

RED DEER RINGETTE ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Meeting
September 11, 2007

Rene Vandervlis called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

In Attendance: Rene Vandervlis, Lee Caine, Darren Garbe, Tara Melvyn, Marilyn Shand, David Allin, Irene Taylor, Jeff Grebinsky, Chris Kelly, Darcy Gabert, Dave Millar, Gary Lund, Doug Domoney, Richard Hileman, Trevor Williams, Rob Kolton, Dave Appleby, Sheila Fowler-Greene, Kim Falls, Irene Taylor, Elizabeth Wilson, Jim Schlachter, Bill Musselman, Clayton Cassidy, Tamara Pollock, Tracy Farebrother, Trent Farebrother, John Wilson, Amy Adkins and Nancy Lougheed.

Agenda – Moved by David Allin to adopt the agenda as presented. Seconded by Dave Millar. CARRIED

Minutes – Moved by Lee Caine to adopt the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Jeff Grebinsky. CARRIED.

Reports

Rene Vandervlis welcomed all those in attendance and provided thank yous to members who volunteered and assisted with the Rust Buster Camp, hanging of the banners at the Dawe Arena and player evaluations. Due to the popularity of the Rust Buster Camp, it was noted that consideration should be given to purchasing more ice for next year's Camp.

Rene introduced Elizabeth Wilson who has volunteered to fill the position of Referee Coordinator and Tracy and Trent Farebrother who have volunteered to fill the position of Ice Coordinator.

Rene advised that the Zone 4 rep position still needs to be filled.

Registrar – Irene Taylor reported the following registration numbers: Bunny 74 for six teams; Novice 58 for five teams; Petite 39 for three teams; Tween 33 for three teams; Junior 12 for one team; Belle 18 for one team; Open A 21 for one team; Open C 16 for one team and Tween AA 12 for one team, for a total of 283 registrants. Irene reported that currently there are only five registrations that have not been paid.

Rene and Lee commented on current concerns regarding the Junior and Belle levels, as some of the 12 Junior players registered are trying out for the Junior AA team and normally 18 players on a Belle team is too many. They advised that this is being reviewed by the executive, and it is anticipated that final numbers will be available within the next two weeks. Lee advised that prior to a final decision being reached, a meeting of parents/players will most likely take place.

Rene commented on the new process that Red Deer Ringette initiated this year with regard to late registrants being placed on the waiting list. He requested that if comments or concerns are received regarding this process that these comments/concerns be forwarded to Rene.

Ice Allocator – Tracy Farebrother advised that the ice allocation has been done. The ice times have to be into the Black Gold League by this Friday. They advised that due to the increase in numbers and a small decrease in ice time, there will be many split ice practices this year.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of the ice at Springbrook for practices. Red Deer Ringette has purchased ice at Springbrook as well as being able to rent ice at Sylvan Lake again this

year. All teams will be scheduled for practices in Springbrook and Petite and up will be scheduled for practices in Sylvan Lake. Red Deer Ringette is not able to get any more ice in Red Deer. The City has initiated a new policy that is based on historic ice usage. At this time, Red Deer Ringette will continue to get the same ice it has had from year to year. However, Lee stressed the importance of making use of all ice times. This is monitored by the City, and if the ice is not used, we may lose it in future years.

Following discussion, the direction was provided for the Ice Allocators to purchase at least two more hours per week of ice time in Springbrook.

Coaching Coordinator – Marilyn Shand requested all persons interested in coaching to complete a coaching application and forward it to her. She noted that evaluations will be completed prior to coaches being chosen.

It is not known if Red Deer will be able to host a coaching clinic this year. Marilyn may have an answer to that by early October.

Rene referred to the Coaching Committee that was established last year for selection of coaches in instances when there are more coaches than there are teams, noting that this process will be used again this year when required.

Team Selection Coordinators – Clayton Cassidy and Jim Schlachter are coordinating the Bunny and Novice evaluations. Clayton reported that there have been very good turnouts for the evaluations. He advised that it will not be necessary to involve the coaches in selection of the Bunny teams.

Bill Musselman and Grant Norris are coordinating the Petite and higher level evaluations / tryouts. Bill reported that there are currently five new Petite players with zero years of playing experience. It was noted that at the Petite level, the tryouts are for both the Petite A and B teams. Those players that are cut after the first evaluation will be on the Petite C team.

Marilyn advised that there are two brand new players registered for Tween this year.

Equipment Coordinator – Dave Millar reported that seven new sets of jerseys that are consistent with the current jerseys have been purchased. Three sets for the Tween teams and four sets are for Petite. It is anticipated that the jerseys will be in by the end of September.

Dave advised that he has contacted Corinna Ryan at the City of Red Deer regarding the City taking over responsibility for the shot clocks, and she appeared to be very receptive to the proposal. The Association will still own the two sets of travel shot clocks. Dave reported that he has acquired some storage space through the City at the Dawe Arena under the bleachers. This space is available for only one season right now due to the renovations that will be occurring at the Dawe over the next couple of years.

Jeff Grebinsky advised that there are six or seven sets of old goalie pads that are available to give away to anyone who may be interested.

Dave Millar stated that most of the goalies have been set up with equipment. Two new sets of pads and two chest protectors were purchased.

Lee Caine inquired about the First Aid Kits that were distributed last year. David Allin advised that these kits will be distributed to the coaches at the coaches' meeting.

Dave requested that all coaches from last year that have not returned their Coaching binders to please do so.

Black Gold League – David Allin reported that there will be no more league playoffs. Instead, the season will be extended to include 18 games for all teams. The league champion will be decided using the second session points. Second session commences December 4.

David noted that discussion occurred regarding lack of goalies. It is suggested that starting with Novice, each team have at least two goalies.

Number and level of teams for each association are to be forwarded to Black Gold by September 20. A facilitator position is to be created for the Black Gold Ice Allocator. The facilitator will be the contact with regard to game scheduling.

Zone 4 – Rene reported that Jan Mowat has advised that she will not be attending any more meetings as a Zone 4 rep. This position needs to be filled by someone from Zone 4 (Lacombe or Red Deer). There will be a Bunny/Novice meeting in early October for scheduling of games and ice times.

Referee Coordinator – Elizabeth Wilson reported that the Association is in dire need of senior referees. Currently, there are 26 refs and two of those are not interested in continuing. There are nine new refs that started this year, seven from last year, three intermediate refs that are all on the same team and five senior refs. Elizabeth advised that it may be difficult to schedule refs for all the games, and some of the games may have only one ref.

Elizabeth reported that some coaches have indicated an interest in attending a session with a senior ref to discuss rules. Rod Mowat has agreed to participate in such a meeting. Elizabeth advised that it is anticipated that the meeting will be set up later in the season. Elizabeth reported that referee meetings will be scheduled only when a senior ref is available.

Following discussion, it was recommended that Elizabeth contact Lacombe to see about the possibility of sharing refs.

Treasurer – Tara Melvyn distributed the Financial Statements for the year ended July 31, 2007, and copies of the Treasurer's Report for the period ending August 31, 2007.

Following the review of the Financial Statements, Tara advised that two volunteers are needed to review the association's books.

Moved by Rob Kolton to appoint David Allin and Dave Millar to complete the audit for the 2007 Financial Statements for Red Deer Ringette. Seconded by Richard Hileman. CARRIED

Moved by Gary Lund to accept the treasurer's report for the period ending August 31, 2007, and the Financial Statements as at July 31, 2007, as submitted. Seconded by Jim Schlachter. CARRIED

Player Development Coordinator – Chris Kelly reported that purchase of a new trophy case for the Dawe Arena has been put on hold due to the renovations that will be occurring at this facility. He advised that the trophy case is quite full at this time. The trophy case at the Kinex will continue to be used for Bunny and Novice items. Chris reported that the banners have been cleaned and rehung at the Dawe Arena. The banners are now hanging in chronological order in a new location that is more noticeable.

With regard to Player Development, Chris reported that he is working on some drill books for everyone; however, initially the emphasis will be on books for the Bunny and Novice coaches. Chris is also collecting resources that will be available for loan to coaches.

Chris initiated a discussion regarding goalie shortages and recommended that each team from Novice and up be encouraged to have at least two goalies. He suggested that the Association consider a goalie program. He also recommended that a goal tender workshop for both players and coaches be scheduled. He advised that he has spoken with Andy Nowicki, goalie coach for the Red Deer Rebels. Andy has agreed to host a clinic for the Association. Chris suggested that a clinic be organized for October and second one for December. It was noted that a 1 ½ hour ice time would be required for each clinic. Two players from each team would be invited to participate. It was agreed that this would be very worthwhile and should be pursued further.

Sponsorship Coordinator – Kim Falls reported that letters have been mailed to 15 of last year's sponsors. No responses have been received to date. Sponsorship bars will be distributed after all the teams have been chosen and the sponsors have been allocated. Discussion ensued with regard to the Bunny Tim Horton jerseys. It was agreed that if there were available sponsors, sponsor bars would be added to these jerseys.

Market Rep – Sheila Fowler-Greene noted how impressed she was with the number of players that have registered along with the number of returnees. She believes this is a big compliment to Red Deer Ringette. Discussions ensued as to whether advertising in the fall papers/flyers should continue. This will be reviewed at the end of the season.

Tournament Coordinator – Rene reported that the tournament will be held January 4, 5, and 6, 2008.

New Business

St. Pat's Correspondence – Rene advised that correspondence has been received regarding the poor condition the rented room was left in following the referee clinic, further noting that Red Deer Ringette has been banned from using any Red Deer Catholic Regional Division facility. Rene advised that he will be forwarding a letter of apology to RDCRD.

Coaches' Meeting – Rene advised that coaches will be contacted regarding the meeting time once it has been scheduled.

Chris Kelly noted that if Red Deer Ringette wished to organize an "Evening of Excellence" to recognize its successes for the year, the ice should be booked now for the April/May event.

Grey Cup Tickets – Rene reported that Lisa Michalenko has volunteered to coordinate the distribution and collection of the Grey Cup Tickets. The tickets will be distributed to coaches at the coaches' meeting.

Gary Lund noted that weekend ice has been booked for hosting of provincials; however, the booking is for Easter weekend and no provincials are scheduled for that time.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2007, at 7 p.m. at the Arena.

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.