

**CHILLIWACK RINGETTE ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL REPORTS
MAY 21, 2020**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Shannon Bettles

The fourth season of the Chilliwack Ringette Association is one for the record books. As we reflect upon the past season, it is clear that no one could have predicted what was to come in March when we set foot on the ice last September.

The current pandemic may have cut the ringette season short, but it didn't stop us having six months of fun on and off the ice together. Here are some highlights:

Our **U10 and FUNdamentals** teams attended the Poco Jamboree to cap off their season. Chilliwack's U10 team coached by Julie, Phil and Laurie reported successful results, excellent team and player development, and close league match-ups. The 18 players from our FUN 1 and FUN 2 squads all improved their skating and skill levels dramatically thanks to coaches Kim, Dyan and Debbie. Hats off as well to the many volunteers for both these teams who took on roles of manager, bench helper, and on-ice helper positions for the first time.

Players on our U14 and U12 teams returned to the ice for their fourth season with us. The U12 team was coached by Laurie, Dyan, Heather, and Dave and the U14 team was coached by Phil, Val and Brad. We were very pleased to see **leadership emerge amongst our U12 and U14 athletes** as they volunteered for junior coach positions working with our FUNdamentals teams and Indigenous program. We are building the next generation of coaches and leaders and want to acknowledge and thank in particular Lizzie, Cassidy, Berlyn, Anika, Emma, Brooke, Raileigh, and Mathilda.

Ringette BC brought in **new rules at the U12 and U14** level this season. The removal of tiering meant that the calibre of play across the league improved overall, posing challenges for our small and growing association. Our athletes were left playing against more experienced players causing imbalances in game match-ups. In order to work towards improving fair play in the league, Chilliwack Ringette pushed to introduce a new rule. At a league meeting, Vice President Mike Kinar moved that coaches be held responsible for lopsided game scores when matches end with goal spreads of more than ten. The motion was unanimously passed. Watch for further changes from Ringette BC affecting the U16 to U19 level next season.

This year, we welcomed **improved ice times** from the City of Chilliwack with the addition of a new ice surface in town. All three ice surfaces at Sardis Sports Complex now have ringette lines and shot clocks. The additional ice we received from the City has reduced our ice costs, because we eliminated the high price of renting privately owned ice surfaces in Abbotsford. We

appreciate the support of the City of Chilliwack and look forward to an improved storage space on rink 3 next season.

World Ringette Championships came to BC for the first time in the championships history last November. A number of people from our association attended the 'Skate with Team Canada' in Burnaby as well as some games. CRA member Kate Kloos and myself worked behind the scenes for more than a year leading up to the tournament. The WRC's raised \$18,000 for a legacy fund which will be distributed back to the local ringette community.

A new **Indigenous Ringette Program** was started in Chilliwack last fall when we partnered with Skwah First Nation, Ringette BC, and the Indigenous Sport and Recreation Council (iSPARC). Funding from Ringette BC, Sport BC, and iSPARC allowed us to lead a 12-week introductory ringette program for 25 Indigenous athletes aged 10 to 18. Two of our coaches attended a complimentary Indigenous coaching course provided by iSPARC held at Tzeachten Hall.

Chilliwack's Open B team had a banner year, winning the league championships and picking up a tournament win along the way. The team was poised to bring home a provincial banner before the tournament was cancelled while many of them were en route to compete in Salmon Arm. Chilliwack Ringette's historic first championship banners will be hung at Sardis Sports Complex for all to see.

