



**Spruce Grove Ringette Association (SGRA)
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 11, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m.
Stony Plain Library Meeting Room**

The Spruce Grove Ringette Association (SGRA) Executive Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Stony Plain Library Meeting Room with the following in attendance:

Rhonda Kew, Chair	Shelley Schmidt
Scott Hagel	Jeff Shewchuk
Kelley Hessling	Anita Bergson
Jason Stypula	Sherry Stypula
Val Horner	Cora Laufersweiler
Johanne Parker	Brenda Hodgins
Sabrina Charity	Jacinda Rolph
Janine Clayton	Vanessa Kenyon, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Rhonda Kew called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jeff Shewchuk MOVED:

That the agenda for the September 11, 2012 meeting be approved with the following additions:

- Coach Interviews
- Secretary Position

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REVIEW AND ADOPTIONS OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Shelley Schmidt MOVED:

That the minutes from August 29, 2012 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

STANDING ITEMS

The board discussed items from previous meetings:

- Display Board
 - Jeff Shewchuk had taken measurements to build a new display board for the Arena. Display board will have glass over it and will lock.

- The board discussed the possibility of using some wall space in the Stu Barnes side of the Agrena to hang association team photos. Jeff will coordinate with Cherie to see if this is a possibility.
- Cost per Player Spreadsheet
 - Donna Smith had prepared a cost per player spreadsheet at the Open level to help determine appropriate fees. Fees work out to approximately \$618 per player.
 - Cost per player for other levels doesn't need to be complete until later in the year when determining fees for next season.
- Community Use Form for Dryland Sessions at Schools
 - Form needs to be filled out to be able to utilize school gyms for dryland training.

NEW BUSINESS

U14 Division

Rhonda Kew provided the board with an update and overview of the U14 Division. A parent meeting was held where parents had an opportunity to vote for what they would like to see for the U14 level this season. Option 1 was for an "A" and a "B" team, Option 2 was for two "B" teams. Majority voted Option 2 which led to another vote, for "Two Equal B teams" or "Two teams tiered within in the B Division". Parent vote supported the options of "Two teams tiered with the B Division. With this option to be viable, it would need to be supported 100% by parents. While 100% of the parents did not vote for this option, it was discussed that parents would support whatever option was chosen by the majority.

A concern was raised directly with Ringette Alberta, bypassing proper chain of communication, regarding the U14 teams and how they would be tiered. The concern showed that there was not 100% support of the option voted for, so another parent meeting was held to discuss options. Options moving forward include an "A" and "B" team or two equal "B" teams. The decision is now out of parents hands and will not be going to another vote.

Player evaluations were used to determine what levels would be best suited for SGRA players. 20% of player evaluations fell into a higher level, 65% within mid-range and 15% at a lower level. Since majority of the players fall within an equal skill range, it was determined that there will be two equal "B" teams for U14 this season.

Rhonda has followed up with Ringette Alberta and found that we will be able to apply to the Competitions Committee prior to October 13th to see if they will allow us to enter two "B" teams. With the history at this level and proper evaluations in place, do not see a problem with this happening.

An email will be sent out to U14 advising them of the decision and noting that teams will be selected in the next couple of days once Head Coaches have been determined.

18+ Open Division

The Open Division currently has 7 registered players which would not be enough for a viable team. Based on the cost per player spreadsheet, fees for Open players would be \$618 which would include one ice slot per week as well as jerseys being included. Players at this level find

high fees difficult so are not able to commit. Feedback has been that Open level players in other associations seem to pay quite a bit less than Spruce Grove. While it may seem this way, there are many factors to consider as to what is included with fees – for example – do they need to pay extra for jerseys, or other practice ice times. Some other Open teams only take game ice and do not have a standing practice slot as in Spruce Grove. The board discussed ways for Open to become involved with the association to off-set fees such as coaching clinics and camps – which would all work well to credit the player or reimburse at the end of the season, but would still need the registration up front.

