

CHILLIWACK RINGETTE ASSOCIATION
Annual Reports as submitted by the board of directors
May 11, 2019
Yarrow Elementary School, Chilliwack, BC

President's Report
Shannon Bettles

Thank you for attending this year's AGM — the third such meeting of the Chilliwack Ringette Association. It is still amazing to reflect upon how much we've grown in just three years. Our once 'little' players are now developing into powerful athletes, and we continue to welcome the next generation of ringette troopers and their parents to our Chilliwack Ringette family.

As we embark on our fourth season, we look back to our accomplishments in 2018-19. Here are some highlights:

Registration and recruitment efforts resulted in 12 new players joining and bringing our total numbers to 65. Word of mouth continues to be an excellent way to reach new players and we thank our ringette families for that. We do our best not to turn athletes away and finding places for all athletes to excel.

The 2018-19 season had four teams: FUNdamentals 2, U10, U12 and 18+. Here is a recap:

FUNdamentals was a new children's program implemented by Ringette BC. This program was new to all of us and so there were some learning curves as us coaches, administrators, and parents learned what it was all about. The program was successful in giving our youngest athletes a great head start in ring touches, skating skills and team fun. The program will continue to be refined into next season. The FUN 2 team coaches were Lisa Egan, Dyan Kinar, Laurie Benton and myself. A big thank you to our parent helpers and (I hope) future coaches: Phil Chris, Christine McPhee, Jenn Heppner, and Amanda Dodd.

The U10 Jets were led by Laurie Benton, Dyan Kinar, Julie Bauer, Dave Appeldoorn, Heather Dyck and Manager Val Conroy. We were pleased to see the development of new coaches and the success and continued development of the feisty U10 athletes. Thank you to the dedicated parent helpers and scorekeepers as well.

The U12 Wildcats were coached by Phil Shewring, Valerie Wells and myself, with many helpers including Sara Gregory, Brad Wolbeck, Donna Allen, and Becky Shewring. The team was small but determined, showing remarkable improvements by all. Many athletes stepped into leadership roles and did an outstanding job showcasing teamwork and fair play.

The 18+ Open team was headed by Lisa Egan and managed by Alex McCrae. Coach Egan with her over 40 years of experience and fun attitude is a huge draw to the program, with 22 athletes committing to the team last year. The open team competed very well and although they did not attend provincials, they won many games. They look to field a shorter bench next season and will attend more tournaments.

Our association and its athletes would not be successful without support from the community and individuals. I would like to acknowledge the following people and businesses for contributing cash, grants, or in-kind donations to our association, as well as the many donations we received for the 2018 Pub Night Fundraiser.

- Amalgamated Trading Ltd.
- Barbara Bettles
- Jeff and Pam Hunt
- Triple B Plumbing Ltd.
- Spent Technologies Ltd.
- Chilliwack Minor Hockey Association
- Streamline Ringette
- BC Community Gaming Grant
- Beaudies House of Hockey and Ringette
- Chilliwack Progress Newspaper
- Berry Hill Farms
- Chilliwack Chiefs Hockey Club

I want to extend a big thank you to Donna Allen for her incredible work as Director of Ways and Means finding fundraising opportunities. She has decided not to continue on the board, and we thank and will miss her.

I also wish to thank all of our board members for their diligence and work last season. We were even lucky to increase our number of volunteer administrators to the point where each person had only one job! We have an incredible team and what's more — we still like each other. Trust me, this is a rare occurrence in minor sport administration. This attests to professional attitudes and willingness to respect, mentor and support one another.

I would also like to thank athletes on the Open team, specifically Yvonne Johnson, Lisa Egan, Alex McCrae, Christine McPhee, and Jennifer Chernovsky for supporting our youth programs by evaluating athletes, sharing ice and providing advice to executives and coaches. Nicole Borges attended LMRL meetings on behalf of Chilliwack Ringette many times during the year as well. Thank you to all.

As our little ones develop into athletes (and dare I say teenagers soon?), we look forward to many changes at the league and provincial level. In 2019-20, watch for more high performance opportunities for our athletes as Ringette BC unrolls their new strategic plan, and enjoy

continued player and more goaltending development sessions. We need more officials and coaches, and we will investigate holding major events and tournaments here in Chilliwack. We anticipate benefitting from more ice times locally to save costs on ice. This is made possible with the new Sardis Sports Centre opening up. And, next November, we will be inspired as we cheer on Team Canada at the World Ringette Championships being held for the first time in BC, in Burnaby.

So dear members, thank you for putting kids into team sports, for supporting your community, and for investing in our future athletes and citizens. It's been my pleasure to be your President for the past three years. I am happy to stand once more, with an eye towards passing the torch along to some lucky (and unsuspecting) member in the next few years.