We absolutely need to **thank our sponsors and donors**. For this year, but also years past. Sponsors have collectively donated over \$15,000 over the past four years of our association. They have made it possible to have nice uniforms, signage in our arenas, a website, development programs and much needed equipment. I'd also like to acknowledge our association officials who donated ALL of their referee earnings back to the association. This is truly commendable - Kevin and Brad. Thank you to the following:

- Barbara Bettles
- Triple B Plumbing
- Sport BC
- iSPARC
- Skwah First Nation
- Amalgamated Trading
- Spent Technology
- Ringette BC
- BC Community Gaming Grant, Province of BC
- Berry Hill Farms
- Sport Check Chilliwack
- Hunt family

As we look ahead to next ringette season, we do so without clarity. None of us yet know how the pandemic will affect our ability to get back on the ice together. Thank you for hanging in

there with us and for your patience while things are worked out. I know that we will merge from this challenge together.

My four years as President has been a wild ride and I've very much enjoyed working with an amazing team. Starting a non-profit society with just a carpool, a dream, and a dedicated 4-person crew and seeing it grow to be something that affects over 70 different lives and many families, has been as rewarding as it's been surreal. None of it would have happened without support from our families, friends and the community.

I am now stepping aside as President so that the association can flourish under new leadership. I will always be a part of the Chilliwack Ringette family and you will be sure to find me at the rink coaching, officiating, or watching our athletes grow. Thank you for the carpool!

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Laureen Benton

Again this season we saw an increase in our numbers, similar to previous years. On paper it looks like we add a new team each season, but the ages are mixed amongst the divisions so most of our teams get a bit larger. To combat this, we manage the teams by skill development and ability and try to create teams that are appropriate. It's very exciting to see our numbers increase each year, so thank you to everyone for continuing to pass on how wonderful our sport is.

The breakdown for athletes by division is:

- FUN 1 – 8 (7 New)
- FUN2 – 8 (6 New)
- U10 – 12 (2 New)
- U12 – 11 (0 New)
- U14 – 11 (0 New)
- OpenB – 19 (0 new)

Total athletes: 69

Generally we do see a few athletes that might start the season but not finish the year or withdraw from active participation. This number would be only 3 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, however, this year we are not able to do so due to Covid-19. We do hope to hold some ringette skills clinics as a way to generate revenue as well as interest through the season. We welcome any other help regarding fundraising or awareness raising – and we have an open place on our board for this too!

We are attempting to create a registration system for the coming year that allows us to anticipate numbers, even if we do not know how or what the start and duration of the season will look like. Please be patient while we await further information from BC Ringette. We will endeavour to get any information to you all promptly after hearing from the necessary people. Thank you all again for your support, energy and volunteerism over this past season. We can't run an association without your active input. It is so appreciated.

DIRECTOR OF OFFICIALS

Brad Wolbeck

The 2019 – 2020 season from the perspective of the Officials within the Chilliwack Ringette Association (CRA) was a success. This year was a 'refresher' training year due to various rule changes and all officials were required to complete the refresher course. Kevin Kloos and Brad Wolbeck attended in October and were successful. The CRA was fortunate enough to add 2 new officials to our ranks in October and November. Tracy Townsend self-identified as wishing to officiate. She completed the Level 1 course however she did not officiate any games for the CRA. Our second new official was Shannon Bettles who completed the online Level 1 course. Shannon officiated 5 games this season. These additions bring our total number of officials to 4 however, as mentioned, only 3 were active in the CRA. Unfortunately, none of our Officials requested or received an evaluation during the course of the season and remain at Level 1. Evaluations are required for the Official to 'level up' in order to Officiate higher competition / age groups. As the CRA grows, higher level local Officials will be required.

The Chilliwack Ringette Association hosted approximately 33 home games this year all of which required Officials. The 33 games required 66 Officials to staff in the locations of Abbotsford and Chilliwack for the age groups of U10 / U12 / U14 and the Open Team. In stark contrast to last year's data, 79% of our home games were played in Chilliwack while only 21% were in Abbotsford. [2018-19 stats were 68% in Abbotsford and 32% in Chilliwack]. The required 2 Officials were scheduled in 97% of our games however 1 game was cancelled as a second official could not be located which is represented by the outstanding 3%.

