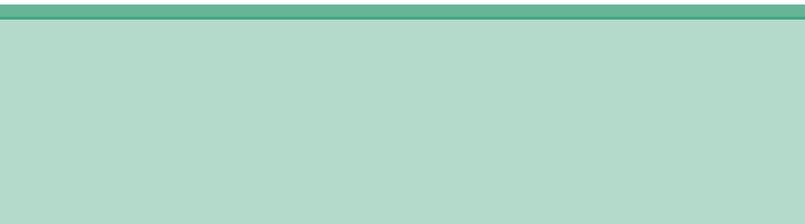


# 2019 Annual Report





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# Ringette Saskatchewan Strategic Plan 2020–2024



## Our Mission

Ringette Saskatchewan governs, promotes, and develops Ringette for all athletes, coaches, officials and Associations providing leadership that fosters a positive sport experience, lifelong participation, and opportunities for the pursuit of excellence.



## Our Vision for the Future

Ringette is the most popular sport among females in the province because it is an inclusive community focused on athlete-centred programming, the growth and development of athletes, and the development of future leaders.



## Our Values

- Teamwork** we believe in working collaboratively in the spirit of good sportsmanship
- Athlete-centered** we support our athletes and strive to provide them with a positive, fun and developmentally appropriate experience
- Excellence** we believe in the pursuit of excellence at all levels for all athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, board and staff
- Honesty** we are open, transparent and accountable for what we do
- Respect** we respect and trust each other as individuals, and we respect the sport and our organization
- Fairness** we are inclusive and supportive and believe in fair play in everything we do
- Life-long friendship** we believe Ringette is more than a game, it is a community



# Ringette Saskatchewan Strategic Plan 2020–2024

## Our Strategic Priorities

These four Strategic Priorities are as follows:

1. Athlete Pathways
2. Coaches and Officials Development
3. Growing Ringette
4. Leadership and Organizational Excellence



## Key Performance Indicators

-  An annual increase of **4%** to the conversation rate for **Come Try Ringette**
-  By **2024** we have a total **1590** registered athletes in Saskatchewan.
-  The overall coaches demographic by **2024** to be **64% female**.
-  Improve our standings annually at the **Western Canadian Ringette Championship**, the **Canadian Ringette Championship**, and **Canada Winter Games for 2023**

# Message from President of Ringette Saskatchewan

## Leanne Walter

I struggle to put to paper my thoughts about the 2019/2020 season. Words that come to mind are evolving, challenging, unbelievable, stressful... but I think the word that best describes it would be collaborative.

It began at a National level during the Ringette Canada AGM in Ottawa in September. The AGM provided the opportunity to meet the other Presidents and the Executive Directors from across the country, initiate discussions, ask questions and establish or reinforce relationships that would prove to be invaluable in the months ahead. The information sessions were informative but the time spent informally with the other Presidents allowed me to discuss the challenges we all face and begin to approach those challenges from a collaborative national effort instead of duplicating efforts individually. The need for a national brand for our sport and a national marketing effort were a big part of the discussion and something we all agreed was necessary to continue to promote and grow the sport across the country. Work on this has started, before COVID-19 became the priority, and we hope to re-focus on this priority early into the new season.

The relationships and collaborative spirit that evolved from the AGM would prove to be invaluable when the COVID-19 pandemic began in March. Presidents and Executive Directors from across the nation looked to each other to determine what was happening, when it was happening and how it would impact the other provinces and more importantly, our members nationwide. As a group, in discussions with Ringette Canada, the Presidents made the extremely difficult decision to suspend sanctioned ringette activities – a much easier decision when made together than made in isolation.

We have all been in constant communication since then discussing the best approach to re-opening. Ringette Canada facilitated the development of a National Direction for Return to Ringette which heavily relied on the input from each Province's Executive Directors. The implementation of the Return to Ringette will vary in timing across the country as different municipalities implement different restrictions within facilities but it will roll out in the safest way possible for all of our participants. We will continue to work together to provide the best programming possible to our members during these uncertain times.

