

This Month in Sherwood Park Ringette History

Following are highlights from April activities excerpted from Sherwood Park Ringette Archives.

1979

At the annual SPRA tournament all teams will agree to wear tube skates.

1980

SPRA hosts provincial championships, Sherwood Park's Junior Belles go on to represent Alberta at Nationals.

1981

Ringette Alberta asks Ringette Canada to award SPRA the Nationals in 1983

1982

Belles finish 3rd at Nationals. The girls put on an air guitar routine at the players banquet that "tore the roof off the place"

1983

Sherwood Park hosts National Ringette Championships. SPRA teams win Bronze and Silver at the nationals.

1985

Gibbons, Legal, Redwater and Jasper all intend to enter Zone 5

SPRA registration fees are set for 1985/86 season at \$35 for bunnies, \$75 for all other ages.

1986

Extended zone play is adopted at the Ringette Alberta AGM. The rule allowing 3 players in the zone designated by a line across the top of the free ring (face-off) circles won out over standard and no zone rules. Coloured stick restrictions remain; Forwards (blue sticks) are not allowed in defensive zone, Defence (red sticks) not allowed in offense zone, Center (white stick) can play in any zone.

Most provinces voted for this change at the Ringette Canada meeting. Arenas where ringette is played need to add 2 extra lines. This eliminates the dead zone between the blue line and top of the circle where ring ragging happens. The new rule is a compromise between standard and no zone ringette and intended to stop ring ragging.

Ringette Canada adds novice age group at their AGM

1990

Several reasons are cited why SPRA registration is down to 194 players from 261 just 4 years earlier:

- Travel
- Cost of registration
- C level teams not as competitive with small town teams
- Not having a regular schedule for games and practices.

SPRA executive suggest no tiering at bunny and novice next year.

1992

Pamphlets showcasing SPRA will go out to grades K-3 in Sherwood Park and Ardrossan.

SPRA searches for a place to keep its 10 x 60 equipment storage trailer which has to be moved due to start of construction of Festival Place.

2003

SPRA establishes a scholarship using profits from the Diamond Ring tournament and the National Team try-out camp held in May 2002. The aim of the \$500 annual scholarship is *“to encourage players to continue playing ringette after the completion of high school, while registered in post secondary education.”*

2006

Junior ‘A’ Inferno win Silver at Western Canadian Championships in Winnipeg

2009

Junior ‘A’ Deseo Win the Western Canadian Championships in Saskatoon, going undefeated in the tournament.