

SWIRL Meeting
Sunday, September 18, 2016
2:00pm Edelweiss Tavern,
600 Doon Village Road, Kitchener (small meeting room)

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll call

- a. Cambridge Coyotes, Chatham, Dorchester, Guelph Cougars, Guelph Gold, Guelph White, Kitchener Bandits, Kitchener Nites, Kitchener Rebels, Kitchener Wild, London Storm, London Strike, Mitchell, North Dumfries Cougars, St. Clements, St. Marys, St. Thomas, Stratford Stingers, Stratford Thunder (tournament team), Tillsonburg, Waterloo C, Waterloo Fury, Waterloo Immortals, Woodstock, Woolwich Beez, Woolwich Legends
- b. New teams:
 - i. Ayr: Looking to play in our 'C' tier. Played in a 'B' loop in Southern Region last year and it was not their calibre. Players are in their 40s and 50s. They also have a number of new players who have never played. Their ice time is Sunday at 5 pm in Ayr. Vote to accept Ayr into SWIRL. None opposed. Carried. Ayr welcomed to the League.
- c. Departing teams: None.

2. Review of January 2016 Exec Committee Report Summary in lieu of minutes

There was no meeting in January, therefore no minutes per se to review and approve. Summary of Executive Committee reports as circulated, was reviewed. No questions or concerns.

The Chair reminded the meeting that 2015-2016 performance bond cheques were available for return (or to have the date changed to Jan. 15/17 for this season), to turn in their ice times to Beanie, and to sign the circulating contact list.

3. SWIRL Executive Committee Elections for 2016-2017

Chair - Laura (re-elected)

Vice Chair - Tori (re-elected)

Treasurer - Lindsay has stepped down. Connie Sanders (St. Thomas) volunteered. Accepted.

Secretary - Tosha (re-elected)

Discipline Chair - Jane (re-elected)

Scheduler - Beanie (re-elected)

Statistician - Brenna (re-elected)

Registrar - Marg (re-elected)

4. 2015-2016 Executive Committee Reports

a. Chair's Report - Laura Pfanner

- Team reps may register with the ORA to receive ORA Membership Notices by e-mail
- New Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches of 18+ BB and lower teams without previous coaching experience must be CI trained (competitive). By Jan. 8/19, all Coaches of teams at these levels will be required to be CI trained.
- Ringette Canada has determined Managers will no longer be permitted in the bench area during the game at CRCs, NRL Championship and Canada Games. Currently this policy does not apply to ORA sanctioned play. A show of hands from those in attendance indicated clear opposition to this change in policy, in particular as it may apply to Adult BB and lower play. Jane to clarify with Mike Beaton (ORA ED) ORA's intent going forward with respect to adopting this policy provincially. If the ORA is moving in that direction, Jane will communicate SWIRL's position as it pertains to 18+ (and 35+) BB and lower play.
- Laura reviewed SWIRL level of play vs. ORA level of play (see January 2016 EC report summary) to remind teams that these may be different (e.g., a team may play B- in SWIRL and register as CC with ORA).

b. Vice-Chair's Report -Tori Wood

- Nothing to report.

c. Treasurer's Report - Lindsay Julian via Laura Pfanner

- Current bank balance is \$619.22. Only expenses since last year were \$75 ORA, odd team fees and our monthly bank fees of \$2.50.
- For the last two years the SWIRL fee has been \$20/team as we had extra money in the bank. Last year we had trouble paying our ORA team registrations (mostly as a result of the ORA billing dues and fees (\$5 total) up front for all registrants, including those in double positions).
- Suggestion that we increase our SWIRL membership (per team) fee this season so as to be able to cover payment to ORA.
- MOTION Connie, 2nd Woodstock: To set the 2016-2017 SWIRL membership fee at \$25. Carried.

d. Registrar's Report - Marg Van Oirschot

- Registration packages ready to go out by e-mail.
- London, St. Thomas, Guelph White, Guelph Gold, Waterloo, Chatham, Mitchell and St.Marys all register through their Minor associations. These teams are still required to provide SWIRL (Marg) with a copy of their TRFs at the beginning of the season.
- Remaining teams (which register with the ORA through SWIRL) must submit their registration packages to Marg as soon as they are complete. **Deadline** to submit TRFs to Marg is **October 15th**. A late fee does apply (see SWIRL Operating Manual).
- Surname changes need to be communicated to Marg (whether they change before or during the season) so that players can be tracked (from game sheets) and new ORA registered member files are not created in error.

e. **Statistician's Report** - Brenna Veates

- Proposed the following changes to game sheet and game results submission procedures;
- For **League games** only: **Home team** will submit stats on-line, scan and/or take a photo of the WHITE copy of the game sheet and email it to Brenna **within 72 hours**. Assign a team member who can do this. **Away teams** only have to send in major penalties or specific things they wish to communicate to SWIRL.
- For **Exhibition and Tournament games**: **All** teams must submit both their copy of the game sheet AND submit results on-line
MOTION Brenna, 2nd Second Guelph White. Carried.

f. **Scheduler's Report** - Brenda Brenner

- Beanie gave her three-year retirement notice (so teams can start looking for a replacement).
- An e-mail was sent out prior to this meeting advising teams to bring ice times today.
- Plan is to have schedule done this week (for Sept. 25th) to be sent out to teams to check.
- A reminder to teams that prior to distribution the draft is checked for the number of home and away games/team only (i.e., not days of the week, arenas or game times).
- Teams will have **two days** from the date of receipt to send their changes back to Beanie.
- The schedule will be a master schedule for all teams. **Teams are to ensure that they have 9 home and 9 away games AND that all information for each of their games is correct.**
- E-mail addresses for Beanie, Jane and Brenna will be on the schedule. All three are to be advised of ALL game changes (e.g., cancellations, reschedules) throughout the season.

