



RINGETTE
SASKATCHEWAN

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-23



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Message from the President

The 2022-2023 season was a success in so many ways, I am not even sure where to start!

The Saskatchewan ringette season was filled with action from our youngest age divisions to our oldest. It was the third season for our amazing Children’s Ringette program and our Saskatchewan Heat completed their second season in the National Ringette League! The season was filled with home tournaments, travel tournaments, and meet in the middles. Our SaskFirst team was very competitive at the Canada Winter Games bringing home a bronze medal! We had many teams compete in the Provincial Championships, various Saskatchewan teams attended the Western Canadian Ringette Championships, and the Canadian Ringette Championships – which we were lucky enough to host in our home province! The highlight list goes on and on!

The 2023 Canadian Ringette Championships in Regina is an event that I will cherish for many years. The week started with teams arriving from all over Canada and checking in at the Cooperators Centre to hit the ice for their last practices of the season. In the hours before the opening ceremonies, the skills competitions were underway. There were about 90 athletes on the ice for the U16 division, and another 90 athletes for the U19 division that were there to strut their stuff. The rink was absolutely electric. The stands in Rink 6 have been full many times before, but I can’t recall that rink ever having the vibe that it did for those few hours. Pictures simply don’t do it any justice. That rink was packed with teams showing their spirit. There were jerseys, signs, pool noodles, bunny ears, noisemakers, pom poms, coloured coveralls, flags, and every sort of flair that you could imagine! Hats and glasses with lights on them, tassels, and I am pretty sure there were even a couple of sailor outfits! Teammates cheered for their peers as they competed, and everyone in that rink showed incredible support for all competitors on the ice, regardless of what colour their jersey was. If you were lucky enough to be there, I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. If you missed it, please take part in one of these events in the future. You won’t be disappointed.

Throughout the week, athletes traded provincial pins, stickers, jerseys, hoodies, and all sorts of trinkets. Athletes, friends, and families from across the province and country reunite at these events, and it really helps us see what an incredible sport we are involved in. There was even a Come Try Ringette event during the week!

As the week came to a close, the medal games were played, and the teams were awarded their championship medals. The games were an unforgettable, exciting, and fantastic showcase for our sport. Again, the rink was packed! The 2023 CRC’s wrapped up with an incredible closing ceremonies and awards banquet. The CRC’s committee did an excellent job putting the week on, and their efforts didn’t go unnoticed as there were so many comments received about how incredible the week was. Hosting this event in our province is something we should all be proud of, as it was a week for the memory books.

This summer we reinstated the Summer Sport Development Coordinators position. We have two enthusiastic coordinators; Hanna Bourque from RRA and Jaylynn Quail from SRA. These two have been doing amazing things this summer at the camps and various events that they have been attending. They are great ambassadors and have been bringing some amazing exposure to the sport of Ringette. Keep up the great work you two!

All the wins for our sport this year in Saskatchewan couldn’t have happened without the volunteers and our dedicated membership; coaches, officials, managers, treasurers, trainers, nutrition coordinators (often referred to as “foodies”) timekeepers, social media coordinators, graphic designers, film crews, committee members and board members. The list goes on and on as there are so many incredible people in our sport that devote countless hours to the teams that our children play on, and your efforts are appreciated. Each one of these volunteers deserves a huge thank you, as you are all appreciated. So, on behalf of all of Ringette Saskatchewan’s members, I want to say thank you for what you do for this sport. Without you, our sport would not be what it is today.

As the days are getting shorter, ringette camps and summer scrimmages are already underway and many athletes are “home again” preparing for the 2023-2024 season that we are all very excited to get underway. See you at the rink!

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

Board of Directors and Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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 |



Our Strategic Priorities

These four Strategic Priorities are as follows:

