

Nepean Girls Hockey Association (NGHA)

2020-2021 Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 14th 2020

Time: 8:00 pm

Location: Videoconferencing

Present: Tracey Gillies, Karen Major, Gerard Gagnon, Stephen Bent, Karla Clarke, Chad Chambers, Wendy Baldin, Les Banks, Mike Speer, Lisa Camilucci, Jarrett Thompson

Regrets: Tony Matson

1.0 Call to Order [President]: 8:06 pm

2.0 Policy, Risk and Safety [Policy, Risk and Safety Director, President, All]

A discussion took place regarding recent Ontario government directives with respect to Covid-19 and the associated implications to minor hockey. Under the Government of Ontario measures to control the spread of Covid-19 in specific regions of the province, including Ottawa, additional targeted public health measures were implemented as of October 10th 2020. These measures included reducing limits for all social gatherings and organized public events to a maximum of 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors where physical distancing can be maintained. Specific to minor hockey, new restrictions limit team sports to training sessions (no games or scrimmages). Further clarification was provided by Ottawa Public Health on October 14th 2020, which confirmed that a maximum of 10 skaters including coaches, are permitted on the ice in any Ottawa indoor recreation facility (including public and private facilities). The use of dressing rooms was also communicated to be prohibited except for first aid purposes.

The Board discussed how these new measures affect the competitive and house league programs operationally. It was determined that additional clarification was required pertaining to whether the trainer is included in the '10' for all facilities, how to manage the 'two deep' rule for situations where players need to come off the ice (e.g. washroom), and whether there are any additional concerns which may create a scenario where safety may be compromised. It was acknowledged that safety for all of our players and volunteers is of utmost importance in all decisions being made.

The feasibility of program operations under the directive of 10 maximum on the ice was considered under two scenarios, as follows: 1) the trainer being on the bench is permitted outside the count of 10; or 2) the trainer regardless of being on the bench is included in the count of 10. It was determined that a division of teams into two or three, respectively, would be required to meet these restrictions. A discussion took place regarding the implications and potential concerns with the division of teams within the competitive and house league programs. Based on outstanding questions, the NGHA Board of Directors concluded that more time was required to assess the situation and to seek further clarification to ensure safety and determine feasibility for all programs.

It was decided that with a minimum of teams on the ice on October 15th, safe direction could be provided to those coaches to allow their practices to continue while complying with the criteria communicated to date by the applicable ice providers. It was also decided that a communication to all competitive coaches would be sent acknowledging the new directives and to advise that plans should be made to adapt practices to comply with the reduced numbers on the ice. It was confirmed that communication to all Members would be sent on October 15th 2020 to keep everyone informed and to assure that the health and safety of all Members remains the top priority of the NGHA.

It was determined that the Board would reconvene on October 15th once additional information was confirmed.

5.0 Round table items

N/A

Motion to close the Board meeting by Stephen Bent (seconder: Lisa Camilucci)

Meeting closed 9:01 pm