

2021-22 ANNUAL REPORT



RINGETTE
SASKATCHEWAN

DARENDERS
PHOTOGRAPHY

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Message from President of Ringette Saskatchewan

The 2021-2022 season started with uncertainties as nobody knew what this year would hold, but we all forged on with the hopes of getting back to “normal”. Coaches were appointed, teams were formed, season plans were created, and it was all systems go! Regular seasons were close to normal, with a few more affiliated players required than we were used to for games here and there. Tournaments proved the most challenging because teams often struggled to put together complete teams, and some larger tournaments we have all become accustomed to attending were unfortunately cancelled. Cancellations were disappointing for everyone involved. The players didn’t get to play, and the parents felt the child’s disappointment.

Furthermore, tournament committees completed hours and hours of planning to get these events underway but saw their efforts go for not. The cancelled tournaments added many hours to the coaches’ and managers’ volunteer lives by setting up impromptu meetings and make-up games. COVID-19 was still “a thing” for much of the season, as much as everyone had hoped it was over.

With events like the Esso Golden Ring in Calgary being cancelled, there were quite a few reservations about Provincials, Westerns, Nationals, Jamborees, and other season wrap-up events taking place. Coaches, managers, athletes, and ringette families forged on and found ways to compete, continuing their plans and working towards their goals. The players were fortunate enough to finish up their year with the events that hadn’t been an option for two seasons, finally happening again!

Over the provincial weekend in Regina, a Children’s Ringette Jamboree was held simultaneously, and I was approached by many parents who had young athletes playing. Each family was thrilled that their young players could play in the event with the older ages to be playing that weekend in the same facility. There was an incredible buzz about the rink, and it was amazing to be a part of it. At one point during the weekend, I noticed a young player posing to have her mom take her picture beside Ringette Saskatchewan’s Fastest Game on Ice banner. She had wrapped up her Jamboree games for the weekend and had her medal around her neck. She held that medal out in her hand so it could be seen clearly in the picture, and there was pure joy in that ear-to-ear grin. She was beaming with pride, and that moment reassured us that the weekend was a success for our sport.

Our province was lucky enough to host the Western Canadian Ringette Championships in Regina in the spring, which was an incredible event. I received a phone call from a friend that weekend to tell me that they couldn’t believe how much passion and team spirit there is in our sport, as they were at The Cooperators Center for another event and couldn’t help but get caught up in the action! This was a very cool call and one that made me proud to be involved in this ringette world.

The last couple of years of Covid-19 has been an experience that none of us will ever forget, and we all can’t help but hope that we never run again into a pandemic like this. Many of our children and the athletes missed out on competing in some of what could have been the most exciting events in their ringette careers. Those are memories we can never give back to those players but seeing so many aspects of the seasons back to what they used to be was a breath of fresh air.

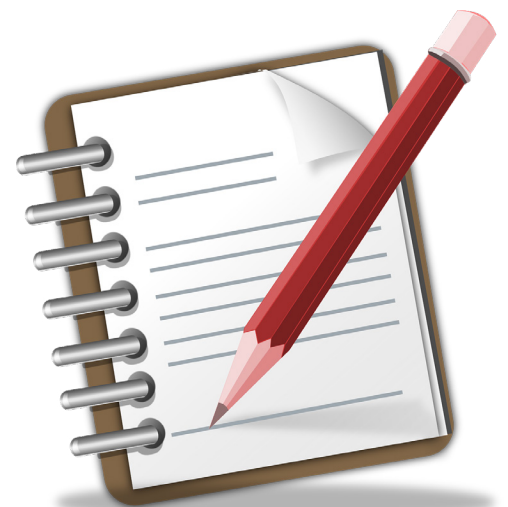
Our great sport is full of amazing people, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that was involved for simply powering through and finding a way this season. Thank you to everyone from coaches to managers, players to parents, and volunteers to supporters/spectators. The countless hours coaches and managers put into making the season and competitions happen over the past year are appreciated. Thanks to the parents who registered their children in ringette after a season cut short in early 2020 and one full of new rules and restrictions in 2020-2021. Without the volunteers that put in the dedication and effort, we wouldn’t have a season for the athletes to play in. Without the volunteers, our players wouldn’t have our sport to play. Your efforts are appreciated, and I look forward to a great 2022-2023 season!

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Paul Benson

President Ringette Saskatchewan.
Play it. Love it. Live it.



