

Northeast Region Ringette Association
Annual General Meeting 2017
10 am – 3 pm, Saturday, May 27, 2016
Ridgmount Playground Clubhouse
Sudbury, Ontario

NER AGM Meeting Minutes

Minutes taken by: Kelli Van Buskirk (Secretary)

In attendance: Terry Ablett (President), Laura Caldwell (Elite), Richard Spykerman (G&T), Meaghan Spykerman (WFRA), Sue Cyr (IFRA), Carrie Dmytruk (IFRA), Megan Cunningham (WRA), Paula Mayer (WRA), Marta Merla (SRA), Dana Poirier (WRA), Christine Laundry Spicer (SRA), Sandra Hinksman (VERA), Michelle Beaulieu (VERA), Christine Spence (Adult), Melissa Lapalme (Vice- President), Debbie Desgagne (SRC), Bruce Graham (Coaching), Matt Easton (TRA), Yves Viel (TRA), Daniel Wood-Salomon (Sport Development), Kelli Van Buskirk (Secretary)

Regrets: Marc Baril (Officiating), Kim Pitz (Membership Services) and Jeff Francom (Treasurer)

1. Call to order @ 10:39 am; TRA moved, SRA seconded, carried.

2. Agenda Approved with addition of Elite By-law Amendments into New Business; moved by G&T, seconded by SRA, carried.

3. Adoption of the 2016 NER AGM Minutes with Amendments; SRC moved, VERA seconded, carried.

4. Association Reports
 - a) Iroquois Falls – see attached. Are having problems getting new players involved and had to fold their JBO division. Their biggest competition is dance.

 - b) Sault Ste. Marie – see attached

c) Sudbury – currently has 107 players. They held a ringette event at the new Skaters Edge store that was well received. Their tournament was well attended and included a U14AA division. They have applied to have a U14 and U16AA divisions in their 2017 tournament.

d) Timmins – currently has 207 players, including 43 bunnies. They are currently reviewing their Bunny program. They had parents complete satisfaction surveys and received lots of feedback.

e) VERA – see attached.

f) Walden – have 119 players and have good Bunny retention. They were able to showcase ringette at a Sudbury Wolves game. Their challenges are later ice times and a lack of local refs. Paula will be stepping down as Walden President after many years.

g) West Ferris – currently has 199 players. They are currently revamping their Bunny program. This year, the Bunnies came to the year end banquet for the first time in a long time and approximately 40% of Bunnies have signed up for next season.

Health Break 12:30 - 1 pm

5. NER Reports

a) Coaching Report – see attached.

b) G&T Report – Richard Spykerman presented. See attached. There was discussion that more associations need to have more divisions at their tournaments. Richard explained that A teams would have to send in their Top 6 choices and they needed to be on different weekends, not two tournaments on the same weekend. If that happened, it would be considered one choice. Terry Ablett feels there needs to create more U19 events. The SRA felt that more lead time was needed to choose tournaments. It was decided that G&T would provide the associations with a list of tournaments as soon as it came out, they would confer with their A level coaches and would conference call to decide tournament weekends. This was to ensure that NER teams don't go away to tournaments and continually play each other and to make it easier for the AA teams to choose tournaments.

c) Adult – Christine Spence presented. See attached.

d) Membership Services – Kim Pitz not present. No report.

e) Officiating – Marc Baril not present. No report.

f) Treasurer Report – Jeff Francom not present. Kelli Van Buskirk presented. See attached. SRA and IFRA questioned \$447.21 given to the U16AA ringette team for rings/cones and other

- materials. Elite advised it was for all AA teams to use. IRFA questioned if the NER should pay for equipment for elite players and was concerned as the money was spent without executive approval. Jeff Francom was unavailable to provide explanation. Motion to accept with reservations: TRA, seconded by SRC, carried.
- g) Vice- President – Melissa Lapalme present – no report
 - h) Sport Development – Daniel Wood-Salomon presented. The enforcement of the Fair Ice Policy and the new consequences led to better results and a fairer season. The Come Try Ringette is the most successful recruitment tool for Associations. Daniel will be taking part in Train the Trainer training so he can lead Train the Trainer training in the NER. The skills matrix is done and sent in by most Associations for U12 and below. It is due by October 30 and there is an optional matrix that can be done in February. The ORA is considering making the February matrix mandatory.
 - i) Elite – presented by Laura Caldwell – see attached.
 - j) President’s Report – Terry Ablett presented.
 - k) Adoption of the Reports – SRA motion, WRA second, carried

6. New Business –

- a) Membership development and best practices discussion – in the interest of time, Terry will forward information from Richmond Hill.
- b) Inter-regional House League Play – WFRA, VERA, SRA and WRA will be working together to have house leagues teams meet once a month in Warren for the 2017-2018 season.
- c) Regional “B” teams – Teams from the Nickel Basin often have difficulty when fielding teams to go to tournaments outside of the NER due to the number of A players on their teams. Membership Services has advised that two-team agreements are not allowed for players wishing to play on 2 Regional or B teams.
- d) NER Regional Tournament – Motion by WFRA to add allow the WFRA to host regional tournaments along with the TRA and SRC. Seconded by SRA. Arguments against the motion were held by the TRA, arguments for by WFRA, SRA and SRC. A recorded vote was held. TRA not in favour. All other associations and executive present in favour. Motion carried. It was decided that the TRA would host the 2018 regionals. Both the WFRA and SRA have applied to host the 2019 A Provincials. The decision as to who will host the 2019 Regional tournament will be held after the 2019 host has been named.

e) By-law Amendments

- i) Motion by Elite to amend the Chapter 7 – Regional All Star Team Policies (see attached), second by WRA, carried.
- ii) Motion by Elite to amend 1.9 Official Colour second by IFRA, carried
- iii) Motion by Elite to accept the new Chapter 8 By-laws for Regional AA Team Policies (see attached). Amendment by G&T for title to be Regional AA Development Team Policy and addition of 8.7.6 “All Players participating be presented with an evaluation at the end of the development program.” Motion to adopt as amended by Elite, seconded by SRA, carried.

7. Elections –

- a. **Adult Development:** Christine Spence nominated by G&T, Accepted, carried.
- b. **Sport Development:** Daniel Wood-Salomon nominated by G&T, accepted, carried.
- c. **Officiating:** Marc Baril nominated by TRA, he previously indicated acceptance, carried.
- d. **Coaching** – Meaghan Spykerman nominated by G&T, accepted, carried.
- e. **Secretary** – Kelli Van Buskirk nominated by WRA, accepted, carried.
- f. **Elite** – Matt Easton nominated by SRC, accepted, carried
- g. **Athlete Development** – vacant
- h. **Membership Services** - vacant
- i. **President** – Terry Ablett nominated by SRC, accepted, carried

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

9. Announcements:

- a. 3 on 3 tournament will be held at RHP in Sudbury August 19 and 20.
- b. Timmins will be holding their camp August 21-25
- c. Regional Championships will be held in Timmins March 30 to April 1.

10. Meeting adjourned 4:17pm, SRA moved, G&T seconded. All in favour. Carried.