



# NEW HAMBURG HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

## 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Date:** Wednesday, May 24, 2023  
**Time:** 7:00 pm  
**Location:** Virtual via ZOOM meeting  
**Attendees:** 27 participants, see chart below

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### 1. Meeting Call to Order

NHHA President Nathan Joseph welcomed everyone & called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Those in attendance were reminded to sign in by sending Nathan Joseph the NHHA host their first and last name with email address.

### 2. Approval of the Agenda

**Motion:** THAT the agenda be accepted as presented.

**Moved:** Shelia Nelson

**Seconded:** Josh Nelson

**CARRIED**

### 3. Approval of the Previous AGM Minutes

**Motion:** THAT the 2022-2023 Season AGM Minutes be accepted as presented.

**Moved:** Dawn Philips-Brown

**Seconded:** Andrea Brodhagen

**CARRIED**

### 4. Report Presentations

#### a. Registration Report (Nathan Joseph)

See attached Registration Report. Registration numbers were up to all time high of 642 members last season. We had 38 teams this past season. Expectation for next season is about 650 players with 39 teams. Registration is open until the end of June. NHHA maximum capacity is 680 members (including goalies).

**Motion:** THAT the Registration Report be accepted as presented.

**Moved:** Darryl Smith

**Seconded:** Mike Eichler

**CARRIED**

#### b. Ice Scheduling Report (Nathan Joseph via Mike Eichler)

This past season was a refreshing return to normal for ice scheduling. We had a great successful season with 4 teams qualified for OMHA Championship weekend all from the Tri County league.

- U10A - Semi Finalists, lost to Erie Northshore
- U11A - Lost in Quarter Finals to Milton
- U16A - Lost in Preliminary Round
- U18A - Lost in Quarter Finals to Centre Wellington (who won the Red Hats)

Southern Counties BB teams competed hard with the new groupings and had some successes.

Grand River Local League – Champs: U11 - Team 4, U13 - Team 1, U15 - Team 2, U18 - Team 1

U21 Juvenile team competed in Beechey league play once again so great to have this oldest age group play in New Hamburg as not every centre can attract the players to return.

For next season, we completed U10A to U16A tryouts in May along with U11BB to U15BB following. The U18A and U18BB tryouts will start in September with preparation development skates for all ages in early September, followed by LL Evaluations.

NHHA Tournaments – Winter Classic (January) and Optimist Local League (March).

Appreciation to all volunteers, parents, and players for not cancelling games last season.

Third ice pad proposal rejected by Wilmot Council. Redevelop plan for 2026 build.

Coaches will need to have the required credentials and be fully certified and ready to go for the season come September. So, parents be ready, be excited and have hockey gear sized up and ready to go as we look forward to have a full season next year with games, tournaments, and playoffs at all levels.

Thank-you to Mike Eichler in the excellent work he does each year in scheduling.

**Motion:** THAT the Ice Scheduling Report be accepted as presented.

**Moved:** Christine Donaghy

**Seconded:** Darryl Smith

**CARRIED**

**c. Financial Report (Mark Calder)**

See attached the budget presented. Total liabilities and equity on 2023 was \$225,598. The 2022-23 budget projected a \$49,080 loss. This loss was a little less at \$38,797. Registration rates are kept low to keep the cost of hockey down.

Proposed budget for the 2023-2024 season is attached based on a full season with tryouts in the spring and fall and starting from September to March. \$528,730 in expenses are projected with a \$505,000 revenue. NHHA has a \$82,000 savings account for financial security.

Thank-you to our new Vice Treasurer, Sandra Forde, for her help to keep all the finances in order. E-transfers were put in places this season for easy reimbursements and will be used for tournament advancements next year.

See attached our annual financial audit. Scott Soulliere has volunteered to be the auditor and has done this for the last fiscal period. Report results summarize all finances to appear to be in good and proper order.

**Motion:** THAT the Financial Report be accepted as presented.

**Moved:** Darryl Smith

**Seconded:** Brad Owens

**CARRIED**

## **d. League Report (Alex Davidson)**

### **1. Reflection of Last Season**

Last season NHHA had teams in 4 leagues. The U10A thru U18A teams played in Tri County, BB teams played in Southern Counties, the recreational teams played in the Grand River Local League, and the U21A team played in the Beechey Juvenile League. The U9MD teams participated with Tri County and the remainder of U9 and all U8 participated with Grand River Local League. U7 played an ad hoc schedule with various centres. This seemed to be a good fit for most of the teams and is certainly the best available fit locally.