Collaboration was also key within our province with our most important initiatives this year. A committee was formed with representation from all associations to discuss and create our Children's Ringette program. The introduction of this program marks the beginning of our alignment to the recommendations from Ringette Canada's Competition Review and will hopefully allow for stronger development and more meaningful play for our new and youngest athletes.

Our provincial association Presidents were also involved in the discussions regarding our return to ringette plan. Their questions, concerns and input regarding municipal constraints was imperative in its formulation and to ensure acceptance and compliance of our provincial plans and guidelines.

So while the season 2019/2020 ended in such an abrupt manner amid confusion and concern, I look to the positives from the past few months. I am proud of the high level of collaboration, communication and effort of all members provincially as well as nationally within our Ringette Community. It gives me great confidence that we are in the best position possible to move forward into the next season.

Thank-you to everyone who has participated and provided input, as well as those who have showed patience and trust as we crawl through the uncertainty of the months ahead. Together, we will create the best and safest plan to get and keep everyone on the ice – even if it has to look a little different for a while.

Yours in sport,

*Leanne Walter*

President, Ringette Association of Saskatchewan



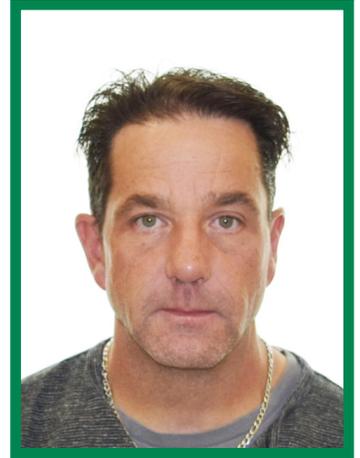
# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Leanne Walters**  
President



**Stephanie  
Karpan**



**Aaron  
Armstrong**



**Denise Corbin**



**Bre McAdams**



**Paul Benson**



**Sam Sielski**

Thank you to Denise Corbin for serving on our Board for the last two years. This is not goodbye to Denise as she will be one of the Children's Ringette leads for Buffalo Plains. We wish you luck in your new role and we look forward to working with you in another capacity.

Thank you to Sam Sielski who served on our Board for consecutive terms as the SRA Representative. Sam unfortunately made the tough decision to step away from our Board on June 6th as she needed to focus her time on her Masters. We wish you the best of luck in your studies.

# Celebrating our Achievements and Award Recipients

## **RAS Coach of the year**

Christen Benson – Buffalo Plains Ringette

## **RAS Senior Official of the year**

Anya Ostryzniuk – Saskatoon Ringette

## **RAS Junior Official of the year**

Jaylynn Quail – Saskatoon Ringette

## **RAS Scholarship award winner(s)**

Ava Linklater – Saskatoon Ringette



# Championship Results

## 2020 Ringette Saskatchewan Provincial Championships

**A/AA held in Regina, SK.**

<b>U14AA</b>	<b>GOLD</b> BP Rush	<b>SILVER</b> Saskatoon Saints	
<b>U16AA</b>	<b>GOLD</b> Regina Stingers	<b>SILVER</b> Saskatoon Selects	
<b>U16A</b>	<b>GOLD</b> Regina Roar	<b>SILVER</b> Saskatoon Blaze	
<b>U19A</b>	<b>GOLD</b> Regina Ript	<b>SILVER</b> Saskatoon Ice	
<b>U19AA</b>	<b>GOLD</b> Regina Bandits	<b>SILVER</b> Saskatoon Blazers	
<b>Open A</b>	<b>GOLD</b> Regina Chaos	<b>SILVER</b> BP Grit	<b>BRONZE</b> Saskatoon Stealth

**B, Regina, SK.**

<b>U14B</b>	<b>GOLD</b> BP Chaos	<b>SILVER</b> Regina Ravens	<b>BRONZE</b> BP Rampage
<b>U16B</b>	<b>GOLD</b> BP Blitz	<b>SILVER</b> Regina Vipers	<b>BRONZE</b> Regina Lightning
<b>U19B</b>	<b>GOLD</b> Regina Rebels	<b>SILVER</b> BP Phantoms	<b>BRONZE</b> Regina Elite