Board of Directors and Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS	STAFF
PAUL BENSON, PRESIDENT	MICHAEL SMITH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TARA CLEMETT, VICE-PRESIDENT	CARRIE LIVINGSTONE, TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
AARON ARMSTRONG	
ABBIE TRESLAN	
LORELEY CHEKAY	
SHEA MOONEY	

Letter of Thanks to Leanne Walter

Ringette Saskatchewan thanks Leanne Walter for her years of service as Director and President of the Board of Directors. Leanne's tenure as President was marked by navigating the ever-changing COVID-19 public health orders. She worked closely with the Board of Directors, Sask Sport, and Ringette Canada to put blades on the ice. Her tireless efforts advocating on behalf of ringette were a significant reason why ringette steered the return to sport in Saskatchewan.

Ringette Saskatchewan will miss working with Leanne, but we will stay in touch.





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

Athlete Pathways

To develop and provide quality and developmentally appropriate athlete development, pathways, and programs that provide opportunities for athletes at all levels from introduction to high performance. Athletes will have an optimal environment to learn and enjoy the game while pursuing their own definition of success at all levels.

Coaches and Officials Development

To recruit, develop, advance, and retain athlete-centred coaches and officials at all levels.

Growing Ringette

To increase awareness of the sport and Ringette Saskatchewan brand visibility to make the public more aware of the sport, attract new players, and grow the sport.