Director of Officials Report – Brad Wolbeck

The 2018-2019 season from the perspective of the Officials within the Chilliwack Ringette Association (CRA) was a success. The year began with a Level 1 Official's clinic on October 28th hosted by the CRA at Twin Rinks. Approximately 25 people attended the clinic with the majority being from other associations.

Kevin Kloos and myself represented the Chilliwack Ringette Association. Kevin's welcomed addition to our staff effectively doubled our number of Officials from the 2017-2018 season. The Chilliwack Ringette Association hosted approximately 25 home games this year all of which required Officials. The 25 games required 50 Officials to staff in the locations of Abbotsford and Chilliwack for the age groups of U10 / U12 and the Open Team. Considering the Open Team only plays in Abbotsford, the game locations were split 68% in Abbotsford and 32% in Chilliwack. All 25 games were played with at least 1 Official. In fact, the requisite 2 Officials were scheduled in 86% of our games. Fortunately, zero games had to be cancelled due to a lack of Officials. This is thanks in part to our President, Shannon Bettles, who stepped in to Officiate a number of times to ensure that games would proceed.

A major part of the Officials function is to ensure that the game is administered and conducted in a fair manner and to ensure the safety of all the participants involved. Although there were many high intensity games at all levels throughout the 2018-19 season, no major injuries or incidents were reported.

For the 2018-2019 season, the cost associated to paying for Officials was not a significant expense for the CRA and accounted for less than 2% of the overall budget. However, due to recent changes in the rates of pay for Officials by the Lower Mainland Ringette League, these costs will be increasing by approximately 50% for the 2019 season. Although our expenses will be slightly higher, it is anticipated that the scheduling of Officials may become easier as a result of the higher rate of compensation.

As the Chilliwack Ringette Association grows, its need for more Officials increases along with it.

Furthermore, the need for Officials trained and experienced to a higher level of Officiating becomes more important. At this time, the CRA relies heavily on Officials registered with other Lower Mainland Associations to staff games requiring a higher level of experience. This is the case especially for the Open team that requires higher leveled Officials for their games due to their speed and intensity. Fortunately, there are Officials located nearby who are high-leveled and are willing to assist the CRA with both game officiating and future mentorship. However, it should be noted that Officials from other Associations prioritize their own Association games, which can cause delays in the scheduling of Officials for our games. This is unavoidable until our numbers and levels increase substantially.

Overall, the 2018-2019 Officiating season was a success. The Officials we currently have gained significant experience, all scheduled games were staffed to a very high rate and no major injuries or incidents were reported.

Looking toward the 2019 season, a number of goals can be highlighted.

2019 Season Goals:

1. Increase the number of Officials within the CRA through both internal / external recruitment.
2. Ensure 2 Officials are present at all games.
3. Ensure no games are cancelled due to a lack of game Officials.
4. Encourage our Officials to seek mentorship from higher-leveled Officials.

Director of Ways and Means Report — Donna Allen

Pub Night - Sept. 29

Chiefs 50/50 - Jan. 25

Blueberries - Feb. (with PU starting 19th)

I am stepping down at director of Ways in Means for the upcoming year/season. Overall this past year I think was an alright fundraising year. Always room for improvement.

The Pub night was a successful “money maker” this past year. I think it ran a lot smoother then the first year. I learnt a lot from the first year; as I had never attended a Pub night before myself, so I understood more of how they worked. The Open team is definitely the biggest supporters of this so I think without their support it wouldn’t be worth running it. I have had negative feedback from some parents about having a Pub fundraiser for a youth group and it does show in the number of parents that don’t purchase tickets for the night.

The Chiefs 50/50; which I was away for, sounded like a fun night for the volunteers. It was a bit of a gamble as the Association had to put up money for Chiefs tickets ahead of time (and either sell them or not) to be allowed to have the opportunity to sell 50/50 for the night. It turned out alright and the Association made a little bit money, so not a huge “money maker” but I think definitely worth doing in the future if we get another opportunity to do so.

I believe the blueberry fundraiser by far is the easiest (maybe not for Phil) and most well received by all parents. Personally I found it super easy to sell (who doesn't want blueberries). The packaging is great, the time of year was perfect, buyers were happy, and the product was second to none. Hopefully that will continue as an Association fundraiser.

Equipment Manager Report

Christine McPhee

Due to the implementation of the FUNdamentals program this year, Chilliwack Ringette acquired a set of mini nets from BC Ringette. We had planned on buying a second set when they became available (they were on backorder), but ended up being able to share nets with Chilliwack Minor Hockey instead.

The major equipment purchase for the 2018/2019 season was new shot clocks for our Open team. Shot clocks are also required for some of our youth teams. To minimize the association's cost I have been in touch with the Twin Rinks manager and requested that the City of Chilliwack place shot clocks in rink 2. There are already city owned shot clocks in rink 1 and they are being added to rink 3. So another option is to request our game ice on these 2 rinks.