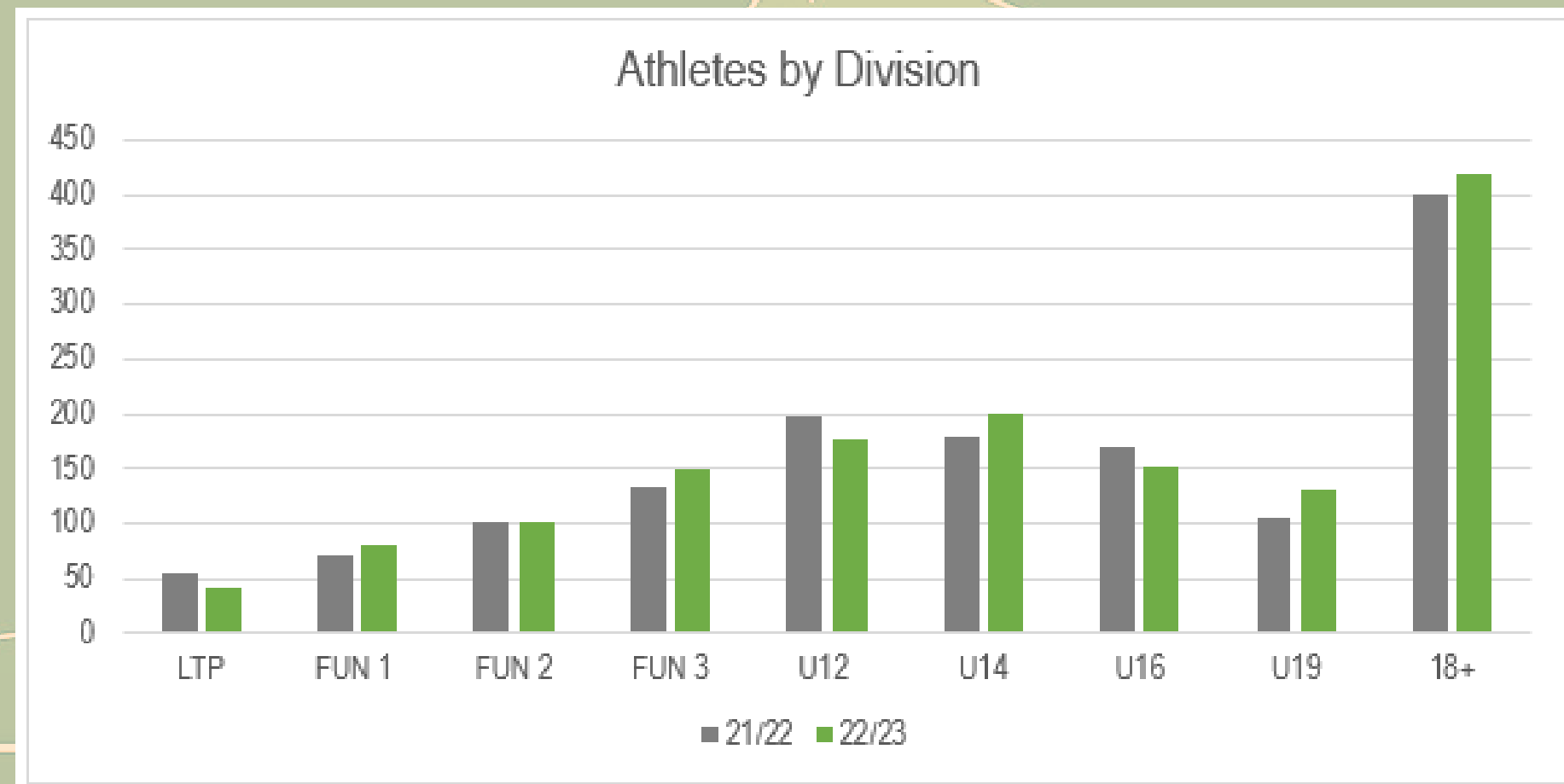
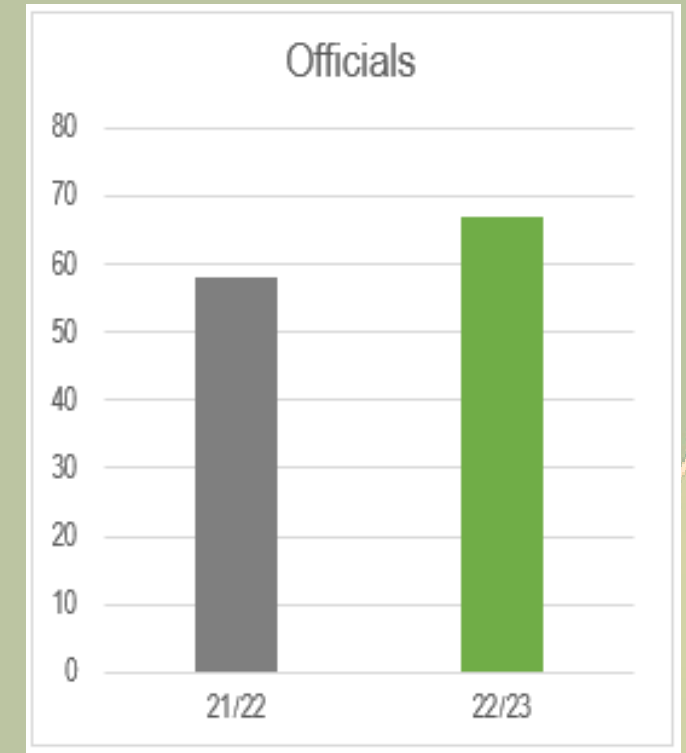
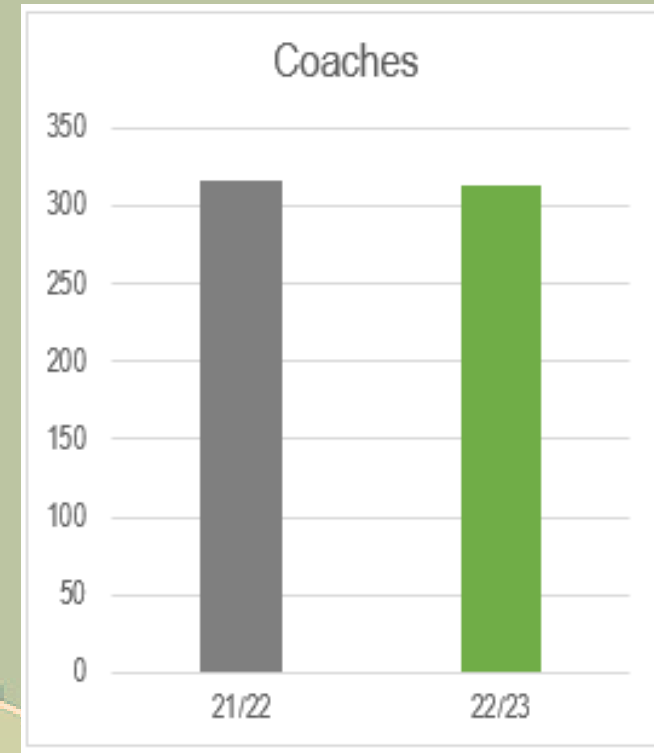
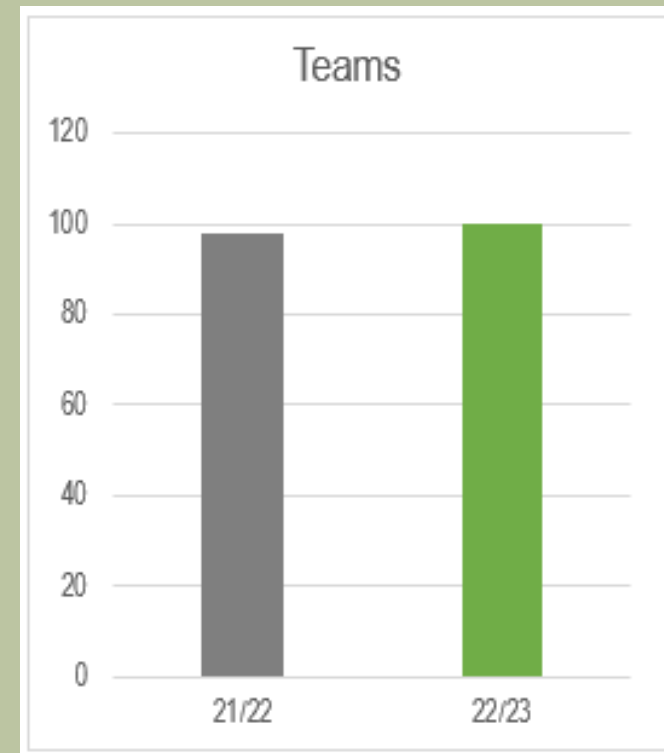
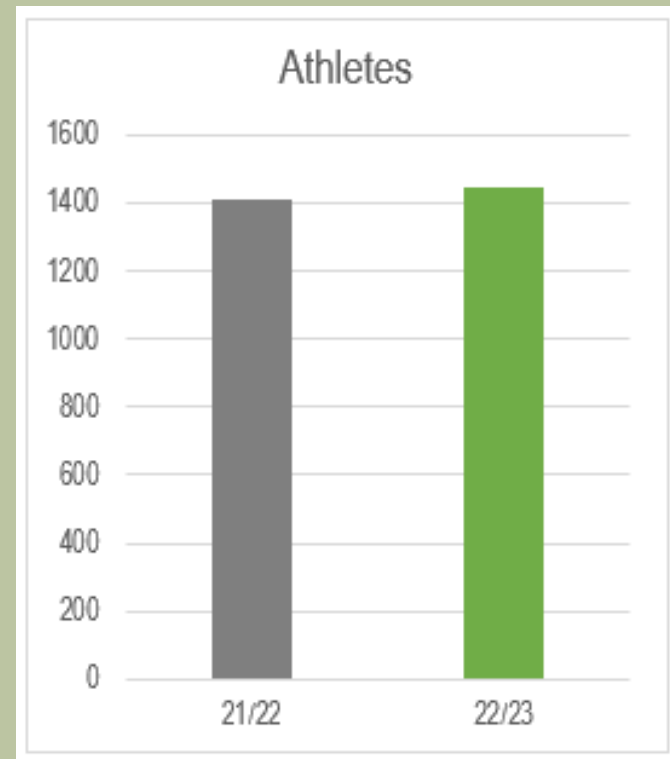
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| 1. Athlete Pathways | 3. Growing Ringette |
| 2. Coaches and Officials Development | 4. Leadership and Organizational Excellence |