**2020 Western Canadian Ringette Championships- Prince George, BC  
Cancelled due to COVID**

**2020 Canadian Ringette Championships, Ottawa, ON  
Cancelled due to COVID**



# Organization Highlights

## Athletes

- 142 athletes participated in A/AA Provincial Championships
- 254 athletes participated in B Provincial Championships
- Total 41 teams RAS hosted at our Provincial Championships which was an increase of 7 teams from the previous year
- 8 Come Try Ringette events were held with 94 participants attending. Had a conversion rate of 52.13% that registered for the 2019-20 season
- 2019 summer our Summer Student attended 38 programs in the province with the total amount of participants being 1169. This was an increase of 80 participants from the summer before
- Ringette Saskatchewan's Board of Directors has mandated Children's Ringette for all participants at the U9 level and below for the 2020/21 season.
- Ringette Saskatchewan along with an appointed individual from each local association formed a working group that was responsible for key deliverables for the implementation of Children's Ringette.

## Coaches

- We hosted the CSI Clinic differently this year. We spread it out over two weekday evenings. This was well received with our female membership.
- 57 coaches received training in 4 CSI clinics
- 47 coaches received training in 4 CI clinics
- 21 coaches received evaluations and became CI certified

## Officials

- Refresher year so 4 instructors received training from Trevor Sorrell
- 39 Officials attended the Level 2/3 & 4/5 Refresher
- 34 Officials attended Level 1 & Level 1 Refresher
- 28 officials were evaluated in Level 1
- 13 officials were evaluated in Level 2
- 4 officials were evaluated in Level 3
- 1 official was evaluated in Level 4
- A/AA Provincials we had 9 officials selected with 1 official supervisor
- B Provincials we had 12 officials selected with 1 official supervisor

## High Performance

- July 2019, 7 athletes attended Ringette Canada's La Relève U17 High Performance Camp
- September 2 RAS hosted a Pursuit of Your Excellence Camp that included 4 on ice training sessions and an Injury Prevention Session with SMSC – 29 athletes attended
- 1 official (Aaron Armstrong) was selected to attend the Canadian Ringette Championship as an on-ice official – due to COVID the Championship was not held
- 1 individual (Brenda King) was selected to attend the Canadian Ringette Championship as a shot clock operator - due to COVID the Championship was not held
- Entry fees were paid for each of our A and AA Team Saskatchewan Provincial representatives that attended Western Canadian Ringette Championship as well as the Canadian Ringette Championships - due to COVID the Championship was not held

- Extra funding was also awarded to the A and AA teams that attended Western Canadian Ringette Championship as well as the Canadian Ringette Championships
- Funding was also allocated to A and AA teams who used RAS High Performance Program which partners with Sport Medicine and Science Council
- RAS formed an NRL working group with member representation from each Association. The purpose of this committee will determine the feasibility of Saskatchewan being a license holder in the NRL for the 2021-2022 season.

## Marketing/Promotion

- Children's Ringette section was developed on our website with resources and tools.
- Engagement is increasing on social media platforms
- We held our second 12 days of Christmas Giveaways on our Facebook page. Where every day people had to like our page, answer a Ringette Saskatchewan question to win some Ringette Saskatchewan swag. We saw our page likes increase as well as engagement increased and along the way individuals learned more about Ringette Saskatchewan
- We participated on social media in "Team Name May Madness" with Ringette BC and Ringette Alberta to find the most popular team names in the West. Saw and increase in traffic to our Facebook and Instagram profiles.
- Communication and Marketing plan

## Organizational Excellence

- 2 New Board of Directors were elected at Ringette Saskatchewan's Annual General Meeting
- Policy Changes:
  - Membership Policy
  - B Provincial Championship
  - Withdrawing from a Provincial Championship
  - Official Age moving from 12 years of age to 14,
  - Change Making Ethical Decisions (MED) requirements for junior coaches to be certified 16 years of age
  - At least one member of each bench staff must be certified in First Aid and CPR
  - Appeal Policy
  - Dispute Resolution Policy
- Strategic Plan working group formed with representation from each Association in November. New 4-year Strategic Plan approved March.
- New operating plans were developed that were priority focused
- Key Performance Indicators were developed and will shift our operations and help lead communication during RAS Board meetings.
- Safe Sport has been a focus with new resources added to our website, Respect in Sport Policy enforced closer, and more communication around the importance of Rule of Two
- Map Funding of \$43,300 was allocated to our four Associations
- Summer Student Federal Grant approved for the 2020 summer but due to COVID we did not continue with this grant opportunity.

