



President

President: Leanne Couves

Welcome to the 2018 Annual SGRA General Meeting. The 2017 - 2018 season was another year of opportunity, successes and challenges.

Spruce Grove Ringette Association continues to grow at ~10% per year. In 2016-17, SGRA had **327 registered athletes** from the tri-municipal area and beyond, **23 teams** from Active Start to Open, **145 coaches and team staff**, **30 referees** and “too numerous to count” parents, volunteers and fans!

New in 2017-18 Season

SGRA added AA team in the U16 division.

Successes

Teams at all ages and levels saw personal and team successes, both ON and OFF the ice, in fun, friendships, skill development and competition. Please take a moment to reflect on yours. SGRA congratulates each of you and your teams on those successes! An additional congratulation to the U14AA teams that competed at Western Canadian Championships and the U16AA team at National Ringette Championships. Shout out to our own Jacinda Rolph who co-led the Junior National Team in the World Ringette Championships as an Assistant Coach.

The Sweetheart Tournament continues to be a highlight for our teams. This year, our tournament was held over two weekends to accommodate those teams that were in provincial playdowns during the Family Day long weekend. While not without its bumps, hurdles and additional workload for volunteers, teams appreciated being able to compete in a home tournament in front of friends and family.

While not one of most exciting activities, keeping policies up to date is one of the primary responsibilities of any Board. The Board has now reviewed and updated all its policies (plus a few more are coming!). Watch for updates to the website prior to next season.

Challenges and Future Opportunities

SGRA, ringette and youth sport continue to see challenges ahead: how to balance elevated expectations with the need to keep sport affordable for all; volunteer burnout, athlete retention into adolescence and adulthood (sport for life), ability to provide options for every participation context, revenue generation and need for ice and other facilities to accommodate growth. In the latter half of this season, there was heightened awareness of conduct in the stands and on the ice, across the province and across BGL. These incidences cause conflicts and additional pressure on volunteer resources.

There are no easy answers, although Spruce Grove Ringette is part of a larger ringette community in Alberta that is working toward building on our successes and giving thoughtful reflection and solutions to our challenges. Also, SGRA has signed on as a [True Sport](#) supporter, a growing movement of athletes, coaches, officials, parents and community members who want sport to be a positive and enriching experience for all.

Finally

A big thank you to all our members and volunteers within SGRA – kids, parents, team staff, Board members, sponsors, fans etc. You ARE Spruce Grove Ringette Association! None of this is possible without your continued support and participation.



Administration (Secretary)

Director: Johnanne Parker

My role over the past year has been to determine meeting dates via Doodle poll, schedule meeting rooms, draft Agenda's and send them out to the Board members before the meetings, attend meetings, draft the minutes of the meetings and forward them to the President for review. Once reviewed the Minutes are sent out to the board members and are posted on the website for all members to review. The position is a fairly simple position, although can be hectic when trying to get all of the information out on time.

Registration (Registrar)

Director: Lisa McIntyre

SGRA has been growing at a rate of 10% per year. Last season we had 23 teams, and the season before we had 21 teams. If we continue to grow as expected (10% per year) we should have 25 teams for the 2018/2019 season. There will be a proposed fee increase of 15% for the 2018/2019 season, due to the increasing cost of ice. SGRA's fees only cover the cost of ice for the season, Ringette Alberta membership fee and referee fees.

Registration numbers for the last 5 years:

- 2017/2018 - 327 athletes
- 2016/2017 - 300 athletes
- 2015/2016 - 278 athletes
- 2014/2015 - 262 athletes
- 2013/2014 - 232 athletes

Ice Acquisition & Allocation

Director: Lynda Snider

This year I attended user group meetings at the Tri-Leisure Centre and the Town of Stony Plain. The City of Spruce Grove did not have an in-person user group meeting, as allocation is conducted via email.

We gained an additional ice slot at both the Tri-Leisure Centre and Calahoo Sunday evenings, giving us a total of 32 slots (34.75 hours) for youth per week. One adult slot (usually Sunday evenings) but also varying dates and times added another 1.25 hours/week.