Leadership and Organisational Excellence

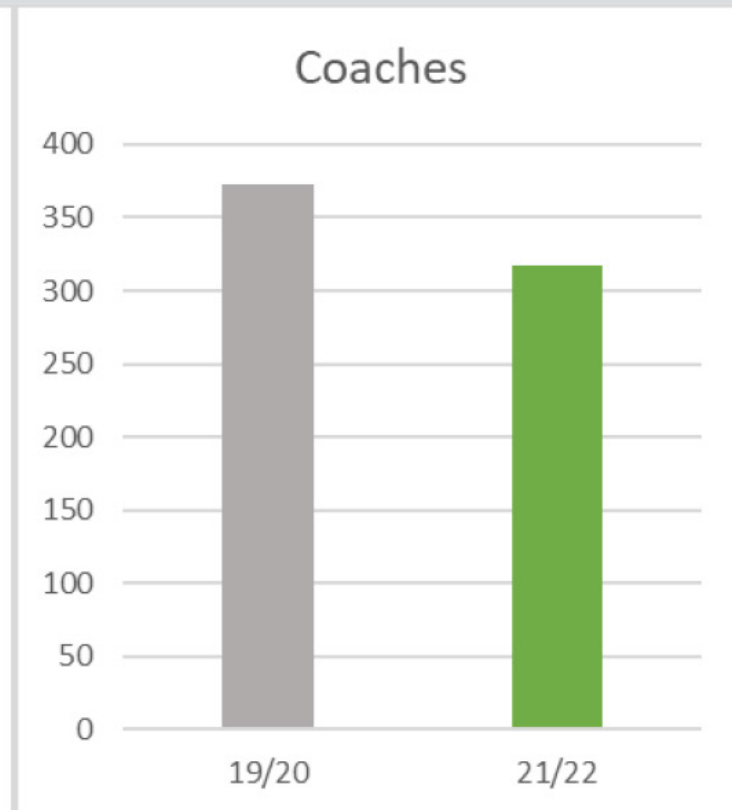
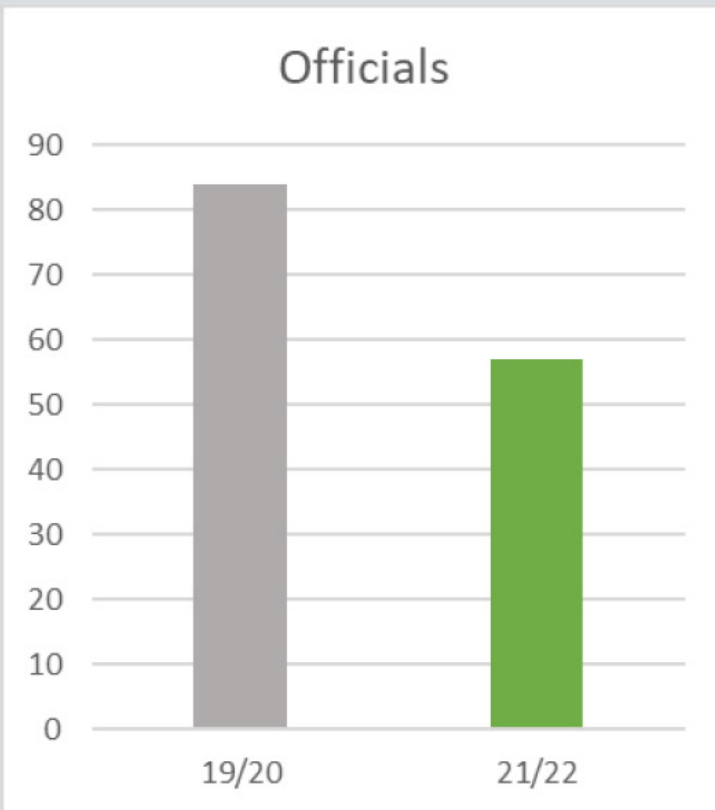
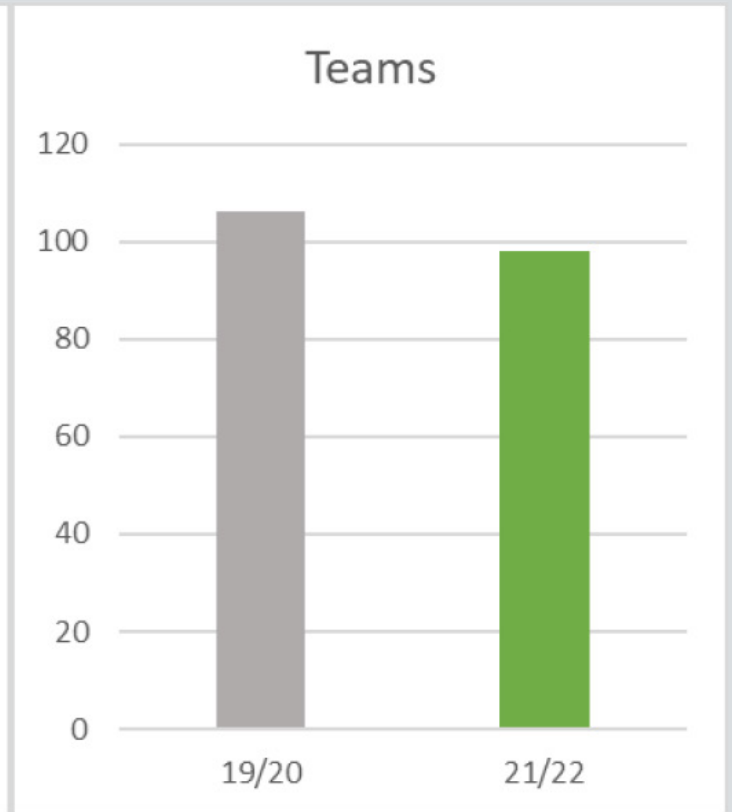
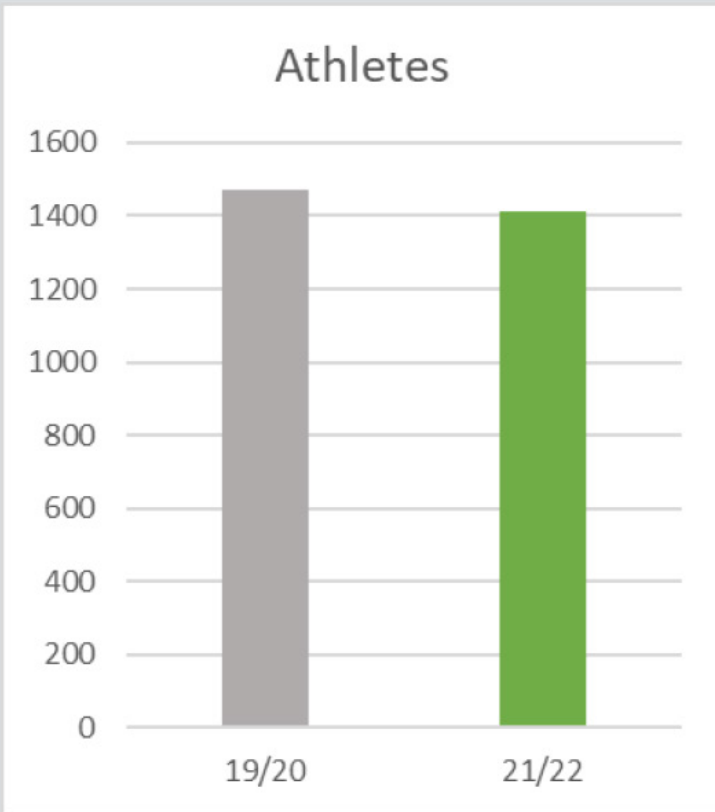
To provide effective and professional leadership, governance, and administration, contributing to building capacity and advancing Ringette in Saskatchewan. We will focus on accountability to our members and continuous improvement.



