



**Fraser Valley Ringette Association
Virtual AGM 2021
Wednesday April 21, 2021
Zoom
Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to order & Welcome - 7:33pm

The meeting was delayed due to the board waiting until a quorum was present.

Nicole Burdes listed the positions that were up for election. These positions are Vice-President, Registrar, Secretary, Director of Evaluations, Director of Equipment, Director of Officials and Director of Ways and Means.

Nicole Burdes made a first call for nominations.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The following amendments were made to the agenda:

- Nicole Tjepkema amended the agenda to remove the Treasurer position as being up for election as this position was only in its first year of the two year term.
- Sharon Smit amended the agenda under the Election of Directors to read “Seven (7) positions for re-election (two-year terms elected on odd numbered years)”

Motion: To adopt the amended agenda. Moved: Nicole Tjepkema Secoded: Pete Smit CARRIED

4. Adoption of Minutes from 2020 AGM

Motion: To adopt the minutes of the 2020 AGM. Moved: Ben Bowcott Secoded: Jill Clapton CARRIED

5. Director’s Reports

President – Nicole Burdes

Good Evening Fraser Valley Members, Board of directors.

My name is Nicole Burdes, this was my first year as President, prior i’ve worn other varying hats at the different levels of Ringette. I’ve been involved as a player, ref, coach, board member for just over 40 years. It’s been extremely interesting to also be a second generation “Langley” Board member along with the Clapton’s, Full circle.

We had a trying season and one that I’m amazed, but not, at how resilient, go with the flow all of our members were, how our board just got it done on the fly to get the youth on the ice with the restrictions that were coming at us. I was very proud to be part of this group of volunteers this season, it was a true season of pure development. And at every level, our members kept coming. HUGE thank you to all the

coaches, bench staff, on ice helpers, safety officers. parents for entrusting us with your children in a drop off/pick up scenario, not truly seeing the progress that they were making.

We had great intentions at the start of the season for development in all areas, from goalie, athlete to officiating, the board was quick to reassess the commitments to ice and instructions with the restrictions as they came. The arenas worked with us when and where they could and for the most part, they did. I can't say enough thanks to our entire community for recognizing that we were all in this together.

I'm hopeful for this coming season, we rolled with some pretty crazy punches and I know that our entire board membership has grown from this season and learned, we look forward to Progression 1!! Where we can work towards retention, growth and development for our association. In parting; I look forward to working with everyone this coming season.

I'd like to thank the exiting, some very long standing board members from the bottom of my heart. Without you and your volunteerism, our youth would not be on the ice. So thank you to Glen exiting VP, Jennelle exiting Registrar, Kevin exiting Director of Officials, Michelle Equipment Manager, and Taylor Director of Evaluations

Vice President –Glen Sandve

Hi. Glen Sandve here, and I just finished my second year of a 2 year term as Vice President this past season. Unfortunately, I will not be putting my name forward to serve on the Board in 2021/2022.

I assisted the President, Nicole Burdes throughout the year, and did my best to help out in any way I could.

More specifically:

I chaired the Player Movement Committee, which dealt with player requests to move outside of their age-based division. After being involved with this committee, I would recommend that the following changes take place in the future in order to streamline the process:

- The player movement committee personnel should be established at the first meeting of the year. It should be clear to all members of the association, who the contact person is for player movement, so that requests can be sent to the same person (and hopefully eliminating requests being lost if they are sent or forwarded to multiple people).
- A firm deadline date should be established early to avoid requests being sent during or after evaluations have already taken place. This is important because players who request movement should be observed during the evaluations, and the committee member(s) who are observing those players need to make sure they can schedule in all of their observations.
- This info (contact person and a firm deadline) should be sent to all FVRA members early in the season via email. Also, this information should clearly state that all movement requests must include a letter of application and that late player requests will not be considered.

I also helped organize our Team Picture Night which was going to take place on two different occasions at Sportsplex in Langley. We had planned a schedule that had teams meet in the underground parking area (covered from the weather) and then make their way (while being socially distant) up to the meeting room in Sportsplex. However, restrictions and optics prevented us from making the photo night a reality this year. My recommendations for next year are:

- depending on the number of zone teams, contact the President of Surrey/White Rock association to coordinate a combined photo night at Sportsplex.

- Depending on the Covid situation, consider an outdoor venue/open air hall/greenhouse etc. as it will be easier for the photo company to take the pictures even if restrictions are in place.
- I would use the company that Surrey used in the past (Darby – darbyphotos.com). They were great communicators and were willing to give us very fair pricing.