Youth Breakdown includes (by day of the week):

Mondays -3 ice slots, 2 x 1 hour 1 x 1.25 hours

Tuesdays -2 ice slots, 2 x 1 hour

Wednesday - 4 ice slots, 2 x 1 hour 2 x 1.25 hours

Thursday - 1 ice slot, 1 x 1 hour

Saturday -12 ice slots, 6 x 1 hour, 6 x 1.25 hours

Sunday - 11 ice slots, 8 x 1 hour, 2 x 1.25 hours



REPORTS for AGM

One more ice slot per week would have helped to secure a base week that included every team having a set practice each week, however this season we did end up using a rotation schedule for the U10 Steps 1 and 2 teams, where each team gave up their ice practice once per every four weeks and was given a dryland practice instead.

We secured 6 rinks for both Sweetheart tournaments.

Maintained regular school gym use for off-ice development (facilitated by the Director of Player Assessment and Development)

SGRA hosted numerous provincial play down pools which are organized by Ringette Alberta and our costs are reimbursed, along with numerous U10 playoff games which are organized by BGL and we were also reimbursed for the extra ice that we provided.

We worked with SGMHA and we were able to do some ice swapping and picked up some “free” ice that SGMHA could not fill.

We were able to use the Onoway rink only a couple of times but the comments received were positive regarding our use there. They did put in ringette lines hoping that we could use more of their ice.

Pembina RecPlex was also accessed a few times at the beginning of the season

Coaching Development & Assessment

Director: Dillon Elliott

I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize all the individuals within the association that stepped up to make the 2017-2018 season a success. While there were many challenges that came up throughout the year, our coaching staff and managers did their best to assist our athletes. Thank you for your countless hours and volunteer time that was contributed to all our teams.

The majority of the head coaches have been contacted and provided with feedback from our annual coaching reviews. Positive praise to the parents/families that took the time to fill out these surveys. This will assist our coaches in making necessary improvements to their coaching styles.

Finally, I'd like to thank all individuals who I've worked with over the past four years as the vice president and coaching director. I've learned a lot while being on the SGRA board and contributed in many ways. Hopefully I leave this position without having made too many errors along the way.

Officiating & Officiating Development

Director: Sherry Stypula

I would first like to thank all of our officials for a great year. It's not always an easy job and you all did wonderful. We appreciate you, we need you and would like to see you back for next season.

SGRA hired six new officials at the beginning of the season. Adding an additional two later on having a couple officials becoming injured.

It was a “refresher” year so all officials were able to get updated with new rules etc. through a Ringette Alberta clinic.



REPORTS for AGM

We will be contacting current officials in the next coming months to see if they will be continuing and if any new hires are necessary. It's important our senior officials continue their development and look to be certified at the higher levels. SGRA needs more officials qualified at levels two and three.

Thank you

U10 Step 2 and Step 3

Director: Barb Hoffman

The 2017/2018 Season started with 99 players in U10 to evaluate and conduct universal athlete assessments (UAA) on. The Active Start Step 1 director and I worked together running the evaluations and UAA's which helped spread the work load. The use of U16 and U19 players for the UAA's was very helpful as it took away our need to recruit volunteers as well as the perception that parents/coaches were influencing any of the players. Our teams were set and practicing by the last week of September. This was faster than previous and hopefully helped with the stress associated with evaluations and waiting for team selection.

We had 2 U10 Step 2 teams and 3 U10 Step 3 teams this year. The teams were made using the UAA evaluation as well as independent evaluator's rankings and the previous year's coach's comments when available. Thanks to all the coaches for stepping up and helping these girls have a great year.

The U10 teams all participated in the Black Gold play offs, seeing our season end in March.

U12

Director: Bonnie Feakes

The U12 Division had 63 players participate in the Association evaluations in September. A total of 5 teams were created: A, B, B, C, C. Team formation was based upon UAA score, in addition to scrimmage play, and the two B and two C teams were balanced upon these evaluation scores. A, B1 and B2 all had 13 players per team, while C1 and C2 had 12 each.

U12A, U12B-1 and U12B-2 all represented Spruce Grove at their respective Provincial Championships, with U12B-1 winning the Bronze medal.