Key Performance Indicators

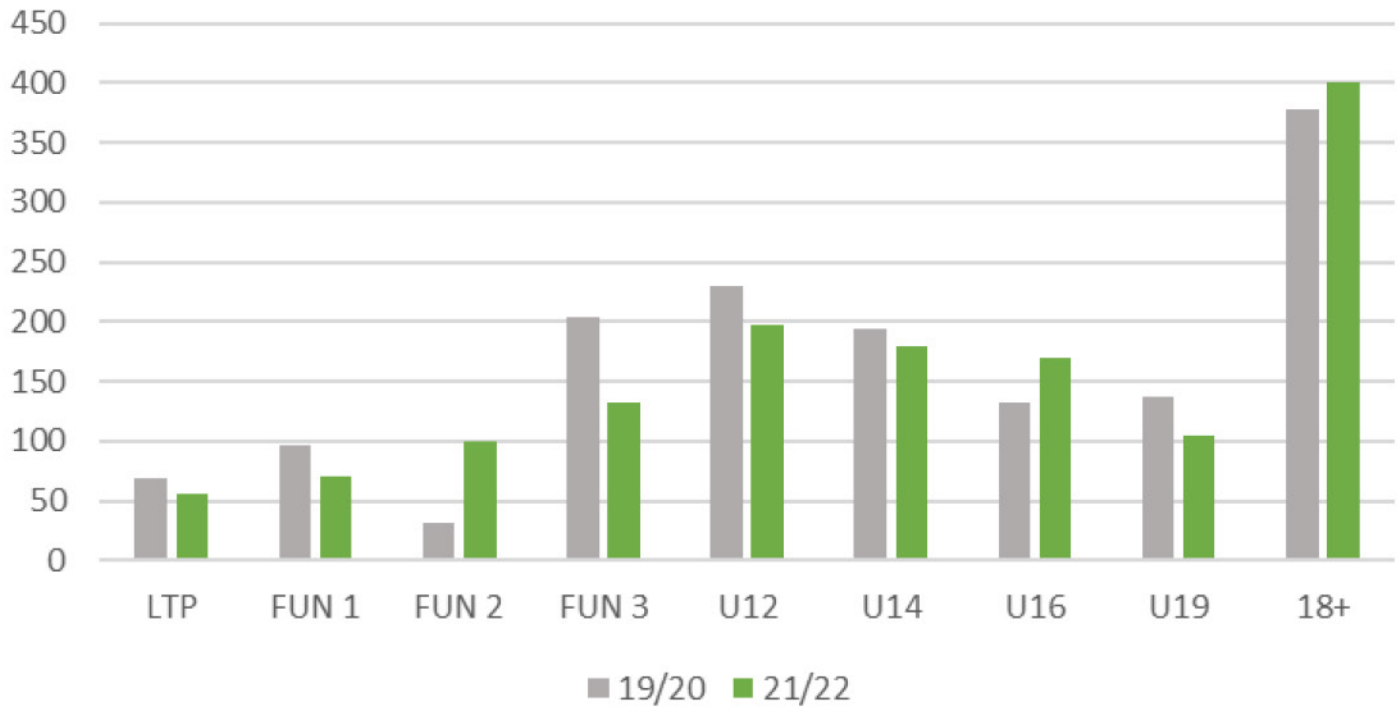
-  An **annual increase of 4%** to the **conversion rate** for **Come Try Ringette**
-  By **2024** we have a total **1590** registered athletes in Saskatchewan.
-  The overall **coaches demographic** by **2024** to be **64% female**.
-  **Improve our standings annually** at the **Western Canadian Ringette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