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**

2022-2023 Membership Statistics



2023 Championship Results

2023 Ringette Saskatchewan Provincial Champions

A/AA – Saskatoon

U14AA – Saskatoon Saints

U14A – Regina Aces

U16AA – Regina Stingers

U16A – Regina Attack

U19AA – Regina Bandits

B – Regina

U14B – Buffalo Plains Warriors

U16B – Regina Predators

U19B – Regina Rattlers

18+ – Saskatoon & Vibank

18+A – Saskatoon Wild

18+B – Buffalo Plains Hellraisers

18+C – Saskatoon Outlaws

2023 Western Canadian Ringette Championships – Winnipeg, MB

U14AA – Team Saskatchewan – Saskatoon Saints – 7th Place

U14AA – Buffalo Plains Rush – 9th Place

U16A – Team Saskatchewan – Regina Attack 2nd Place
Silver Medalists

U19A – Team Saskatchewan – Regina RIPT – 4th Place

18+A – Team Saskatchewan – 5th Place



2023 Canadian Ringette Championships – Regina, SK

U16AA – Team Saskatchewan – Regina Stingers - 8th Place

U16AA – Saskatoon Selects - 14th Place

U19AA – Team Saskatchewan – Regina Bandits - 5th Place

U19AA – Saskatoon Blazers - 17th Place

NRL – Saskatchewan Heat - 12th Place

2023 Canada Winter Games – Charlottetown, PEI

Team Saskatchewan – Bronze Medalists

2022-2023 Awards and Scholarships

Coach of the Year

Tania Orr – Regina Rattlers

Senior Official of the Year

Brock Blomquist – Saskatoon Ringette

Junior Official of the Year

Isabelle Chambers – Regina Ringette

Volunteer of the Year

Michelle Burnett – Regina Ringette

Darin Degenstein – Regina Ringette

Outstanding Achievement of the Year

2023 CWG Team Saskatchewan

Ringette Saskatchewan Scholarship Recipients

Cameron Herom – Regina Ringette

Lexi Kruger – Saskatoon Ringette

Sydney Muhr – Regina Ringette

Trista Welsh – Regina Ringette





Organizational Highlights

Athletes

- 16 Come Try Ringette Events were held in 5 communities throughout the season, with 293 registered participants.
- Children’s Ringette continued to be implemented at the Fundamentals 1, 2, and 3 levels. There were 330 athletes and 28 teams registered in Children’s Ringette throughout the province.
- Holly Kozan (Saskatchewan Heat) represented Canada and Saskatchewan at the World Ringette Championships in Finland in Fall 2022 as a member of Ringette Canada’s Junior National Team.
- 4 Saskatchewan athletes were invited to Ringette Canada’s U17 La Releve event in Calgary in October 2023 – Grace Kozan (RRA), Hanna Mayer (RRA), Kiera Muckelt-Landry (RRA), and Hailey Turcotte (RRA).
- 4 Saskatchewan athletes and 1 Saskatchewan coach were invited to Ringette Canada’s U18 International Development Program camps in Calgary in August 2023 and October 2023 – athletes Tobi Albert (SRA), Cadence Howe (RRA), Taylor Johnston (RRA), Brianna Shupe (RRA), and coach Daina Seymour (RRA).
- 2 Saskatchewan athletes and 1 Saskatchewan coach were selected to the Junior National Team to represent Canada at the World Ringette Championships in Calgary in October 2023 – athletes Maddy Nystrom (RRA) and Lauren Schoenhofen (RRA), and coach Donnell Schoenhofen (RRA).
- Ringette Saskatchewan and the Sport Medicine and Science Council of Saskatchewan Partnership distributed \$4,500 in High Performance Assistance Grants and sport medicine and science sessions.
- A/AA, B, and 18+ Provincial Championships took place in February and March 2022 in the communities of Saskatoon, Regina, and Vibank. A total of 626 athletes competed in 87 games over the three weekends.

