

# Annual General Meeting



Date | time 5/23/2023 7:00 PM |

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/91234567890>

Meeting called by	Vanessa Jones, President
Type of meeting	Annual General Meeting
Note taker	Lindsay Sanford, Secretary

## Agenda Items

## Notes

**Confirmation of Quorum (30): Quorum achieved (33) at 7:12 p.m.**

### Opening statement:

- Dave Mainwood had an emergency and is not able to attend. For any competitive related questions, please send any questions that you have to Vanessa or Dave for response.
- Due to a slide being out of place, we began the meeting with New Business; realizing there was some fruitful discussions to be had, we took a few comments/questions from the membership and then closed the subject to present the reports. The membership was notified that we would pick this discussion up at the end of the meeting. All comments related to "New Business" are found at the end of the meeting notes.

**Motion to approve minutes from the 2022-2023 AGM (Mike Dearing); second Ashley Ruelland; passed, all in favour**

**Motion to approve agenda for the 2023-2024 AGM (Mike Dearing); second Ashley Ruelland; passed, all in favour**

### President's report:

- Please see presentation for updates
- Volunteers: The association has numerous positions available. Would like to encourage everyone to take a look and see if there's an area that they are able to contribute to.
- GCRA adopted using the evaluation app this tryout season and has worked well so far.
- U19AA – will look different- it will be one competitive regional team
- Question: Marc D'Aoust: how many U19A teams will there be? VJ: No decision has been made yet, possibly 2, however, waiting until tryouts to decide.
- No comments/questions for this section

### VP Finance Report:

- Andi opened her presentation and indicated to the membership that the #'s she was presenting were not the final numbers for this 2023-2024 GCRA year. Final numbers will be reported for May 31.
- There are a couple of outstanding invoices that need to be settled before finalizing the budget.

- Speaking to the scholarship money that is set aside in each budget plan each year, we had not received any applicants for this coming year. There is one for next year. The deadline to apply for the upcoming scholastic year is June 30<sup>th</sup>. **Motion to increase the GCRA Scholarship amount from \$300 up to \$500 per applicant (Andi Worrell); second- Kathleen Wilson; passed all in favour**
- As the number will not vary greatly from what is being presented. Andi would like to motion to approve the budget as is and will report to the executive final numbers.
- Questions
  - o Omar Nalley: Was there an email sent out to the applicable cohort to advertise? AW: no email/advertising was sent out. Would like to work on better communication to be sent out for the upcoming year.
  - o Kim Leemhuis: Where does the money come from for the scholarship? AW: The money is allocated to this budget line (money that comes in from registration is then dispersed to various budget lines)
- This year we secured \$18,400 in sponsorships from various businesses in the community.

**Motion to approve the 2023-2024 financial statements as of May 23, 2024 (Andi Worrell); second Amy Grosset; passed all in favour**

#### **Registrar's report:**

- Registrations #'s are stable
- FUN2 #'s are lower than normal, will need to look at increasing.
  - o Question: Omar Nalley- For FUN1 and FUN2 is there a plan in place to increase recruitment? AG: Advertising Come Try Ringette event through word of mouth; possibly looking at "bring a friend" event. VJ: due to the strain on the resources, we don't have the capacity to do more.
  - o Kim Leemhuis suggested that a ringette family could host a "GCRA" table at school or community events.
  - o Omar Nalley suggested engagement with the school system; you can borrow a gym ringette kit. (Some schools are incorporating into their gym curriculum)
  - o Celine Leduc: Ringette Canada lends the kits for free; suggested printing GCRA flyers and handing them out on soccer fields.

#### **Operations:**

- This upcoming year will be Ashley's last in the role; she will be transitioning to Vice-President of the GCRA.
- Looking to fill the Regional Director role, hoping to have someone shadow her.

#### **Development:**

- Would like to have more development for players, however, we need volunteers to help facilitate these types of events.
- It is more difficult to have CTR event in the Fall (due to teams already being set), looking to have CTR event in mid-late August.

#### **Tournaments:**

- Please see presentation for updates
- Vanessa will be taking over and leading the development of the GCRA Tournament. Actively seeking and appreciative of people who would like to assist and volunteer.

