

# Nepean Girls Hockey Association (NGHA)

## 2019-2020 Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** July 6<sup>th</sup> 2020

**Time:** 7:00 pm

**Location:** Video-conferencing

**Present:** Tracey Gillies, Karen Major, Gerard Gagnon, Jarrett Thompson, Stephen Bent, Karla Clarke, Chad Chambers, Wendy Baldin, Les Banks, Keith MacEwen (guest)

**Regrets:** Tony Matson, Mike Speer

**1.0** Call to Order [President]: 7:05 pm

**2.0** Minutes from the June 16<sup>th</sup> 2020 Board of Directors meeting approved by Gerard Gagnon (seconder: Wendy Baldin)

**3.0** Operational and Program Updates [President, All]

Planning details for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) were discussed, including Member invitations and Zoom webinar specifics pertaining to security and voting. The administrative role was confirmed with Keith MacEwen. Based on questions from Members about the upcoming season, it was agreed that frequently asked questions would be addressed in an email communication to Members with brief mention at the AGM.

An update was provided regarding the projected 2020-21 season, as discussed in a teleconference with the Ontario Women's Hockey Association (OWHA). The following points were presented to the Board and will be sent to all Members in an email communication on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020:

- Hockey Canada and the OWHA have announced return to hockey guidelines, which are available on the OWHA website <http://www.owha.on.ca/>. This site will continue to provide updated information given the fluidity of the situation (under the Covid-19 pandemic).
- Hockey will look different this upcoming season. The protocols are mandated by OWHA and are province-wide, as outlined below.
  - You can only play with the Association you were registered with last season. The first phase does not allow for imports or new registrations. The reason you are being asked to register is to get an accurate number of players returning to hockey this year.
  - The NGHA will be forming groups that will have on ice numbers in line with Provincial regulations and OWHA guidelines (currently 10 maximum on ice participants). There will be at least one coach at the older levels and possibly two coaches on the ice at the younger levels. There will be no tryouts in this first phase. These groups are not necessarily the formation of future teams.

- The groups will attempt to pair up similar skill levels and age groups and we will attempt to keep the same players in the same groups through this phase.
- The return to hockey will be skills based while maintaining social distancing (no 3 on 3, scrimmages or battle drills for example).
- There will not be any games in this phase.
- Only coaches who coached last year will be able to coach a “group” of players.
- The next phase would possibly include larger numbers on the ice followed by a return to play with the formation of traditional teams. We do not know if the return to normal play phase will even happen, but it is not likely to happen until the New Year.
- In order to plan for the return to hockey, it is important that Members’ register for the upcoming season, as an intent to play. Before any payment will be requested for the season, the structure and cost will be detailed allowing everyone to make a final decision. This information is critical to confirm ice contracts for the upcoming season.
- A registration deadline of July 25th at 5pm will be requested in the email communication to Members. Members who have not registered by that time will be put on a waiting list and may not be guaranteed a spot. Once registration is completed, we will reconnect with our house league and competitive Members on what the return to hockey will look like.
- The NGHA will not be approving individual groups to go on the ice under our Association. Only approved groups will get ice time and authorization.
- Once the NGHA receives all the registration information, the process of planning out the different groups will start.

#### **4.0 Policy, Risk and Safety [Policy, Risk and Safety Director]**

An update was provided on the revised NGHA Constitution, as follows:

- These changes include revisions being made to align with guidance provided to all Associations by the OWHA;
- The structural changes to the Board of Directors in the Constitution are as follows: addition of two Competitive Director positions (offsetting each other with 1 and 2 year terms; addition of two House League Director positions (offsetting each other with 1 and 2 year terms); deletion of ‘Director at large’ position(s); and deletion of the Ice Director position (given the new paid Ice Scheduler position);
- The revised Constitution, with an overview of the main changes, will be posted on the NGHA website prior to the AGM for review by Members.
- A vote on approval of the revised Constitution will take place at the AGM.

#### **5.0 Registration [Registrar]**

An update was provided indicating that the OWHA is replacing their outdated system with a new one. The following was clarified regarding this new system:

- The new system also has registration capabilities where the OWHA would collect the fees for Associations and pass the fees back;
- While the new system is mandatory, we will be utilizing only the player and parent features at this time and not the registration portion where the OWHA would collect the money for us;

- For the upcoming season, the NGHA will use a combination of PowerUpSports and the new OWHA system.

## **6.0** Round table items

N/A

Motion to close the Board meeting by Tracey Gillies (seconder: Stephen Bent)

Meeting closed 8:19 pm