Coaches

- 76 coaches attended 6 CSI clinics throughout the province.
- 14 coaches attended 2 CI clinics throughout the province.
- 15 coaches received CI evaluations to become CI-Certified.
- 2 coaches received their Competition Development certification this season.
- A/AA, B, and 18+ Provincial Championships took place in February and March 2022 in the communities of Saskatoon, Regina, and Vibank. A total of 144 coaches and team staff participated in 87 games over the three weekends.

Officials

- Total of 67 active officials throughout the province this season.
- 19 officials attended 2 Level 1 clinics throughout the province.
- 7 officials attended 2 Level 2/3 clinics throughout the province.
- 50 official evaluations were completed this season.
- A/AA, B, and 18+ Provincial Championships took place in February and March 2022 in the communities of Saskatoon, Regina, and Vibank. A total of 34 officials participated in 87 games over the three weekends.
- Blair MacGregor (SRA, supervisor) and Chelsea Wong (SRA, on-ice official) were selected to attend the 2023 Western Canadian Ringette Championships.
- Aaron Armstrong (SRA, on-ice official), Brenda King (SRA, shot clock operator), and Scott McCrae (SRA, shot clock operator) were selected to attend the 2023 Canadian Ringette Championships.

Organizational Excellence

- Allocated \$46,000 from Sask Sport’s Member Assistance Program Grant to local associations.
- Continued using the registration database RAMP under Ringette Canada.
- Continued collaboration with the Saskatchewan Heat regarding financials and team management.

2023-2024 Season Desired Outcomes

Athlete Pathways



Children's Ringette

Continue fostering collaboration with our membership to enhance the Children's Ringette Guidelines, which play a pivotal role in nurturing physical literacy and promoting Long-Term Athlete Development – Fundamentals 1, Fundamentals 2, Fundamentals 3.



Excellence

Continue ongoing talks with Ringette Canada and Provincial Ringette Organizations to formulate a framework to establish an excellence ringette program. This will help Ringette Saskatchewan align our high-performance pathway from U16 to Canada Winter Games to the National Ringette League.

Continue to provide high-performance funding through Sport Medicine and Science Council partnership and funding entry fees.

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

Coaches and Officials Development

Coaches



- Support training one to two new Coach Learning Facilitators
- Support training one to two new Master Coach Developers
- Continue to recruit, retain, develop all coaches in their training certification.

Officials



- Continue to recruit, retain, develop, and advance officials at all levels.
- Green Armband Initiative - providing armbands to all officials under the age of 18; emphasizing that these are young individuals officiating games.
- Continue to support High-Performance officials attending Western Canadian Ringette Championships, Canadian Ringette Championships, and elite tournaments including the National Ringette League.

Growing Ringette

- Continue Come Try Ringette events
- Sustain our commitment to delivering Gym Ringette programs in collaboration with local community recreation organizations.
- Utilize the power of social media to foster widespread awareness for the sport of ringette.

RAS Associations Presidents Reports

Buffalo Plains Ringette

President – Cara Kirkham

The 2022-2023 season was a completely “normal” season with zero covid influence, a very welcome change compared to the previous 2 seasons.

The rebrand of BPRA was kicked off at the beginning of the season, bringing a new logo and a story of how this new logo was chosen. 2 sets of jerseys were ordered and given to the U14 division to try out the reversible set vs the regular home and away set. The equipment manager will take the feedback from the teams and decide which type we move forward with.

The rebrand also coincided with the new website run off the TeamLinkt platform to align with Ringette Regina. During the offseason, a sub-committee met numerous times and developed a timeline outlining when time sensitive tasks must be completed before, throughout, and after the season. This committee also focused on streamlining evaluations and it proved to be very influential on getting the coaches and teams selected earlier. There were a couple of new policies implemented, one being the Equipment and Performance Bond that was later rescinded due to lack of clarity. The second being the Open Team Registration Policy to align with Regina Ringette.

BPRA joined ROAR (Ringette Officiating Association of Regina) this season to handle all the scheduling of the officials, due to the void of this board position. This collaboration proved to have both positives and negatives that should continue to be worked on in seasons to come.