There are currently two ice slots for Open, Wednesday's and Saturdays. The board discussed what to do with ice slots if there is not an Open team. Returning ice slots is not a great step for the association since it can take years to get more if needed. With the times of the ice slots it is difficult to fill with younger teams. The board decided that it would be able to utilize the Saturday ice but may need to consider returning the late Wednesday slot if an Open team does not come through.

Rhonda Kew has been approached by an individual looking for an association to host an Open A team. The board felt this would be an exciting step for the association to host such a high level of the game and for the younger girls to see where this sport can go into adulthood. Rhonda will follow-up with this individual and discuss options.

Cat Nesbitt will follow-up with potential players for Open B to see if there are enough willing to step forward to field a team and let Rhonda Kew know by no later than Wednesday, September 12th. Teams will need to be declared to Black Gold on Thursday, September 13th. Registration fees/cheques must also be submitted along with intent to register in order for the association to declare the team. It was decided that in order to preserve this team, cost would be \$618 including jerseys, and for this one-time only, the \$100 late fee will not apply. Should a cheque come back NSF, the player will be responsible for all fees associated, plus the additional \$100 late fee should they continue with registration at that time.

Declaration of Teams to BGL

Rhonda Kew and Marilyn Alexander will be attending the BGL meeting to declare SGRA teams as follows:

U9 – 4 Teams (Which includes 1 Intro Team – needs to be declared for insurance purposes)
U10 – 3
U12 – 3 (Most likely "A", "B", "C")
U14 – 2 Equal "B" Teams
U16 – 1 "A" Team
U19 – 1 "A" Team
Open – TBD pending previous meeting discussion

Policy Review: 3.0 Residency Policy

Rhonda Kew reviewed the Ringette Alberta 3.0 Residency Policy with the board. A big change this year has been a whole section for compliance and consequences making it crucial for SGRA to follow policy as set out.

Player release requests for this season are as follows:

- A player in U12 that had been playing in St. Albert for two years already, and had now just realized they fall within Spruce Grove's area, would like to continue in St. Albert. It was noted due to policy, this being her third consecutive year, she will no longer need to seek a release and will become part of the St. Albert Association.
- Two players released to Zone 6 AA; and
- Two players in U12 – live in rural area near Calahoo, which would fall under St. Albert but is geographically closer to Spruce Grove.

Policy was discussed and clarified regarding players over the age of 18 seeking a release to play at the U19 level in another association. Currently, since the player is over the age of 18, even though playing at the minor level, they do not need a release and can register with the association of their choosing. It was noted that Ringette Alberta does have a motion on the books to change that so even though the player is over 18, if they are playing at the minor level (U19) and not in the Open division, they would need to seek a release. The motion has not been carried at this time, but RAB does anticipate that it will be included in upcoming policy revisions.

It was noted that with association and area growth, it may be necessary to submit proof of residency upon registration.

Evaluation – Team Formation Status

Jacinda provided an updated on the evaluation process and teams. Team formation is currently in place based on evaluations. Non-tiered team will be picked equally by coaches using a draft system, based on evaluations. Tiered teams will be determined by evaluations. Goal is to have team formation – even at the U9 level – complete by September 20 – 21.

SGRA Secretary Position

The board discussed Secretary Lisa Molnar's resignation and how to proceed. Vanessa Kenyon has expressed interest in taking over the Secretary role with the board. The opportunity to fill the position must go out to the association. Rhonda Kew will advise the association via email of the open position, advising that there is someone willing to take over and ask for any other interested parties to please submit their names.