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 2019-20 season, no major injuries or incidents were reported.

As expected, the expenses related to officials were significantly higher for this year than for last. For the 2019-2020 season, approximately \$200 of course fees were refunded to the 3 active officials. This was only paid out once the Official had met their 5-games Officiated commitment within the season. Overall costs for officiating were higher this year due to a

greater number of home games scheduled and a new higher fee index from the LMRL. The CRA was fortunate to have higher level officials in Abbotsford available to officiate the Open team and there were several 'out of Association' officials over the course of the season who attended Chilliwack to assist as well. Please refer to the Treasurer's Report for further Officials cost data.

As Director of Officials, I was made aware of one complaint filed against Officials who were working a CRA game in Chilliwack. The complaint was brought to my attention by the LMRL Director of Officials who had been tasked with reviewing the matter. The LMRL Director of Officials provided a lengthy email from the complainant which outlined their specific issue. However, the email was also found to contain lengthy information of past conflict, personal views and opinions not related to the complaint. This erroneous information was not considered during the review. The complaint centered around an Open level game on February 26th in Chilliwack and was officiated by 2 high level Officials. After reviewing the complaint in its entirety, it was found that this matter could be reduced down to an individual not agreeing with the Officials call for one particular event on the ice at the time. Fortunately, I and another CRA official were present and viewed the game as well. Inadvertently, I had actually de-briefed the on-ice officials about the contentious call immediately after the game and their version of events was found to support the on-ice call. In this instance, as supported by the 2 on-ice officials and the 2 viewing officials in the stands, there was insufficient grounds for any formal action to be taken and the complaint was summarily dismissed. The LMRL Director of Officials was provided a written response which outlined the observations of the viewing officials and the debrief comments of the on ice-officials. As a result, the complaint was concluded by the LMRL without any further action.

Overall, the 2019-2020 Officiating season was a success. The Officials we currently have gained significant experience, scheduled games were staffed to a very high rate and no major injuries or incidents were reported.

Looking toward the 2020-21 season, a number of goals can be suggested. Suggested 2020 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 COACHING

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 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 a part 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.

EQUIPMENT MANAGER

Christine McPhee

Thanks to my fellow board members, players, parents, volunteers and fans for another successful season for Chilliwack Ringette! Due to the unforeseen and still developing Covid-19 situation, we have delayed the collection of jerseys and other equipment until such time as it is safe to do so. Please hold onto any CRA equipment in your possession for the time being. While this may not be strictly "equipment related", this year I was really excited to oversee the making and hanging of our Chilliwack Ringette sign in Rink 1 of the Sardis Sports Complex. It'll look even better with our Club's first tournament championship and league championship banners hung next to it.

Thanks to donations for our Indigenous ringette program iSPARC, we have acquired some older youth/adult gear. This gear, which includes sticks, masks and gloves, will be used for the iSPARC program as well as for Come Try Ringette events. We are always looking for donations of new or used ringette gear for these purposes. If you have anything to donate, please contact me and I'll be happy to take it off your hands (once safe to do so).

Chilliwack Ringette has also acquired some storage space in Rink 3 of the Sardis Sports Complex. We are excited to move into it when user groups are once again allowed into the facility.

I look forward to hitting the ice with Chilliwack Ringette as soon as possible. Until then, stay safe everyone.

Treasurer's Report

My name is Dyan Kinar, this was my second year serving as the Treasurer for the Chilliwack Ringette Association.

This past year:

Revenue=\$49,595.59

Expenses=\$52,641.97

Net Loss-\$3,046.38.

The biggest reasons for the Net Loss were cash donations and fundraising; they were over \$8,000 less this year over last.

Expenses

Largest expenses were Ice, Officials, Equipment, and League Fees.

