

# Nepean Girls Hockey Association (NGHA)

## 2020-2021 Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021

**Time:** 7:00 pm

**Location:** Videoconferencing

**Present:** Tracey Gillies, Karen Major, Gerard Gagnon, Stephen Bent, Karla Clarke, Chad Chambers, Lisa Camilucci

**Regrets:** Tony Matson, Mike Speer, Wendy Baldin

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

**2.0** Approval of minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting held on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 was deferred until next meeting.

**3.0** Updates [President]

The following updates were provided:

- The transition to the Covid-19 provincial response colour-coded framework from orange to red was seamless with respect to hockey given teams' previous experience with capacity limits and protocols specified under the red model.
- The 2020-21 season is almost at the finish line and the enormous amount of work that has gone into creating a safe program for Members was recognized.
- A meeting with the Ontario Women's Hockey Association (OWHA) was held last week. It was reported that there would be no tryouts prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> and that while everything is in a fluid context based on the Covid-19 pandemic, it is likely that there will only be local play for next season. Work will proceed with planning what may be best for evaluating players prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> while complying with the Covid-19 protocols, and may involve assessments outside of a traditional tryout format. Player releases are not proceeding at the moment as movements between associations are not being permitted. There will be a call with the OWHA Director of Operations to obtain further direction and information.
- Any development ice before September 1st can only include players who are currently registered with the NGHA this past season (i.e. no new players).
- D1 coaching certifications are being looked into to ensure they are in place for next year.
- The Mary Lou Zywicki bursary process will be rolled out shortly. It was announced that no Board Members would be part of the selection committee in order to avoid conflicts of interest. The President and Secretary will be working on the organization and roll-out.
- Winter ice for the 2021-22 season has just been received.
- It was announced that one of the Competitive Directors, Mike Speer, has submitted his resignation from the Board of Directors as he has decided to step away.

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

It was reported that all has been working well with the Covid-19 safety protocols and that the transition to the Red colour-coded protocols went well.

The quieter off-season period will be used to perform some housekeeping updates to NGHHA policy documents.

The planning for the Annual General Meeting was discussed with a suggestion to proceed with a virtual meeting in late May or early June.

It was suggested that monthly messaging to Members would be a good idea to continue communication with respect to any pertinent updates.

#### **5.0 Finance [Finance Administrator]**

No updates were provided.

#### **6.0 Registration [Registrar]**

The following updates were provided with respect to outstanding fees/refunds from the winter 2021 session:

- The refunds for the house league Members have been completed for those who were supposed to receive a refund.
- Within the Provincial Women (PW) team, there are still 8 players with outstanding portions of their fees to pay.
- Within the rest of the divisions, there are generally one or two players on every single team with outstanding portions of fees (i.e. they opted for the payment plan and never went back into the system to push the last payments in February). An email has been sent to convenors to expedite the process with additional emails going to competitive Members to ensure fees are paid. It was recognized that while the remaining amount per player is not large, there are around 300 Members owing money and thus, this amounts to a large sum owed to the NGHHA in total.
- A discussion took place as to whether there is any benefit in doing an intent to register for next season (as was done last spring). It was decided that this created some confusion last year and since OWHA is permitting registration to open in April, it is easier to proceed with registration rather than an intent to register preceding the actual registration.

#### **7.0 House League [Vice President of Programs, House League Directors]**

The following updates were provided:

- The transition back to 10 on the ice went well.
- The coaching applications were opened up for next season and have started to come in.
- Player evaluations are being received with additional evaluations expected within the coming week.

#### **8.0 Competitive [Competitive Directors]**

It was reported that all coaching interviews have been completed and the decisions on head coaching positions have been finalized.

It was acknowledged that all is going well with the Covid-19 protocols and there has been a lot of appreciation expressed that our strict rules and protocols allowed for the girls to be kept on the ice.

#### **9.0 Operations [Vice President of Programs]**

A big thanks and appreciation was offered for the tremendous work and effort that went into keeping the season going safely. It was acknowledged that while it would have been easy to stop operations, the extra work by the Board kept the season going.

It was reported that it has been a busy couple of weeks interviewing candidates for the 2021-22 season head coach positions. The following successful candidates were named by the selection committee:

#### 2021-2022 NGHHA HEAD COACHES

U18 A – Mike Smith

U18 A- Matt Klassen

U18 BB- Keith MacEwen

U18 BB- Jason Seymour/John Sunstrum

U18 B- Jeff Wingate

U15 A- Paul Lafrenier

U15 BB- Brent Brynes/Grace Armstrong

U15 B – Steve Clermont

U15 C – Mark Cepella

U13 AA- Cory Cosgrove/Jenn Marriner

U13 A- Dean O'Brien

U13 BB- Eric Pickering

U13 B- Burke Murphy/Andrea Johnston

U13 C- Pierre Bellefeuille

U11AA- Shannon McDougall/Mike Clark

U11A- Mitch Craig/Rob Mahoney

U11B- Alison Sargent/Kara Brush

U11C- Tim Underhill

In order to ensure a fair and consistent process, the committee was selected to avoid any conflicts of interest and followed a standard interview procedure (i.e. the same questions and process was used at all levels). It was reported that following the Board meeting, the list of successful applicants will be notified and the Communications Manager and Social Media Manager will post on website and social media. A reminder was provided that there will be no U9 competitive team this coming season, as per Hockey Canada direction.

The presentation of the successful list of Head Coaches for the 2021-22 season was not met with any objections by the Board Members.

#### **10.0 Round table items**

A quick discussion took place regarding the successful use of the League Teamsnap subscription this season. It was suggested that the Board consider proceeding with the league subscription for the next season and it was acknowledged that it offered a cost savings to individual teams.

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

Meeting closed 7:41 pm