COACHING

Coaching Meeting Date:

Proposed Coaches meeting date set for Friday, September 21st, held in the Stony Plain Public Library Resource Room. The meeting will be broken out into two sessions: 6:00 – 7:00 for the non-tiered divisions, and 7:30 – 8:30 for the tiered divisions. Coach Manuals are currently being completed to hand out as a resource at the meeting as well as being posted to the internet. Practice and Game Planning worksheets have been posted as well as links to Ringette Canada for coaches with practice plans, drills and ideas per division. The intent is to have SGRA Coaching Staff utilize the same coaching curriculum so players are learning consistent at all levels. While the intent is to streamline curriculum, of course it is recognized that coaches will each have their own styles and philosophies on how to deliver.

Managers Meeting Date:

Proposed Managers meeting date set for Thursday, September 27th, held in the Stony Plain Public Library Resource Room @ 7:00 p.m. A Manager's Handbook is currently being completed to hand out at the meeting. Forms advising SGRA of Team Staff and Team Volunteers have also been completed for managers to fill out and submit to the registrar and board. These forms are available as a fill-in form on the SGRA website. Discussions will include the new Parent Handbook and Code of Conduct. Copies of each will be given to the managers to distribute to their teams. The meeting will also include a RAMP demonstration. Brenda Hodgins agreed to assist in planning the meeting, along with development of a Manger's Handbook.

Coach Interviews

Coach interviews are being held on Wednesday, September 12th. Interview panel will include impartial members and people who have not coached with the individuals being interviewed. A contact of Jacinda Rolph was added to the panel, bringing great sport and coaching background, but has no tie to Ringette or the association.

Website

The board discussed the new website, what's working and what's not. Some people have been having some trouble accessing or seems really slow. This time of year, RAMP in general is very busy so members were advised to be patient and keep trying.

Kelley Hessling, the webmaster is responsible for news items, structure changes, main page and formatting. It was agreed that the main log-in should be kept only in the hands of the webmaster as the primary contact for all information, but Vanessa Kenyon, the SGRA Admin Support, should also have access as a back-up only. Kelley to provide Vanessa with webmaster information.

Mangers will have access to their team pages to use a communication tool, generate team emails, enter games and practices, news items and updates. RAMP Information for mangers will be provided at the Manager's meeting on September 27th.

The board discussed sponsorship and how to ensure it is incorporated appropriately into our website. Currently there is a sponsorship tab, but Kelley will investigate how to post major sponsor logos or ads onto the main page. Jason Stypula will obtain proper logos from Tim Hortons, and any others necessary for Kelley to post.

ROUND TABLE

- Val Horner noted that they may move Intro ice back a week in order to have a parent meeting. Since the players and most parents are new to Ringette, there have been a lot of questions. A parent meeting right away may help parents get a sense of what to expect. After discussions, the board felt these players are getting pretty anxious to hit the ice, so Val will follow-up with parents via email for feedback. Val also noted that Intro and U9 first ice slots are at the same time in two different arenas. Cat Nesbitt and Jacinda Rolph will assist with U9 so Val can meet with Intro parents.

- Sherry Stypula advised that there are a couple of new referees on board and will be taking the course in St. Albert on September 23. There may be a couple not coming back.
- Workers needed for Bingo Saturday, September 15th. Sabrina will sort through the book but looks like there may be enough interested to fill it.
- It was discussed that a drop box of some sort will be put into lock-up at the Agrena for manager's to drop game sheets. Jeff Shewchuk will facilitate getting a drop box into lock up.
- It was discussed that Cherie will be getting new, un-cuttable keys for lock-up. Things such as shot clocks have gone missing over summer so this will help to ensure extra keys are not floating around. Key control will be put in place with a Key Sign Out and Return form for Manager's and anyone else in need of a key. If the key is not returned at the end of the season, teams will be fined.
- Criminal Record Checks need to be complete – original signature from Rhonda is needed for the letter.
- Association members are seeing positive change from SGRA this year.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next SGRA Executive meeting date will be Friday, September 28, 2012 at the Stony Plain Library Meeting Room @ 7:00 p.m. Rhonda will send out notice to the board.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Rhonda Kew adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m.