

**WEST FERRIS RINGETTE ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**August 10, 2021 at 6:30pm
Zoom meeting, North Bay, ON**

Name	Position	Attended	Regrets	Name	Position	Attended	Regrets
Darren Pace	President	x		Shannah Smales	Equipment Director	x	
Stephen Hamilton	Vice President		x	Lori King	Web Director		x
Mark Webster	Treasurer		x	Kyra Brownlee-Barnett	Referee-in-Chief		x
Marc Desroches	Ice Director	x		René Baker	Publicity Director		x
Josée Lebel	Registrar	x		Meaghan Spykerman	Technical Director	x	
Vacant	House League Director			Pam Voght	Sponsorship Director	x	
Erin Johns	Rep Director	x		Niko Gregorin	Tournament Director	x	
Trina Palmieri	Secretary	x					
Maxine Samson	Ways & Means Director		x				

Others in attendance: Kelly Van Buskirk

Call to Order: 6:35pm

Agenda Item	Key Points of Discussion	Action	Status – Contact Person
Additions & Adoption of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review minutes from July Executive meeting for approval and WFRA records/website records. -Updates from Niko and Josee to be added to their Director reports. 	<p>Motion: “To approve the minutes from July 2021 meeting.” Motioned by Erin and seconded by Meaghan. All in favour.</p> <p>Motion: “To adopt today’s agenda and updates.” Motioned by Niko, seconded by Marc Desroches. All in favour.</p> <p>Action: Trina will send Lori minutes to post on our WFRA website.</p>	
Action Items from Previous meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Update from Return to Ringette Committee (Erin) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Had first ice on Sunday-August 7. Good turnout for both groups. COVID screening information to membership as reminders. b) Come Try Ringette for Free 		

	<p>-Darren has spoken with Tyler Harding-Club Liaison and advised CTR is able to proceed. RO is offering a \$250 bursary and has developed a CTR training program, direction from RO-follow local public health guidelines. Coaches should wear masks and gloves if close interaction with players.</p> <p>-Run CTR before season starts. Normally advertise for CTR with summer festivals-may be able to put a table at Farmer’s Market to promote. Marc will inquire with Farmer’s Market.</p> <p>-who will organize and lead the CTR program and when should we plan to hold it? In the past we have 3-4 message boards set up around town and have advertised on the radio. Shawnah has taken the CTR course last year. Will advertise for parent helpers as well. 50 people allowed on either side</p> <p>-Will have to decide via email who will lead the CTR once we know dates for September ice.</p> <p>c) (Stephen) Nipissing Lakers participation in the open division to the agenda. Please see attachment.</p> <p>Proposed motion-To provide Nipissing University players a reduced rate of \$225 for 2021-2022 season</p> <p>d) Discuss Return to Coaching Community Grant at next meeting. (Darren) -Kelli submitted a grant proposal for U19 and Open coaches. Can get approval for an expense account-PPE,courses, ice and safety training and submit receipts once completed. Will be notified by September 1, 2021 if we will receive this grant.</p> <p>e) Options for WFRA having own Zoom account and cost of upgrade-use COVID relief grant money towards this? Renée to share information on options/prices for this account.</p> <p>-As per Renee, the cost of a ZOOM Account for WFRA would be \$200 Canadian per year - plus applicable taxes. If we receive consensus, it can be set up very quickly.</p> <p>-discussion that it would be best to have our own account and can use for other meetings, can look at upgrading with a different platform as well</p>	<p>Action: Will decide via email who will lead CTR program once September ice is confirmed.</p> <p>Action: Deferred to next meeting since Stephen not able to present.</p> <p>Motion: “To subscribe and pay for a WFRA Zoom account”. Motioned by Erin and seconded by Niko. All in favour and carried.</p>	
President’s Report	Correspondence regarding Ringette Canada’s transgender policy was		