g. **Secretary's Report** – Tosha Kelly

- Nothing to report.

h. **Disciplinary Chair's Report** - Jane Larkworthy

- Review of penalties and suspensions:
 - We had three ejections prior to the Jan/16 date of our EC report summary (totalling six suspended games). In the second half of the season we had six more ejections of players or team staff.
 - Brenna created a summary of fully served penalties from game reports and on-line game submissions (verified with game sheets). There were 28 games last year during which at least one fully served penalty was assessed. There were 12 game suspensions involving six different bodies and only three teams. Three of the six individuals whose names appeared in the Discipline Log were repeat offenders within the same playing season.
 - Question: Where do we go from here? We work within our own operating rules and within ORA suspension guidelines but we're still seeing these types of behaviours. We could increase game suspensions for repeat offenders but even that may not be effective. Team reps need to go back to their teams and remind them of SWIRL's Mission Statement. Offending players and team staff need to "get a grip" as we don't want these players representing our League. Teams need to do a better job managing these individuals.
- Carry-over suspensions: One player was ejected from the WRRRA final and is suspended for the first game of this season. That player is not permitted to participate in any game (exhibition or otherwise) until her one game suspension is served (in either tournament or SWIRL play).
- League Disciplinary Committee for 2016-2017: Jane, Tosha, Barry, Tori and Brenna.
- Match and Misconduct Penalties-Reporting Process: See January 2016 EC Report Summary.

5. Operating Manual Changes - Jane Larkworthy

- Changes for 2016-2017:
 - Brenna’s changes re game sheet and game results submissions
 - Section J iv): Jane moved to reduce ejection penalty reporting time by the non-offending team to 24 hours (from 48), 2nd Guelph White. Carried.
- Updated Operating Manual will be posted to the SWIRL web site (which is hosted on the WRRRA web site (wrra.ca)).

6. League Format and Schedule:

a. Last season’s tiers:

	Tier 1 (B+)	Tier 2 (B)	Tier 3 (B-)	Tier 4 (C)
	Chatham	Cambridge Coyotes	Dorchester	Kitchener Bandits
	Guelph Cougars	Guelph White	London Storm	Kitchener Nites
	Guelph Gold	Mitchell	St. Thomas	St. Clements
	Kitchener Rebels	St. Marys	Stratford Stingers	Waterloo C
	Kitchener Wild	Waterloo Fury	Tillsonburg	Woodstock
	London Strike	Woolwich Beez		
	North Dumfries Cougars			
	Woolwich Legends			
	Waterloo Immortals			

b. This season’s tiers:

	Tier 1 (B+)	Tier 2 (B)	Tier 3 (B-)	Tier 4 (C)
	Chatham	Cambridge Coyotes	Dorchester	Kitchener Bandits
	Guelph Cougars	Mitchell	London Storm	Kitchener Nites
	Guelph Gold	St. Marys	St. Thomas	St. Clements
	Kitchener Rebels	Waterloo Fury	Stratford Stingers	Waterloo C
	Kitchener Wild	Woolwich Beez	Tillsonburg	Woodstock
	London Strike			Ayr
	North Dumfries Cougars			
	Woolwich Legends			
	Waterloo Immortals			
	Guelph White			

- No B+ crossovers but all other tiers will cross over.
- Chatham games: London Strike (2x), Stratford Thunder, St. Thomas, Guelph White (double header), Kitchener Wild (double header), North Dumfries Cougars.

7. New Business

- Margie (our Registrar) is the new WRRRA ADP Coordinator.
- ADP updates (also see ADP Section of ORA Operating Manual, available on ORA web site):
 - ADP is seeking a host for the 2017 OAIC. Hamilton is a possibility (date TBD).
 - Adult two-team player (Affiliate) agreements due November 15th.

- 18+ BB and lower teams must have at least one certified bench staff member on their TRF. These teams must also have a certified team staff member (which can be also be a player) for all sanctioned play. The ORA recommends that someone on each team be certified in first aid.
- September is “Come Try Ringette” month for youth programs. ADP wants to promote this for adults as well because strengthening adult leagues will in-turn strengthen youth leagues.
- Some centres are trying to get \$500 to host “Come Try Ringette” events for adults. Numbers are dropping so we all need to do our part to strengthen the sport.
- Referee numbers have dropped. We need more refs!

8. Western Region Meetings: (Spruce Lodge, Stratford, 7:30 pm)

September 15, 2016 meeting - attended by Guelph White (for SWIRL):

- Not much for adults. Coach and referee numbers are down.
- Nancy NH (G&T) suggested that teams pick tournaments well in advance as tournament hosts must have their schedules in for approval four weeks in advance. She also suggested that teams choose local tournaments (which are down in registration numbers) over “travel” tournaments.
- A reminder that Injury Reports (for all play) are to be filed with the ORA.

November 17, 2016 - (Provincials fees due) Mitchell

January 12, 2017 - (Regionals \$200 deposit due) London Strike

February 23, 2017 - (General Meeting) Stratford Stingers

April 13, 2017 - AGM Tillsonburg

September XX 2017 -TBD at January SWIRL meeting

9. Announcements

- Tournaments: Check the ORA web site for current listings.
- Coaching & Officiating Clinics: Refer to Western Region web site (www.wrra.ca).
- Insurance Coverage: See membership notices on ORA web site (Note: The consequence of wearing improper equipment (or failure to wear mandatory equipment) is that the insurance for both teams is voided). If you need certificate of insurance for your ice, contact the ORA.

10. Next SWIRL meeting: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at **7:30 p.m.**, Edelweiss Tavern (small meeting room).

11. Adjournment (4:15 pm).