### **2. Upcoming 2023-2024 Season**

#### **2.1 General and Grand River Local League & Beechy League**

While NHHA is organizing to continue this general trend for next season there will be some changes to the details. It is anticipated that there will be no change to NHHA entries in the Grand River Local League and Beechy League.

#### **2.2 New A Division in Shamrock League**

For the A teams the OMHA has created a new division of the Shamrock league consisting of A teams only. The membership includes:

1. Dorchester – formerly a B centre moved up to A
2. Mt. Brydges - formerly a B centre moved up to A
3. New Hamburg – established A (previously played in Tri County league)
4. Norfolk – recent partnership of Ort Dover, Simcoe & Waterford (previously played in Niagara league)
5. St. Mary's - formerly a B centre moved up to A
6. South Oxford – new partnership of Ingersoll and Tillsonburg
7. Strathroy - formerly a B centre moved up to A

Next season St. Thomas will join the league after satisfying their commitment to participate in league play with the Alliance. It is likely that there will be more partnerships formed in the future to participate in this league. St Thomas will have a U16A team this season showing their expected commitment to return to OMHA next year.

#### **2.3 Tri County League**

It is recognized that NHHA's U14A team is especially strong. For the last 2 seasons this group of players participated in the Bowen Division of Tri County. Given their success playing with the AA teams, NHHA has applied for U14A to again play in the Bowen Division of Tri County in the upcoming season. A decision by the OMHA is forthcoming.

NHHA has also applied for the U9MD team to participate with Tri County. This is likely to be an easier decision for OMHA as there is no relationship to other leagues.

#### **2.4 Southern Counties League**

Last season BB referred to the former AE classification. This season BB will continue to refer to the representative second entry teams of A and AA centres; however, it will be no body checking at all age groups. For U15 and U18 A centres have the option of registering teams at U14BB, U15BB, U16BB and/or U18BB and/or U15C and U18C. NHHA has chosen to register the representative second entry teams as C. Rationale for this direction includes:

1. The closest place for BB teams to play is Tri County Harrison Division which will include the representative second entry teams from both A and AA centres.
2. Historically New Hamburg's second entry teams have not been competitive in the Harrison division with only second entry teams from A centres. Including the second entry teams from AA centres will further widen the competitive gap.
3. As a C category NHHA teams can continue participation in Southern Counties.
4. Players from C category body checking hockey will be better suited to AP to the A teams than players from BB non-body checking hockey.

## 2.4 Season Structure

Details of overarching framework not yet released by OMHA. Likely to look similar to last season with regular league play, round robin playoffs and leagues providing teams directly to OMHA championship tournament.

## 2.5 OMHA AGM

To be held 9:00 am Saturday June 10 in a mixed in-person/virtual format. Centres can register one delegate for each rep team and one for every 20 local league teams. Historically, NHHA's representation has been sparse. One does not need to be a member of the NHHA board to attend. Inform Alex Davidson if you are interested in attending – in person or virtually. Not only will you have a chance to contribute to decisions that affect you and your child it is good to see how these decisions are made and by who. Details can be found on the OMHA website. Significant items to be considered include:

- A) Notice of Motion 2023-04 – Progressively eliminate NRP's starting with reducing NRP's on the U12 teams from 3 to 2 this season.
- B) Notice of Motion 2023-08 – Progressively severe consequences for coaches whose teams exceed the milestone of penalty minutes (U13 & Below – 26 minutes, U14 and above – 36 minutes).

## 3. Referees

The number of referees available continues to decline. Not as many refs are entering the program as there are leaving it. Games are being cancelled due to no refs being available. Unfortunately, the key contributor is poor behavior of coaches and parents. We all need to work together to address this. Those that can, should consider refereeing. There is a lot of help available to get you started and grow in the program. Those that cannot ref should do what they can to address the behavior that is limiting the number of referees available for their children's hockey games. Individuals at least 14 years old can start refereeing. Anyone who would like to commence refereeing this season or has questions about refereeing should contact Alex Davidson at [assignor@newhamburghockey.com](mailto:assignor@newhamburghockey.com).