	<p>received from WFRA parent and the contents of which were shared and discussed (for WFRA posting)</p> <p>For our minutes: Parent from our WFRA sent correspondence to Ringette Canada and RO regarding issues with Ringette Canada's transgender policy. Suggested removing gender from RAMP application. Darren spoke with Pam at RO and gender cannot be removed from RAMP registration form. Another suggestion was to have mixed rep teams and only compete in mixed tournaments. At this time, we don't have numbers for rep so cannot explore at this time, may be able to consider that house league is a mixed group</p> <p>-Darren will speak with Tyler Harding-draft 3 year plan for strategic planning and look at how we integrate RO requirements (ie. policies). Will have out to group by next month.</p>		
Vice President's Report	Nothing to report.		
Treasurer's Report	Nothing to report.		
Publicity Director	Need to have a secondary plan for access to email distribution for WFRA membership. Darren will discuss further with Renee about having Trina as secondary access person.	Action: Darren will ask Renee about having Trina as secondary access person to WFRA email distribution list.	
Ice Director Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Changes for August start time and ensure all divisions are aware of updated schedule b) Winter ice contract with City of North Bay-based on Stage 3 restrictions <p>Notes from the City regarding Winter Ice contracts: Hoped to be into Stage 4 before contracts, however moving forward with Stage 3, until further announcements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Dressing Rooms permitted – Physical distancing to be maintained -Pete Palangio – 9/room + 1-2 adults to assist younger skaters - Memorial Gardens – Temporary Pipe and drape set up in lobby and concourse for privacy for players - WF does not have enough rooms with appropriate size for back to back rentals (Sept 27 is the planned re-open date) - Access will be 20 minutes before and 20 minutes after ice rental <p>Guidelines for Winter ice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ONE-Hour Rental blocks (50 min with 10 mins for flood) - Limit of 25 on ice for PP, and 35 for MG (includes players/coaches/instructors) -Access to Dressing rooms (as per above) – NO SHOWER FACILITIES - One parent recommended – Maximum 50 spectators per arena per booking. - Face masks must be worn within the facility (when not on the ice) - Social distancing must be maintained within the building - Continue screening and collection of contact information. - Subject to change, with COVID stages/restrictions etc. 		

	<p>A few extra notes (from Sunday)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coaches area is in front of the concession stand in the entrance lobby – not private -Anyone who uses the stairs down from the front are to come out the middle stairs in the arena to maintain proper flow of people/participants – Exit is still at the side doors of the arena 		
Registrar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Josée provided registration numbers to date and looking at trends for each level. For example at 18+ level, we currently have 10 registered compared to 12 at this same time in 2020 and 17 in 2019 . COVID did affect our numbers negatively last year. Registrations should pick up once we start to advertise more and can have a consistent season. - Is there interest in using RAMP to register for things such as August ice or other activities? Discussion with group and definitely something to consider but will need further investigation. -Would it be worthwhile to start accepting online credit cards (getting a Merchant account with RAMP)? What is the arrangement we have with Skaters North? Tania and Mark will be able to answer payment questions. Good idea to find efficiencies using RAMP program and offers transparency and keeps track more easily. -We need to change the address Kidsport has on file (it is currently West Ferris Arena rather than our Treasurer) - who would look after this? Josee will ask Tania for further information. 		
House League Director's Report	Nothing to report.		
Rep Director's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -request for coaching applications sent last month and have applications for U12, U19 and 18+ division, deadline today for coaching applications and will send out again -no direction from RO on tryouts and guidelines for rep program, once we do-will offer conditioning and then tryouts-no sanctioned events until Jan 1, 2022. -interest in rep survey-confirms good interest, Provincials will be inclusive and no one will have to qualify; changes to AAA program and no specific division for NER- awaiting information on AAA camps 		
Ways and Means Director's Report	Nothing to report.		
Equipment Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -need to organize equipment return dates -planning ann equipment donation drive event on a weekday over the next month (tied in with return dates) while using the back parking lot at West Ferris. -purchasing of new bags, girdles or rings-will discuss group prices with Source or Kings; she will get a quote and send to Executive -discuss possibility of having a WFRA group on Facebook and will include a 		

	question about equipment on RAMP registration and on website -lights out in the office and need to discuss further-maintenance at arena should replace lights-Marc will ask for contact at City		
Web Director's Report	Nothing to report.		
Referee in Chief	Nothing to report.		
Technical Director	Nothing to report.		
Sponsorship Director	She wants to get sponsors for bumper pads and will confirm how many spots on bumper pads.		
Tournament Director's Report	First weekend of April ice is no longer available in 2022, and neither is ice in April within the City of North Bay. Waiting for confirmation on whether West Ferris will be awarded NE Regional tournament 2022. Discussion on possible dates. Look at outlying arenas in the area (Powassan, South River, Trout Creek, Astorville) since we need 4 arenas and see if they can rent us ice for April 1-5. Try to have medals all in one arena on the final day. Niko will reach out to other arenas, and Marc will discuss further with City of North Bay. Erin will send contact information at various arenas.		
New Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Recruitment of goaltenders (Josée). -shortage of goalies was an issue last year, specifically in U14/16 divisions. Some ideas are to have girls rotate in the position. Look at coming up with plan to deal with goalie shortages. Look at having parents recruit and look for back up goalies/ensure players understand it is not to replace our current goalies, and have them registered with \$99 rate. Will need to wait to see our registration numbers and what our goalie situation may be. Can do in tandem while accepting registrations. -can do informally at this time with word of mouth -Josee will develop a plan on what can be written and submit to group for feedback 2) House league-Once we have ice contract, then we need to have plan on when the ice will start. Discuss having a house league working group to discuss upcoming ice contract and plans. Darren will send out to group to see who is interested in being part of this group, reviewing house league coaches and assignments. 		
Adjournment: Next meeting:	Adjourned at 8:27pm. Next meeting Wednesday, Sept 15 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.	There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.	

		Motioned by Erin, seconded by Marc . All in favour.	
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