# MEMBERSHIP 2019-2020

TOTAL # OF TEAMS IN SK BY DIVISION AND ASSOCIATION					
DIVISION	RRA	SRA	BPRA	PA	TOTAL
LTP	1	2	1	0	4
U9	3	5	2	1	11
U10	6	7	4	0	17
U12B	6	7	3	0	16
U12A	1	0	1	0	2
U14B	4	3	3	1	11
U14A	1	1	0	0	2
U14AA	0	1	1	0	2
U16B	3	3	1	0	2
U16A	1	1	0	0	2
U16AA	1	1	0	0	2
U19B	2	2	1	0	5
U19A	1	1	0	0	2
U19AA	1	1	0	0	2
18+C	6	2	1	0	9
18+B	1	3	1	1	6
18+A	2	3	1	0	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>106</b>

COACHES	
RRA	144
SRA	142
BPRA	83
PA	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>373</b>



SASK TOTAL			
AGE DIVISIONS	FEMALE PLAYERS	MALE PLAYERS	TOTAL 2018-2019
LTP	64	4	68
U9	124	3	127
U10	202	2	204
U12	243	0	243
U14	179	2	181
U16	131	1	132
U19	136	1	137
18+	362	16	378
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1441</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1470</b>



OFFICIALS BY LEVEL AND ASSOCIATION					
	RRA	SRA	BPRA	PA	TOTAL
LEVEL 1	14	24	13	0	51
LEVEL 2	8	4	5	0	17
LEVEL 3	4	2	2	0	8
LEVEL 4	5	2	1	0	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>84</b>



# RAS Associations Presidents Reports

## Regina Ringette

### Past President - Jayda McMillan

While the abrupt ending to the season came with much disappointment to everyone due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, we still have much to celebrate after a successful season. Our teams did well in competition and the overall feedback from our membership was positive. We really cannot say for sure what next season will look like. We have made the decision to proceed with AA and A coaching selection as well as player registration. We felt it was best to do this and make changes as necessary rather than scramble at the last minute to get things underway. We may have to look at making some changes to accommodate safe distancing requirements, but we will move forward in some way.

We continue to offer development opportunities for player such as goalie development, skating and skills development. This year we were offered some early morning ice time so decided to try doing a skills session that was offered to players in U14, U12 and U10. Based on feedback from our year end survey, those who participated in them have found them to be beneficial and hope to continue taking advantage of them. Thanks to Brad Wenger for volunteering his time to run the morning skills program.

Once again, this summer we find ourselves in search of a new home for the Regina Ringette headquarters. We had entered into a month to month rental agreement at our current location in the old GM plant on Winnipeg St. The city has decided to stop all repairs to this building and all tenants were asked to vacate by December 2020. Our board has been exploring options for a new home and the intention is to find a new space during the summer.

Because of the physical distancing requirements, we were not able to finish the league play-offs so the medals were given to the teams who finished in the top 3 (top 4 in U10) at the end of the regular season games. Please refer to the commissioner reports to see those results.

For the third year, RRA hosted a tournament in November for the A and AA teams in U16 and U19. This year the Open A division was also included. Once again, the tournament was very successful – hosting 24 teams! It was especially exciting to see a team from Kelowna travel to play here. We are very excited that this tournament has quickly become one that teams look forward to attending. With the uncertainty of the way things are, there is no way to know if we will be able to host this tournament this year, but I am confident that when it does get back up and running, it will continue to be successful.

