

## **Black Gold League Game re-scheduling process**

V1 December, 2007

### **Play the Game.**

The BGL is focussed on providing players the opportunity to play the sport of ringette through league games and associated play offs. The league accomplishes this through the establishment of team pools and the scheduling of games in both session 1 and 2.

Quite simply, the goal of BGL is to have all games played. The guidance and policies are designed to encourage all teams to ensure this occurs. It is far easier to play the game as scheduled than reschedule or risk fines/suspensions/forfeits.

If a case occurs where a team cannot participate in a scheduled game, BGL has identified the process to follow that is reasonable to both teams and practical in a volunteer operated league with travel considerations and limited ice availability.

### **First, consider carefully whether a game must be rescheduled!**

BGL considers game rescheduling for (refer to BGL operations Manual section 12):

- ✓ Significant personal crisis (death or team crisis)
- ✓ AMA identified “road closed” or Environment Canada “extreme weather warning” at the time of the travel decision (as per these web sites)
  - It remains the responsibility of each parent to make their own travel decisions as they see appropriate.
  - BGL decisions will be based on these two sources.
- ✓ Out of town tournament participation
- ✓ Inability to field a team
- ✓ Lack of Referees or loss of ice.

BGL will not consider game postponements reasonable for reasons such as:

- ✘ Poor roads or weather (and certainly not for bad weather forecast 3-5 days in advance of a game date).
- ✘ Reduced rosters (in line with Ringette Alberta Rules and Operations Policies for minimum 7 regular players and use of affiliate players C I C 9 & C IV)
- ✘ Key player absence (missing stronger, weaker or even goalie)
- ✘ Coach absence (use other qualified on team roster or find alternate coach with BGL approval)
- ✘ Perceived lack of competitiveness
- ✘ General lack of interest to travel to a game
- ✘ Session #2 started and don't need to play outstanding Session #1 game.
- ✘ Tournament attendance
  - league games have priority over tournament games: for local tournaments work with tournament coordinator to schedule around the league game.
  - BGL schedules are developed with tournament attendance known at time scheduled is developed.

Implications of game rescheduling not complying with BGL intentions are outlined in BGL Operations Manual 1206/1207 and include cost reimbursement, fines, suspensions, forfeits and/or other treatment as identified by the BGL Executive.

## **If you must, ensure you know what you need to do to reschedule!**

Communicate, Communicate and Follow Process!

Refer to Black Gold Operations Manual 1203, 1204 and 1205.

Note:

- ✓ A BGL decision relating to cancelled games and associated penalties will be based on the BGL Operations Manual policies – read them to avoid surprises!
  1. A team may still face fine/forfeit even if they notify and offer alternate game slots – if the game does not get played!
- ✓ The BGL Scheduler, Statistician or VP has no role in rescheduling a league game. This is the teams' responsibility.
- ✓ Only the BGL VP can determine a game non-playable per BGL Operations Manual 1204. Assume it is to be rescheduled unless otherwise determined!
- ✓ Only the BGL VP can signify a tournament game as a rescheduled postponed game per BGL Operations Manual 1205.
- ✓ If requested, the VP may signify a Session #1 game cancelled if teams are in different pools in Session #2.

**And now the Process!** (Note local associations may include additional requirements)

1. Communicate Quickly and Frequently - as soon as you are aware of the need to postpone a game talk to the opposing team. This is usually via coaches/team managers.
  - a. It is good practice to use both email and phone to ensure prompt communication.
  - b. Notify association Referee-in-Chiefs / Referee Allocators & NARRA to avoid referee scheduling and expenses.
2. Typically, you will need to involve both associations' ice allocators to determine a replacement date and ice slot.
  - a. Replacement slots are to be offered by both the home team and visiting team, irrespective of who is cancelling, as per BGL Operations Manual 1204 and they must comply with section 9 Schedule Guidelines.
3. Two teams can negotiate as many slots as they like to schedule a replacement game.
  - a. BGL will only look at the minimum requirements as per BGL policies.
4. Notify the BGL Statistician via email of the rescheduled game.
  - a. Notify game is not being played and being rescheduled or Statistician will identify it as a not reported game.
  - b. Provide game #, original date/location, new date/location.
  - c. Statistician will pass to VP if not played within 2 weeks of original date
5. Notify the BGL VP only if an acceptable rescheduled game cannot be found.
  - a. Provide background details: game #, teams, reasons and attempted rescheduling.
  - b. The VP will determine associated penalties.