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WDRA

WESTMEATH & DISTRICT
RECREATION ASSOCIATION



UPCOMING EVENTS

Every 2nd Tuesday - upstairs hall

Making Melodies with Miss Erica
-10 am

Every Friday evening

Pick up soft-ball 7:30 - 9:00 pm
at the Ball Diamond

June 18th Golf Tournament

June 19th Happy Father's Day

July 1st Canada Day - see insert



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JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER

To rent Community Centre Hall :
613-587-4559/613-587-4838 or email wdra@nrtco.net
Ice bookings: arenas@whitewaterregion.ca;
or call Township office M-F, 8:30 am - 4 pm , ask for Debbie

For Newsletter inquiries:
Email: wdranewsletter@nrtco.net or call 613-587-4438
DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ENTRIES IS THE 15TH OF THE MONTH
www.westmeathtoday.ca

Golf Tournament - Saturday, June 18th

WDRA Fundraiser at Oaks of Cobden

Registration - 11:00 am

Shotgun start at 12:00 p.m.

Cost per player - \$100.

Includes 18 holes of golf, a cart

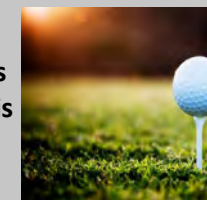
and a roast beef dinner.

To register contact Beth @ 613-587-4294

or wdra@nrtco.net

Great opportunity to get together with family,
friends and neighbours, have some fun and
raise money for the WDRA.

We are still looking for prizes
and hole sponsors - no prize is
too small!



WDRA BALL DIAMOND

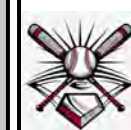
SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT

FROM 7:30—9:00 PM

\$2.00/PERSON to cover cost
of ball diamond lights.

No registration needed, just
show up with your gloves
for a casual game.



For questions -
Contact

Sherrri Ethier at

613-639-2601

WDRA

VOLUNTEERS

URGENTLY NEEDED

Delta Bingo

2 bingos per month

Short training period.

We don't want to lose
this valuable source or
revenue which helps
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Table set up and chairs

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to contact volunteers
as to date and time
required

Email wdra@nrtco.net

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THE LA PASSE AND WESTMEATH GIRLS WIN WITH RINGETTE IN THE MID 1980'S & 90'S!!

Part Four of a Four Part Series

We saw in the previous articles how the determination of our local girls and the community support that provided for volunteer coaches, referees, parents etc. made possible the introduction of Ringette for Girls in our Valley Communities!



Vicki Fletcher(L) Karen Gervais(R)

We learned how Ringette was a fast paced game with no offsides and no intentional body contacts. The new ice game challenged the girls to change their figure skates for tube hockey skates and develop their best ringette skills!

However, the young male referees who volunteered to help out with their sisters or girlfriends' new ice game, shared how these two girls, in particular, racked up the most penalty minutes per game; not only with the "hack and slash," but also, body contact!

Looking back, we say kudos to the parents for supporting their girls and driving them all over Ontario and even to other provinces to compete: Harko & Geppie Wassing, Dad even made an ice pad in the back yard for them to practice! Ron & Sharon Nicolai, Billy & Lois Robinson...and so many other parents!

WESTMEATH RINGETTE JUNIOR BELLES 1996-97



Back Row: Left to Right:
Ron Nicolai, Ashley Bertrand, Emily Bertrand, Jessica Robinson, Rebecca Nicolai, Louise Norlock

Front Row: Left to Right:
Joanne Bromley, Jessica Nicolai, Candice Nicolai, Ashley Watson, Caitlin Foy

Looking ahead: the current Executive tells us that Ringette is continuing under the original banner of the UOVRA and includes Valley Towns from Renfrew to Deep River. It draws about 60 players from these Valley Towns to form competitive teams. They play some games within their league, but mostly against Arnprior, Ottawa and Gatineau teams. Arnprior has their own Association.

The challenges now for the UOVRA are: attracting more girls; recruiting female coaches - only one at this time; recruiting Referees - none at the present time; booking ice times, especially in Cobden in Whitewater Twp. - where Hockey still gets top priority and Ringette gets bumped regularly! So, Renfrew has now become the Home Rink for Ringette in the Valley.

I am also told, that there have been some significant changes to the game we knew back in the 80's & 90's. Check this out on their websites, along with lots of great info and game scheduling --Google: UOVRA: www.uovringette.ca; National Capital Region Ringette League: Eastern Region Ringette Association; Ringette Ontario; Ringette Canada.