For the upcoming season, the board approved the purchase of another set of Chilliwack Ringette jerseys in adult small-large sizes for our older youth team, as well as another set of rings. Going forward we will be asking members not to wear game jerseys for practices. This is an effort to keep our jerseys in the best condition possible for as long as possible.

I have been collecting helmets and masks (ringette preferably), as well as other youth size protective equipment to use for our come try ringette events. If you have anything you are able to donate, please contact me.

Director of Coaching Report

Philip Shewring

My name is Philip Shewring and I am Director of Coaching for the Chilliwack Ringette Association.

My main role throughout the year is to ensure each team in our association has respectable and knowledgeable coaches who will teach skills and life values to our young athletes.

Once the application and the selection of coaches has been completed, I will work with each coach to achieve the credentials they need which is mandated by the BC Ringette Association. This includes:

- Coaching certificates
- Trainer certificates

- Making ethical decision courses
- Criminal record checks
- Register and maintain your Coaches Locker (records of all coaching certificates)

When the season starts, I will hold a coaches meeting with all coaches. This meeting is used to convey all information in regards to rules, policies and expectations. Access to practice plans, drills, ice management and tools for coaching are shared with everyone. Proper lines of communication are established to provide support for our coaches in all situations. Each coach will be required to sign a “Code of Conduct” at the meeting to convey the conduct our association requires and accountability is achieved. My Job is to support and encourage our coaches in any way possible and to assist and guide new coaches to our association.

During the season I am responsible for all coaching information. I must communicate with the LMRL and our board of directors to maintain current information on all our coaches. I attend all board meetings throughout the year. I also facilitate and communicate any and all matters pertaining to grievances and discipline report on or by our coaches.

It is an honour to be apart of a growing association in a wonderful sport. Coaches leave a lasting impression on athletes and my biggest responsibility, along with the board of directors, is to make sure we are developing our players into respectable athletes with a lasting impression that will ensure sports continues to be a part of their lives.

Registrar’s Report

Laureen Benton

We seem to be growing by more than a dozen players every season – great job on gathering new athletes, whether they are friends, family, or people you have shared ringette with by word of mouth. It’s very exciting to see our numbers increase each year.

The breakdown for athletes by division is:

- FUN2 – 12 (6 new)
- U10B – 13 (2 new)
- U12C – 13 (3 new)
- OpenB – 20 (7 new)

Total athletes: 58

We did have a handful of athletes not finish the year or withdraw from active participation. This number would be approximately 5 for all divisions combined.

Additionally, we add to our seasonal numbers through Come Try It events we plan at our local rinks as well as through our summer ringette camp.



CHILLIWACK RINGETTE

Treasurer's Report

Dyan Kinar

This has been my first year serving on the board as the Treasurer for the Chilliwack Ringette Association.

This past year, our revenue was \$49,237.56 and our expenses were \$49,760.84. This given us a net loss of \$523.28.

Some of our largest expenses were Ice, Equipment, BCRA & LMRL Fees.

- Our largest expense was our Ice costs. Our Ice costs came to \$22,473.97. As a new young association, we get limited ice in Chilliwack which does not cover all our associations team needs, especially times for games. We were only given one hour of ice a week that can be utilized for game time. With 4 teams all needing ice time to play home games this just isn't enough. In order to cover all our needs, we had to outsource ice to Abbotsford where ice costs are significantly higher, as we do not get subsidized ice in Abbotsford. Next season with the new sheet of ice going into Twin Rinks, we are excited with the prospect of the City of Chilliwack giving us more ice times that can be used utilized for games, which would bring our ice costs down significantly.
- Another larger expense was equipment. As we grew in numbers this year, we had to purchase another set of jerseys and as it was our first year with a U12 we had to purchase shot clocks.
- Also as we grow in numbers our fees to BC Ringette and the Lower Mainland Ringette League rise as it is based on the numbers of athletes in the association.

For our Revenue and in order to keep registration costs down we relied heavily on donations, fundraising, and grants.

- For Donations - We had an amazing \$7,390 donated to us this season. Amalgamated Trading donated \$5,000 and Barbara Bettles \$2,000. Without these amazing donations we would not have been able to make this season successful.
- We also up'd our fundraising this season and as an association made a \$8083.31. Our largest fundraiser was our annual Pub Night where we raised \$2,838. A new fundraiser that we did this season was the Blueberry fundraiser which was a huge success and raised \$1,255 for the association.
- We also received a few grants this year which were big in helping with costs. We received a legacy grant for a \$1,000 and a gaming grant of \$5,000. We used our gaming grant to go directly to paying for a big portion of our youth ice costs.

This year we also opened up bank accounts for all our teams. This way the teams could keep track of team money raised or collected from parents for tournaments fees etc.

It has been a pleasure sitting on the board as the treasure this year.