



## **WOOLWICH MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC.**

24 Snyder Ave. S. (Elmira Arena), P.O. Box 204, Elmira, ON N3B 2Z6 (519) 669-2789

### **Annual General Meeting** **2008- 2009 Season**

**April 28, 2009**

**LOCATION:** St. Jacobs Fire Hall  
**TIME:** 7:00 p.m.  
**CHAIR/PRESIDENT:** Jim Radcliffe  
**SECRETARY:** Dana Waters

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**Present:** Jim Radcliffe, Steve Hanley, Wayne Lamers, Gord Maier, Karen Ziegler, Brian Knipfel, Deb Good, Paul Wilson, Val Martin, Brent Bloch, Rick Cressman, Eric Brubacher, Karen Pogue, Tammy McBay, Christine Weigel, Lisa McDonald, Steve Hartman, Dana Waters, 23 interested parents/coaches  
**Absent:** Mark Fackoury

#### **1) President's Welcome**

- Jim thanked parents for great season and thanked Executive, noting it has grown to be quite sizable
- Jim noted some highlights of the season including "Friends of Hockey", which is a program that was put together and Jim sits on the committee along with Mark Fackoury and Bob Waters. Jim noted that it is to help support kids that can't play hockey and this program helps to ensure that everyone has opportunity to play
- Jim also noted that a Juvenile team was added this past season, the first in numerous years and they had a great season
- Jim mentioned that he has been attending many meetings with the Township, as we move our operations into new complex
- Equipment will be moved equip over next 2 weeks
- Jim mentioned that they have applied for Trillium grant – and was awarded it - \$15000 – including set-up of new hockey office, furniture, computer system racking for storage as well as flooring for office
- Jim recognized that Hockeyville was great success for Woolwich and the whole community really pulled together
- It was a great demand on Executive as well as finding ice time to support it and there were ice time costs incurred, but lots of fun for kids

#### **2) Minutes of Previous AGM Meeting**

- Jim gave everyone an opportunity to review minutes from last year's AGM meeting
- Minutes were approved and adopted

#### **a) Business arising from the Minutes**

- none

### 3) Treasurer's Report: Deb Good

- Deb distributed and reviewed the Financial Statements for Woolwich Minor Hockey Association Inc.
- Deb noted that the Executive approved the budget
- Deb reviewed the way Sponsorship, noting it is spreads over 3 years
- \$17,000 was collected this year in sponsorship
- 1st Novice tournament made \$1,100
- WMH pays \$35/player for insurance for the season
- Deb mentioned that \$975 was received in Memory of Richard Martin from his family -- Jim has contacted to see where family wants money to go
- Deb mentioned that WMH used 1881 hours of ice this year – 52% in Elmira, 48% in St. Jacobs
- Ice Rate were increased – next year the Township is proposing 6% increase on prime time for next season but WMH hasn't seen anything in writing yet
- Deb noted that the Ice Scheduler position is a paid position for \$875 /mth
- The Office Manager is paid hourly
- Ref expense went up this past season
- Deb reviewed that WMH hosted some Coaches clinic this year (Val & Steve) – which reduced the cost of reimbursing Coaches to go and take them at another location
- Parent asked if these Financial Statements get audited?
- Deb confirmed yes by Aaron & Assoc.
- Parent asked what is considered primetime for ice?
- Deb advised 6 p.m. on, on weekdays and all weekend
- Deb mentioned that the Township is talking about moving to weekday primetime to 4 pm

### 4) Committee Reports:

#### a) Vice President Representative: Mark Fackoury (absent)

#### b) Vice President Local league: Rick Cressman

- Rick mentioned that they were 16 teams in LL this year
- 3 went on, 2 won the finals
- Everyone had fun year
- Rick noted that four players are serving suspensions that will start next season
- Rick mentioned that he would like to get some help for LL on exec this year

#### c) Vice President Coaching: Steve Hanley

- Steve thanked Mark Fackoury for his time on the executive
- Clinics are coming to Woolwich in August. All coach and trainer certificates that expire in 2009 will expire by August 31. OMHA does not give the grace period anymore. We will contact all expiring certificates this summer. We will hold a full coach clinic, speak out clinic and a coach refresher clinic in August. Watch the website for updates.
- Steve is still accepting coach reviews and coach applications
- Coach appreciation dinner booked for Thursday April 30. Over 100 confirmed.
- OMHA may be introducing a new policy that all rosters must be accompanied by a police check for every rostered coach, trainer and manager.
- Will be revising and updating the coach and manager guideline booklet this summer. Any suggestions will be accepted.