In terms of athletic wear, the company that we used last year (Big Kahuna) did not return any of my contact attempts. Tara took over the order for walk out wear and did a great job with it. If she feels comfortable, I recommend that she continues with the same process next year.

Overall, I enjoyed my time on the board this past year. I am thankful for all of the Board Members who volunteered a great deal of their own time to make the association run efficiently during these difficult times. These volunteers are all passionate and hard-working people, and definitely have the best interests of the athletes in mind when making decisions about the sport of ringette in the Fraser Valley.

I am always available to lend a hand and help out whoever takes over the role of Vice President next season.

Treasurer – Jailene Smit

Hi, my name is Jailene Smit, and this was my 3rd year on the board and in the position of treasurer.

This year was a great year especially with COVID, we were able to recover our deficits from the last 2 years and still leave us with a surplus.

We received \$47,500 in gaming funds this year, which is the same as what was received last year as well. This money pays for a large portion of our ice costs. Gaming must be spent on 3 categories only: Ice, Equipment and Athlete Development. If you turn to the income statement, the revenue for this year is \$88,649.93 and our expenses were \$75,381.65. We have a positive net income for the 2021 fiscal year of \$13,268.28. This is due to us being strict with funds as we did not know where COVID would leave us. If you turn to the balance sheet provided, you will see that our Total Current Assets (cash on hand) is \$46,812.76 between both accounts: \$26,537.75 in general; \$20,275.01 in gaming. The gaming account has a large value left due to it being received later this season than past years. This gives us enough of a cushion for next season if we get limited gaming funds. As we all know, a lot is up in the air about what the next season will look like.

The budget for the 2021/2022 season will be discussed later in the meeting under new business. But the overall budget is solely based on us receiving the gaming grant funds in order to make our budget work. I applied for the grant shortly after this AGM, but we don't get an answer on whether it is approved or not until the end of September and it is never the amount we ask for. This year I will be applying for \$60,000. I would like to reiterate that this is a budget only, which is just a guideline for spending. This budget will change once we receive gaming and as plans change at the start of the ringette season.

Director of Tournaments- Diana Place

For the Past Season of 2020/21 - We were unable to hold a tournament because of PHO orders that would not allow competitive play.

We returned all of the ice that was being held for space, and began looking at what we might have to do for the next coming season because of this, I was able to offer my time to assist with other areas of the board and assist with the Covid Safety development and dealing with the Ice scheduling which was constantly needing to be changed as due to continual changes with Public Health Order due to Covid - 19

Over the next season we will layout and plan for in hopes that we will be able to hold a proper tournament, as well as some contingency plans that might allow us to do something based on the limitation applied by any new Public health order.

Registrar – Registrar- Jennelle Woykin

My Name is Jennelle Woykin. This was my third year as Registrar. Prior to that I was the treasurer for 3 years for a total of 6 years on the board. As my term is up, I am not coming back this upcoming season, leaving my position up for grabs.

As we all know, Covid affected Ringette significantly not just in practice or lack of games but in registration numbers also.

For the 2020-2021 season, the number of athletes registered went down significantly to 91. Our 3 adult teams folded as there were no games and also were not allowed to play per the PHO, which would account for approximately 45 players. Our Fun1 and Fun2 numbers went down by more than half for a total of 13 combined. Not being able to have Come Try Ringette seriously affected new registrations. Our U10 division went down to one team of 14 athletes. Our U12 division went down to 17 athletes. Our U14 division went up by 10 players for a total of 28 registered. In U16 we had 9 athletes and U19 we had 10 athletes. We had to combine both of those divisions with Surrey between Club and Zone teams.

I am assuming registration should be able to open up on May 15th like normal unless we are instructed otherwise by Ringette BC. Hopefully September will be somewhat back to normal.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me for now until I pass everything on to our new Registrar. Take care and stay safe and healthy.

Ice Scheduler – Colleen Jeffrey

This season has presented many challenges. We have had to be extremely flexible, communicative and reactive to the ever-changing Public Health Orders (PHOs) and Via Sport's and RBC's Return to Play Phase changes. Looking back, I feel we were able to react quickly to changing PHOs while keeping our coaches and athletes safe and on the ice when possible.

Practice and Game Schedules: In a typical season, FVRA has ice for practices designated on Tuesday/Thursday nights at Sportsplex and Thursday nights at George Preston. This year, due to restrictions in game play, practices were also scheduled on Saturdays at George Preston and Sundays at Sportsplex and Canlan/Twin Rinks. Due to lack of games played, we did end up with extra ice. We were able to return some ice at George Preston and Aldergrove Arena, with no penalty, but unfortunately did

have ice go unused at Canlan/Twin Rinks and Sportsplex. A spreadsheet was created to monitor ice usage and costs to ensure budgets were met.