The board of directors was presented with an opportunity to run a trial of a “Coach the Coach” program. It was presented and then once approved was also directed by Mike Wiens and John Dumaine. “The program will enhance a coach’s skillset and in turn, improve athlete development. The program will also provide a ringette coach community for support and camaraderie”. Experienced Support coaches were matched up with new coaches in U8 and U10. Below is a brief summary of the program, provided by the program directors:

*“... teams who participated in the program used the information provided to improve their athletes’ skills and build coaching support around them. Our focus in the trial was to acquire what we believe are the right type of coaches who are open to learning a system and developing player’s skills. Overall, based on survey results and one on one conversations with coaches and Support Coaches, the program was well received and liked.”*

I would like to acknowledge and thank the amazing coaches in our league. So many of you go so far above and beyond what you are expected to do and you are truly making a huge difference in the lives of these girls you are leading. Thank you for being their teachers, their mentors and for being their friends. Thank you for all of the little extra things you do – planning events for your players that have nothing to do with learning a ringette skill and more to do with learning life skills is just as valuable to them. Keep up the great work. You are the reason these girls continue to come back every year. And lastly, thank you for helping each other. Providing an ear or some advice to another coach who may be struggling is another invaluable way you make a difference.

I would also like to thank the other members of our board. Nobody realizes the time and effort that this group puts in to run this league. It is not just about attending meetings. So many hours are spent on phone calls, emails and text messages, discussing, planning, organizing, and making tough decisions. Keep up the great work.

# RAS Associations Presidents Reports

## Regina Ringette

### President - Mike Wiens

Since the AGM, the board has been preparing for the 20/21 season. This includes creating league temporary operational COVID19 guidelines. Sources included the provincial government, Ringette Canada and Ringette Sask. The guidelines, although fluid, will be helpful for all participants as they head back to the rink. The newly created position of Safety Officer, held by John Dumaine, will help the board adapt to new or modified government and facility guidelines.

It's been recognized that RRA membership numbers have been decreasing at an increasing rate. To understand the forces behind these losses, the director of marketing, Darin Degenstein, has been given an expanded mandate. Specifically, he is to research the condition of the association and recommend corrective steps. Complimenting these actions will be the development and execution of a strategic marketing plan.

The RRA board has recently retained the services of board governance consultant Wayne Hellequist of Future Quest. It is hoped that, with Wayne's guidance, the board will be more effective and productive.

*Mike*



# RAS Associations Presidents Reports

## Saskatoon Ringette

### President- Audrey Sanders

What a year! The Saskatoon Ringette Association (SRA) player registration reached an all time high with 567 players. It is so great to see our community growing and the love we all share for ringette reaching new athletes and families. SRA spent its first year operating in our revised board and committee structure. And we had an unfortunate end of the year with COVID-19 and the subsequent pandemic cutting off the end of the season.

The SRA Board kicked off this year with a board orientation led by Past President, Kim Brown. In terms of governance and the board restructure, SRA finalized terms of reference for each board position and all the committees. This is one more step towards completing the governance review which began in 2017-18. This review is intended to assist the board in working more efficiently and effectively, thus better serving our membership. This has been a multi-year project with numerous contributors and a lot of hard work. Thank you to everyone, past and present, who has kept this initiative moving forward.

SRA participated in a couple of initiatives led by Ringette Saskatchewan. These working groups have included providing feedback on the new 5 year Strategic Plan for the province and some work around Children's Ringette and what we will be doing province wide to support Long Term Athletic Development. There will be more to come in 2020/21 around these two initiatives. Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to all the board members for their time and energy

in supporting the work of SRA. My heartfelt thanks to:

Aaron Norum - Treasurer, Carmen Hesje – Fundamentals, Craig Hinz - Conduct, Jade Gulash - Marketing & Fundraising (resigned), Julie Mutch - Tournament, Kim Brown - Past President, Lori Flamand – Active Start, Mel Brockman - Athlete Development, Michelle Correia - Coach Development, Rachele Zapisocki - Competitive, and Susan Smith - Community.

Thank you to all the members who have volunteered to support the work of the board by participating in our board committees. And thank you to our two Liaisons, Cara Hunchak (Warman) and Chris Thiessen (Referee). Thank you to Brenda King for her hard work and support in the office. Thank you to Shayla Duquette for handling all of our certifications, codes of conduct and equipment.

And a final thank you to all the coaches, managers, trainers, referees, parents, volunteers and, of course, the players for your passion and dedication to our sport and community! I'm looking forward to next year.



