



## **Annual General Meeting Minutes**

**June 24th, 2023 @10:00am**

**Manotick Arena, Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

**Attendance:** Brandi, Sue, Margo, Tina, Michelle, Melissa, Dan, Laura, Yao, RSC coaches, skaters, and families

**Absent:** Sandra

### **1. President's Opening Remarks/Introductions– Sue Stadnisky**

- Call to Order– **10:13 am**
- Approval of 2023 Agenda- Approved (moved Jan, seconded Kathy)
- Introduction of 2022-2023 Board of Directors
  - President: Sue Stadnisky
  - Vice-President: Michelle Carney
  - Treasurer: Sandra Craig-Browne
  - Secretary: Laura Fromow
  - Test Chair: Tina Braid
  - Publicity and Health and Safety: Melissa Sargent
  - Director of Coaching: Brandi Young
  - Director at Large: Dan Gray
  - Director at Large: Yao Lu
  - Fundraising: Vacant
  - Special Events: Vacant

### **2. Approval of 2022 Minutes – Sue Stadnisky**

- Approved (moved Kathy, seconded Jan)

### **3. President Report– Sue Stadnisky (pre-written)**

- After several years as a member of this Board, I will be stepping down. I do plan to stay connected to our RSC family and will continue to help out with events and whatnot and hope to see you all contributing to our little community next year too. Any interested

parent or volunteer wishing to contribute to our club is welcome to speak with any of us or our staff coaches.

- Rideau Skating Club was able to run successful and typical seasons this year, continuing to grow as we teach skaters basic skills, enjoyment of skating as sport, and team skills. This could not be possible without the dedication and passion of our RSC community leaders including coaches, skaters, volunteers, families, and this Board.
- We've had some challenges this year, adjusting to post-COVID restrictions changes, losing some of our active members as they move on with university &/or careers taking them away from the ice. Conversely, we have also welcomed many new skaters and families and hope to keep you all around for some time to come.
- We've also put considerable energies into improving & clarifying our club Policies and By-laws, some of which will be discussed here shortly.
- Throughout the season, coaches and board members have been considering ways to bring our "RSC Fam" back together again, after COVID restrictions and precautions impacted much of the time skaters and families spent getting to know each other - I am so excited to see some of these initiatives and new ideas really take off next fall and I hope you will all be around to participate and help in further building our community.

#### **4. Treasurer Report– Sandra Craig-Browne (pre-written by Sandra, read by Melissa)**

- Our complete preliminary financial statements are available for all our members upon request. They are currently undergoing a Review Engagement with Baker Tilley Ottawa LLP Chartered Professional Accountants.
- This was the first year running at full capacity post-Covid, allowing the club to exceed expectations:
  - Rideau hosted the ISU Adult Competition in September 2022 bringing a profit of \$18k to the club. Our coaches' report will discuss how we have and will use these funds to benefit our membership and the adult skating community.
  - Our registration revenue came in at \$403k this year, an increase of 36% from the prior season. This is driven by the return of our spring and summer regular programming in 2022 and not having any fall/winter Covid closures
  - Our operating expenses increased by 32%, \$70k of this increase relates to the additional ice and coaching costs associated with not having Covid closures in 2022/2023.
  - Overall thanks to the ISU Competition and being able to operate uninterrupted this season, our profit for the season was \$109k, up 82% over the prior year.
- Our cash balance at the end of the season is \$405k, an increase of 48%.
  - However, we have approximately \$100k in liabilities outstanding at the end of April 2023.
  - We plan to invest another \$100k into a GIC in July as a reserve
- We are happy to say that the success of the last two seasons has allowed us to decrease the costs of our Future Stars program and we hope to continue to make skating more affordable at other levels next year.

- As discussed last year, banking support was investigated with an intent of moving to a new provider. A new account was set up with RBC on a no-fee business plan (min \$75K balance required). Most operations have now been transitioned to that account.
- The Club brought in Colleen Kanna as a new bookkeeper and is investigating ways to alleviate the time burden of the Treasurer position on our volunteers.

