

Nepean Girls Hockey Association (NGHA)

2020-21 Board Meeting Minutes

Date: November 5th, 2020

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Video-conferencing

Present: Tracey Gillies, Karen Major, Lisa Camilucci, Gerard Gagnon, Stephen Bent, Wendy Baldin, Karla Clarke, Chad Chambers, Mike Speer, Karine Tremblay (guest)

Regrets: Tony Matson

1.0 Call to Order [President]: 7:35 pm

The meeting was called to discuss the Ontario provincial announcement indicating that hockey will be moving back to the '25 permitted into the arena' (as was in place prior to the 28-day restricted period of '10 on the ice'). Based on communications received, it is understood that starting this weekend, the NGHA will be moving back to 25 in a group permitted into the arena (including players, team staff and den moms) and dressing rooms will be opened but players are expected to come dressed with a small duffel bag containing their skates, helmet and gloves. It was confirmed that further communication with the City of Ottawa regarding the provincial announcement will be taking place to confirm any additional facilities changes. It was also reported that further clarification from the OWHA will be provided within a couple of days regarding hockey-specific direction. Until further details are provided, it was agreed that no scrimmages would be permitted for the weekend with modifications starting next week based on provincial direction.

A communication to Members will be sent following the Board meeting updating on the announcement and indicating that additional direction from Ottawa Public Health and the OWHA will be received in the coming days and thus, it is possible that some of the restrictions may change. The email will include links to the NGHA website Covid-19 related documents and indicate that beginning Saturday:

- Maximum of 25 people are permitted on the ice and in the ice area. This includes players, coaches, trainers and den moms. Coaches will be working with their volunteers to ensure all key roles (i.e. trainer, den mom) are covered within this limit.
- Health screenings using Team Snap and at the facility will continue.
- Mandatory masks at all times, except when on the ice.
- Social distancing at all times (2 metres / 6 feet).
- Players are still expected to arrive fully dressed (exception for goalie); however dressing rooms will again be re-opened for skates, helmets and gloves.
- No hockey bags are permitted. Small duffel bags only (exception for goalies).
- No spectators are permitted (exception for Fundamentals).
- No scrimmages or battle drills at this time (under review by the NGHA).

The following additional updates were provided:

- The Dymon Storage unit has been rented and NGHA equipment and jerseys can be moved into the unit.

- Programs committee will be meeting soon. Among the top priorities is to discuss concerns regarding goalie development.
- There have been reports of girls changing in the parking lots, which presents concerns regarding personal privacy. In particular, this has been observed with U18 teams and the PW team, which includes some players who drive themselves. Further consideration on this subject will be discussed including whether there could be leniency for dressing in the rooms for the U18 age group (taking into consideration that this age group includes girls who are driving themselves). Considerations of den mom requirements will also need to be discussed in light of the restricted numbers permitted into the arenas. Consultation with the U18 managers and trainers will take place to determine if there are any best practices that could be adopted to keep everyone safe while respecting the Covid-19 restrictions.
- The non-city ice providers (Carleton University and Sensplex) have communicated the allowance of 25 in the arena starting this weekend. There is a lack of clarity surrounding whether dressing rooms will be opened and available at Carleton University, which will require further clarification.
- The City of Ottawa is undertaking a complete ice reallocation. Thus, the NGHA ice assigned up to and including November 15th has been confirmed but ice assignments after that date may change. All ice allocated to teams will be carefully examined to ensure fairness and to confirm costs are correct. In some cases, teams may have missed ice because of Halloween or Thanksgiving etc,.. In these cases, the ice will be made up to ensure balance between teams.
- There was a call between all presidents from the Ottawa District Womens Hockey Associations. Discussions took place regarding whether scrimmages were being permitted and the majority of Associations were waiting for final direction from the OWHA. Gloucester were allowing scrimmaging for the time being. With respect to scrimmages for the PW team, the NGHA is waiting on feedback for approval.

7.0 Round table items

N/A

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

Meeting closed 8:18 pm