**Motion:** THAT the League Report be accepted as presented.

**Moved:** Ian Rutherford

**Seconded:** Josh Nelson

**CARRIED**

## 5. 2022-2023 Season Award Presentation (Nathan Joseph)

Presented annually at the NHHA coaches' banquet which was held this season for the first time since the pandemic. We thank all volunteers for their hard work and dedication this past season. Award winners:

Initiation Volunteer of the Year – Ryan Bailey

Claude Snyder Memorial Fan of the Year – Melanie Eichler

Local League Coach of the Year – Kevin Pickersgrill

Representative Coach of the Year – Rod Lichti

Dr. H.M. Katzenmeier Memorial Player of the Year – Jake Durrer and Josh Soulliere

John Popham Award Dedicated to Years of Service to Minor Hockey – Mark Calder

Wilhelm Scholarship Award – Josh Soulliere and Kaden Eichler

## 6. Appointment of the Vice-Treasurer

NHHA Vice-Treasurer is not an elected position and is appointed as a recommend by the NHHA Executive. The recommended movement is to appoint Sandra Forde as the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Vice-Treasurer.

**Motion:** THAT Sandra Forde is appointed as 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Treasurer.

**Moved:** Alex Davidson

**Seconded:** Mark Calder

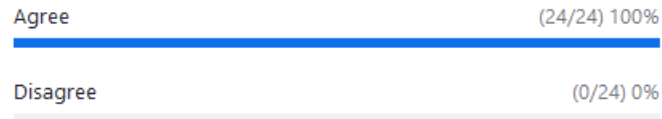
**CARRIED**

## NHHA Vice-Treasurer

Poll | 1 question | 24 of 26 (92%) participated

1. To appoint Sandra Forde as NHHA Vice-Treasurer for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 seasons. (Single Choice) \*

24/24 (100%) answered



### 7. Appointment of Electioneer and Scrutineer (Nathan Joseph)

Normally the Scrutineer tallies and counts the ballots. With the meeting being done virtually, the Electioneer will fulfil the role of the Scrutineer using the anonymous ZOOM polling feature.

**Motion:** THAT Nathan Joseph is appointed the Electioneer and Scrutineer for the Election of the Board of Directors for the 2023-2025 seasons from June 1, 2023 to May 31, 2025 and that the chair of the meeting be passed over to Nathan to oversee the election. Nathan will conduct the electronic voting with all ballots showing to him to report the results.

**Moved:** Alex Davidson

**Seconded:** Darryl Smith

**CARRIED**

## NHHA Motion

Poll | 1 question | 18 of 23 (78%) participated

1. NHHA Motion (Single Choice) \*

18/18 (100%) answered



### 8. Election of President, and 6 Executive Directors

Each year the NHHA Executive turns over on a two-year term with the membership potentially changing or being renewed every year to provide continuity. Even number years the President and Treasurer along with half the directors are up for renewal while on odd number years the Vice-President, Vice-Treasurer and Secretary along with the other half of the directors are up for renewal. Members of NHHA are eligible to vote as per the Constitution (coaches, volunteers, trainers, managers of the current season, parent/guardians of registered players, honorary life members, and players over 18).

Normally two Scrutineers are appointed to count the ballots to keep everything transparent and fair. With the majority in favour today in the meeting we will use the electronic ZOOM poll as we were unable to find a neutral volunteer to fulfil the role of Scrutineer. As appointed without opposition, Nathan will only be able to view the polls the same as the general membership. All ballots will show to Nathan and he will report out the results.

Returning Members for 2023-24 Season		Positions to be Elected / Incumbents	
POSITION	RETURNEE	POSITION	INCUMBENT
President	Nathan Joseph	Vice-President	Darryl Smith (life member)
Past President	Dave Mark (life member)	Secretary	Alex Davidson (life member)
2 Year Directors	Sarah Francom	1 Year Directors	Brad Owens
	Dale Smith		Mike St. Croix
	Mike Eichler		Todd Kramp
	Shelia Nelson		Dean Wake
	Dawn Philips-Brown		Christinea Donaghy
	Jeff Nosal		Jamie Ruth

**a. Nominations for Secretary:**

**Motion:** THAT nomination for the Secretary be opened and that nominations be received from the floor.

**Moved:** Mark Calder

**Seconded:** Dale Smith

Alex Davidson nominated by Mark Calder seconded by Mike Eichler

**Motion:** THAT nomination for the Secretary be closed.

**Moved:** Sarah Francom

**Seconded:** Nat Snyder

**CARRIED**

Alex Davidson respectfully stands. Congratulations to Alex, returning Secretary elect of NHHA.