Membership 2021-2022 Statistics

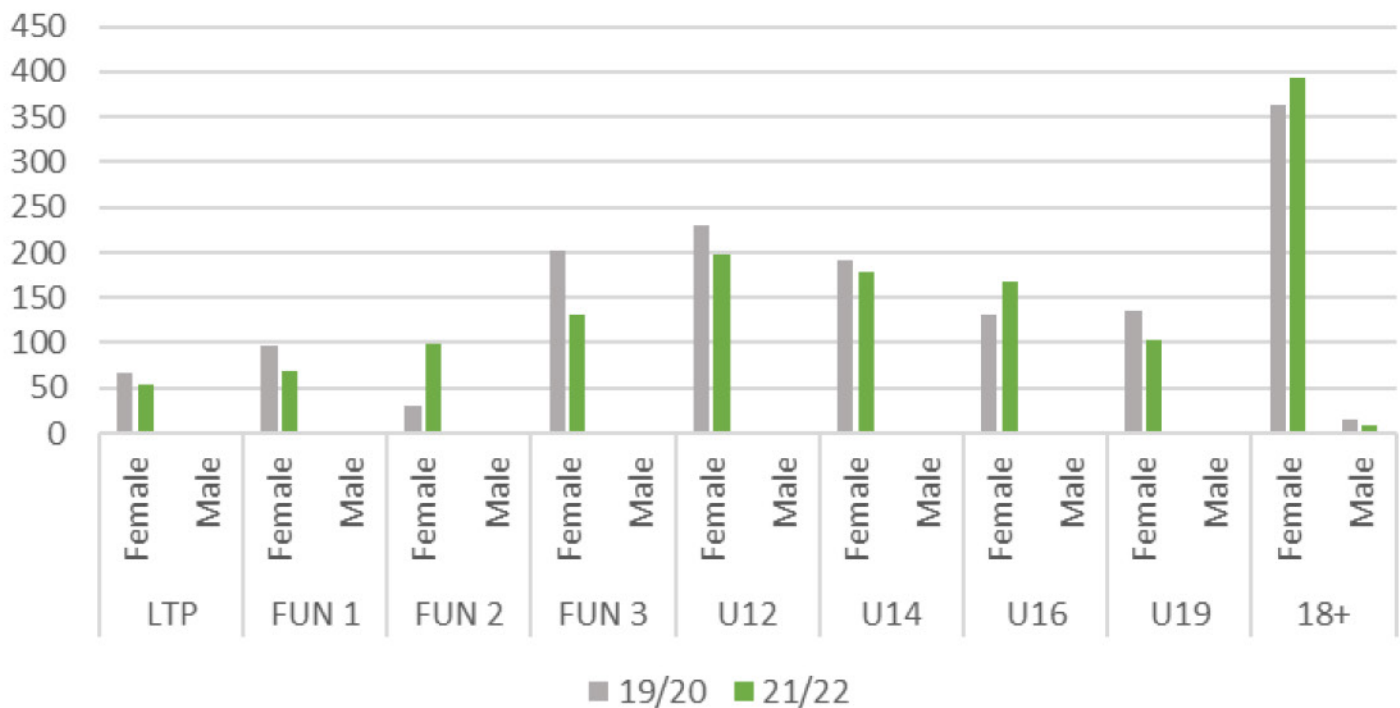


Membership 2021-2022 Statistics Continued...

Athletes by Division



Athletes by Gender



Championship Results

2022 Ringette Saskatchewan Provincial Champions

- A/AA Regina
- U14AA Buffalo Plains Rush
- U16AA Regina Stingers
- U19AA Regina Bandits
- 18+A Regina Chaos
- B Saskatoon
- U14B Regina Predators
- U16B Buffalo Plains Blitz
- 18+B Saskatoon Comeback Queens



2022 Western Canadian Ringette Championships - Regina

- U14AA Team Saskatchewan – Buffalo Plains Rush – 4th Place
- U14AA Team Host – Saskatoon Saints – 6th Place
- U16A Team Saskatchewan – Regina Roar – 5th Place
- U19A Team Saskatchewan – Regina RIPT – 5th Place
- 18+A Team Saskatchewan – Buffalo Plains Grit – 4th Place
- 18+A Team Host – Buffalo Plains Elite – Bronze

2022 Canadian Ringette Championships - Calgary, AB

- U16AA Team Saskatchewan – Regina Stingers – 8th Place
- U16AA Saskatoon Selects – 15th Place
- U19AA Team Saskatchewan – Regina Bandits – 14th Place
- U19AA Saskatoon Blazers – 18th Place
- NRL Saskatchewan Heat – 12th Place

Championship Special Awards

2022 Western Canadian Ringette Championships All-Star Awards

- U14AA** London Clemett – Defense – Team Saskatchewan
- U16A** Janey Tremblay – Forward – Team Saskatchewan
- U19A** Cassie Duck – Defense – Team Saskatchewan
- 18+A** Bryn Jones – Centre – Buffalo Plains Elite
- 18+A** Kristen Chekay – Defense – Team Saskatchewan
- 18+A** Karleigh Taylor – Forward – Team Saskatchewan