Spring and Fall 3 on 3 were both run successfully again this season.

BPRA's first European Team, the U16 Impact completed their 2 years together and travelled to Europe for exhibition games and a tournament. Regina Ringette had the same type of team, and the same type of challenges this season with which division the team should play for adequate competition. Regina Ringette has implemented a policy for this special type of teams, that I recommend BPRA adopt.

Thank you to all the board members for your support and collaboration during my time on the board. It has been a pleasure working alongside each of you, and I am grateful for the friendships we have developed.

Sincerely,

Cara Kirkham

President

Buffalo Plains Ringette Association



RAS Associations Presidents Reports

Regina Ringette

President -- Jason Hoffart

The 2022/23 season kicked off in mid August with the start of the AA tryouts and has been going strong since then. This season we once again offered our preseason 3 on 3 tournaments in August and September. This is always a great way to get the players back into the season.

We hosted three amazing tournaments - the Elite, the Jim Benning and the Queen City Classic. It was great to have them all back with no COVID interruptions. We also hosted a jamboree for the FUN1/2 athletes to wrap up their season.

RRA has continued supporting high performance ringette in the province of Saskatchewan with providing support to the both the Canada Winter Games team and the NRL Saskatchewan Heat.

This season was the first season in which RRA has decided to hire a scheduler, this job had previously always been filled by a volunteer. However, the amount of work required is not something a volunteer should be asked to do. Karen got us going with scheduling for the year and we had someone else come in October. Karen had agreed to stay on as a mentor for this individual. Unfortunately, things did not work out and they resigned in December. I just want to give a huge thank you to Karen who graciously finished the season for. Thanks, Karen, for staying on an extra year. We have a new scheduler in place starting April 1st, 2023

Again, our registration numbers were strong this season and it is great to continue to see our numbers grow. We all know continued effort will be required to keep this growth.

The last year was also a very busy and exciting time. In May of 2022 RRA was selected to host the 2023 Canadian Ringette Championships. This was an amazing opportunity but also one that brought a considerable amount of work that required many people and many hours to make sure we were able to host an amazing event. I want to give a HUGE thank you to Michelle Burnett for taking on the role of Chair for this huge undertaking. Without her willingness to step up I am not sure what we would have done. We are all hopefully that hosting this event will have a long-lasting legacy on ringette in our area and encourage the next wave of young ringette players to strive to play at that level.

I want to say thank you to everyone for their support over the last year. I know it is a huge commitment to be involved in the sport we love, and we never will take that commitment lightly.

Jason Hoffart

President

Regina Ringette Association



RAS Associations Presidents Reports

Saskatoon Ringette

President – Nicole Pearson

Moving on from the past couple of seasons of working through a constant state of pivoting; SRA was ready to “hit the reset button” and forge ahead into planning for the 2022-2023 season in Saskatoon. The year was spent in review of our framework and working to expand on it by sharing and developing new ideas to strengthen our program and foster growth in all aspects of the association.

We began the season with a few changes to our board structure derived from the needs of the membership; adding a volunteer coordinator role, and welcoming new board members to fill in the vacant positions. Having a full board to represent SRA, we experienced more diverse opinions and ideas, which better allowed us to reach our goals in continuing to develop a stronger program for our athletes to enjoy.

Over the summer SRA revamped their programming tools which included an update to our email system as well as a new website, registration links and tournament programming through a Teamlinkt-hosted site. We also developed and debuted a new look and logo this season for the SRA competitive division, with plans on continuing this redesign for the remaining SRA divisions in the upcoming seasons.

Registration numbers showed a slight increase from 509 registered athletes in the 2021-2022 season to 525 for the 2022-2023 season. Although only a slight growth for this season we remain focused on our objective to work hard by encouraging the retention of our existing athletes and families, while welcoming and introducing our sport to new members. Many “Come Try Ringette” events in Saskatoon and surrounding areas are booked to take place over the summer and into the fall.

Our tournaments, the Bernadette Price Memorial and City of Bridges, continue to show growth/interest in teams attending; last season SRA hosted 87 teams between the two weekends. Plans for next year’s tournaments are already underway, and we hope to see these numbers grow once again if the ice times required can be secured within our city.