**b. Nominations for Vice-President:**

**Motion:** THAT nomination for the Vice-President be opened and that nominations be received from the floor.

**Moved:** Nathan Joseph

**Seconded:** Andrea Brodhagen

Darryl Smith nominated by Mike Eichler seconded by Dawn Philips-Brown

It was noted that any member can run for Vice-President position and they do not have to be a current two year NHHA Executive Director.

**Motion:** THAT nomination for the Vice-President be closed.

**Moved:** Nathan Joseph

**Seconded:** Dale Smith

**CARRIED**

Darryl Smith respectfully stands. Congratulations to Darryl, returning Vice-President elect of NHHA.

**c. Nominations for 6 Director Positions:**

**Motion:** THAT nomination for 2 Year Directors be opened and that nominations be received from the floor.

**Moved:** Christinea Donaghy

**Seconded:** Darryl Smith

**CARRIED**

Julie Berg nominated by Andrea Brodhagen and seconded by Mike St Croix  
 Nate Snyder nominated by Dawn Philips-Brown and seconded by Ian Rutherford  
 Christina Donaghy nominated by Josh Nelson and seconded by Darryl Smith  
 Mike St Croix nominated by Mark Calder and seconded by Mike Eichler  
 Ian Rutherford nominated by Dale Smith and seconded by Mike Eichler  
 Lauren Robson nominated by Shelia Nelson and seconded by Danielle Waters  
 Brad Owens nominated by Alex Davidson and seconded by Darryl Smith  
 Michelle Ruston nominated by Dale Smith and seconded by Darryl Smith  
 Andrea Brodhagen nominated by Mike Eichler and seconded by Julie Berg  
 Amanda Bailey nominated by Josh Nelson and seconded by Andrea Brodhagen  
 Kerri Gettliffe nominated by Sarah Francom and seconded by Alex Davidson  
 Joel Ruston nominated by Darryl Smith and seconded by Mike Eichler

It was noted that three previous directors who were not in attendance that one was not returning and the other two did not notify anyone of their intentions. It was also noted that Dean Wake was voted in last season to fill a 1-year term vacated by a previous director who moved out east.

**Motion:** THAT nominations for 2 Year Directors be closed.

**Moved:** Josh Nelson

**Seconded:** Julie Berg

**CARRIED**

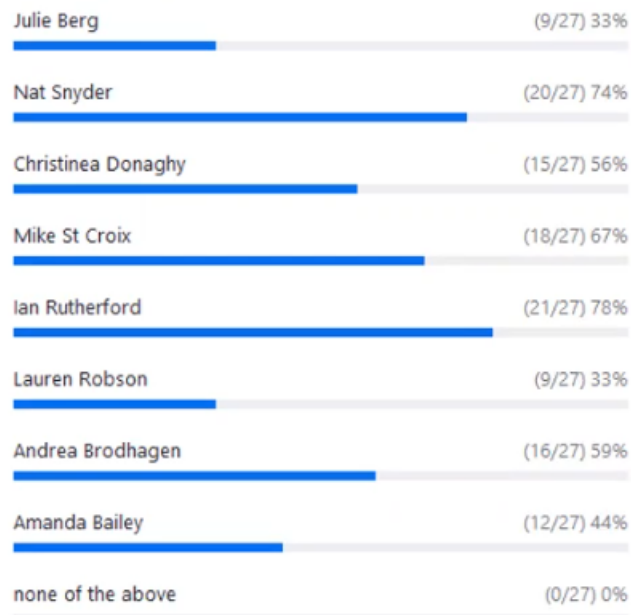
Nominees Brad Owens, Michelle Ruston, Kerri Gettliffe, and Joel Ruston have respectfully declined. An election will be held to determine which director with the lowest votes will serve the one-year vacant director term.

## NHHA Directors - 6 Members (2 year term)

Poll | 1 question | 27 of 27 (100%) participated

1. NHHA Director (Multiple Choice) \*

27/27 (100%) answered



Congratulations to Ian Rutherford, Nat Snyder, Mike St. Croix, Andrea Brodhagen, Christina Donaghy, and Amanda Bailey as new and returning 2-year NHHA Executive Directors.

**Motion:** THAT elections for the board of directions for 2023-2024 year be closed and that the ballots be destroyed.

**Moved:** Shelia Nelson

**Seconded:** Darryl Smith

**CARRIED**

Special thanks to Dean Wake, Todd Kramp, and Jamie Ruth for their years of service. Thank-you to Stacey Dineen, Kevin Cross, Ashley Brown, Kerri Gettliffe, Tony Titus, Rick Windl, and Mike Torchia for volunteering. Thank-you to all other volunteers as well for their services this past season.

