



NEPEAN RINGETTE ASSOCIATION

Nepean Ringette Association Virtual Annual General Meeting 2023

AGM Meeting Held	Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 6:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m. Nepean Sportsplex, Hall C
Board Members Present (8)	Phil Mechura, James Marcogliese, Lisa Murphy, Brent Dobson, Stephanie Barozzi, Jamie Hayami, Alysha St. John, Peter Daigle
Board Members Absent (1)	Craig McIntyre
Agents of the Board Present (6)	Liam Murphy, Tim Huras, Marie Beaudin, Jack Kwan, Elena Pierce, Peter Kelly
Members (19)	Mélanie MacLean, Isabelle Cormier Richard, Caroline MacKay, Andrea Winter, Mary Huras, Debbie Wolfe, Philip Wolfe, Grant Kealey, Jonathan St. John, Mackenzie Pescod, Paul Bertels, Matt Tyrer, Laird McKinnon, Andrew Bird, Sandra Lofaro, Jessica Jamer, Joanne Frolek, Chris Gill, Julie Paradis

- **Opening Remarks (Phil Mechura):** Phil commenced the AGM with opening remarks, indicating that it was very nice to be here in person this evening versus over the computer, and thanked everyone who took the time to come out.
- **Call to Order (Phil Mechura):** Phil called the Annual General Meeting for the 2022-23 year to order at 6:33 p.m.
- **Establishment of a Quorum (Phil Mechura):**
 - As required by the Nepean Ringette Association Bylaws, at least 10 members need to be present or represented by proxy to constitute a quorum. With 33 people in attendance, quorum had been established.

- **Approval of Agenda (Phil Mechura):**

**MOTION made by Peter Kelly to approve the agenda for the 2023 AGM.
Seconded by Matt Tyrer.**

22 in favour, 9 abstained, motion carried.

- **Approval of the 2022 AGM minutes (Phil Mechura):**

**MOTION made by Peter Daigle to adopt the minutes from the 2022 AGM as posted.
Seconded by Peter Kelly**

20 in favour, 11 abstained, motion carried.

- **Presentation and Approval of Reports:**

- **President's Report (Phil Mechura):**

- **Total Membership:** Phil reported that the association continued to remain healthy with a total of 367 members in age groups ranging from FUN 1 to U19 for the 2022/23 Season. We saw quite a bit of growth this year with membership likely to be closer to 400 next season.

FUN 1 (Bunnies)	66
FUN 2 (U8/U9)	40
FUN 3 (U9/U10)	64
U12	64
U14	59
U16	59
U19	15

- **Increasing Membership:** Phil highlighted that increasing the Association's membership remains a priority and advised that we were in the unique position this past season where we were extremely limited in our ice allocations and had to have larger teams than we normally would have liked.

The following is a summary of activities that supported our membership growth mandate:

- We had 2 brand new and very passionate FUN 1 instructors to run the Learn to Skate on-ice program and organize all the on-ice volunteers.
- We continued running two sessions a week for Fun1 allowing participants to choose which day of the week is best for them, and possibly attending both sessions if desired.
- Hosted 2 "Come Try Ringette" events (September & April)
- Hosted a few "Bring a friend to Practice" events for the U12 and below aged groups.

