

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

Date: October 4th, 2022

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Videoconference

Present: Claire Bellefeuille, Lisa Camilucci, Tracy Foster, Chad Chambers, Rachel Ellison, Justin Jedlinski, Rob Mahoney, Melanie Byrnes (10 minutes), Jennifer Wetmore (10 mins)

Regrets: Kevin Singer, Marty White, Kim LeClair, Raymond Murphy

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

2.0 Approval of minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting held on August 10th, 2022.
Approved by Rob Mahoney (Seconder Rachel Ellison)

3.0 Welcoming remarks [President]

President introduced Melanie Byrnes and Jennifer Wetmore to discuss the possibility of purchasing new NGHA/DIFD medals.

4.0 2023 & 2024 DIFD/NGHA Medals [Melanie Byrnes and Jennifer Wetmore]

Discussions began during this past Summer regarding replacing some of the NGHA medals, particularly for DIFD to better reflect the meaning/intent behind the event. We reviewed medals handed out by other associations that incorporated designs representing their brand and felt that a change was needed.

To offset the \$12,000.00 cost of the medals we are proposing to run silent auctions at both the House League and Competitive weekends for the next two years. Additionally, the Sensplex is offering to donate \$2000.00 to the association for this year only as they typically provide medals for tournaments hosted at their facilities and are willing to transfer that cost into a donation to the association.

Medals handed out during the NGHA championship weekend will continue to use the current version. With further information coming for U9 and FUNdamentals as we need to do a count of our inventory and update the House League Directors.

As part of our efforts, we researched 5 different suppliers including those in China and Canada, including suppliers used for previous NGHA events. We found a supplier out of China that offers an excellent rate, shipment via air (instead of ocean) and has excellent ratings.

Motion put forward to approve the \$12,000.00 to order new medals. Motion passed unanimously.

5.0 Updates [President/Secretary]

President's Update:

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time in getting our season underway, and we're all looking forward to a fun and successful season for our girls on the ice. With competitive teams already traveling to out-of-town tournaments and house league seasons about to begin it is certainly an exciting time.

Also ask that we as board members think about the idea of asking for help or identifying tasks that non-board members can take on to assist us in our roles. By increasing our volunteer base, we can accomplish more and hopefully find a balance with our non-NGHA activities. Also, would like us to think about documenting how we accomplish NGHA activities to assist in succession planning for future board members by providing that advice and guidance when they assume positions within the NGHA.

6.0 Operations [Vice President of Operations]

Our programs are up and running and much of that is due to the many volunteers and their efforts in getting all the teams in place and on the ice. Ice schedules are being organized and provided to teams, including extra ice acquired from other associations. It's been a successful start to the year and we're looking forward to a return to a normal hockey season.

Motion put forward to assist our ADP programs in securing financial support for highly qualified non-parent coaches. Teams are willing to take on most of the cost, but we have encountered scenarios concerning higher than anticipated transportation costs for these individuals to and from out-of-town tournaments. Recommending the use of our Bingo Fund to assist in compensating coaches as the end goal is to ensure that these coaches stay in our association. We will put together a framework outlining the criteria required to offset expenses for non-parent coaches. Motion passed unanimously.

3.0 Policy, Risk and Safety [Policy, Risk and Safety Director]

N/A

4.0 Finance [Treasurer]

N/A

7.0 Registration [Registrar]

The NGHA currently has 830 girls registered, an increase from last year. With the lifting of pandemic restrictions there has been an increase in movement between associations. Most of the competitive teams have been registered with just a few remaining. Considerations for next year to smooth out the process may include introducing a deadline for competitive teams given the earlier start to the season and bringing in another volunteer to help.

8.0 House League [House League Directors]

House League sort outs were a success, and all divisions are now up and running. U13, U15 and U18 started playing games last weekend and U11 and U9 started practicing this weekend. We expect we'll need to do some balancing in the coming weeks at U18, U15 and possibly U13. All balancing will be done before the end of October.

We are already starting to see progress with our new goalie incentive - we had several new goalies step up - especially at the lower levels (U11, U13). Many parents indicated this incentive as the reason their daughter has agreed to play goalie this season. We also had one girl come forward in U18, which we were not expecting at all - that leaves us with just one team without a goalie at U18, instead of the two we were anticipating. Moving forward, we need to keep focusing on goalie development - and look at running another "come try goalie" for U9 & U11 - we did that last season, as most of the new goalies for U11 attended that session.

Coming up next for House League:

- We are holding our managers meeting tomorrow night in person at Minto's Cambrian room from 7:30 - 9:30 pm and we are planning for Ice Fest weekend October 15-16.
- We'll open the application process for DS coaches after Thanksgiving & we will send a survey out to U18 players to see what the interest is there - typically we don't have a lot of interest at U18, but we have gotten some questions, so we'll put it out there.
- DS tryouts will be held later in November - we will provide an update on this at our next board meeting.

Finally, we have been working on sorting through jerseys, making complete sets, etc. for several years now. We've begun purging some of the older, damaged jerseys and making complete sets with the better jerseys. It's a huge undertaking and as an association we need someone who can manage this on a consistent basis moving forward. We are proposing to put a motion on the board to hire someone to manage both house jerseys and the ordering and distribution of competitive jerseys.

Motion put forward to hire a person to handle the NGHHA jersey inventory at a cost of \$2000.00/year. Motion passed unanimously.

9.0 Competitive [Competitive Director]

A busy tryout season has come to an end, including the introduction of a U18C team. Several teams have begun travelling to out-of-town tournaments with regular season kicking off this weekend despite some scheduling difficulties. There is concern about goalies at the younger level and this is something that will be monitored in the coming years. Ideas concerning how to get more girls interested in playing the position are being investigated, including possibly running a NGHHA goalie camp for non-goalies to get some exposure to the position. All in attendance agreed that this is an idea worth investigating. Hoping to finalize budgets soon and pass along the team fee information to parents.

10.0 Operations [Vice President of Operations]

N/A

11.0 Round table items

Motion to close the board meeting by Claire Bellefeuille (seconder: Rachel Ellison).

Meeting closed at 8:43pm.