

Ringette Nova Scotia
Presidents' Planning Meeting
Tuesday, September 21 2010, 7:00– 10:00 p.m.
Findlay Community Centre, Room 101
26 Elliott Street near Sullivan's Pond in Dartmouth

Attendance

Present:

Association Representatives:

Paula Taylor HCRA
Brian Rawding CHRA
Paul Lewis HSM

Brenda MacLellan Bedford Ringette

Jeff Tingley Sackville Ringette

Marlene Connell Berwick Ringette
Ellen MacIntyre Dartmouth

Board Members:

Tom McLean President (non-voting)
Lindsay Bennett Executive Director (non-voting)
Kim Scurlock Vice President - Administration
Pat Dyson Vice President - Finance
Sheila Gordon Secretary
Bruce Hennebury Director – Marketing and Promotions
Chris Clarke Director – Officiating
David Cunningham Central Representative
Melissa Connell Valley Representative

Regrets:

Krista Vey Player Representative
Beth Vallis President – Shannon Ringette
Alyson Lamb Director of Coaching
Michele Sinclair Director – Sponsorship and

Fundraising

Linda Cloney Fundy Representative

1. Call to Order & Introductions:

President, Tom McLean, called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

2. Confirmation of Quorum and Approvals:

Introductions were made and a quorum was declared with over 50% of members present.

MOTION: Bruce Hennebury **MOVED** and Pat Dyson **SECONDED** the motion that the Agenda be approved. **CARRIED.**

MOTION: Marlene Connell **MOVED** and Paula Taylor **SECONDED** the motion that the minutes from the November 10, 2009 meeting be approved. **CARRIED.**

3. Planning Calendar:

Secretary, Sheila Gordon, circulated a hard copy of the Draft 2010/11 calendar for members to check and augment. Other pertinent dates should be e-mailed to the RNS office when determined.

4. LTAD:

- **Changes at RC and RNS**

Executive Director, Lindsay Bennett, referred Presidents to the circulated document *Frames of Reference – Provincial LTAD Implementation Plan Development Committee*. She explained the need for a committee to customize RC LTAD guidelines for Nova Scotia. She described the work and structure of the group and encouraged Presidents to offer names of individuals from their associations who could serve on this committee.

- **Central League play**

Central President, David Cunningham, received input from a U12/U10 subcommittee on LTAD at the Central level, which resulted in the development of a Fair Play Policy and Coaches' contract. Basically, all players will get equal ice time at these age levels.

Question: Will Central govern play at U9? David replied, "no". Ellen MacIntyre indicated that Dartmouth would like to discuss their ideas for this age group with other associations.

- **What are associations doing to align?**

Ellen MacIntyre (Dartmouth): Dartmouth is dividing young players into three groups: U7 – player development for players who can't skate, U9 - players who can skate but not ready for U10, U10 - league play. Which group a player attends will depend on skill maturity and safety, rather than age, but movement between groups is easy and flexible. Dartmouth would like to partner with other associations for development opportunities for the U9 group.

Brian Rawding (CHRA): Brian commented that folks regularly misinterpret LTAD. A presentation to association coaches would be useful, as those who

work with the players need to understand it and support it. CHRA intends to add more ice for more practice time.

Paula Taylor (HCRA): Paula reported that HCRA has many players at young ages and hopes to break them up as described by Ellen.

Paul Lewis (HSM): HSM is working on developing a model that they can stick with. They are looking at ways to do practices differently. Developing binders with set programs would be helpful.

Jeff Tingley (Sackville): Sackville is working hard to equalize teams. They are trying to decide if each coach at a certain age level should run similar practices.

Brenda (MacLellan Bedford): Bedford is also focusing on youngest divisions to make successes based on skill acquisition rather than winning games.

Marlene Connell (Berwick): Berwick has had to drop ice time because of the expense of new rink. They have the same growing pains as other associations.

- Provincial Implementation Plan – not discussed

5. Officiating Update:

Chris Clarke reported that of the 69 registered officials, 43 are level 1B or below. An immediate need is to encourage people to apply to get their evaluations done.

Chris would like to develop a mentorship program within associations. i.e. senior officials shadowing newer officials.

