



NEW HAMBURG HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Tuesday, April 24, 2018
Time: 7:00pm
Location: 2nd Floor Meeting Room, Wilmot Recreation Complex

ATTENDEES:

Walter Boettger	Charlie Bronson	Mark Calder	Don Culbert
Alex Davidson	Al Dennison	Jeremy Ernst	Sandra Forde
Brad Forler	Kory Green	Kyle Hillar	Trevor Hunter
Nathan Joseph	Dave Mark	Stephanie Mitchell-Hodge	Sheila Nelson
Melissa Pfaff	Chip Seiling	Darryl Smith	Tony Titus
Rob Waechter	Mike Walter		

Total = 22

1. CALL TO ORDER

NHHA President Dave Mark welcomed everyone & called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. Those in attendance were reminded to sign in & to pick up the handouts provided.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Dave Mark indicated that there would be a slight change in the order of the agenda as distributed. Item 10 – Election of 2018-19 Executive will be done after Item 6 so that the scrutineers can count ballots while Items 7 – 9 are being discussed.

Motion: THAT the agenda be accepted as presented, with the above noted change.

Moved: Alex Davidson **Seconded:** Tony Titus

CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS AGM MINUTES

It was indicated that the minutes for the 2017 AGM are unavailable at this time & therefore unable to be approved at tonight's meeting. As soon as the minutes are obtained they will be made available to the members.

4. REGISTRATION REPORT (Dave Mark for Allison Soulliere)

Due to the rising costs of ice time (seems to be an annual increase from the Township of 2%), & the lack of increase in fees over the past few years, it was decided by The Board that player registration fees for the 2018-19 season will increase by \$10/player. Members are asked to prepare for a small increase everything year for the next few years due to the continual rising costs.

Registration is open for the upcoming season with the deadline being June 30, 2018. Please note: you do not need to register for the season when you register for tryouts.

Registration fees for the 2018-19 season (when paid by the deadline of June 30, 2018) will be as follows:

Level	Birth Year	Fees
Initiation	2012, 2013 & 2014	\$495
Novice	2010 & 2011	\$545
Atom	2008 & 2009	\$545
PeeWee	2006 & 2007	\$545
Bantam	2004 & 2005	\$610
Midget	2001, 2002 & 2003	\$610
Juvenile	1998, 1999 & 2000	\$720

Rep fees will remain unchanged, as follows:

Novice thru to PeeWee	\$290
Bantam & Midget	\$350
Juvenile	Included in registration fee

Approximately 591 players registered & played in the 2017-18 season for 37 teams. That is up from 583 players in the previous season. Numbers have been steadily increasing for the past decade.

Question from member: How many teams were there in the 2016-17 season? Dave indicated there were 38 teams but some of the local league teams had only 12 players which wasn't enough. The 2017-18 season saw one fewer team but the local league teams had more players.

5. COACH SELECTION COMMITTEE (Darryl Smith)

The committee has been working on a coach's manual over the past few years that is current on the website under Coaches/Coaches Resources. It is a working document that is there to help coaches successfully navigate the entire season. As the committee receives feedback from coaches, they are continually adding to & tweaking the content. Feedback from coaches has been positive. Note: this manual is both for coaches at all levels of the Association, from local league through to A.

We are still recruiting for a Bantam A head coach & for local league coaches at all levels. It is unclear whether or not there will be a Bantam or Midget AE team. There will be tryouts held for these teams & numbers will determine whether or not there will be AE teams for Bantam or Midget for the 2018-19 season.

Question from member – Is it getting harder to find coaches? Darryl indicated that it is getting harder every year.

Question from member – Is it possible to get a sponsorship letter template from the Association that can be customized by each team to hand out to potential sponsors at the team level? Al Dennison indicated that at this point there is no template letter but that it could be looked into. In the meantime, if a team is looking for Association letterhead to create their own team sponsorship letters, to please contact a member of The Board.

6. EQUIPMENT (Dave Mark for Eddie Lewis)

Darren Norley & Eddie Lewis manage the equipment for the Association, with everything from jerseys, trainer's kits, pucks, etc. Their goal is to provide maximum resources to players & coaches while remaining fiscally responsible to the Association & its members. They do a phenomenal job of this considering all the challenges they face.