Zone and Club Zone Ice Schedules:

This year we shared 3 Zone teams and 2 Club Zone teams with the Surrey White Rock Ringette Association. Team practices were held in both locations and a schedule was created and shared with both clubs. A spreadsheet was created to monitor ice costs to help ensure an equitable arrangement between clubs.

SOW Tournament:

Due to Covid restriction, we were unable to hold our SOW tournament this year. We were able to return all of the ice typically reserved for the Spirit of Winter tournament without penalty and with an agreement that we will be able to secure the ice for the 2021/22 tournament at all 4 Arenas.

Monday Night Athlete development:

Over the past few years the Aldergrove Monday nights times have been earmarked for athlete development. Due to Covid restrictions and the TOL's on ice usage and group transitions requirements, we were only able to run this for a few sessions and were then able to return the ice with no penalty.

Meeting Room Bookings:

We began the season with a few in person meetings at Sportsplex as part of our contract agreement but moved the meetings to an online format due to COVID restrictions.

Director of Officials – Kevin Braithwaite

For those who don't know me, my name is Kevin Braithwaite and I am the Fraser Valley Director of Officials. This is my sixth year in this role and after completing the second year of a two year term I will be officially stepping down. Unfortunately due to covid this year our officials were not able to step on the ice after the first few weeks of the season. Definitely a disappointing season for all FV refs. The past 6 years have certainly seen some challenges but also much exciting progress for our officials. We have had almost all of our officials progress to at least one or more levels from where they started over my time as RIC and am so excited to see the passion and dedication our officials share for the sport. We have also had many of us invited to the biggest events as officials and supervisors. From Provincials to Westerns and BC Winter Games as well as seeing a few of our officials in the role of both shot clock operators and supervisors at Nationals. Although I will be stepping down from this role on the board I will be remaining in Fraser Valley as a referee. I want to thank all the current board members as well as the past ones that I have worked with for striving to build both a strong and competitive association. I wish everyone the best through the summer months and look forward to seeing everyone next season.

Director of Coaching – Jill Clapton

My name is Jill Clapton and this is my first year of my two term commitment in the Director of Coaching position. As we are all aware, 2020 had many challenges due to COVID-19 and this was no exception in the area of coaching for our association. The start of last season saw FVRA well ahead of RBC, LMRL and even the other associations in our league. This was largely in part due to the diligence of Nicole Burgess and Dianna Place keeping the coaches up to date with the mandated changes that were happening. A big thank you to them both for their efforts to put (and keep) FVRA athletes on the ice. As the year progressed it was Dianna and Colleen Jeffrey who wrote and rewrote our facilities policies, as well as the changing ice allotments more times than anyone could imagine. On behalf of all coaches, we thank you

for your tireless efforts. I would also like to personally extend my sincere thanks to all the head coaches, assistant coaches, managers and COVID captains for their volunteerism in what essentially turned out to be a full year of practices for our athletes. While this proved to be challenging to keep the ice times engaging, I believe it provided much needed normalcy and no doubt helped with the further development of the athletes.

I would also like to send out a big thank you to all the parents who abided by the changing COVID restrictions and filling out the health checks before every ice time so that we could have a season at all. I know it was less than ideal not being able to watch your child and I am hopeful we will be able to have parents in the stands at some point next season.

I am looking forward to a 2021-2022 season with game play for our athletes and seeing you all around the rink.

Director of Evaluations – Taylor Teague

Hi I'm Taylor Teague and I am the Director of Evaluations. This was my second and final year in this role and things went quite well. In my first year it took a bit of time to get to know the evaluators and coaches, which made the admin side, such as booking evaluators and just generally getting things organized, a bit tougher, but with the help of Ben Bowcott and Tracy Townsend, evaluations still went fairly smoothly. This season was a lot easier as we seemed to have a much deeper pool of evaluators. The commitment level and consistency of the evaluations seemed to be great as well. I will be more than happy to help the new director transition into this role.

Director of Athlete Development – Dawn Savage

FVRA Members,

My name is Dawn Savage and this was my first year on the board as Director of Athlete Development. This was a challenging season for everyone, the sport of ringette and athlete development due to covid 19 and our return to play guidelines. Overall our athletes really improved with all the practices and had lots of fun. Our coaches, and on ice helpers did an exceptional job keeping our athletes engaged and improving their skills.