# RAS Associations Presidents Reports

## Buffalo Plains Ringette

### President – Amanda Dauk

The 2019-20 ringette season was an extraordinary one. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic response, the season was cut short in early March just days into the play-offs. The decision to end the season early came very suddenly and was quite upsetting for our membership. Although it was difficult, this decision ensured the health and safety of our officials, coaches, players and their families, and that is ultimately most important.

Public Health Orders prevented our teams from having wind-ups, and from our association hosting a volunteer appreciation night. The current situation is unprecedented, and it was difficult to not close the season as we normally would. Although we can't thank you our membership in person, the Board appreciates the whole team of individuals who helped to make BPRA ringette successful. From the coaches, managers, and treasurers who ensure the team experience is a great one for the athletes, and the parents for spending endless hours traveling to and from the rinks; the grandparents, friends and family who come to cheer their players on; the officials who are integral to the sport; and the trainers and mentors who pass on their skills, contributing to the development and growth of the sport in so many ways – we thank you!

BPRA had 264 ringette players registered for the 2019/2020 season. Although this number was an 11% decrease from last year, BPRA saw growth with 32 new ringette players. We had 18 head coaches, 53 assistant coaches and 2 junior coaches; with 14 of these coaches being new to coaching ringette. Seven of our 16 teams had females as head coaches making it easy to accommodate the mandatory female on the bench rule. BPRA has a lot of excellent coaches that bring a lot of knowledge to make our athletes the best they can be.

The 2019 December Charge tournament hosted 40 teams and used the Balgonie, White City, and Pilot Butte rinks. The decreased number of teams compared to previous years allowed us to keep the teams within our BPRA facilities and generate more focus on our host communities. We had lots of support from local businesses, and we are truly grateful for the contribution of our sponsors and from everyone involved. Numerous changes were implemented in the 2019 tournament, including the adoption of a digital-only schedule and results board, as well as a 3-on-3 skills portion for the U12 teams. The 2020 tournament is planned for December 4-6. BPRA will continue evaluating the impact of COVID-19 to ensure it is appropriate for the association to host a tournament in 2020.

To close the season, Regina Ringette decided to award the championship medals to the teams who finished at the top of their divisions at the end of league play. This was a strong finish for BPRA as all teams from U10 to U19 received a gold medal, and in some divisions a silver and bronze as well. BPRA was well represented at tournaments in neighboring provinces as well as at home in SK, bringing home medals from all of them. The U14AA Rush won gold at the A/AA provincials making them Team SK for Westerns in BC; unfortunately, due to COVID-19 the Western Canadian Ringette Championship was cancelled. We'd like to congratulate these teams, but also every team in our association. Whether you were awarded a medal or not, we hope you had a fun season playing ringette, and look forward to your return next year.

This season we welcomed new Board members who brought fresh perspectives to how we operate as an association, and we said farewell to others who contributed their time and effort to making BPRA successful. With three of the four executive positions having new incumbents this season, we were thankful to have the veteran members who were able to share their knowledge, ensuring continuity and sustainability of the Buffalo Plains Ringette Association. In June 2019, we voted in a constitution, and since then we have worked hard to create and update a number of policies which have allowed our association to operate more effectively. We know we still have more work ahead. In the coming months, BPRA will become incorporated, which is a big step for our association. This change aligns us with Ringette Saskatchewan's directive and helps to further ensure the sustainability of BPRA.

There is some uncertainty on what the new 'normal' will look like in the sporting world, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Whatever the future holds, BPRA will do whatever it can to lessen the impact to its membership, ensuring a safe and fun return to play for the seasons ahead. Stay healthy everyone!

# RAS Associations Presidents Reports

## Prince Albert Ringette

Prince Albert has some eager participants but are still looking at ways to grow. Currently, they are not only trying to recruit on ice participants, but also trying to recruit new board members.

This year they had one team enter the City of Bridges Tournament. They also had their Open division attend Ringette Saskatchewan's B Provincial Championships.

If you're interested in getting involved with Prince Albert Ringette in anyway please contact [princealbertringette@outlook.com](mailto:princealbertringette@outlook.com)



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**Thank you.**

**The Ringette Association of Saskatchewan Inc. would like to take this opportunity to recognize the support of Saskatchewan Lotteries. It is through your support, we can continue to offer opportunities for our individuals to play, excel, and succeed.**



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