## Bylaw Updates/Elections:

- No Bylaw updates.
- Elections:
  - o President: **Motion to nominate Vanessa Jones to a 2<sup>nd</sup> term as GCRA president (Marc D'Aoust); seconded by: Carissa Morris; passed in favour**
  - o Vice President: **Motion to nominate Ashley Ruelland to Vice-President in the 2025-2026 year (Vanessa Jones); seconded by Darlene Pickup/Kathleen Wilson**
  - o Secretary: no nominations
  - o Director at Large: **Motion to re-nominate Nikki Hicks to another term (Vanessa Jones); seconded by: Darlene Pickup**
  - o Regional Director: **Motion to nominate Ashley for a 1-year term (so role can be filled) (Vanessa Jones); seconded by Darlene Pickup**
  - o Director of Administration: **Motion to nominate Carissa Morris (Vanessa Jones); seconded by Darlene Pickup**
  - o Equipment Manager: no nominations

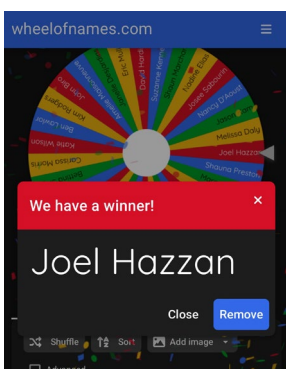
\*Please note that only positions that are deemed *elected* were motioned.

## New Business

- GCRA Tournament was poorly organized, and volunteers were unsure of what was supposed to be done. Did not reflect well on the organization. (Lisa Mongeon)
  - o Vanessa addressed the disorganization and will be working with Ashley Ruelland this year to improve the tournament.
  - o Vanessa also encouraged the membership to come out and volunteer!
- U16AA/A tryouts:
  - o Kathleen Wilson: U14AA cohort was evaluated, and majority placed in B. Lisa Mongeon reiterated this concern for the U16 cohort and the development of the competitive level.
    - U16 regional will be a big cohort with AA and A players amongst the athletes this year. There has been discussion on balancing and/or consideration of tiering B into B1 and B2 (for the more competitive oriented athletes) Ashley Ruelland to follow up with NCRRL about rules on tiering.
    - Possibility for a loss of ringette players to other associations/sports if not able to provide a more competitive level. (Marc D'Aoust clarified that this isn't a threat from parents, but a reality amongst the athletes who don't want to play in the regional program as is)
      - VJ- will look at doing the best we can for U14/U16 athletes.
      - VJ commented that she understands the challenges and they are doing their best with the limited resources (people) that they have.
      - Would like to have a meaningful and productive conversation about a way forward/solutions.
    - Omar Nalley: is there a way we can leverage the bubble players making them available and have the opportunity to practice with A/AA teams? We need to learn from past mistakes and build on creating solutions to support our athletes.
  - o Mike Dearing- can we look at tiering U16?
    - AR- would need to look into ability to do that; finds it disheartening about players leaving the sport; possibility that we don't have the caliber of athlete to fill another A team.
  - o Jennifer Bergeron: The 2010 cohort needs development. What is the GCRA able to do/provide for these athletes to help develop them for A/AA tryouts/teams?
    - VJ suggested a working group with Dave Mainwood.

- Would like the working group to be about finding solutions and moving forward, not re-hashing the same arguments.
- Due to capacity- asking parents to volunteer to lead this working group.
  - Ashley Ruelland agreed to do administration for the team- collected names of those wanting to assist.
- Lisa Mongeon: due to high number of athletes on the ice, how could a proper assessment have been completed? Her daughter's specific feedback indicated that evaluators didn't have time to look closely at all players; seems like a waste of \$\$
  - Vanessa: understands the frustration, did not anticipate the high number of athletes trying out; and was too late to get more ice. It was a lesson learned and anticipate the same issue for U19.
  - Vanessa suggests a further conversation with Dave.
- Amélie: Sort outs for U12 – one session was cut, hope that won't happen again; understands the need to balance but would be nice to have a B1/B2 tiered option
  - Ashley: agree- RO team rules state they must be balanced and would like to see that change.
  - Comment: Kathleen Wilson- same thing happened to U14B (2022-2023 season); Ashley- it's a slightly different situation than that, however, agrees that there should have been a B and C team.
  - Comment: Omar Nalley: did not have good info on rules/regulations/intent of trying out for different associations. Daughter wants to play at a competitive level- so looking at different associations- not having that opportunity has affected his daughter's willingness to continue with the sport. There should be opportunities in regional to develop players who want to play at a more competitive level (even if not on a competitive team).
- Vanessa Jones reiterated the importance of volunteers and the numerous vacant positions on the Board. She encouraged those who wanted to see change in the Association to volunteer. As it stands, the Board, as is, is only capable of so much and would like to see more player development initiatives however doesn't have the resources (people power) to carry them out.
  - Lisa Mongeon: are there any incentives for volunteering? Could there be a discount on registration? (VJ- no but welcomes solutions)

Draw for \$100 off 2023-2024 registration **Joel Hazzan**. Please contact Lindsay Sanford or Amy Grosset to claim prize.



**Motion to adjourn the 2023-2024 GCRA AGM @ 8:52 p.m. (Vanessa Jones); seconded by Marc D'Aoust/ Omar Nalley**