

**Northeast Region Ringette Association**  
**Annual General Meeting 2016**  
**10 am – 3 pm, May 29, 2016**  
**Westmount Community Centre**  
**Sudbury, Ontario**

**NER AGM Meeting Minutes**

Minutes taken by: Laura Caldwell for Lynne Johnston, Secretary (not Present)

1. Call to order @ 10:15 am; VERA moved, SRA seconded, carried.
2. Agenda Approved with addition of ORA AGM June 10-12, 2016; moved by SOO, seconded by G&T, carried.
3. Adoption of the 2015 NER AGM Minutes; Timmins moved, SRA seconded, carried.
4. Coaching Report – Bruce Graham made report, he will email his report to me. Complete revamp to the Coaching requirements.
5. G&T Report – Richard Spykerman, he will email me his report. Reviewed deadlines.
6. Adult Report – Christine Spence (not present), Terry Ablett presented on her behalf. Emailed report to Terry in advance of the meeting. See attached.
7. Membership Services – Kim Pitz (not present). No report submitted. Inquire with her.
8. Officiating Report – Marc Baril gave report, he will email his report. Committed to creating a NER spreadsheet of referees for reference for associations to find officials. NER needs to find ways to have officials evaluated. Currently only have 2 -1 Massey – Andre Labelle, 1 North Bay – George. **\*\*ORA is increasing outreach money for upgrading for NER officials. \$3000 (\$250**

each) for 6 individuals. Applications are available through the ORA website. For officials to travel/gain experience/be evaluated in another region. Associations need to apply for it.\*\*

9. Treasurer Report – Jeff Francom (not present) Report to be emailed.

10. Vice President Report – Kelli Pace – nothing to report.

11. Sport Development Report – Daniel Solomon gave report. Report give to me. See attached.

**\*\*\*Major point of interest: Fair Ice policy will be fully enforced by G&T and coaching next season and into the future. Suspensions will be given out. Different steps/levels of severity depending on the infraction and # of infractions as you go.\*\*\* there will be a Flash report on this new enforcement policy on the ORA website soon.**

12. Health Break& Lunch 12:15 pm

13. Elite Report – Laura Caldwell report given. 14/16 AA teams had a successful program. Programs did surveys after the end of the season and got a lot of valuable feedback for the future. Next seasons 14/16 AA (and possible the 19AA) programs will run the same as the 14AA program ran – all-inclusive and then select a travel team to attend tournaments with separate fees for the two parts. Feedback included seeing more training and more tournaments. The 2 step process is more affordable to families and they do like the new structure. This past season was a AAA season. Our NER team did quite well for the first time in many years. A lot of this success is attributed to the AA program preparing the athletes for the level of play in AAA. There were no Ontario Winter Games this season due to not being able to find a host. There were 3 challenge Cups (Eastern, St. Mary's, and Kingston). Kingston served as a Championship to help offset the disappointment to the athletes for no Ontario Winter Games. Sudbury is applying to host a AA division in their annual regional tournament in late November. We will know in late June if they were accepted by G&T. IF they are, G&T is willing to work to help fill the divisions offered. This will give our AA teams a local event to attend, thus helping them to be able to attend up to 3 events if they wish to in one season. **\*\*\*Elite has updated the AAA bylaws and submitted for**

**review to update for 2016 at the 2017 agm. Elite has also created a new set of bylaws for the AA program which have been submitted for review to be added for 2016 at the 2017 agm.\*\*\***

14. Presidents Report – Terry Ablett presented his report. He will email his report.

15. Adoption of the Reports for the minutes – moved by VERA, seconded by Soo, carried.

16. New Business –

- a. **Proposed NER Policy change by WRA.** See attached. This request did not meet with the criteria of being submitted 30 days prior to the meeting for review therefore it is unable to be have motions made or votes to be done. However, open round table discussion occurred to assist in supporting the issues at hand and to clarify rules that were in question throughout the season/interpreted by different associations in different ways and issues arose. Suggestions were made to solve issues going forward.
- b. **NER Player levy fee by Terry Ablett** – Suggests a player levy fee to help develop seed money. Terry will write up some information to be considered and will email NER members. Generally, round table discussion was positive on the concept.

17. Elections –

- a. **Treasurer:** Jeff Francom nominated by TRA, seconded by G&T, Accepted, carried.
- b. **Membership Services:** Tammy Willis nominated by SRA, Seconded by Officiating, accepted, carried.
- c. **Vice President:** Melissa Lapalme nominated by SRA, WRA seconded, accepted, carried.
- d. **G&T** – Richard Spykerman nominated by TRA, seconded by Soo, accepted, carried.
- e. **Secretary** – Kelli Pace nominated by SRA, seconded by G&T, accepted, carried.
- f. **Coaching** – Bruce Graham will take on Meaghan Spykerman as a shadow for the 2016-17 season so she is ready to run for the position next term. Bruce wishes to step down next term.

18. VERA motion to close all nominations, seconded by TRA. All in favour. Carried.

19. Announcements:

- a. Soo has put in bid for the OWG's in 2017-18 season.
- b. Ringette USA – approached Soo to do something to work together.
- c. SRA applied for AA division in their annual regional tournament in November.
- d. Bruce Graham suggest that NER has a membership development conference call.

20. Meeting adjourned 3:10 pm, VERA moved, TRA seconded. All in favour. Carried.