- Many participated and had a great time.
 - We saw a higher growth than past years with new skaters in U14 and U16 this past season.
 - **Goalie Development:** Phil advised that the second season of having a Goalie Development Coordinator in the Association was a huge success. We had over 50 goalies attend at least one of our goalie clinics throughout the year with 38 regular participants. Phil mentioned that Tim has been getting calls from Alberta on what we are doing. Every goalie able to go, completely free. Activities included:
 - Running a “Come try Goalie” clinic in September for FUN2, FUN3, and U12.
 - Goalies were properly sized for equipment and given the option to take the gear home with them if they wanted to continue to pursue goaltending.
 - Ran “Goalie Clinic” sessions with Dave Stathos throughout the season.
 - Each Ravens team should have a goalie coach and they were encouraged to attend.
 - This year the group was split into half ice sessions where they were with similar aged players.
 - **Other Highlights** this season included:
 - We continued our partnership with NextGen for our Power Skating/Skills development.
 - Continued the development of our goalies through clinics and sharing growth plans with coaches.
 - Ran both an NRL Holiday Camp and March Break Camp for FUN 2 – U14 aged groups. Both camps sold out quickly.
 - Annual Banquet returned after a 3-year hiatus.
- **NRA Management Recruitment (Phil Mechura):** Phil advised all in attendance that we are always in need of volunteers and to please let us know if anyone is interested in any role. Phil further advised that it would be his last year and the association will actively be looking for a President and Treasurer. The position of Social Media Manager is also vacant now if there’s anyone skilled in social. We are also looking for a volunteer to take on the Bunnies Convenor (U6/U7), U19 Convenor, and Open (18+) Convenor. The following questions were raised by members in attendance:
 - Q1: Regarding the Social Media Manager, can a teen looking to get some community service hours do this role?
 - Phil advised that we do need to ensure what’s being put out is on brand and has some oversight, but potentially under the guidance of someone.
 - Q2: Do you have a document that indicates the description of all the volunteer roles?
 - Phil advised we will look to get something together, but please feel free to reach out to him directly with any interest on any role.
- With no new nominations or elections to bring forward to approve, Phil confirmed the following Management Committee for the 2023-24 season:

Position	Candidate
President	Phil Mechura
VP, Player Development	Brent Dobson
VP, Operations	James Marcogliese
Secretary	Lisa Murphy
Treasurer	Stephanie Barozzi
Competitive Director	Jamie Hayami
Recreation Director	Craig McIntyre
Director at Large	Peter Daigle
Player Advocate	Alysha St. John
Registrar	Jack Kwan
Coaching Coordinator	Brent Dobson, Peter Kelly
Goalie Development	Tim Huras
Equipment Manager	Michelle Mechura
Ice Scheduler	Peter Daigle
Referee in Chief	Stephanie Black
Statistician	Bobbi MacLeod
Team Manager Coordinator	Shannon Bertels
Sponsorship & Fundraising	Tim Huras
Publicity & Promotions	Sarah de Boer
Tournament Coordinator	Elena Pierce
Web Designer / Developer	Peter Daigle
Past President	Wendy Seguin
Social Media Manager	VACANT
U19 Convenor	VACANT
U16 Convenor	Bobbi MacLeod
U14 Convenor	Marie Beaudin
U12 Convenor	Liam Murphy
U8, U9, U10 Convenor	James Marcogliese
Bunnies (U6, U7) Convenor	VACANT
Open (18+) Convenor	VACANT

**MOTION made by Phil to approve the reports presented at the 2023 AGM.
Seconded by Peter Daigle**

17 in favour, 13 abstained, motion carried.

Report of Auditors (Stephanie Barozzi):

- No Audit Report prepared for previous three years, including 2022-2023.
- Auditor to be appointed in 2023-2024 to cover previous three years.
- Audit fee accrual as at April 30, 2023 remained the same as previous year due to write off of \$4,000 of older year audit fees, which offset accrual for 2023-2024 audit fees expense.

MOTION made by Stephanie to allow the NRA Executive to vote on the appointment of the auditor to review the last three years unaudited financial statements up to and including the 2023-2024 season.

Seconded by Alysha

18 in favour, 13 abstained, motion carried.

Presentation of Budget Information (Treasurer's Report and Estimates for 2023-24) (Stephanie Barozzi). Financial and budget highlights as follows:

- Net loss for the year was \$215 compared to a loss of \$165 2022-23.
- 2022-2023 registration fees were: \$250 FUN1, \$550 FUN2, \$700 FUN3 to U19 (late fee for all levels and age groups except FUN1 was \$40).
- 2022 NRA tournament returned (last one was 2019). Tournament was a success, earning a net income of \$13K.
- NextGen skating development program was offered to FUN3 and above levels (paid by participants at \$325 for 16 sessions).
- Inaugural Holiday and March Break NRL camps held this year.
- 2022 Summer Ringette program returned for the first time since 2019.
- Goalie clinics for all NRA goalies, led by Dave Stathos Goalie Performance Centre, returned for a second season at an expense of \$7,910 plus ice costs of \$2,992.
- Goalie rebate paid to all U12 and above full-time goalies was \$200 each for a total expense of \$3,000.
- City of Ottawa ice rental is \$213.70 per hour and will increase on September 1, 2023 to \$219.32.
- Revenue and expenses have been budgeted based on the expected number of players and teams for next season as well as expected increases in costs.
- NRA tournament is planned for the weekend of November 17, 2023.
- Projected net income for the year is \$352.
- The 2023 summer ringette program has been organized for 10 weeks from June to August 2023.
- New jerseys have been purchased at a cost of \$45K and will be depreciated over 6 years starting in the 2023-24 season.

- **Approval of 2023-24 Membership dues and related fees (Stephanie Barozzi)**
 - Registration for 2023-24 is now open in RAMP and fees must be paid upon registration to secure spots.
 - New credit card payment system has been put in place.
 - Registration fees are budgeted to increase for 2023-2024 as follows:
 - FUN1 (Bunnies): \$250 Regular fee
 - FUN2 (U8): \$550 Early Bird fee (to June 30, 2023) / \$575 Regular fee
 - FUN3 to U19: \$700 Early Bird fee (to June 30, 2023) / \$725 Regular fee
 - Motion and Vote required – To approve the above stated fee structure for the 2023-2024 season.

MOTION made by Stephanie to approve the above stated fee structure for the 2023-24 season. Seconded by Marie Beaudoin.

22 in favour, 11 abstained, motion carried.

- **Other business as specified in the meeting notice:** no other business brought forward via e-mail in advance per the meeting notice, however members in attendance did have the following questions:
 - Q1 – Can you provide clarity around the junior coaching program, is there a plan to support athletes who want to show leadership?
 - Brent advised that we used to host a junior coach session with Paul Youldon and that he's spoken to Paul recently about rejuvenating that. We are going to try and put together a program that is simple enough for volunteers to assist and that provides skills to kids. Another challenge is that not every head coach wants a junior coach and even those who accept a junior coach aren't always the best in supporting them.
 - Peter Kelly advised that RO has recognized the value in junior coaches so now they are trained like a head coach.
 - Q2 – Could we have more communication within the association, if people don't know volunteers are needed, they aren't going to put their hand up. Having a better understanding of these roles will help. How are we engaging with the different age groups, how are we keeping them engaged throughout the season and into the summer.
 - Alysha agreed there could be more communication, but we need to know what we can do to bring you here, what content are you looking for. We work very hard throughout the year.
 - Lisa agreed and noted that it takes a village and any suggestions or thoughts on how we can do more or if anyone would like to lead an initiative should be sent in, ideas and feedback are welcome.
 - Mary advised that comments in feedback survey are not always addressed.
 - Phil suggested we could look to send out a monthly mailout to the association and be more active on social media.
 - Elena reminded the group that not all parents are on social media (multiple communication channels needed).
 - Liam also advised that RO has a page as well and that folks can also refer to their website throughout the season and summer.
 - Q3 – The skating development that the competitive skaters take part in, is there any feedback you received from the program? Is there a thought about having a better ratio of

coaches/players on the ice? For me, as a coach, it would be nice to leverage more of their expertise on how kids can improve.

- James advised that we do get feedback from NextGen and that we could look into seeing what the cost would be if we went up one extra coach to 5. James added that we are getting NextGen at a discount, if you were to pay for it on your own, it would be double the price and they have agreed to freeze their rates for the next two years if we continue with them.
- **Registration fee raffle:** as an additional thank you for attending, all members in attendance at the AGM (with the exception of the NRA Board of Directors), were entered into a draw to win 50% off one player's registration fee for the upcoming 2023-24 season. The winning member was Andrew Bird.
- **Adjournment of meeting**

**MOTION made by Phil to adjourn the 2023 AGM.
Seconded by Lisa**

27 in favour, 6 abstained, motion carried.