

## **Nepean Girls Hockey Association (NGHA) 2021-2022 Board Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Time:** 7:30 pm

**Location:** Videoconference

**Present:** Claire Bellefeuille, Lisa Camilucci, Tracy Foster, Marty White, Chad Chambers, Kevin Singer, Rachel Ellison, Justin Jedlinski, Kim LeClair, Raymond Murphy

**Regrets:** Rob Mahoney

**1.0** Call to Order [President]: 7:32pm

**2.0** Approval of minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting held on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Approved by Claire Bellefeuille (Seconder Tracy)

### **3.0 Welcoming remarks [President]**

The President opened the meeting and set forth the expected tone for the upcoming season as prioritizing the four NGHA pillars: inclusion, safety, respect, and integrity.

The importance of transparent and honest interaction was recognized as critical for success as a Board. The Board members were asked to review the NGHA Constitution, especially with respect to their specific roles and responsibilities and the importance of following rules and NGHA policies was emphasized. A reminder was provided to respect confidentiality and professionalism at all times, including not discussing Board-related content in front of Board Members' children, players or to Members.

To facilitate productive Board meetings, it was requested that agenda items be submitted prior to the meetings, when possible, to enable preparation for the meetings and provide time for information gathering and questions in advance. The importance of reviewing the previous Board meeting minutes prior to each meeting was emphasized.

An overview of all of the Board committees was provided – Competitive Committee, House League Committee, Finance Committee, COVID Committee (hopefully not required this season).

### **4.0 Updates [President/Secretary]**

#### **President's Update**

**Move to RAMP**

Following last season's directive to move to RAMP online game sheets for recording all games, OWHA has mandated that all associations also move to RAMP for registration. As such, we have severed our contract with PowerUp sports and are now using this system. We moved to the RAMP website content management system last season and it has been working well. Chris Dunn has been providing some design support. All the RAMP systems are connected, which is a good case for us moving to the RAMP Teams App (which is similar to TeamSnap) but far less expensive.

We had been working with Bill Courchaine, but due to a change in his personal circumstance he no longer has the bandwidth to take on such a significant role in our organization. He has provided some ideas for us around goalie development and support for coaches, as has set us up with an Association account with CoachThem – an online coaching tool that all of our competitive and house league coaches will be able to access to design drills and create practice plans. This will be a huge help to coaches who have less experience in this area.

We have talked about this a bit before, but at a recent competitive committee meeting we more seriously discussed the idea of starting a fund to provide non-parent women assistant coaches with an honorarium to off-set the cost of volunteering. We have plenty of money in our BINGO fund that we have earmarked for this, and we could feasibly provide \$1000 that could go towards the cost of attending an away tournament. Coaches would have to apply, by making a request and telling us a bit about their non-parent woman assistant coach, and the Finance Committee could render a decision.

***Motion put forward to provide \$1000 to non-parent women assistant coaches who apply for funding to attend an away tournament. Motion passed unanimously.***

## **5.0 Programs Update**

Ice Scheduler is working on the allocating ice and developing schedule for the upcoming season.

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

Some teams are planning travel to the US for games or tournaments. We need to make sure all teams are aware that in order to do this, they must complete a travel permit in RAMP and have that approved in advance, and they must also purchase third party insurance that covers injuries incurred while playing sports in order to travel to another country to play hockey. OWHA/Hockey Canada does not cover insurance for international or inter-province travel (with the exception of Gatineau).

## **7.0 Finance [Treasurer]**

At present, all ice contracts have been signed. Treasurer will be working with Ice Scheduler to determine the blended ice cost for this season based on costs in contracts.

As things are so busy and there are so many cheques that need to be written on a regular basis, we need a third co-signer to expedite cheques. Director of Policy, Risk and Safety will take on this role going forward.

Treasurer provided an update on finances and confirmed we are in good shape for this year, based on registration fees to date, and has no concerns.

## **7.0 Registration [Registrar]**

### **Registration**

At this time, for U13-U18 we have about 160 players registered per level. For U9 we have 65 registered and for U11 we have 142 registered. There is still time for more players to register and we will likely keep registration open until the end of the month. Registration for U9 and U11 tryouts is not as high as we anticipated but more may register in the coming days.

## **8.0 House League [House League Directors]**

We are currently working on coach selections for house league teams and final decisions will be made in the coming weeks.

### **Sortouts**

U13-U18 will take place on the weekend of September 17-18.

U9-U11 will take place on weekend of September 23-24.

We are finding that we are losing goalies and would like to implement the goalie incentive we discussed last season to be in line with what other associations are providing. This would only apply to house league goalies, but we can discuss a way to provide some extra support to competitive goalies as well for equal value. The idea is that we would provide a rebate of 50% to players who play full time, and 25% to players who play part time (must play minimum of 10 games and 1 tournament). We would provide at the end of the season, after the coach has confirmed the goalie has honoured their commitment. This could potentially cost \$8,000 in registration fees.

***Motion put forward to support goalie development in House League and Competitive programs. Motion passed unanimously.***

NGHA has been approached by KGHA to join HL teams. Registration to date is lower than it has been in the past and this might be a good way to provide some variety to teams, by allowing them to play against both KGHA and NGHA house league teams. We commit to exploring this further in the coming days.

## **9.0 Competitive [Competitive Director]**

### **Convenors**

Convenors for competitive divisions have now been confirmed and added to the website. We are planning on creating a 'Convening 101' document to provide guidance to new and returning convenors.

### **Funding for Non-Parent Women Assistant Coaches**

We are developing an approval process for teams to access funds for Non-Parent Women Assistant Coaches. The funding will come out of the BINGO account and the teams of the eligible coaches will receive \$1000 to put towards the coach's expenses for away tournaments.

### **U9/U11 Pathways and Tryouts**

We are currently working on a plan for U9/U11 tryouts and pathways. These ice times will begin after Labour Day as per Hockey Canada requirements. We will need a large number of volunteers to make this work and will reach out to coaches and members for help. U9/U11 coaches have been selected and announced on the website.

### **U18C Tryouts**

We have elected to proceed with U18C tryouts for players who are interested. There will be no cost to players who paid for tryouts in the spring. Players who did not attend tryouts in the spring will pay \$125 or \$175 if a tryout jersey is required. Tryouts will take place September 6 and 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **10.0 Operations [Vice President of Operations]**

N/A

### **11.0 Round table items**

Motion to close the board meeting by Claire Bellefeuille (seconded: Marty White).

Meeting closed at 8:53pm.