

GHA ICE SCHEDULER'S REPORT

The GHA administered to 8,475 hours of ice in the 2025-26 season including City Ice, Private Ice, and 774 hours of game ice from Russell and Cumberland. Though challenging on its own it would be impossible without the dedication, patience and cooperation of the **Area Schedulers**. Respects to

Blackburn – Caitlin Anstee
Cumberland – Kelly Lafranchise
East End - Mike Webb
Leitrim– Heather Brennae
Metcalf – Jason Poloski
Russell – Jennifer Dickie
Gloucester Minor Rangers – Dominic Bazinet
Ottawa Junior 67s AAA – Amy Del Rio
Upper Canada Cyclones - Laurie Heuff

The season started with its first disruption when Lois Kemp Arena did not open on September 8th and 35 hours a week had already been scheduled and had to be shifted for two weeks then right up to November 4th as a two-week expected closure extended to almost 8 weeks. Replacement ice in September was readily available but once games started in October cooperation from all areas was vital and all schedulers accommodated.

With 158 House League teams the game switches were essential. All teams of a level are exempt from one GHA Tournament but since tournaments are an essential part of the House League experience the schedule is not always accommodating. Competitive teams have already selected tournaments in July and the League is able to schedule around them but in most cases House League teams are not finalized and managers not named before the schedule must be generated. There were 250 game switches (almost 13%) and just twenty-seven game changes (less than 1.4% not including GHA/Cumberland or Russell game changes due to ice availability). This too would have been impossible without the support of the **Area Convenors**. Respects to

Blackburn – Eric Nadon
Cumberland – Cristina Crochetiere
East End – Leonard Howley
Leitrim – Kim Savard
Metcalf – Chris Rheaume
Russell – Kim Martel

Referee Assigning – Besides the number of House League games D9RA assigned Rep B/A and AA games as well as all GHA Area Tournaments. Thank you to Sean Reid, D9RA Assignor, who many times jumped in at the last minute for schedule and level changes, never complaining. Thank you to our District Referee-in-Chief, Kevin Graham, for assuring we have the best referees in the Branch.

To the GHA Board of Directors – thank you for your support throughout the season.

Upcoming Season – Metcalf Arena will be closed the entire 2026-27 season which will require patience and cooperation as all share in the disruption.

Karen Ouellette

GHA Ice Scheduler