Our board, alongside the athlete development committee worked hard to develop additional training sessions throughout the season that supported SRA athletes in their personal journeys of seeking excellence based on their own definition of success in Ringette. Goaltending took high priority as goalie numbers in Saskatoon remain low and therefore SRA offered a goalie specific introduction and training program. This included ice sessions developed to encourage and allow players with “goalie interest” an opportunity to experience the position outside of a game/team situation. This has been received well in the younger divisions and we hope to see some new faces in net next season. Over the summer, the athlete development committee introduced an instructor led drop-in shooting/skating program, which has seen large numbers at each ice session. Ultimately our goal is designed to support the development of players as they grow in ringette, so that the love they have for the game at a young age, remains strong as they play into their adult years.

With all the planning and developing, we need to take a moment to recognize and thank a key member of our association, Brenda King. THANK YOU for your countless hours of hard work and dedication spent around the office supporting our members. To the board members and their committees, thank you for all that you do in giving of your time and energy throughout the season. And a final thank you to all the coaches, managers, trainers, referees, parents, volunteers and, of course, the athletes for your passion and dedication to our sport and community! Looking forward to another successful and exciting season in Saskatoon next year!

Yours in Sport,

Nicole Pearson

President

Saskatoon Ringette Association



RAS Associations Presidents Reports

Saskatchewan Heat

Head Coach – Colleen Butz-Purdue

The Heat organization in just two years has experienced a wealth of growth. This growth has been within the team and the progress made in our competitiveness throughout the league and also the marketing and behind the scenes growth getting our brand recognized in Saskatchewan and beyond. We are very appreciative of all the support from the local associations, local businesses, and our beloved fans.

The 2022/23 ringette season for the Heat was improvement across the board and although there is still a lot of work to do, I believe we are taking steps in the right direction. The Heat experienced regular season wins, improved placement in standings, OT games at Nationals and most importantly we competed and closed gaps against the top teams in our country. We are growing and will continue to grow each year. The Heat organization also received recognition within our league at Nationals awards ceremony in the following areas:

- Rookie of the year nomination: Taylor Lorenz
- Volunteer of the year award: Darrin Kruger
- Top Coaching Staff Nomination

The tryout pool for 2022/23 ringette season also grew substantially, seeing returning and also new faces from both centers (Regina, Saskatoon and respective surrounding areas). The Heat coaching and management team is hoping for another great turnout for the 2023/24 tryouts coming end of August.

The Heat is very appreciative of Sheryl Bird's contributions within our organization and wishes her the very best moving forward in her future endeavors. The Heat coaching staff; Colleen Butz-Purdue, Scott Purdue and Erin Cumpstone are very excited to welcome two new coaches to our staff; Mel Brockman, a veteran athlete from our 2022/23 team and Melissa Hart. Both of these coaches bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to our staff and will be a valued addition to our organization.

The Saskatchewan Heat is excited for what the future will bring. Planning for the upcoming season is well under way and we look forward to another year of experience and growth. Thank you to all of our incredible supporters, staff members, athletes and ringette families. We couldn't do what we are doing with you.

Colleen Butz-Purdue

Head Coach
Saskatchewan Heat



RAS Associations Presidents Reports

2023 CWG Team Saskatchewan

Head Coach – Mel Brockman

The 2023 Canada Winter Games (CWG) program started in March 2022 with 40 athletes trying out. The coaching staff consisted of Mel Brockman, Sheryl Bird, Donnell Schoenhofen, and Daina Seymour; Darrin Kruger was the team manager.

After camps in March and April, we selected 23 athletes to attend three tournaments (Challenge Cups).

The first Challenge Cup took place in New Brunswick in July 2022, where we got our first taste of what CWG competition looks like. With all but one province attending, it was a great opportunity to get a preview of the CWG format and competition. The team experienced both triumph and upset on the ice, finishing with a 3 and 2 record and coming away with several learnings about playing the game at a higher speed and skill level. We didn't know it at the time, but a back-and-forth battle with New Brunswick, where we edged them out by one goal, proved to be a sneak preview of our quarter-final match at CWG.

The second Challenge Cup involved a trip to Kelowna, BC in August. While this tournament was much smaller – with only us, BC, and Manitoba participating – the team continued to gain experience and form unity on and off the ice. Ending the tournament with a tight game against BC, culminating in an overtime and shoot-out loss, was particularly exciting and a rather fortuitous development moment given what was to come in the bronze final at CWG.

These two tournaments were excellent opportunities for CWG competition preparation, and with trips to both ends of the country, they also gave athletes memorable travel experiences. From a beach afternoon in New Brunswick (some athletes had never been to the ocean before) to exploring the waterfront in downtown Kelowna, there was plenty of fun and memories made along the way.