2022 Canadian Ringette Championships – All-Star Awards

- U16AA 2nd Team** Cadence Howe – Goaltender – Team Saskatchewan
- U19AA 2nd Team** Maddy Nystrom – Goaltender – Team Saskatchewan



Cadence Howe



Maddy Nystrom

Recognition and Technical Awards

RAS Coach of the Year

Marshal Verhelst (Regina Ringette)

RAS Senior Official of the Year

Tanya Jones (Regina Ringette)

RAS Junior Official of the Year

Marissa Joyce (Regina Ringette)

RAS Volunteer of the Year

Darrin Kruger (Saskatchewan Heat)

RAS Scholarship Award Winners

- **Anya Sigurdson** (Saskatoon Ringette)
- **Jaylynn Quail** (Saskatoon Ringette)
- **Lily Jackson** (Regina Ringette)
- **Rylie Bryden** (Regina Ringette)



Ringette Canada Hall of Fame

In November 2021, Terry McAdam was inducted into Ringette Canada's Hall of Fame. Terry is the fifth person from Saskatchewan to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Terry's involvement in ringette started like many – being a ringette Dad.

Terry's dedication to ringette is limitless, with a lengthy list of accomplishments:

- Coaching at every age and level of play
- Builder of the NRL in Saskatoon, coaching, organising, and fundraising for the Saskatoon Wild
- Starting an NRL team in those days required much extra time and effort to build the league and create partnerships and connections.
- Event organiser – numerous local tournaments, and the 2009 Western Canadian Championships, the 2010 Canadian Championships
- Board member and actively involved in the local, provincial, and national ringette associations
- Mentor to players, coaches, and fellow board members, myself included

Ringette Saskatchewan and its members applauded Terry's induction into Ringette Canada's Hall of Fame and his dedication to promoting the sport.

Organization Highlights

Athletes

- 15 Come Try Ringette events were held in 5 communities throughout the season, with 232 registered participants.
- Children's Ringette continued to be implemented at the Fundamentals 1 and 2 levels (previously U8 and U9) and was introduced at the Fundamentals 3 level (previously U10). There were 303 athletes and 27 teams registered in Children's Ringette throughout the Province. Children's Ringette guidelines and resources were updated throughout the season to include Fundamentals 3, and a Frequently Asked Questions document was released.
- Holly Kozan (Saskatchewan Heat) was selected to Ringette Canada's Junior National Team, competing at the World Ringette Championships in Finland in Fall 2022.
- 3 Saskatchewan athletes were invited to Ringette Canada's U17 La Relève event in Nova Scotia in July 2022 – Jetta McCrae (Saskatoon), Peyton Weisgarber (Buffalo Plains), and Taylor Johnston (Regina).
- A/AA and B Provincial Championships returned this season. A total of 527 athletes competed in 72 games over two weekends.

Coaches

- Colleen Butz-Purdue (Buffalo Plains) was selected as the first Head Coach of the Saskatchewan Heat NRL team.
- Forty-three coaches attended 4 CSI clinics throughout the province.
- Twenty-nine coaches attended 3 CI clinics throughout the province.
- Fourteen coaches received evaluations and became CI-Certified.
- A/AA and B Provincial Championships returned this season. A total of 96 coaches participated in 72 games over two weekends.

Officials

- Hosted nine Refresher clinics and three Level 1 clinics.
- Total of 57 active officials throughout the province this season.
- Nineteen officials participated in 72 games at A/AA and B Provincial Championships.
- Aaron Armstrong (Saskatoon, official supervisor), Breanna Beals (Regina, on-ice official), and Chelsea Wong (Saskatoon, on-ice official) were selected to attend the 2022 Western Canadian Ringette Championships.
- Aaron Armstrong (Saskatoon, on-ice official) and Brenda King (Saskatoon, shot clock operator) were selected to attend the 2022 Canadian Ringette Championships.
- Allocated three High-Performance Officials Grants to help their drive to officiate the Western Canadian and Canadian Ringette Championships

Organization Highlights Continued

High Performance

National Ringette League

Behind the scenes, there was a lot of work and preparation to get the Heat off the ground. Once there was an established interest in the Heat program, it was full steam ahead. Everything happened so quickly that it was a bit of a whirlwind. Designing logos, team names, jerseys, and pants, developing team guidelines and standards, and booking training events and exhibition games were a few tasks that hit us immediately. However, it came together, and it was a success in my mind.