Unfortunately our plan for athlete development did not happen this season. We were able to get Jody Meadows to do one session of power skating for U10 and U12, and two sessions for U14 club. Goalie clinics were put on hold this season due Covid 19 guidelines. Eric Lapp was able to help out with goalie training during some practices with U12, U14 club, and U14 zone. Our U10 team utilized a parent (part of their cohort) to run some goalie focused ice times.

Next year the plan for athlete development will be to have power skating, and goalie clinics. There will be a heavy focus on power skating from September to December. Our goalie clinic will run once a week with outside goalie instruction brought in once a month.

Thank you to all of our coaches for taking our athletes' development into their own hands and making the season the best it could be. Thank you to Jody Meadows, and Eric Lapp for your help over this year.

Looking forward to getting back on the ice next season and playing some games.

Director of Promotions – Megan Labbe

This was year one for me as Director of Promotions. It was a learning year as well as trying to navigate ideas due to Covid-19.

We were able to get facemasks ordered with the FV logo on them out to coaches as well as having them to purchase. Still some are available. Darren Maxwell at Sporting Connections was able to make this happen for us.

I will be staying on as Director of Promotions for the 2021/2022 season and hopefully get promoting of Ringette out into the community. Thank you for the support from everyone this year

Equipment Manager – Michelle Sallee ABSENT

No Report

Safety Officer - Colleen Jeffrey

The COVID Safety Officer is a position that was created as part of the Province's Return to Play Plan. This position is a non-voting FVRA Board member.

The COVID Safety Officer is responsible for the following:

- Liaise between RBC and FVRA Board regarding PHOs and any COVID related matters.
- Report any positive COVID cases or exposures to RBC, FVRA Board, affected teams and Arenas.
- Update FVRA Board and coaches regarding PHO changes and requirements.
- Communicate with the individual team COVID Captains.
- Update FVRA Safety Plan as needed as send to Arenas for approval

During the 2020/21 season, FVRA had 2 positive COVID cases. Both teams had play suspended for 2 weeks and no further cases were noted.

Ways and Means – Tara Guesford

Past President – Ben Bowcott

Thanks to all the great volunteers for keeping us on the ice despite a terribly challenging year.

Secretary – Nicole Tjepkema

My name is Nicole Tjepkema. This was my first year as Secretary taking over from the previous one and completing her 2 year term. I am fortunate to have been able to see how Associations come together, volunteers who painstakingly take time out of their already busy schedules, with the sole purpose of ensuring our children can continue to play the game with fairness and positive influences in coaching, volunteering and parenting. The position of secretary entails note taking, sending reminders, and completing the minutes and agenda for each meeting.

6. Financial Statements for 2019/2020 and proposed 2020/21 budget

Jennelle Woykin presented the budgets on behalf of Jailene Smit and the floor was opened for questions.

There was a question regarding the budget lines. It was mentioned that the gaming funds came in late so the budget lines needed to be readjusted.

There was a question regarding fundraising in the budget. There was \$5,000 budgeted and actual was \$3,000. Jennelle explained that we had a decline in registrants which led to less raffle tickets being sold. Tara also mentioned that some players did not sell their tickets or only sold half a book.

7. Election of Directors

Nicole Burdes made a second call for nominations

Nicole Burdes nominated Nicole Tjepkema for the position of Secretary, Nicole T declined as Alison was interested in the position.

Alison Kooyman nominated herself for the position of Secretary

Jill Clapton nominated Jason Darby for the position of Director of Equipment, Jason accepted the nomination.

Nicole Tjepkema nominated Tara Guesford for the position of Director of Ways and Means, Tara accepted the nomination.

Corine Lovegrove nominated Nicole Tjepkema for the position of Vice President. Nicole to think about it.

Nicole Burdes made a third and final call for nominations.

Nicole Tjepkema accepted the position of Vice President.

Alison Kooyman accepted the position of Secretary.

Jason Darby accepted the position of Director of Equipment.

Tara Guesford accepted the position of Director of Ways and Means

Tara Guesford nominated Corine Lovegrove for the position of Registrar. Corine accepted the nomination for Registrar.

Two positions remain vacant on the board of directors. These positions are:

Director of Evaluations

Director of Officials

8. Other Business

None

9. New Business

New board members please send Nicole Tjepkema your contact information to secretary@fvringette.com

10. Adjournment - 8:47pm

Motion: To adjourn the 2021 Fraser Valley Ringette AGM.

Moved: Ben Bowcott Seconded: Melissa Valentine CARRIED