

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE OTTAWA GIRLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
(the "OGHA")

The Annual General Meeting of the OGHA was held at St. Laurent Center – 525 Cote Street, Ottawa, Ontario on August 8th, 2023 at 6:30 pm, pursuant to notice given in accordance with the OGHA's by-laws.

1. Call to Order.

- a. Craig Azar (the "Chair") called the meeting to order. Based on the number of directors in attendance at the meeting, the Secretary determined that a quorum was present and stated that the meeting could proceed.

2. Opening remarks.

- a. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Directors present, Marc Lugert: Director of Marketing, Tahlia McBane: Treasurer, Martin Roussel: Registrar and Paola Gonzalez: Secretary.

2. Season run down and highlights.

- a. Last season we had 400 registrations, 11 House League Teams and 13 Competitive teams.
- b. Update on fundamentals. We are going to run the program again this year. We ran the program as a team, we got jerseys for them. The young ones loved the idea of being in a team, they had a group outing on the 67s.
- c. Tournament. This year, we hosted our tournament, Fundamentals got half ice games. They had a great time, we received positive feedback. Overall, we had 5 fundamental teams, house league teams, U18 and up was DS.
- d. We had a partnership with the 67s Junior level, they ran the development sessions.
- e. We are going further this year, for U9, U11 and U13 they are going to start development sessions middle of august.
- f. Marketing for our lower teams:
 - i. The numbers for our U9 and U11 teams are low. We need to try to increase numbers. We've reduced the fees, we need to improve our marketing. The U13 registrations were low up until tryouts, we now have two U13 teams.
 - ii. For U11, there are two people registered. It is not enough for a competitive team. Some members raised their concern about registrations, asked information about releases, the need to get feedback

from parents that have left. Members requested information about boundaries for girls' hockey.

- iii. Volunteers. A reminder that the OGHA needs more volunteers, there is an urgent need for a competitive convenor, communications coordinator who can assist with getting emails out. There is also a concern on amending the By-Laws which we will focus on this season.
- iv. Members asked what the numbers for registrations are. Confirmation that the numbers are low, U9 and U11 are each at 2 registrations.
- v. A member shared that registrations at U15AA tryouts were very slim, at the end families showed up. Acknowledgment that the OGHA needs to focus on communicating what makes OGHA special, it is the coaches, the community, there is something special about the OGHA.
- vi. The OGHA needs to build on volunteers. Sandy Hill has been our home arena, we have storage. The Canteen runs with volunteers, this season we will assign the canteen to a team.
- vii. The OGHA is officially getting new logos.
- viii. Aligning with the indigenous hockey drive. It was the weekend of June, the OGHA received a truck full of equipment. The OGHA received used equipment, they donate it to indigenous communities in Ontario.
- ix. The OGHA is working with Pro hockey life for discounts on various items.
- x. The Directors received some questions about the purchase of jerseys. Appreciation that players do not have to pay extra for jerseys. By doing this, we are making it a diverse association.
- xi. There is a need to create a sub-group to coordinate volunteers and equipment.

3. Review of the Financial Statements.

- a. The key thing to see is that the revenue compared from last year is very close.
- b. Ice rentals: the amount shows the ice that we did not use. We have ice sitting vacant. House League teams did not get enough ice. Every team has more than 24 hours of ice.
- c. Ice scheduler. Martin R. and Craig A. coordinate the ice scheduling. We still need an ice scheduler.
- d. With the tournament, we raised around \$30,000. We need more help this year. It was a really good experience, 14 teams participated, they mentioned that they want to come back for the tournament.
- e. On the expenses, we reported around \$10,000 last year.
- f. Referee and league fees. These fees change year to year, last year the decision was that we covered the 67s. This year they have higher registration fees.
- g. Expenses on storage and rental went up because the City of Ottawa had our old email address. These expenses came out in this years' financials.

4. Board of Directors elections.

- a. The Chair proceeded to give instructions for voting.

- b. On registration everyone received a ballot with the names of the nominees, the Chair asked to vote for four individuals. Rich Inomata will not be running. Tim Wilshaw wants to be added for a voting position.
- c. Currently the OGHA does not have additional Directors and Officers insurance.
- d. Presentations:
 - i. Owen Bourns: Originally from Ottawa, grew up playing competitive hockey. He has two daughters, they have been with the OGHA for six years. Why does he want to be a Director? As a user of the OGHA, he is not receiving a good service, there are not boundaries, there is a need to get customers. Lack of long-term vision which causes bleeding out. U13 and U11 teams are dying. He realizes there is no quick fix. The OGHA needs a 10-year plan. We need lots of people volunteering. It is an issue that the coach for U9 does not know the numbers for registrations. We need to ask ourselves why people is choosing the association? It is geography, members are not leaving because of price. Recommendation: We need transparent communication. We need high performance program. We have to retain players.
 - ii. Katie Curran (Jennifer Flanagan spoke on her behalf): Katie is the manager of U11 House League, daughter has played 2 years. She is on the Board of Directors for Ottawa East. She is an outstanding manager. COO of invest in Canada. She is CPA.
 - iii. Marc Lugert: In 2018 they moved from boys West end. The year after he joined it was one individual who ran the association on his own and it was all about the 67s. In the past all the coaches were male, over the past years we have changed it predominately. We are doing a good job at a high-level program. Started U13AA program last year. We volunteer around 25 hours per week. The more hands we get, the better it is going to be.
 - iv. Rob McAteer: Retainment, recruitment, wants to see more women participate. OGHA does not complete competitive teams. There is a massive gap on scores. He was a Director of the OGHA but stepped down. All he cares about is kids on the ice. The policy of not returning for 2 years has to go (it has to be 1 year). We are less liberal with the permission to skate. Going forward we need to come up with a strategy for permission to skate.
 - v. Martin Roussel. Came to the OGHA from Gloucester, daughter U22 going into second year. He is hearing negative feedback, we need to do something with the U9 and U11, believes what Shannon has done at the U22 level. We have a strong team, we need to fix the younger age groups, want to make sure House League gets the attention. Make sure they have House League ice to make sure they don't repeat that.
 - vi. Tim Wilshaw: Part of the OGHA fundamentals. They have always been part of the OGHA and is glad to report they have had a great experience. His daughter plays at U15BB, it has been a good year. We can offer and help to get volunteers. There are lots of opportunities. It has been a great experience.

- e. Chair announced members could proceed to vote for four directors, and announced a break to count the ballots.
 - f. Paola G. and Tahlia M. counted the ballots.
- 5. The new Board of Director's members for the OGHA were announced with the following being the new Directors:
 - a. Katie C.
 - b. Martin R.
 - c. Marc L.
 - d. Mijin K.

There being no other business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.