The challenges they faced in 2017-18 were the increased number of players & changes to the number of teams at each level, the transition to newer jerseys & managing the sizes & quality, meeting the needs of each level & age group & to control loss/theft/misuse of equipment & game sheets.

Looking towards the 2018-19 season:

- The focus will be to have improved communication with the coaching staff.
- We understand it is natural for individuals to be selfish to the needs of their team or league, however staff & families are reminded that Board members are forced to make some difficult decisions while thinking in a global mind set & after considering as many aspects as possible.
- Feedback sessions from the 2017-18 season were completed, the information was taken seriously & is appreciated. Adjustments will be made to try & remedy the issues & to improve.
- Tasks will be to manage replacement of jerseys, the space constraints & the cost of operating

They are looking at replacing 5 sets of jerseys this year. The Association is moving into the third year of a jersey contract with Bauer & we have been notified that the jersey we have been using will no longer be available. This coming year, the Board will be looking into the jersey system as a whole as some big decisions need to be made.

Question from member – What is the lifespan of a jersey? Dave indicated that for initiation through to PeeWee the lifespan is anywhere from 3-6 years. For Bantam, Midget & Juvenile we are lucky if we get three years.

Question from member – Why are we the only Association that doesn't have names on the back of our jersey? Dave indicated that when the Association switched from Adidas to Bauer jerseys approximately 5 years ago the decision was that names would not be allowed on the back of the jersey. This was in large part due to the fact that jerseys were being ruined when individuals were sewing on & removing the names. Name bars with Velcro were also tearing the jerseys when the names were removed. Unfortunately the quality of jerseys has declined over the years.

Question from member – Can individual teams decide to purchase their own team jerseys? Dave indicated that the Association wants a uniform look to all the teams & at this time, teams are not to be purchasing their own jerseys.

Question from member – With the change to the initiation program there are more goalies on the ice now. Is it possible to get more goalie equipment & some smaller sticks for the smaller kids? Dave indicated that smaller sticks are already being looked into & that goalie equipment has typically been donated by CCM & Bauer & that we will look into ensuring there is more equipment. Mark Calder

indicated there are two new sets that can be used. Brad Forler (a member) said that he has some goalie equipment & sticks that his sons have out grown that he would donate to the Association. Al Dennison thanked Brad for his offer & suggested there may be other members with possible donations if we just put a call out to the membership on the website.

7. OMHA CONTACT/TRI-COUNTY/GRAND RIVER (Alex Davidson)

OMHA has partnered with GameSheet Inc. regarding electronic game sheets & is endorsing the use & transition to these game sheets. We are looking at implementing these electronic game sheets but all leagues that we currently belong to would also have to implement. Currently Tri-County is interested, but Southern Counties & Grand River are likely not.

Question from member – What is the cost? Alex indicated there is an annual fee of \$250 plus \$2/game, as well the Association would have to purchase iPads (likely three). However he doesn't believe the cost per game would be much more than costs incurred currently with mailing each individual game sheet. Also, the time commitment for Eddie Lewis would be significantly less as game sheets would be submitted instantly & electronically.

The AGM for OMHA is June 8th & 9th. NHHA typically sends a few representatives.

Tri-County is looking at making some changes to their divisions as the biggest complaint from centres was the travel time. Nothing has been sorted out yet but we can expect some changes.

Southern Counties has approved our request for the 2018-19 season to continue with them for our AE program. A lot of the smaller centres in the league are struggling with numbers. There is a possibility that our AE teams may end up playing some C teams in these centres however Alex assured everyone that our teams will be competitive against them. A member spoke up & agreed with Alex as he has watched C teams play in these small centres.

Grand River has indicated that Beverly & Embro will not have rep teams this coming year & therefore there is a concern that their local league teams will "clean house". This is unclear but Grand River indicates that they will watch the season closely & ensure that there is fair competition. They are also looking at getting the number of penalties in Midget under control.

8. ICE SCHEDULER (Dave Mark for Mike Eichler)

Mike has been busy scheduling all of the spring tryouts for A & AE teams. He has exhibition games scheduled for all teams.