## 9. Business Transactions

**Motion:** THAT section 20.2 of the NHHA Constitution be updated to insert the word “vote” between two thirds and of the Executive members present.

**Moved:** Alex Davidson

**Seconded:** Darryl Smith

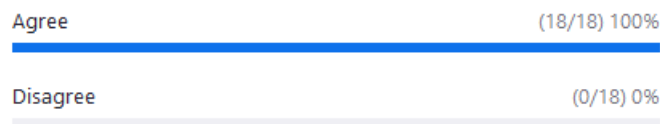
**CARRIED**

### NHHA Motion

Poll | 1 question | 18 of 23 (78%) participated

1. NHHA Motion (Single Choice) \*

18/18 (100%) answered



**Motion:** THAT the NHHA membership present at the AGM waive the extra ordinary resolution CRA required financial audit review engagement be done by an outside party now that NHHA is over \$500,000 in revenue.

**Moved:** Mark Calder

**Seconded:** Dawn Philips-Brown

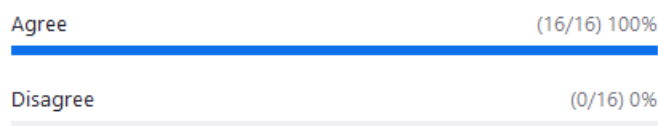
**CARRIED**

### NHHA Motion

Poll | 1 question | 16 of 23 (69%) participated

1. NHHA Motion (Single Choice) \*

16/16 (100%) answered





## 10. Presidents Remarks and Recognitions

I would like to thank everyone for attending tonight and being part of the volunteer process in operating New Hamburg hockey. Since 1962 New Hamburg has provided an excellent minor hockey program to the community for our youth to learn and play the game of hockey.

Each year we have over 250 volunteers that make New Hamburg hockey function. Volunteer executive members, on ice coaches, team managers, parent reps, and parents who bring their young hockey players to the rink each time. We do it each and every day for the kids to enjoy and create life long child hood memories.

## 11. Adjournment

**Motion:** THAT the 2022-2023 NHHA AGM be completed and closed and adjourned at 8:52 pm.

**Moved:** Josh Nelson

**Seconded:** Dale Smith

**CARRIED**

## Attendance

Joel Ruston	Mike Eichler	Amanda Bailey
Michelle Ruston	Andrea Brodhagen	Christinea Donaghy
Ian Rutherford	Sarah Francom	Danielle Waters
Kerri Gettliffe	Mike St. Croix	Mark Calder
Julie Berg	Shelia Nelson	Sarah Francom
Amy Bergsma	Dale Smith	Jennifer Campbell
Nathan Joseph	Nat Snyder	Josh Nelson
Alex Davidson	Lauren Robson	Lisa Cossette
Darryl Smith	Brad Owens	Alex Davidson



**NEW HAMBURG HOCKEY ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023  
7 PM – VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING**

Nominees – Vice-President  
Nominees – Secretary  
Appointment – Vice-Treasurer  
Nominees – 6 Directors

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome/Call to Order
2. Acceptance of the Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting
4. Reports
  - a) Registration
  - b) Ice Scheduler
  - c) Financial
  - d) OMHA/Tri-County/Southern Counties/Grand River/Beechey Leagues
5. 2022-2023 Season Presentation of Awards
6. Appointment of Vice-Treasurer (incumbent Sandra Forde)
7. Appointment of Electioneer and Scrutineer
8. Election of 2023 – 2024 Executive

**Returning Members for 2023-24 Season**

POSITION	RETURNEE
President	Nathan Joseph
Past President	Dave Mark (life member)
2 Year Directors	Sarah Francom
	Dale Smith
	Mike Eichler
	Shelia Nelson
	Dawn Philips-Brown
	Jeff Nosal

**Positions to be Elected / Incumbents**

POSITION	INCUMBENT
Vice-President	Darryl Smith (life member)
Secretary	Alex Davidson (life member)
1 Year Directors	Brad Owens
	Mike St. Croix
	Todd Kramp
	Dean Wake
	Christinea Donaghy
	Jamie Ruth

9. Transaction of any business, other than financial, which relates to the business of the AGM and notice and particulars of which were received by the Secretary of the Association in writing at least fifteen (15) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
10. President's Remarks
11. Adjournment