Overall, it was a successful season with only a few minor incidences brought to my attention throughout the year.

U16

Director: Stuart Becker

The 2017-18 season was an important year for the SGRA U16 Division. There were a total of 3 teams consisting of 13-15 athletes per team; identifying healthy growth and continued interest within the game of ringette and our association. This season also presented the first year that the SGRA had a team represented at the 'AA' level.

The SGRA were also represented by an 'A' and 'B' team. All three teams competed at their respected levels and certainly faced challenges and successes throughout the season as all teams do. Both our A and B teams did battle throughout the season, unfortunately neither team was unable to qualify for provincials. The AA team was able to capture 3rd place (Bronze) at the provincial Championship held in Edmonton this year and subsequently travelled to Nationals in Winnipeg where they ended up placing 16th in the country.



REPORTS for AGM

This year was not without some challenges. There were several significant injuries to some players during the season with a couple of concussions included; however, general awareness of concussion protocol and return to play procedures were utilized showing diligence of players, parents, coaches and the association. The SGRA also had one player and one coach receive 3-game suspensions in non-related incidences. No formal appeals were placed in either incident and both suspensions were served within the 2017-18 season.

Overall, the 2017-18 ringette season at the U16 level was successful and presented many great moments for these athletes to continue to pursue ringette as a healthy form of competition, development and friendship!

U19

Director: Karen Kuik

SGRA hosted a U19A team and a U19B team this season. The season began with some difficulties as we found ourselves with too many players for 1 team, and not enough for two teams. Once our evaluations were complete and the U19A team was chosen, we worked with the St. Albert Ringette Association and were very fortunate to welcome 4 players and 1 goalie from St. Albert and were able to form our U19B team.

The U19A team had a great season finishing 2nd overall in the BGL with a 10-5-1 record. They went on to compete in Provincials and completed the season with a 7th place finish. Our U19B team had a great season as well with a 10-4-2 record which put them in 3rd place at season end. Provincials found them with a 4th place finish and a great wrap up to their year.

Congratulations to all the U19 players, coaches and assistants on a fantastic season!

18+ (Open)

Director: Jacinda Rolph

Open had no issues. We added few new players and there have been some inquiries as to adding a second team maybe in a different division.

Special Event

Coordinator: Shelley Oster, Allyson Zelisko

The 2017 annual event was held at GALAXYLAND in the West Edmonton Mall on Friday September 29, 2017 from 7:30PM-10:30PM. Each player received 5 tickets for the \$75 fee paid at the time of registration. Tickets were distributed by division directors during evaluations.

1300 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE EVENT!

- 1601 tickets were handed out/sold, which means roughly 300 tickets did not get used.
- Overall, the feedback on the event was good. It was a fun night had by all, and the kids enjoyed themselves. Please see the financial report for the revenue amount generated from the event
- 2018 – Save the Date!

The 2018 annual event will be held once again at GALAXYLAND on **Friday September 21, 2018 from 7:30pm-10:30pm**



REPORTS for AGM

- Each player will receive 5 tickets for a \$75 fee that will be paid at the time of registration. Extra tickets will be available for \$15 each prior to the event, as well as 'at the door' before the event begins that night.
- Tickets will likely be distributed at the time of evaluations once again.

Statistics

Coordinator: Karen Kunyk

This year ran smoothly in terms of getting game sheets to teams and keeping the manager's cupboard stocked with extra sheets. Completed game sheets were collected from both the Manager's lock up as well as our mailbox at Border Paving Center. There was, however, some difficulty with collecting ALL of the games sheets as some teams either didn't hand them in or did so at their leisure which made it very difficult to track statistics in a timely manner. Completed Tournament game sheet submission was also requested at the beginning of the year. Some teams submitted them and others didn't.

SGRA tracks both penalty minutes and infraction type as well use of Affiliate Players. There was only one instance this year where accrued penalty minutes resulted in a coach receiving a game suspension. There were several games where affiliate players were used inappropriately and all but one happened in the first session of the season. There was certainly some difficulty with the interpretation of the Ringette Alberta affiliation policy wording which is likely the source of the confusion with the use of affiliate players.