- Ice costs--\$23,381.51. The City of Chilliwack gave us a 2 extra hours of ice time per week; which was needed as registration numbers grew. We were able to host up to 3 games each weekend, up from one game per weekend last year.
- Officials—costs for officials tripled over last year, see above.
- Equipment—major purchase was a set of jerseys for the new U14 team.
- League Fees--BC Ringette and the Lower Mainland Ringette League fees are based on Athlete enrollment, therefore rising this year over last. These fees include insurance for players and coaches.

Revenues

Largest income is Registration. In order to keep registration costs down, we rely on donations, fundraisers, and grants.

- Registration - \$28,675.66
- Gaming Grant--\$5,000. The Gaming Grant went directly to paying ice costs.
- Donations--totalled \$3,542.33 in cash donations.
 - Amalgamated Trading and Barbara Bettles donated \$1,000 each.
 - Our 3 association Referees donated their Ref'ing money back to the association.
- Fundraisers--raised \$1056.78. The biggest was the Blueberry Sale, raising \$700. A second sale was scheduled for the Spring, but was put on hold due to Covid-19.

Indigenous Come Try Ringette Program

This year we started a new program, the Indigenous Come Try Ringette Program.

- Cash donation--\$1000.00
- BC Ringette--\$1000.00 cash donation
 - cash donations purchased new helmets, gloves, and sticks
- ISparc (Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation Council)—skate rentals and Instructors

Team Bank Accounts

This year, all teams utilized the team bank accounts which were set up last year. These accounts are directly for the team's use and allows the coach/manager to track team money raised, money collected from parents, and money spent on tournament fees, team bonding activities, etc.

It has been a pleasure sitting on the board as the Treasurer for the 2019-2020 season.

--Dyan Kinar



CHILLIWACK RINGETTE

Treasurer's Report

Fiscal year runs April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020

OPENING BALANCE		\$ 7,827.09
INCOME		
Registration - Camp	\$ 8,896.56	
Registration - Season	\$ 28,675.66	
Grants	\$ 5,003.02	
Donations	\$ 3,327.66	
Fundraising	\$ 1,056.78	
Interest	\$ 9.91	
Indigenous Program	\$ 2,626.00	
	<u>\$ 49,595.59</u>	\$ 49,595.59
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 57,422.68
EXPENSES		
Ice	\$ 23,381.51	
Equipment	\$ 3,542.33	
Officials	\$ 2,658.00	
Karelo Fees	\$ 1,283.42	
BCRA/LMRL Fees	\$ 8,657.74	
Player Development (Powerskating)	\$ 1,970.75	
Promotions	\$ 1,308.92	
Summer Camp	\$ 6,735.86	
Administration	\$ 98.42	
Coaching	\$ 50.00	
Indigenous Program	\$ 2,677.77	
Room Rental	\$ 277.25	
	<u>\$ 52,641.97</u>	\$ 52,641.97
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 52,641.97
PROFIT/LOSS IN 2019-20 SEASON		- \$ (3,046.38)
BALANCE ON HAND		\$ 4,780.71

Vice-President Report: 2019-2020 Season

Congratulations to all the Athletes, Coaches, Officials, Parents, Families, and Board Members for the completion of the 2019-2020 Ringette season.

This season saw the Chilliwack Ringette Association put a strong foot forward as an Association, at the League level, and at the Worlds. CRA Members took on roles of Division Reps, Zone Evaluation Coordinators, Zone Evaluators, League Board Members, tournament Board Members, World Championship Organizers, etc.--in addition to their CRA Board positions. Well done all! As Vice-President of the CRA; I assisted the President as needed, attended Lower Mainland Ringette League meetings, organized team photos, and sat-in on various meetings throughout the season.

The upcoming 2020-2021 season will provide many challenges; not only on the ice, but with the 'new normal' we are creating through COVID-19. These will be opportunities—opportunities to involve technology, modify game play, hone our goals for Athlete Development in Ringette, and to continue developing the great sport of Ringette and the amazing culture of the Chilliwack Ringette Association.

--Mike Kinar