He has developed a list of officials who can referee higher-level games along side a particular senior official, because there is a problem with refs doing games for which they are not qualified. He encouraged Associations to look outside their own stable of referees to find appropriately qualified officials, if necessary.

Next year, after a rule change year, all referees will need recertification. Chris suggested that all associations have enough level 1 officials, therefore, rather than run a level 1 clinic, this year, he would like to focus on developing the newest recruits.

Tom McLean asked Chris to get a communication out to Associations about appropriate behavior towards officials, to be distributed to coaches.

6. Promotions:

- Coming events

Bruce Hennebury, Director of Marketing and Promotions, outlined upcoming activities and opportunities:

- Lots of Come Try Ringette opportunities. Make sure that those who want to play after these events have an association to go to.
- Halifax Sport Fair – late October
- Ringette Night during Ringette Week
- Capitalize on CWG being in Halifax
- World Ringette Championships – should be live on the web
- Athlete of the Week (Chronicle Herald) and RNS Athlete of the Month on website

Bruce would like to organize a Promotion's Committee and is recruiting members, particularly if they have skills in media, communication or corporate contacts

7. Registration:

Vice President - Administration, Kim Scurlock, reported that the online registration has been a success with 50% compliance. Credit card payment was well received. The opportunity to register for provincial programs at the same time was also good.

Informal survey of Registration Numbers by Association:

Berwick – about the same

Bedford – up 10%

Sackville – up

CHRA – slightly down

HSM – about the same, but lost more than they expected

HCRA – up

Dartmouth – same as last year before CTR

8. Program Deficiencies:

- Development Programs

There is an urgent need for Directors of Athlete Development and High Performance, as well as Development program coaches

- Coaching staff

Coaching staff is required at U14A, U19A, and U19AA

Lindsay Bennett asked for feedback about what can be done so programming won't be affected. Suggestions included using non-coaches to lead

development programs, engaging experts to do power skating, dividing the program into segments with specialized training to spread workload.

10. Provincial Tournaments:

The dates for Provincial Tournaments are as follows with potential Hosts:

- | | | |
|------------|----------------------------|---------|
| • + 18 B C | March 5/6 or March 12/13 | Berwick |
| • U 19 | March 18-20 | |
| • U 14 | March 18-20 | HSM |
| • U 16 | March 25-27 (will change) | |
| • U 10 | March 25-27 | Berwick |
| • U 12 | April 1-3 | |

Lindsay would like to put together an informal committee to look at ways to improve the tournaments.

11. Event Sanctioning:

Tom McLean reminded presidents that event-sanctioning forms need to be sent in prior to an event. The general rule is to send a form in if the event is not a regular practice or league game – even fundraising, gym ringette or family skates.

12. Coaching Update: Lindsay reported for Director-Coaching, Alyson Lamb

- Coaching clinics calendar - will be out soon
- Changes to coaching requirements
Competition introduction = CI1, trained and/or evaluated
Competition introduction Gradation = CI2
All coaches require MED (Making Ethical Decisions) this year.
RC has put together an Honorarium structure for coaching instructors, so there will now be a \$75.00 fee
- Mentorship Coaching Committee
Alyson is looking for 2 volunteers for a mentoring committee

Paula Taylor suggested that it might be a good idea to have a CTR coaching clinic to encourage new coaches

13. CWG Update:

CWG team is going to Calgary September 22-24 for a tournament

14. Strategy and Policy Review:

Tom McLean explained that RNS has been working through vision statements presented at the 2010 AGM to come up with some outcomes and present a Strategic Plan for the next five years. He circulated a Draft Copy of the Strategic Plan and is looking for feedback on it.

Kim Scurlock reported that RNS is also following through with the need to undertake a policy review as discussed at the AGM. More details will be forthcoming

15. Roundtable:

The Rhetta Morse tournament in Berwick is postponed until October 22-24 because of new rink delays.

16. Next Meeting and Adjournment:

President, Tom Mclean adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Original signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom McLean", is written over a dotted grid background.

Tom McLean, RNS President

Sheila Gordon, RNS Secretary