## **5. Board Member Reports**

### **Vice-President Report– Michelle Carney (pre-written)**

- After having been on the Board since 2015, I will be stepping down.
- We have many coaches that have changed roles and some that have come and gone.
  - Margo is retiring from night and weekend coaching but is thankfully remaining as Club Administrator.
  - Tanner was hired as a Staff Coach this year but decided to return to Nepean in April.
  - Robyn is currently on maternity leave.
- We have added three new Associate Coaches this year- Charlotte, Rachel and Gaby.
- We have also hired new CanSkate Coaches-Andrea, Lea, Stephanie, Madison and Keira as well as Nerline and Mark who have remained as subs.
- We would also like to congratulate our Staff Coaches on their many years of service in coaching and with the club.
  - Melissa Sargent has been coaching for 19 years with 8 years at the Rideau Skating Club.
  - Margo Guerette has been coaching for 16 years with 12 years at Rideau.
  - Brandi Young has been coaching for 26 years with 16 years at Rideau.
  - Jan Calnan has been coaching for 38 years and has coached her entire career with Rideau.
- Thank you again to all our wonderful coaches. Without them the club wouldn't be what it is.

### **Publicity Report– Melissa Sargent (pre-written)**

- Rideau Skating Club had another very busy year and we are hoping to keep the momentum going as we head into the 2023/2024 skating season.
- Rideau started the season with the return of our annual used skate sale, where the club earned about \$240 in donations.
- We were the host club for the Fall 2022 ISU International Adult Figure Skating Competition
  - It took 3 years of planning, 4 attempts and 2 different facilities, but eventually we were able to overcome Covid restrictions, lockdowns and closures to finally hold this International Skating event. We had around 241 performances at the event, a good participation considering we were coming out of all of the Covid restrictions and a lot of skaters were still leery to travel.

- Feedback from skaters, officials and volunteers has been resoundingly supportive telling us what a successful event we hosted.
- After all was said and done and Skate Canada generously paid more than they had committed to, the club earned slightly more than \$18,000 profit from our adult skating competition.
- Some of the money earned for the club was set aside to benefit our RSC adults and skaters in the form of a seminar for each group with Ashley Wagner and are looking at other options for our skaters to benefit from all the hard work put into hosting the event.
- The competition also increased Rideau's presence in the Adult skating community with many of our skaters competing at the Skate Ontario Provincial Championship and the ISU event in Oberstdorf, Germany this spring. Some are already making plans to head the ISU fall event in Nashville and World Winter Masters Games in Bormio, Italy in January 2024.
- We participated in Manotick's Santa Claus Parade
- We made a return to Shiverfest this year with 14 skaters laying down some great programs at our annual showcase.
- Thanks to the ISU competition held in the Fall, we were able to reward our hard working volunteers, both adult skaters and young skaters with a seminar led by Ashley Wagner, former US Champion, World Silver Medalist, and Olympic Bronze Medalist in the team event. The skaters had a full day of on and off ice activities along with some added in private lesson time with Ashley as well as two Skate and Sculpt edge development and conditioning classes with her. Ashley is a huge supporter of adult skating and promotes acceptance for all skaters regardless of age, ethnicity or ability. Everyone had a wonderful time on the ice with her.
- Our StarSkaters also had an opportunity to show off their new skills at Fun Day in April where even a few of our coaches joined in the performances.
- We continued to build our Instagram presence this season and are consistently looking for content for all of our social media platforms. Please like, follow and send us content at [publicity@rideauskating.ca](mailto:publicity@rideauskating.ca)

### **Special Events Report**– position vacant

### **Assessment Coordinator (Test Chair) Report**– Tina Braid (pre-written)

- This was my first full year on the board as the assessment coordinator
- This year I have had the pleasure of helping to organize 3 successful High Test Days for our Star 6-Gold skaters
  - We had one recently this past Thursday, June 22nd, one prior to this in April and one last summer in Aug 2022.
  - We had one planned to run in November as well but it had been canceled due to lack of tests ready at that time.
- We had 3 skaters complete Gold tests this year- Rebekah Ferris and Melissa Sargent completed their Gold Artistic and Aidan O'Connor completed his Gold FreeSkate.

- Our skaters completed a total of 236 assessments this season- 203 of which were Star 1-5 completed by our coaches and 33 Star 6-gold at our high test days.
- Congratulations to all of our skaters on their success this season.

