

Nepean Girls Hockey Association (NGHA)

2020-21 Board Meeting Minutes

Date: January 13th, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Video-conferencing

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

Regrets: Tony Matson

1.0 Call to Order [President]: 7:02 pm

2.0 Minutes from the December 14th 2020 Board of Directors' meeting approved by Lisa Camilucci (seconder: Wendy Baldin)

3.0 Opening Remarks [President]

It was reported that an email communication to Members will be sent this week. The communication will acknowledge the unknowns and uncertainties of the hockey season at this point given the lockdown situation and provide reassurance that once further direction and information are provided, Members will be apprised of updates.

A discussion took place regarding engaging interest from Members in volunteering with the NGHA. It was acknowledged that a number of Board Members are coming to the end of their terms and also have daughters who will be completing (or close to) their final U18 year with the Nepean Wildcats. The importance of succession planning, and ensuring continuity and knowledge transfer, was discussed. The engagement of new volunteers, especially of Members with daughters in the younger divisions who have several years remaining with the NGHA, was identified as a priority. It was acknowledged as ideal, especially for certain Board positions, to have an overlap period to allow for experience sharing and training opportunities.

4.0 Policy, Safety and Risk [Director of Policy, Risk and Safety, President, Vice President of Programs]

A recap was provided on the fall session with respect to the experience of Covid-related protocols and procedures. Overall, the fall session was considered successful in the implementation and management of Covid rules, protocols/ procedures and provided a safe program for both house league and competitive teams. Appreciation of Members' understanding and cooperation with all of the Covid protocols was acknowledged.

A discussion took place regarding possible contingencies when hockey is permitted to resume. The importance of a gradual return, and adapting protocols where necessary, was reinforced. Once further direction is provided on return to hockey, the Covid Committee will

resume to discuss implementation of Covid protocols and the need for any additional/ modifications to safety measures.

A discussion took place regarding Zoom activities for team development. Parameters have already been communicated to coaches and coach mentors regarding safety practices for team videoconferencing. Awareness of the amount of screen time for kids during the lockdown was also acknowledged highlighting the need for balance. The importance of connecting with NGHHA coaches and sharing safe/best practices for team development via videoconferencing was discussed.

5.0 Registration [Registrar]

A brief update on registration for the winter session was provided. It was reported that a minority of players have not signed up for the winter session to date.

6.0 House league [House League Directors]

A brief update was provided indicating that the program is in a holding pattern until further direction is provided on return to hockey.

Registration numbers were discussed with most teams carrying a full roster and only a few teams with 1-2 players not coming back. At U18, it was reported that registration is almost full (14-15 players/team). There have also been a few new registrants so these players will be added to available rosters.

It was reported that planning has started concerning bubbling teams together. It was recognized that this will depend on the return to hockey parameters.

A discussion took place regarding questioning from Members on plans to make up for the ice times that have been cancelled during the lockdown. It was acknowledged that it will be difficult to work through lost ice times until the NGHHA receives further direction on the season resuming. Further details will be worked through and communicated once the NGHHA receives direction on the remainder of the season.

7.0 Finance [Finance Administrator, President]

An update was provided that continuing work on the new operating budget is underway. A finance committee meeting will take place in the coming weeks to continue discussions on the budget items line by line.

8.0 Competitive [Vice President of Programs, Competitive Directors, President]

A brief update was provided indicating that the program is in a holding pattern until further direction is provided on return to hockey.

The importance of continued communication and support for the NGHHA coaches was raised as a priority since in many cases, Members are going to the coaches as a first point of contact to receive updates and information. An email update will be sent to the coaches and coach mentors in the coming days to offer support and provide updates on the current situation.

9.0 Operations [Vice President of Programs]

An update was provided indicating that the call for coaches for the 2021-22 season is being written and will be posted soon. A request form will be sent out starting with the Program of Excellence (POE) coach nominations first and then competitive and house league to follow.

It was also reported that coach surveys will be going out to Members soon to evaluate the head coaches from this year. A brief discussion took place regarding whether there would be any value in adding a question concerning Covid-related protocols in the survey to assist with future planning of what worked best. It was decided that this may be better assessed during the interview stage as specific coach views on safety protocols could be better communicated during an interview.

10.0 Round table items

n/a

Motion to close the Board meeting by Stephen Bent (seconded: Chad Chambers)

Meeting closed 7:37 pm