User's ice meeting is tomorrow evening (April 25th) with The Township. Dave & Al will be attending & will be asking for additional ice time. They do this every year & every year they are told there is no additional ice available. This is the reason why we have to branch out to Plattsville & Wellesley for additional ice time. During peak season, the Association has about 68 hours of ice time each week.

Question from member – Approximately how much of our total ice time is in Plattsville & Wellesley. Dave answered that it's only about 1%.

Alex Davidson wanted it noted that any non-league or playoff game requires teams to obtain "travel permits". Travel permits are required regardless if the game is home or away. When exhibition games

or tournaments are confirmed, please contact the ice scheduler ASAP to ensure it gets on the team calendar. Alex also needs to be contacted with the game information so that he can apply for the travel permit.

9. TREASURER'S REPORT (Mark Calder)

At last year's AGM, the fiscal year end was changed to March 31st, from May 31st.

Total assets at March 31, 2018 comprising operating cash & an investment portfolio amounted to \$140,453. The prior year saw assets of \$181,000.

The 2017-18 year had a breakeven budget of \$405,400. Actual resulted in a deficit of \$47,357. This is due to a number of expense items as follows:

Outlay	Budget	Actual
Jersey replacement	\$10,000	\$22,418
Ice rental	\$264,000	\$274,932
Office & computer	\$1,000	\$5,029
OMHA insurance	\$25,000	\$32,098
Player development	\$0	\$5,029

There was also \$16,275 in registration refunds in the year for players moving to AAA & for the cancelled Bantam AE team.

The constitution states that the Association is required to maintain a minimum Accumulated Surplus of 10% of total revenue & should not exceed 15% of total revenue. At the yearend, with revenue of \$400,179 the Accumulated Surplus should not exceed \$60,027. Being that the Accumulated Surplus exceeds this amount, the budget for the 2018-19 season is showing as a deficit of \$34,540 in an effort to align with the constitution. The goal for the end of fiscal March 31, 2018 is to have an Accumulated Surplus of \$70,000.

The 2018-19 is expected to be a high cost year as costs continue to increase. Ice rental costs have increased approximately 2% each year for the past number of years. OMHA insurance fees continue to increase as well. This year will also mark the first year without the Bauer rebate as Bauer has eliminated this program. The rising costs & unknowns regarding the jersey program is also a concern, with the budget for equipment & jerseys coming in at \$27,000.

Stan Puklicz sent a written report in his role of auditor for the NHHA. He reported that the financial records were in good and proper order & complimented Mark Calder on the excellent job he has done. He also noted that he has not performed a full-fledged financial audit of the records. That he merely carried out a cursory examination, although a detailed one.

Starting April 1, 2018, Sandra Forde (a Board member) will be performing a periodic review of the financial statements. Sandra will have read-only access to the banking & investment information & will not have cheque signing authority. Sandra will report directly to Dave Mark, the president.

10. APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER

Dave Mark thanked Mark Calder for all that he has done for the Association as the Treasurer.

Motion: THAT Mark Calder be appointed Treasurer for the 2018-19 & 2019-20 fiscal years.

Moved: Dave Mark **Seconded:** Chip Seiling

CARRIED

11. ELECTION OF 2018-19 EXECUTIVE

Members returning for the 2018-19 year:

Position	Returnee
Vice President	Allan Dennison
Secretary	Alex Davidson
1 Year Directors:	Sandra Forde
	Eddie Lewis
	Darren Norley
	Chip Seiling
	Tony Titus
	Mike Walter

Motion: THAT Walter Boettger be appointed Electioneer for the election of the Board of Directors for the 2018-19 business year, June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019; And THAT the chair of the meeting be passed to Walter to oversee the details of the elections.

Moved: Kory Green **Seconded:** Tony Titus

CARRIED

The chair of the meeting was turned over to Walter Boettger.

Motion: THAT Charlie Bronson & Don Culbert be appointed scrutineers for the elections for the purpose of assisting the Electioneer.

Moved: Chip Seiling **Seconded:** Darryl Smith

CARRIED

Positions to be elected/incumbents:

Position	Incumbent
President	Dave Mark
2 Year Directors:	Mike Eichler
	Trevor Hunter
	Nathan Joseph
	Darryl Smith
	Allison Soulliere
	David Wheeler

Motion: THAT nominations for President be opened; and THAT nominations be received from the floor.

