	U16	Wellington North		Chatham		3/31/2015	12:00 PM	Erickson
U16-174	U16	Chatham		Exeter/Seaforth		1/4/2015	6:15 PM	Seaforth
U16-213	U16	St Thomas		Exeter/Seaforth		2/15/2015	5:15 PM	Seaforth
U16-125	U16	Exeter/Seaforth		Hanover		12/12/2014	8:30 PM	P&H Centre -
U16-199	U16	Tillsonburg		Hanover		2/1/2015	2:00 PM	P&H Centre -
U16-145	U16	Wellington North		Tillsonburg		1/24/2015	1:00 PM	Memorial Arena
U16-164	U16	Chatham		Wellington North		1/4/2015	11:00 AM	Arthur (WN)
U16-137	U16	Tillsonburg		Wellington North		2/1/2015	11:00 AM	Arthur
U16-224	U16	Forest		Wellington North		3/31/2015	12:00 PM	Arthur (WN)
U19-86	U19	Exeter/Seaforth		Guelph		2/24/2015	8:00 PM	West End Rec
U19-08	U19	Exeter/Seaforth		Wellington North		3/16/2015	8:30 PM	Mount Forest

One anomaly arose this year in at least the U16 division where some teams were scheduled for a different number of games than others. Not sure if this was due to a lack of ice times in certain centres, but this did create an issue in trying to select the Banner winner. When there is a difference in the number of games should the Banner winner be selected on points or winning percentage?

WRRL Eastern Commissioner Report – 2014/2015

No unresolved issues to report in the Eastern side of WRRL. Some slight exemptions made for associations with small player teams. Distance of travel for regional teams continues to be a concern. Generally, level of fair play was good with the exception of one Kitchener team being asked to play higher caliber teams in the West.

Michael Sharpe – Eastern Commissioner

WRRL DATES: 2015/2016 Season - PROPOSED

Thursday SEPTEMBER 24

- i) Associations need to have team declared to the WRRL President via email (with the knowledge that a couple associations don't have start-up ice until late September/early October)
- ii) Ice times are due to the Eastern and Western ice schedulers **up to January 10**

Thursday OCTOBER 1 – WRRL MEETING – 7:30pm

- i) Finalize declaration of teams
- ii) Submit Overage player forms
- iii) Submit 2 team player agreements

Friday OCTOBER 9

- i) Schedules are distributed from Eastern and Western ice schedulers

Saturday OCTOBER 17: Games begin

Friday DECEMBER 5

- i) Ice times due to Eastern and Western ice schedulers for second half **(January 11 +)**

Thursday DECEMBER 10 – WRRL MEETING – 7:30pm

- i) Second half seeding
- ii) U8 numbers required to order league and Regionals medals

Monday DECEMBER 28

- i) Second half schedule distributed by Eastern and Western ice schedulers

Sunday JANUARY 10: First half games done

Monday JANUARY 11: Second half games begin

Sunday MARCH 6: Second half games end

Tuesday MARCH 8:

- i) WRRL Board/ coaches meeting – Seeding/Pooling/Code of Conduct meeting for Regionals

Thursday MARCH 24 to Saturday MARCH 26

- i) REGIONALS

Thursday APRIL 7 – WRRL AGM