The current UOVRA Executive is gathering and preserving digitally "everything Ringette." So, if you have a story, an experience, a special game, a picture etc. that you could contribute to the Ringette Story, contact me and I will help you get in touch.

Here is an interesting fact I found in a Wikipedia article: "The Canadian sport of Ringette, created in 1963, by Sam Jacks of North Bay is the last team sport in history to have been created exclusively for the female sex." Ringette does not have a male category! Other sports that females currently participate in were first all-male sports. Despite this fact, gender disparity still exists in the world of organized sport! By the way, the first game of Ringette was played in Espanola by high school girls under the guidance of Red McCarthy who was working closely with Sam Jacks to develop this new game.

The women's gold medal win in hockey, at the recent Beijing Olympics 2022, has proven once again that girls/women can excel in all sports! So, girls, be proud of your humble start by choosing "Ringette" as part of your recreational experience and pioneering and playing Ringette in your home towns and away and all that you have achieved in recreation and competitive sports! You have become an elite base of female sports players!

Ringette cont'd

Ringette is not as popular in the Westmeath area now because many of the young girls have grown up and/or moved away. Another factor is the lack of House League Teams and the cost associated with the Travelling Teams. Also, since Hockey has eliminated some body contact at certain age levels, the girls with their new ice skills can play up with the boys now!

It warmed my heart to learn recently that a young 15year old girl, "Jayda Boldt," with family ties in La Passe, is playing House League Ringette on an Ottawa Team!

Thanks to all the volunteers for catching the spirit of this new game and making it happen for the girls! Thanks to the Ringette Players and Parents for the walk down memory lane and those who shared information, pictures and helped me put this article together. We appreciate the past and current Executive Members of the Upper Ottawa Valley Ringette Association for sharing some thoughts on Ringette in the 1980's & 90's, as well as the current status of Ringette in the Valley. Also, special thanks to the WDRA and Editor, Lynn McMullen, for featuring this four-part Ringette Article in their Newsletter.

And, my daughter, Christine, shared her appreciation: "It's a nice story and it's nice that you're reflecting on gender equality and the contribution you made to it through Ringette. Thanks for starting it in the valley for us :-)!"

Catch a game! It is very exciting to watch!

Please feel free to contact me (Vince Gervais) by phone (613-587-4838) or E-Mail (vgervais@nrtco.net) with additional information!



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FOR HALL BOOKINGS
Please call Marg Gervais @ 613-587-4838



WHITEWATER SENIORS
Home Support & Active Living




WHITEWATER REGION

WHITEWATER SENIORS JUNE 2022

Seniors from all Whitewater Township communities are welcome to attend any event listed. Require transportation? If so, be sure to ask when you register. There are no costs unless stated.

<p>Wed June 1st Westmeath Recreation Centre 119 Synton Street 1:00pm—2:30 Snacks & Refreshments Sleep Susan Goldsmith</p>	<p>Fri June 3rd Haley United Church 760 Calvin Road 1:00—2:30pm Snacks and Refreshments Mind Your Brain Health Dementia Society</p>	<p>Tue June 7th St Paul's Anglican Church Hall 27 Crawford Street, Cobden 10:00—11:30am Snacks & Refreshments Fraud Awareness Part 1 Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre</p>
<p>Mon June 13th Whitewater Seniors 1765 Beachburg Road 1:00—2:30pm Snacks and Refreshments Fraud Awareness Part 1 Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre</p>	<p>Thur June 16th Westmeath Recreation Centre 119 Synton Street 1:00—2:30pm Snacks & Refreshments Osteoporosis, Posture & Fractures Physio House Calls</p>	<p>Fri June 17th Haley United Church 760 Calvin Road 1:00—2:30pm Snacks & Refreshments Fraud Awareness Part 2 Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre</p>
<p>Tue June 21st Westmeath Recreation Centre 119 Synton Street Time to be determined. Snacks & Refreshments Fraud Awareness Part 2 Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre</p>	<p>Wed June 22nd St Paul's Anglican Church Hall 27 Crawford Street, Cobden 1:00—2:30pm Snacks & Refreshments Reframing Aging Angie Lepine</p>	<p>Fri June 24th Beachburg United Church 1744 Beachburg Road Drop-in 11:30am—1:00pm Soup & Sandwich <i>Admission by Donation, no registration required</i></p>



REGISTRATION REQUIRED (unless otherwise stated).
Call Whitewater Seniors at 1-833-582-7004 or email seniors@whitewaterregion.ca

