

Board Meeting - Minutes

January 8th, 2026 - 7-9pm
Echo Room, Minto Rec. Centre

Present: Lisa T, Lisa C, Rob S, Lina C, Shannon S, Tara M, Glenn B, Eric P, Laura R, Shawn R and Lindsay W

Absent: Estelle

President

1. Welcome and comments.
2. Approval of the minutes of November 6th.

Administration

3. Tracksuit update – the invoice has been paid.

VP Operations

4. DIFD:
 - Silent auction items.
 - Still looking for gifts for the silent auction. Will put a request out through social media.
 - Volunteers/ideas for help for House League tournament.
 - Have put a call out for volunteers through social media.
 - Lisa C. is coordinating the schedule.
 - Competitive looking for rink coordinators for the two rinks; Sensplex and Richcraft.
 - NGHHA contribution/donation to DIFD charity.
 - Proposal to give all the 50:50, Canteen and Silent Auction money go to DIFD – Approved.
 - Request for \$500 for printing – Approved.
 - Teams looking for Affiliates should follow the regular season process.

Policy

5. Volunteer policy – Approved.
6. Injury reporting policy - who wants to provide input in addition to people already included (NGHA President, VP Operations, Secretary).
 - The Board is aware that the current policy is not being followed. The policy will be reviewed and updated if necessary.
 - Also, a recommendation to review the injury logs periodically during the season and at the end to see if trends are developing.
7. Non-parent coach reimbursement policy to be update. Will be sent for first review and consultation.
8. Competitive Manager portal and some posted policies have some discrepancies that need to be addressed to ensure consistency.
9. Decommitment policy.
 - The Association has experienced a higher-than-normal number of girls who withdraw after being offered a place on a team. This has significant knock-on impact beyond the team the girl withdraws from and creates a lot of work to resolve.
 - Lina to undertake an analysis of why girls decide to withdraw.
 - Options to deter withdrawals were discussed. Eric to consolidate and circulate.

Competitive

10. Mid-season coach/staff survey and coach calls.
 - Only two calls left to do.
 - The season is going well with lots of positive feedback. Seems to be a good year for coaches.
11. Competitive coach applications are ongoing (due Friday).
12. U9 Competitive - new season finale, city-wide round robin tourney (vs. Provincials).
 - Teams in U9 loop looking to do a weekend tournament on their own. Not going to Provincials.

Upcoming

13. 26/27 Competitive coach selection.

14. 26/27 Spring tryout planning.

House League

15. Update on FUNdamental on-ice helper pilot.

- 53 applications in total received, we selected 20 participants to start
- We picked an even number of competitive and HL players from across U15 to U18
- Goal was to select a wide variety from different teams to ensure the widest availability
- We'll review the pilot in the coming months and decide in the summer if we will continue
- More strict messaging will need to be communicated at the start of the year regarding parents hovering on the bench as it creates challenges, distractions and safety concerns

16. Update on the HL Coach Mentor pilot.

- Our HL Coach mentor pilot is going very well. Kim's primary focus has been on U9 and U11 teams. She has also responded and met with other coaches one-on-one to help them work through some specific challenges throughout the season.
- Her daughter, Aly, who is one of our recently graduated goalies has also been providing support
- We'll meet with Kim in the next month or so to go over the pilot and our plans for next season

17. Update on Ready. Set. Skate. Program.

- This is a partnership with the PWHL and Bauer
- 6 of 8 coaches have applied so far (mix of HL and comp coaches)
- Registration will remain open until 2 weeks prior to the start date (Feb 21)

18. Coach evaluations.

- Results have been coming in. We are monitoring for any issues that need to be addressed ahead of the conclusion of the season.

19. DS update.

- In total, we had 93 players registered for DS tryouts across all 3 levels this year. U13 is by far the most popular age group for DS. We had the most releases at that level.
- Teams have been rostered and have been practicing. A few games have been played

20. Player withdrawals.

- We've had some challenges with players who register and then withdraw for medical or personal reasons in October or November.
- Parents will be asked to follow procedure and submit email to Secretary for consideration of refunds.
- The Association will make teams who have lost players whole if there is a shortfall in funds, as the withdrawn players have not paid team fees for the season, and there were no players to pull from the waitlist.

21. Championship Weekend - motion for funds - \$2,000 total (will cover volunteer meals, decorations, U9 loot bags (or medals)), player of the game if no sponsor is found, etc.).

22. Request for a \$500 allotment for Graduation Game.

- Lisa proposed. Laura seconded. Approved.
- Suggestion to present Graduation Pucks to both competitive and HL players -.Eric to get numbers to Lisa C. Lisa C will order the pucks on behalf of the Association.

23. HL medal update.

- U11H5 - silver in North York
- U11H6 - silver in Ennismore
- U15H3 - silver in Smiths Falls
- U13H3 - silver in East Ottawa and silver in Kingston
- U15H4 - gold in Peterborough

Programs

24. Ice Scheduler Mid-year update - Jamie Leppard

- Going well do far. Less burnt ice.
- Late night ice gone to adult teams.
- January is a challenging month. A lot of teams on the ice and other associations have competitions.
- Spring Tryouts. Buying ice for month of April.
- Price of ice has gone up again in January by 2%, which is approximately \$4 per hour.

- Should project \$270 per hour for next season.
- Next season – need decide on 4:15pm ice. Teams found it difficult to commit to this timeslot.
- The Ice Scheduler has direct contact with teams, which has been going well, so happy to continue with this arrangement. Lisa C. is the main point of contact for House League.

Finance

25. Funds are being dispersed responsibly.
26. Operating account healthy.
27. There is still some ice to pay for.
28. Bingo still has funds.

Any Other Business

29. Proposal to increase scheduler fee by \$1k per year. Proposed by Eric P. and seconded by Laura R. Approved.

Date of next meeting: February 19th, 2026.