We knew that the toughest challenge these athletes would face was the lack of NRL playing inexperience, as we only had 3 athletes with previous NRL experience. Everyone from the management team to players jumped into the deep end and started swimming with the big fish.

We had a small tryout group, but the group had the right mix of athletes to make the program a go. Both coaches and athletes learned so much along the way. Each went through some bumps and rough patches, and the losses were not easy to take, but the team found small victories and successes in the little things. The team's consistent efforts paid off because in each game the team played it closed gaps between itself and its opponents, including a win at Nationals against a second-place eastern team. We received so much positive feedback from the other organizations, which confirms what I truly believe, that it was a very successful first year in an incredibly difficult league.

The athletes competed with fierce determination and never once gave up, they won, and they lost with grace and class. With a year of experience under our belt, some great new coaching additions and an increase in numbers trying out for next season, the program is in a good place. Everyone is excited to continue to learn, grow and improve. We will keep fighting and climbing the ladder, enjoying every minute of this incredible opportunity.

Yours in sport,

Colleen Butz-Perdue

Canada Winter Games

Forty-three athletes registered to try out for the team. After the tryout phases, the team pared its current 23 players. The team will participate in four Challenge Cups across the country starting in July. The management team will assess and select the final roster representing Saskatchewan at the Canada Winter Games in Charlottetown, PEI.

Grants

Allocated four High-Performance Funding Grants in the amount of \$450. Ringette Saskatchewan thanks the Sports Medicine and Science Council of Saskatchewan for its generous donation to support the grant. The grant supports Mental Training, Nutrition Training, and Exercise Training.

Organizational Excellence

- Allocated \$46,700 from Sask Sport's Member Assistance Program Grant to the four local ringette associations.
- Joined Ringette Canada's national registration when it contracted with RAMP Interactive.
- Created a Sask Sport's National Sport Trust Fund to support the Canada Winter Games program.
- Collaborated with Sask Sport to incorporate the Saskatchewan Heat into Ringette Saskatchewan's financial reporting.

Desired Outcomes for the 2022-2023 Season

Athlete Pathways



Children's Ringette

Continue to collaborate with the membership to refine the Children's Ringette Guidelines that support the development of physical literacy and Long-Term Athlete Development – Fundamentals 1, Fundamentals 2, and Fundamentals 3.



Excellence

Work with Ringette Canada and Provincial Ringette Organizations to formulate a framework to establish an excellence ringette program. This will help RAS align our high-performance pathway from U16 to Canada Winter Games to the NRL.

Provide technical and administrative support to the NRL's Saskatchewan Heat.

Provide technical and administrative support to the 2023 Canada Winter Games program.

Coaches and Officials Development



Coaches

- Continue developing Children's Ringette resources
- Orchestrate Children's Ringette Coach training
- Provide support and assistance to the Canada Winter Games coaches for their Competition Development certification
- Support training one to two new Coach Learning Facilitators
- Support training one to two new Master Coach Developers



Officials

- Develop a plan to recruit, retain, develop, and advance officials at all levels.
- Continue to support High-Performance officials attending Western Canadian Ringette Championships, Canadian Ringette Championships, and Canada Winter Games.

Growing Ringette

- Continue Come Try Ringette
- Implement Gym Ringette through partnerships with such groups as Dream Brokers, Multicultural Councils, and Municipal recreation departments.
- Continue to leverage the Ringette Canada sponsorship consortium to find new sponsorship or fundraising opportunities for Canada Winter Games and the National Ringette League teams.
- Leverage social media to create brand awareness.

RAS Associations Presidents Reports

Regina Ringette

President -- Jason Hoffart

It was great to return to a more normal season in 2021/22. COVID-19 was still present and played a significant role in the delivery of the season. I want to thank all our volunteers, coaches and players for the flexibility that allowed RRA to complete a successful season.

During the summer of 2021, RRA moved our website and registration to a Teamlink-hosted site. We had some initial issues to work through and have resolved most issues, and hopefully, our association will see the benefits of this change.

We kicked off our season in August 2021 with a 3-on-3 tournament; we also hosted three other tournaments that were very successful. The season concluded with RRA hosting the Western Canadian Ringette Championships. None of these well-run events could have been completed without our fantastic group of volunteers.