My recommendation for next year is to again review the RA Affiliation Policy at the coach's meeting at the beginning of the season. I would also recommend that for game sheet submission that each manager electronically submit their game sheet to the SGRA statistician at the same time as they are submitting their LEGIBLE completed sheets to the BGL statistician. Paper copies are also helpful but could be left in lockup or the association mailbox at leisure.

Sweetheart Tournament

Coordinator: Jody Sutherland, Lisa McIntyre

This year we hosted 2 Sweetheart Tournaments. December (Sweetheart Winter Tournament) welcomed teams from U12B, U14A, U16B, U14AA and U16AA divisions, while February (Sweetheart Classic Tournament) hosted teams from Active Start, all of U10, U12A, U12C, U14B, U16A, U19A, U19B and Open B.

We had teams attend our tournaments from Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan. Our tournaments hosted over 1000 athletes, combined, and we had vendors join us at each tournament. In December, a company from Edmonton joined us. For February's tournament, we had a vendor come all the way from Vancouver, one from the Edmonton area and we were so very fortunate to have one of our very own SGRA parents set up a booth with her amazing products!!!

Both of our tournaments were a success despite this being our first year to plan two tournaments!! We had endless support from our organizing committee willing to do whatever it took to make the tournaments the success that they were!

Representative to BGL

BGL AGM

12 May 2018 / 9:00 AM /



REPORTS for AGM

NOTES

- Krista received a cheque for u10 playoffs

NARRA and REFFING UPDATES

- Due to BGL input NARRA implemented an Officials Development and Mentorship program last year.
 - Out of NARRA assigned games, less than 1% (8 games) had only 1 ref. The refs were using the Arbitor App rather than the website and were not up to date on assignments.
 - There will be a Level II ref clinic this year.
 - Policy updates will allow for more instances of automatic suspensions. The threshold will be lower for the younger ages.
 - NARRA had a rate increase at various levels (u10s2/s3, u14, u14AA)

Playoffs

- U10 playoffs - was noted that playoff format does not support LTAD.
 - Were several issues regarding fans and coaches at U10 level. There is a definite need to regain control of spectators.
 - Strong suggestion that all associations implement something - suggestion of a Parent Liaison - alternating parent from every team that is responsible to ensure your parents are not inappropriate to any player (including their own), coach or ref.

NRL

- Pilot program of home ice allocations thru BGL went well.
- They will develop a brochure stating what NRL can offer to our associations (ie practice or meeting on ice etc)
- If associations are asked to host more than 2 games - NRL will PAY for the ice slots

BLG ice

- League play will start Oct 12 for U12-U19
- League play will start Oct 19 for U10
- This is 1 week later due to playoff dates being later this year.
- Session 1 schedule will be released Oct 3
- Last game to count towards repooling is Nov 18. 1st session games will likely not be finished until end of November (6 games used for repooling, 8 total in 1st session)
- Dec 2 schedule to be released for session 2
- Session 2 starts Dec 7
- Christmas break will be Dec 23-Jan 7
- U16A and U19A will finish regular season by end of January
- No travel to Ft Mac the first weekend of either session.
- There have been some minor changes to Game time restrictions. Sunday night games are reduced for the younger ages will weekend game times are increased for U16/u19 (average difference .5 hr)

AA Play

- U14 and U16 will continue to play in their own divisions.
- Motion was made to include U19AA in BGL play (currently play with Open A) if there are at least 5 teams wanting to move to their own BGL division, it will be approved.
- Associations to be prepared to discuss blackouts (if they still want the 5 major tournaments blacked out), number of games in league etc at August meeting.



REPORTS for AGM

Ft Mac

- There will be a reduction in the subsidy teams are receiving to travel to Ft Mac from \$1000 to \$500. (Ft Mac was paying \$500 but can't afford to continue)

RAB Conference

- Cost control an issue. Recommendations that teams are limited in the # of tournaments they can attend.
- Recommendation that tournament coordinators arrange for travelling teams to play later Friday (potentially save 1night hotel)
- Push to move to cross ice at U10 - particularly Step 1
- Associations encouraged to develop sample budgets for teams so parents and coaches have expectations
- There will be a report coming out in June from RAB