Next up was the Winnipeg Challenge Cup in October, which was the first tournament with all provinces in attendance. Similar to our pool play at CWG, we got off to a slow start with three losses. The team rebounded, however, and we won our last three games – including a thrilling overtime victory against Manitoba, followed by winning the consolation side against BC for a fifth place finish. This was a pivotal weekend for the program, as we showed our competitiveness at this level and selected the final roster of 17 athletes to represent Team Sask.

Preparation picked up in January 2023, starting with the final Challenge Cup in Montreal, where again, all provinces participated. Our results were mixed in this tournament, with a win early on against powerhouse Ontario but coming up short in our other five games – including a heart-breaking tying goal by Nova Scotia at the buzzer that saw what could've been our second win slip away. This was followed by a tough one-goal loss to PEI...who we'd later meet in the bronze final at CWG. While the scores weren't in our favour this time, we learned valuable lessons and kept our sights set on peaking when it counted. Perhaps most importantly, the athletes had a ton of fun off the ice hanging out and sight-seeing, and you could see the makings of a cohesive team that supported each other and believed in themselves.

The team practiced and played exhibition games against the Heat in January/February, then we were off to the main event February 18-25 in PEI. After settling in at the athletes' village, having a few practices, and attending a very entertaining opening ceremony, it was time to put all our preparation into action!

We didn't exactly come out with guns blazing, opening the tournament with a deflating 9-1 loss to Ontario, who, as mentioned, we'd recently beat in Montreal. But, with a mindset that one game wouldn't dictate our fate, we

responded with a strong game against BC, where an overtime loss was certainly disappointing but made us even hungrier to win our last two games in pool play – which we did, against PEI and Nova Scotia. With a three-way tie working out in our favour, we finished second in our pool, and our confidence was growing game by game.

Our crossover game was against third-place New Brunswick. With New Brunswick coming off a big win against Quebec, who went on to win gold, along with second place finishes at the last two Challenge Cups, we knew we were going to need our best performance to advance to the medal round. Hope could've faded when we were down 4-2 going into the fourth quarter, but we stayed the course, scored three unanswered goals, and held on for a 5-4 victory. And just like that, our slow start to the tournament no longer mattered; Team Sask was off to the semi-final!

We put up a good fight against ringette juggernaut Alberta, but ultimately came up short with a 5-3 loss. While this sadly took us out of gold medal contention, it still gave us an opportunity to medal at CWG for the first time since 1999. So, we put this game behind us and refocused our energy on winning bronze.

With PEI pulling off an upset in their crossover game against Manitoba (Manitoba finished second in their pool, while PEI finished third in ours; and Manitoba also finished in the top four at the last Challenge Cup), we anticipated that the rematch was going to be an intense battle – especially with PEI riding the huge green wave of the hometown crowd!

And intense it was! The scoring was back-and-forth in the first quarter, then we pulled ahead by two goals heading into the second half. But PEI wasn't about to back down, scoring two unanswered goals in the third to even it up. When we regained the lead early in the fourth, we were hopeful that we could hang on for the win, but PEI had other plans, tying the game back up with just under four minutes left to go. After a nerve-racking last three minutes, the game stayed tied...and so the bronze medal was to be decided in overtime!

Although the win in regulation time slipped away, and we were to start overtime short-handed, the mood in the dressing room was focused, positive, and confident. After a shaky start and PEI getting a few scoring opportunities that we were fortunate to ward off, we maintained ring possession for a good portion of the remainder of the game. Then, just over halfway through, the big moment came: Rylie Bryden picked up a loose ring, spun off a defender, and slid a backhand to the far corner of the net, just outside the other defender's skate and a sprawling PEI goalie. The team erupted. We did it – Team Sask, bronze medalists! A monumental achievement, and a full circle moment for Mel, Daina, and Sheryl, who were players and coach when Sask won bronze at the 1999 CWG. What an intense ride that none of us will soon forget. This was a talented, hard-working group of athletes with tremendous character, and grinding it out to medal at CWG was an accomplishment well earned.

On behalf of the 2023 CWG team, I'd like to sincerely thank the athletes, coaches, manager, parents, and Ringette Sask for being a part of this special journey. It was an honour and privilege to lead this program, and I'm very grateful to add this to my list of incredible experiences in the sport.

Mel Brockman

Head Coach

2023 CWG Team Saskatchewan

Provincial Office

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306-780-9460

Thank you.

The Ringette Association of Saskatchewan would like to recognize the support of Sask Sport and Sask Lotteries. Through your support we can continue to offer opportunities for our members to participate, excel, and succeed.



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