Moved: Chip Seiling **Seconded:** Tony Titus

CARRIED

Nominee	Nominated By	Seconded	Decision
Dave Mark	Mark Calder	Kory Green	Stand

Motion: THAT nominations for President be closed.

Moved: Darryl Smith **Seconded:** Chip Seiling

CARRIED

PRESIDENT: DAVE MARK

Motion: THAT nominations for Two-Year Director be opened; and THAT nominations be received from the floor.

Moved: Mark Calder **Seconded:** Kory Green

Nominee	Nominated By	Seconded	Decision
Mike Eichler	Chip Seiling	Mark Calder	Stand
Nathan Joseph	Mark Calder	Tony Titus	Stand
Darryl Smith	Kory Green	Al Dennison	Stand
Trevor Hunter	Darryl Smith	Tony Titus	Stand
Allison Soulliere	Tony Titus	Kory Green	Decline
David Wheeler	Chip Seiling	Alex Davidson	Stand
Sheila Nelson	Nathan Joseph	Tony Titus	Stand
Stephanie Mitchell-Hodge	Nathan Joseph	Alex Davidson	Stand

Motion: THAT nominations for Two-Year Director be closed.

Moved: Mark Calder **Seconded:** Tony Titus

CARRIED

Motion: THAT each candidate for the Two-Year Director position be offered the opportunity to speak for 1 minute.

Moved: Chip Seiling **Seconded:** Tony Titus

CARRIED

All nominees spoke.

Voting procedures were announced. Membership is allowed to vote on one to six members. Selections were to be hand written on the ballots provided.

**TWO-YEAR DIRECTORS: MIKE EICHLER
TREVOR HUNTER
NATHAN JOSEPH
SHEILA NELSON
DARRYL SMITH
DAVID WHEELER**

Motion: THAT the elections for the Board of Directors for the 2018-19 business year be closed; And THAT the ballots be destroyed: And THAT the chair of the meeting be returned to Dave Mark.

Moved: Charlie Bronson **Seconded:** Tony Titus

CARRIED

12. BANTAM A SHOWCASE (Dave Mark)

On the weekend of September 22nd & 23rd, the NHHA will be hosting a Bantam A showcase. This is an initiative whereby a centre hosts a division for the weekend & each team plays one home & one away game. These games count as two league games. This is a new experience for NHHA & we are excited to host for the weekend & to show off our community.

13. PROGRAMMING FOR NOVICE & BELOW (Nathan Joseph)

Mike Walter & Nathan Joseph have worked tirelessly this year to develop the half ice program for NHHA based on the Hockey Canada mandate. OMHA has released a 42 page document which spells out the changes & the dates of implementation.

There is a preliminary plan posted on our website for the 2018-19 season. The program will run the same as it was in the prior season. NHHA will have tryouts for Novice A & AE teams with combined 2010 & 2011 players playing full-ice games for the entire season. There will be an internal local league with combine 2010 & 2011 players playing half-ice games for the first half of the season & will switch to full-ice games for the second half of the season. For the Initiation program (2012, 2013 & 2014) there will be 2 cross-ice 4v4 (plus a goalie) games with neutral zone benches, per the OMHA Implementation Guide.

There still may be changes from OMHA as they have their AGM coming up. It is still unclear whether 7 year olds are allowed to play with 8 year olds.

The goal for the upcoming season is better communications & continuous updating on the website.

Kory Green noted that there a number of girls hockey associations & other boys hockey associations that have approached him for copies of our program. We have been ahead of the curve on the implementation of this change & NHHA is considered a leader in the development of the program.

A member (a parent who has a child in the program) indicated that he loves the new changes & says that he sees the difference between the NHHA player development compared to other centres who have yet to implement the program.

14. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Dave thanked everyone for attending the AGM tonight. The Association values all feedback from the members & welcomes any questions. He also thanked the executive members, saying that they are the best team around, always willing to help out.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: THAT the 2018 Annual General Meeting be adjourned.

Moved: Tony Titus **Seconded:** Chip Seiling

CARRIED