- The coaching selection committee consists of President - Jim Radcliffe, VP of Player Development - Eric Brubacher, VP of Rep - Paul Wilson, VP of LL - Rick Cressman, and VP of Coaching - Steve Hanley.

**d) Vice President Player Development: Eric Brubacher**

- Eric noted that the 2008 – 2009 season was a great year and that it held a few new initiatives and programs, which he hopes will be improved upon in the 2009 – 2010 season
- Highlights of the past season include:
  - Continued partnership development with the Elmira Sugar Kings where Sugar King players volunteered throughout the season with goalie clinics, special clinics and with players involved in House league and Rep teams
  - Preseason skating program in late August with instructor Matt McGahey of the University of Waterloo and The Zone – had 75 participants over the three age groups
  - Body contact clinic for Minor and Major Aton, Minor & Major PeeWee levels – Eric Calder (Skills Plus Hockey) – no cost for players – 140 attended
  - Two Goal tending clinics held in September & December with 1.5 hr sessions each (Instructors Calvin Monique) with approx. 25 – 27 goalies for each season
  - Skill Development Clinic – 13 sessions with 23 participants ran Saturday mornings from 7 – 7:50 a.m. in the Fall (Instructor Eric Calder – Skills Plus Hockey and coaches from WMHA)
  - Mini and Novice programs were very successful again this year with skill development – All coaches at these levels were given or had weekly coaching plans from the CHIP program to use for practice sessions Two ice times on Saturday mornings in St. Jacobs and Elmira were used for the Mini program with approx. 65 skaters; Mini 6/Tyke had approx 38 skaters with two ice sessions/wk and the Novice LL program with again this year involved with the Grand River league and was successfully implemented
- WMHA was IP (Initiation Program) certified again this year through an on-paper evaluation by an OMHA Instructor/Mentor (IP Banner in arena now) and this evaluation/certification is recognized by a year plaque for the banner in Elmira
- Programs again this year were open to the Girls' Minor Hockey upon availability
- Continued use and development of Coaches operational binders of House league and Rep teams highlighted all policies, forms, newsletters, etc
- Continued increased sponsorship from the Conestogo-Winterbourne Optimist Club and from the Elmira Optimist Club to help with the goaltending clinics and body contact clinics above which were again offered at no charge

For the 2009 – 2010 season, Eric hopes to repeat the above sessions and clinics with a few changes while adding:

- Continuing the 3 week skill Development sessions on Saturday mornings from 8 – 9 am. in the Fall again with Eric Calder of Skills Plus Hockey
- More local WMHA members are becoming involved with the goaltending instruction – will help the goalie development
- Expanding the goaltending clinics to include the older age groups (Bantam/Midget) which can benefit from advanced instruction – this should be better accomplished with the additional funds for ice/instructors from the Conestogo-Winterbourne Optimists

- Goal tending instruction from Mike Parson, Guelph Storm OHL in the new season
- Eric thanked all the volunteer parents and coaches who helped in the many programs in the past season

**e) Ice Scheduler: Deb Good**

- Deb noted that the past season had been a challenging year, and it was her first year in the role
  - A Juvenile team was added this past season and we couldn't offer much practice time
  - LL teams had to share ice
  - Atom and PeeWee had to take early morning ice two times to alleviate ice issues
  - Deb choose those levels because they are not in high school yet, which starts school at 8:10
  - Hockeyville was challenge to ice scheduling as we had to give up 25 hours starting Jan 17 – same time playoffs started
  - Deb mentioned that she and Jim have gone to 5 meetings with Township regarding ice times for the 2009 – 2010 season
  - Currently have 62 hours; requested 77 hours
  - Township came back and offered 64 hours
  - 24% more ice (77 hours) – would allow each LL team to have own practice and no early a.m. practices
  - All will be happy to hear – Skills program will not be until 8 a.m.
  - Two years ago when we met with Township, WMH committed to taking more ice – that's why we are justified in asking for it
  - Today - got confirmation that WMH got 77 hours – not in writing yet
  - