

GVRA January Board Meeting DRAFT Minutes

Date: January 23, 2025

Time: 5:45 pm

Location: 3205 32nd St 3rd Floor

Attendees: Wayne Robert, Breanne McLean, Angie Clifford, Brad Marta, Jennifer Fossum, Jessie Bicknell, Jane Suttton, Derek Doige, Diane Mintz

1.0 Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes motion by Jennifer Fossum, second by Angie Clifford.

2.0 Approval of Agenda- amended to add Director of school agenda (missed), amend Tournament director report.

3.0 Board Reports

3.1 Approve submitted board reports

- a. Registrar Report
- b. Treasurer's Report
- c. Director of School Programs
- d. Tournament Director
- e. Director of Managers
- f. Past President/Ice Scheduler
- g. Director of Officials

Motion to approve amended agenda by Jane Sutton, second by Jessie Bicknell.

4.0 Previous Meeting Business

4.1 Governance Thoughts – Davidson Lawyers. Motion to accept letter from Davidson Lawyer by Diane, 2nd by Angie, all in favour. Motion to create a FAQs regarding governance based on Davidson letter, by Jen, second by Jessie, all in favour.

Policy created to allow a delegate to request an opportunity to attend GVRA board meeting. We will have closed meetings but we will allow delegate or delegation. In order to be a delegate it has to be requested in writing to the president minimum 1 week before meeting. The entire board will vote yes or no and will decide the number of attendees and structure or style of delegation and duration. Motion to approve policy by Jessie, 2nd by Jane, all in favour.

4.2 KB – Suspension/appeal.

Motion to move in camera by Jane and Jessie 6:31 pm

Motion to leave in camera by Jane, 2nd by Breanne 6:43

4.3 Winter Carnival. Application due Jan 31. Jen or Jessie to drive parade float. Request to spend \$ for candy and ringette paraphernalia to promote sport. Younger participants to be on float with coach/parent. Older athletes to walk alongside. Wayne to put out to teams to see who wants to participate. Request to wear jerseys with 80s styling up to teams. Email to go out to see who is willing to help decorate and who wants to participate. Courtney has some funds available in promotions budget to put toward.

4.4 Power skating. Brad Crookshank volunteered to work with groups, Tues, Wed, Thurs \$100 per session. Available next Tues until end of February.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Upcoming board vacancies. Start to create a buzz to find new board members.

5.2 Spring Ice. 3 or 4 members to help create Spring ice sessions. Diane, Angie, Wayne to help create ice sessions. Open to invite others to help.

5.3 U16/U19 Club. Coaches, parents, and referee letters sent regarding behaviours.

Display case in KTPS and banner hung in progress. Breanne to get banners.

Next Board meeting Feb 24th at 6:00 pm at Wayne's office

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 by Angie, 2nd Jen all in favour.

BOARD REPORTS

January 2025 Registrar:

Total Registration - 162 players

Outstanding Registration Fees:

Two players owe money for a total of \$720. One who is a brand new FUN player (\$175) has been invoiced, as Vlearn will be paying (she hasn't even been on the ice yet). The second player, U14 who registered later owes (\$545), this player has already been sent one letter in regards to the outstanding balance. Will send another email next week and copy President for transparency. Then look at next steps. We really should have some sort of policy or guidelines for those that do not pay on time such as set number of contacts, i.e. after three communications, the coach is notified that the player cannot take the ice.

Still trying to have staff activated in RAMP, for those who registered late. Next year we need to make sure that all staff and helpers are registered early and we have confirmation from each team who should be registering to better track criminal record checks.

January 2025 Tournament Director:

BOD Meeting January 23rd, 2025

Report to Directors from Tournament & Events Coordinator

1) OAB:

36 Teams Participated

Change for Next Tournament to Rules:

Rule of 10 goals

Only Bench staff / athletes on ice

Reimbursement policy regarding Stripe Payments

Note to book Tournament Room far in advance

Discuss whether the Tournament wants to invite vendors?

Price to charge or reciprocal agreement

Book entire facility vs rooms (facility means exclusive and would need to rent the facility from morning to end of day each day [except Sunday])

Should submit next application for sanctioning soon (or for next board?)

Financial Update: Profit of \$15,501

2) Vernon Winter Carnival Parade:

When: Saturday, February 8th

Time: Parade starts at 12pm

Arrive: 11am

Theme: Back to the 80's

Wear: Jersey mandatory, teams can work together to present their best 80's beyond that

Need: Decorate Float

Who: Older athletes to walk the route and distribute candy, pamphlets, etc. Younger athletes to

ride on float with supervisor(s)

Route: Start at 45th and 27th Street, go along 27th Street and end at 32nd Avenue.

3) Come Try Ringette:

Next One Planned: Vernon Winter Carnival, Feb. 10th 5:30-6:30pm (Monday)

We have three participants registered. 2 from Kelowna, 1 from Vernon

Connected with Michelle Wicklund to lead the event. Waiting for confirmation.

4) Vernon Vipers Game + 50/50

Group of volunteers raised: \$1579.50

List of volunteers: Courtney King, Paul King, Jenn Fossum, Ryan Hanke, Wayne Jones, Karen

Royston, Wayne Robert, Christine Robert, Jade Peterson, Diane Mintz, Birte Paschen, Dianne

Peterson, Lori Einfeld, Phil Einfeld.

5) AGM – any input on booking a facility?

Optional Dates: Sunday April 6th or Sunday, April 13th?

Good Friday / Easter Sunday is 18-20th

Venue location? Paddlewheel Park Hall or elsewhere

Timing? Afternoon or Evening? Potluck or ? Open to ideas or suggestions

January 2025 Past President:

Our normal spring prep ice is booked Mondays from 7:30 to 8:30pm at Kal Tire Place and Kal Tire North. They put the first ice time on Mar. 31 which may be too early as Westerns are March 26 thru 29. Also the ice times after June 1 the hourly cost is up to \$208.37 including taxes.

They have not yet booked our preseason warm up ice but it is requested.

Also we need to start actively looking for people to fill the spots on the board for those who are planning not to continue in their current positions. If we just leave it to the AGM and don't have possible people lined up in advance, we may end up with no volunteers. In the distant past we used to have a nomination committee who would work on convincing volunteers to stand for the board positions. Nominations from the floor are always accepted but it is good to have some nominees before the meeting.

January 2025 Director of Managers

Team Photos

GVRA team and individual photos were completed on November 24, 2024 at KTPS player entrance. Darby photos was a great company to work with and I would highly recommend Darren to any athletic team in need of photography.

Darby photos will be back on January 28 th 2025 at 4:45PM to do retakes, etc.

Darby photos has also provided teams with a digital copy of their team photo.

FUN DIVISION Plans, Successes & Challenges

A FUN Planning and Trouble Shooting Meeting was held on Thursday January 9, 2025 5:15PM at

KTPS. See attached Meeting Notes for more clarity and information.

In Attendance: Krista Hunnissett, Jordan McDonnell, Jessie Bicknell, Wayne Robert, Brad Marta,

Sophie Marta and Michelle Wiklund.

Concerns expressed during the meeting:

- hope for a more streamlined introduction for FUN families and potential team volunteers
- surprised by the lack of organization at first practice

- little to no guidance or direction
- team would have benefitted from early season mentorship
- in-person meeting required before season starts to make connections and set expectations

Topics Discussed:

1. How can the GVRA FUN Ringette Cohort be supported for the remainder of the season? What has worked well so far, and what areas need additional support?
2. How can we ensure that any new players are effectively integrated into the team while maintaining the team's progress?
3. Pre-Season Preparation
4. GVRA Representative for guidance and direction
5. Support for New Coaches and Managers
6. New Board Positions to address unique challenges of the youngest divisions in 9ur association: FUN – U12

It was agreed that these ideas and preliminary plans should be added to the agenda for the first 2025/26 board meeting and made a priority.

Plans for the remainder of the season:

With the support of GVRA, coordinate and connect all TORL FUN 1 & 2 divisions to address

the best use of scheduled ice time, players abilities and player numbers. Wayne Robert has been helping coordinate this conversation.

Michelle Wiklund to support FUN 1 & 2 coaches with additional practice resources as well

as being a liaison between U10 coaches and FUN during practice times in January. She was feeling very hopeful that this would help bridge the gap between divisions and create a better sense of community at the younger level.

Manager Courses, Training & Criminal Records Check

I am working on getting a package ready for 2025/26 Managers to streamline the 'start-up' process this fall. Binders need to be updated and I am committed to creating a digital file as well.

I will connect with Diane Mintz by January 31 st to confirm most recent valid CRC list.

PV Rink Display Boxes

We are still waiting for all three teams to complete their PV Arena display cases. The focus now

is getting all displays completed by the end of January.

From this experience, I think it will be helpful to assign display cases early (by end of August 2025) so teams can plan and complete their display well before the season gets going.

Going forward, I propose that the PV Display cases are assigned to teams in the spring for the

upcoming season. We should set up a yearly schedule for teams to use this space, so they can

count on it for fundraising? This will prevent long wait times for teams awaiting use of this space, especially when they need to raise funds for the season. This to be added to the first GVRA 2025/26 Board Meeting.

FUN Meeting – Thursday January 9, 2025 5:15PM

KTPS

In Attendance:

Krista Hunnisett

Jordan McDonnell

Jessie Bicknell

Wayne Robert

Brad Marta

Sophie Marta

Michelle Wiklund

Meeting Notes Shown in RED

- hope for a more streamlined introduction for FUN families and potential team volunteers
- surprised by the lack of organization at first practice
- little to no guidance or direction
- team would have benefitted from early season mentorship
- in-person meeting required before season starts to make connections and set expectations
-

Topics to discuss

2024/25 FUN Division – Areas of Improvement

1. How can the GVRA FUN Ringette Cohort be supported for the remainder of the season?

- What has worked well so far, and what areas need additional support?
- Krista and Jordan have finally gotten into a great rhythm and feel confident to finish the season
- Focus on keeping practices & games fun for the kids
- Wayne will reach out to TORL to get the FUN contact information from other associations so that coaches can collaborate and come up with effective game plans to meet the unique needs of each team
- Michelle will pass along her 'personal' practice plans
- Encourage mentorship between U10 and FUN coaches when they are sharing the ice
- Consider cancelling the remaining GVRA FUN 2 games

2. How can we ensure that any new players are effectively integrated into the team while maintaining the team's progress?

Let managers and coaches know about new registrations and estimated skill level before new player attends their first practice

3. Pre-Season Preparation

Possible timeline:

APRIL/MAY – Make a concrete FUN plan with new board executives

JUNE – Select GVRA FUN liason/coordinator

JULY - Get flyers out to daycares and plan for mall GVRA table

JULY – REGISTRATION

September – coaches selected and attending training; communicating with GVRA liason

October – FUN season Starts

- Create a time-line plan for FUN : registration cut off, pre-season meeting, managers

meeting, meet & greet for new coaches and GVRA selected FUN support group/individual, pre-season FUN open ice or fun skates, team meetings/budgets/season outlines, tournament registrations, etc..

- Identify needs based on registration numbers; we need to make sure we have enough support for the number of kids registered. How can we do this successfully?
- Remind families of FaceBook 'Ringette Gear Buy & Sell' page
- Pre-season meeting in a KTP meeting room to address questions, concerns and explain the volunteer needs/requirements of the season ahead; encourage parents to sign up for key positions at this meeting

4. GVRA Representative for guidance and direction

Leadership

- Could we have someone in a position of leadership who is pre-selected to help with the first month to 6 weeks of coach and volunteer selection? Help with practice plans, team formation, game play and tournament registration.

5. Support for New Coaches and Managers

- Pre-season Training
- Pre-season meeting for parents to introduce everyone to GVRA and explain the needs and volunteer requirements of the FUN division
 - o Learn about the game of ringette
 - o Provide an opportunity for parents to sign up for coaching and other volunteer roles before the kids hit the ice
 - o Pair potential Team Managers with experienced GVRA managers
- On Ice Support for Coaches for the first six weeks

o Organize and match experienced coaches and volunteers (including older GVRA players) to attend these early season practices

6. New Board Positions

Add this to the agenda for the first 2025/26 board meeting

Possibility of adding new executive positions to address the unique needs of young children and families that are new to the sport of ringette, especially at the FUN to U12 level.

This is being done in other ringette associations in BC, including Kelowna and Burnaby

- o Help create unity throughout the divisions
- o Build a program that is consistent year after year
- o Support new coaches and managers
- o Create pre-season and

Director of Officials

We had 6 people take the Intro to Officiating course in October and five of them have now completed all of their shadow/mentor games and ready to officiate with just one other partner.

TORL has observed unsportsmanlike behaviour with players and parents at U16 and U19 club games prior to the holiday break. As a result, letters were sent out to all TORL coaches, parents and officials reminding them to review and reinforce our code of conducts

and set a good example for our players. It appears behaviour has improved at recent games, but all the officials have been encourage to contact me if they have any concerns.

We have also observed some severely lopsided games at the U14 and below divisions. If this trend continues, we may need to implement the 10 goal differential rule that is used at some tournaments into league play. Basically, the rule states that the head coach will be suspended for one game if their team has a 10+ goal differential at the end of the game and the Officials feel that they did not adequately encourage their players to not run up the score.

Director of School Programs

Since our last meeting I have:

- spent a full day at Bearisto doing gym ringette in November. I had 3 athlete volunteers join me that day.
- myself and 4 athlete volunteers spent 3 partial days at BX Elementary for gym ringette in November and December
- I am going in to do a full day of gym ringette at Hillview Elementary tomorrow (Jan 20)
- I have a rough draft of a 3 day program that could be used at the schools. The program could be used by myself and the athlete volunteers, or a lesson plan could be left with the teacher to do on their own if we are unable to spend 3 days there.
- kids seem pretty stoked about having ringette in the schools, and we have received good feedback and even a few interested in joining. It would be nice to continue this momentum.
- there are 4 other schools who have shown interest in gym ringette. I don't have any dates scheduled for them yet but I'm aiming at doing one school a month between now and the end of the school year, dependent on mine and the volunteers schedules.