2022 saw the return of our annual volunteer appreciation night; this was an opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to making the season possible. During this event, four individuals were honoured with RRA lifetime achievement awards for their passion for growing the sport in Regina. The four people receiving the awards this year were Marcel Garnier, Lorna Kathol, Larry Way and posthumously Linda Ostryzniuk.

The registration numbers for the season were strong, and we had our highest numbers since 2017. We continue to work hard to increase these numbers and look to continue growing the sport in our area. We will be running many come-try ringette events (even in Moose Jaw) through the fall and hope to continue to see increased registrations.

In May 2022, RRA was selected to host the 2023 Canadian Ringette Championships. We look forward to organising a fantastic event and welcoming the ringette community across Canada to our city.

Jason Hoffart

President, Regina Ringette Association



RAS Associations Presidents Reports

Saskatoon Ringette

President – Nicole Pearson

The 2021/2022 season was full of many unknowns and constant changes as we navigated through it, learning about new policies and procedures set out by each province and facility that would allow our athletes to return to the game. The board and office worked hard to inform members about these changes, and the feedback we experienced most was excitement and overall readiness to see our athletes back on ice. Seeing those smiles as the masks came off towards the end of the season and the comfort of being able to be at the rinks again was incredible.

Our members were able to participate in an entire season of practices, league games, and tournaments – both in and out of province. Tournaments included the Provincials, Westerns and National Championships. We want to thank all our Coaches, Managers, Referees, Parents and Volunteers for working through every change and providing our athletes with a positive playing experience as we found our “new normal” back on the ice.

Despite coming out of a pandemic, our association saw growth in the registration numbers of our younger divisions. SRA's commitment to work hard with our membership to retain/attract new players in our older divisions continues to be a goal.

The season allowed us to utilise our updated board/committee structures, and after review, we decided to increase our numbers on the board in the interest of adding additional support. We split the tournament position back in two so each SRA event would have its own lead. SRA also added a member-at-large position to aid with a new volunteer policy to be implemented in the 2022/2023 season. We are excited to continue working on developing new ideas and incorporating changes that will support and develop our athletes.

Updates are being made to the website and our email system as we move into next season. SRA works hard to ensure our communication and connection with our members and the public remain seamless.

Ringette lines are being added to the Merlis Belsher Place in Saskatoon, allowing our association the opportunity to play/host events in a new facility this season.

A special thank you to our exiting board members; your years of dedication and work in serving on the board have truly been appreciated. Thank you to Brenda King for her continued hard work and support in the office. We look forward to the 2022/2023 season and all the beautiful memories we will create with our Ringette families. See you at the rinks!

Yours in sport,

Nicole Pearson

President, Saskatoon Ringette Association



RAS Associations Presidents Reports

Buffalo Plains Ringette

President – Cara Kirkham

The 2021-2022 season was a welcome change to the 2019-2021 seasons. BPRA followed all public health orders by the government, RAS, and the local rinks. RAS implemented a Proof of Vaccination policy for all players 12 and up. Each team had a safety/COVID rep responsible for collecting these POVs. No issues arose from this policy, so kudos to all members of our association!

There were 266 registered players this season, and we welcomed 26 new players; both increased from the previous season.

The BPRA Fall Skills camp was replaced by Fall 3-on-3, and we ran Spring 3-on-3 for the first time since 2019! Both sessions saw 60 registrants across the U12, U14 and U16/U19 divisions.

Teams in the U14 + divisions attended out-of-province tournaments. At the same time, the U12 and below were permitted to attend all province-wide tournaments, again a welcome change to no tournaments in the previous season. Our December Charge tournament ran again this season and was met with enthusiasm and great feedback!

Behind the scenes, we felt challenges due to open board and commissioner roles, forcing members to take on more responsibility and fill those gaps to ensure the season was successful.

Some exciting changes actively worked on during this season that will be seen in the 2022-23 season are a new logo, a new website, and earlier evaluations and team selection process.

Each season new lessons are learned, and this one is no exception. I am grateful to be working alongside a great committee and look forward to bringing improvements and efficiencies to the 2022-23 season.

Keep an eye on our BPRA social media accounts for exciting news and announcements through the summer months.

Sincerely,

Cara Kirkham

President

Buffalo Plains Ringette Association





RINGETTE
SASKATCHEWAN

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Thank you.

The Ringette Association of Saskatchewan would like to take this opportunity to recognise the support of Saskatchewan Lotteries. Through your support, we can continue to offer opportunities for our individuals to play, excel, and succeed.



SASK LOTTERIES

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