

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2015

Present: Simon Lee, Ernest Dupres, Tracey Tulloch, Danielle Cote, Jody Trethewey, Mary Perry, Kevin Rainey, Lainie Winthrop, John Carter, Cathy Hebert

Absent: Melissa Connell, Josie Avery

| Item | Discussion | Action | Owner |
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| 1. | Call to Order @ 7:08pm | | |
| 2. | Confirmation of Quorum | | |
| 3. | Approval of Agenda Moved: CH Seconded: JC Result: Passed | | |
| 4. | Approval of Previous Minutes Moved: MP Seconded: JT Result: Passed | | |
| 5. | Standing Items 5.1.1) Recently attended the RC AGM as well as the CTR event in Colchester/Pictou. There is a possibility of a spring league for U12/U14 being established, discussions are still in the preliminary stages. 5.1.2) VP Administration - busy with Sackville Ladies, Provincials and responding to Association concerns. VP Finance – RNS budget and financials approved. Provincial team bank accounts (linked to RNS) set up, little push back from the teams. Payment plans have been established with post-dated cheques provided. First cheque is the largest one to cover start-up costs. Gary Field tournament schedule ended up conflicting with the planned In-Service camp, so a large number of participants cancelled. This resulted in the cancellation of the whole camp. Discussion was held about ways to avoid this situation in the future, including the possibility of requiring that tournaments do not start before 5PM on weekdays (similar to Provincial tournaments) and introducing a standardized tournament package/permit process. 5.1.3) Central Rep – Central League started on Oct 17 th . 44 teams in total. Big issues with rec teams this season due to low numbers, had to | <p>Schedule meeting in January to update the harassment policy and create an appeals process (LW)</p> <p>Ernest and Kevin to set up a committee for identifying membership challenges and resolutions associations are facing (ED, KR)</p> | LW, ED, KR |

combine many levels to ensure that each division had more than 2 teams in a loop (Central league requirement). There will be a re-evaluation of the U14B/U14C/U16C loop after 7 games to see if the 8 team loop needs to be split into two 4 teams loops to ensure games are as fair as possible. The competitive model that was introduced several years ago was based on an expectation of increasing numbers, but this hasn't transpired. The data from the member Associations which show very low numbers of U9 is also a serious source of concern, as these players form the future of the sport. CTRs are great programs but are experiencing low attendance. This is also compounded by the overall decreasing numbers of children in the province. Other areas of discussion surrounded the allowance of HHRA to enter two unbalanced teams at the U16 level, this required a waiver of the Central league policy on team balancing. There is also an ongoing discussion about reducing the competitive season to 18 games but this has not been agreed to yet. There is also interest in the results of the recent RC U12 summit, but this is not expected to be released until Mar 2016.

Director Coaching – Only three participants registered for this weekend's coaching clinic (CSI), so they were moved to the clinic on November 29th. Upcoming CI weekend is pending ice availability, classroom is booked at Shearwater but may be moved to be closer to the ice once booked. The requirement for CI at the U16B level is becoming a challenge, but the requirement is a result of the changes to the technical package.

Director Officials – Refresher training completed, review of the officials list to purge expired names scheduled for October 30th. 3 new officials started in Level 1, including 1 adult. No more Level 1s planned at the moment. Provided a great deal of input to the RNS Pathway document for officials, which has been submitted successfully to the required agencies.

Director High Performance – 18+ tryouts are being held on Saturday, 20 registered. Met with the university coaches and U19 coaches to lay out 20 games running up to December. Very competitive loop expected. The City of Lakes Tournament is also planning an Open division this year to help showcase higher level ringette play.

5.1.4) Learned this evening of the resignation of the NCRA President and Registrar. Good volunteers are being pushed out of the sport due to

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| | <p>pressures from their membership. There is a need for a Club Excellence program and Respect in Sport program to help Associations and their volunteers to improve their conflict resolution and mediation skills. Very concerned about the level of abuse from parents towards volunteers. Is personally spending 12-15 hours dealing with parents with complaints about team selections, tiering and establishment of divisions. The amount of feedback is cumulative and coming to a head. RNS has to deal with the parent who isn't happy with the Association's response to their issue and is looking for the answer they want from a higher authority. All stakeholders are looking to RNS for guidance despite not all areas being a RNS responsibility. Volunteers are being put in situations which they are not trained for, which is pointing out the need for more leadership and direction from RNS to the ringette community, to clarify what RNS can assist them with and what RNS is responsible for. There is a need to listen more closely to what the Associations are saying. Propose that a meeting is held in January to help update the harassment policy and create an appeals process, which will outline the role of RNS in mediating both inter- and intra- Association issues. Important that RNS promotes a zero tolerance policy towards harassment and abuse, and promote a culture of respect. Currently there are no real outcomes from violating existing policies.</p> | | |
| 6. | <p>Business Arising from Previous Minutes</p> <p>None.</p> | | |
| 7. | <p>New Business</p> <p><u>7.1 – MOTION: Accept withdrawal of Full Membership of Sackville Ladies Ringette Association</u></p> <p>Moved: DC Seconded: ED Result: Passed.</p> <p><u>7.2 – MOTION: Accept application for Associate Membership by the Sackville Ladies Ringette Association</u></p> <p>Moved: ED Seconded: DC Result: Passed.</p> <p><u>7.3) – U16AA Discussion</u></p> <p>Deferred until next meeting.</p> <p><u>7.4 – Discuss recreational teams in NS and other provinces</u></p> <p>Issues with recreational stream. The C program</p> | | |

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| | <p>does not have a tournament to play in. The competitive tier is much larger. We are still doing things very differently than other provinces, i.e. the way we are tiering competitive programs such as double carding. Request from association to dialogue with NB and PEI how we can align our programs. Decrease the amount of effort we are putting into ON and Western tournaments. Build and develop players first. Organize competition among the 3 provinces. Difficult for NS to play other provinces recreationally because they are double carding and we are not. Limits opportunity to call players up for development opportunities because our teams are playing in loops in higher age levels. Suggestion to review competitive model based on decreased numbers to create a viable loop within the province. Needs to be a system and structure review as well (length of season, length of development).</p> <p><u>7.5 – Submission of Director Reports and Agenda Items.</u></p> <p>Deferred until next meeting.</p> <p><u>7.6 – Year End Tournamen/Provincials Update</u></p> <p>Deferred until next meeting.</p> <p><u>7.7 – Discuss Coaching Certification Requirements</u></p> <p>Deferred until next meeting.</p> <p><u>7.8 – Department of Health and Wellness objectives and assignment to portfolios</u></p> <p>Deferred until next meeting.</p> | | |
| 8. | <p>Roundtable</p> <p>None</p> | | |
| 9. | <p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Next meeting will be November 25th at 7PM at SNS.</p> | | |
| 10. | <p>Adjournment @ 10:03</p> | | |

Next Meeting

November 25th at 7PM – Sport Nova Scotia – Classroom.