## **Fundraising Report– position vacant**

### **Coaches Report– Brandi Young (pre-written)**

- The coaching staff would like to recognize all the achievements of our skaters this season. We are very happy that we finally got to have a normal season where we could continue skating without any interruptions and could hold our regular skating events.
- We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our many volunteers without whom we would be unable to run such a successful club. Thank you to our amazing Board of Directors and all the volunteers who helped with Shiverfest, Fun Day, and our Assessment Days.
- We had great success with some of our new programming, in particular our updated Future Stars and Advanced CanSkate program, and Future Stars Add-On exceeded our expectations with record numbers of skaters participating. We also had many skaters advance to higher levels this season.
- We had 17 skaters complete Stage 6 and graduate from the CanSkate program. Our staff coach, Jan Calnan has been appointed to the International Skating Union Adult Figure Skating Group.
  - This is a multi-year assignment representing adult skaters and their interests at the ISU level for planning and designating events as well as setting the rules and regulations around hosting these events. The group consists of 4 representatives from different continents and disciplines in Figure Skating that meet regularly throughout the year virtually and in person at the various ISU events. While a lot of work is required for the position, it is also a great honour bestowed on only a few.
- This season we got to resume competing with all our skaters and had so much fun attending events and watching our skaters have personal bests throughout the competition season. We would like to congratulate all our skaters and coaches on their achievements and hope you will join us to celebrate following the meeting at our awards ceremony. We are looking forward to another fun and successful Rideau Skating Club season next Fall.

## **6. Extraordinary Resolution to Conduct a Review Engagement– Melissa Sargent**

- I would like to propose a motion to pass an Extraordinary Resolution to waive the Rideau Skating Club's audit requirement for our 2024 financial year in favour of a review engagement.
- My rationale behind this relates to section 76 of the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act.
  - If a corporation is not a public benefit corporation (like RSC) and has annual revenue of more than \$500,000, its members can waive the requirement to have

an audit but must conduct a review engagement. Similarly, if this type of corporation has annual revenue of \$500,000 or less (which is where RSC currently falls), its members can waive both an audit and a review engagement. For the past several years RSC has not had a review or audit.

- This extraordinary resolution must be approved by 80% of the members at today's meeting and would be valid until the next annual meeting of the members.
- Given that Rideau Skating Clubs gross revenue is approaching \$500,000 this season, a review engagement provides more assurance than a compilation but does not require the same financial and time burden on the club and its volunteers as an audit would.
- When the club discussed this with Baker Tilly Ottawa LLP Chartered Professional Accountants they recommended a review engagement.
  1. Motion to pass an Extraordinary Resolution to conduct a review engagement: *Motion Passed (71 votes)*
  2. Motion to appoint Baker Tilly Ottawa LLP Chartered professional Accountants) to conduct a review engagement: *Motion Passed (71 votes)*

## **7. Bylaw Amendments– Dan Gray**

- Approval of amendments- Approved (moved Jan, seconded Laura)

## **8. Elections – 2023-2024 Board of Directors– Sue Stadnisky**

- Announcement of Sue, Michelle, and Yao retiring from the Board and introduction of new member, Martha Holmes
- Nominees: Dan Gray, Melissa Sargent, Brandi Young, Tina Braid, Sandra Craig-Browne, Laura Fromow, Martha Holmes
  1. Motion to elect Board of Directors for the 2023-2024 Season: *Motion Passed (71 votes)*
- Acknowledgment and thank yous to retirees on behalf of the Board and Club by Brandi
- Gifts- presented by Brandi, Melissa, and Tina
- No new volunteers at this time

## **9. Draw for \$25 Gift Certificates– Michelle Carney**

- CanSkate winner: Opinder Singh Sadana
- StarSkate winner: Chengfan Wang

## **10. Closing Remarks / Adjournment– Sue Stadnisky**

- Open for any comments or questions
- Conclusion

**2022 RSC Awards– presented by Brandi Young and Melissa Sargent**

## **CLUB AWARDS**

**Most Improved - Adult:** Nilufer Erdebil

**Most Improved - Future Stars:** Lareina He, Leah Chen

**Most Improved - Junior:** Stacey Chen, Yuejia Zhang

**Most Improved - Intermediate:** Jasmine Harold

**Most Improved - Senior:** Flora (Xiadong) Lu

**Adult Skater of the Year:** Laura Fromow

**Competitive Skater of the Year:** Scarlett Lee

**CanSkater of the Year:** Jason Fernando

**STARSkater of the Year:** Alex Craig-Browne

**Volunteer of the Year:** Angela Justason

**Program Assistant of the Year:** Chris Amos

**Ambassador Award:** Dan Gray, Laura Fromow

**Competitive Skater of the Year:** Scarlett Lee

**OVERALL CONCLUSION: 11:30 am** followed by light refreshments of water, juice, cookies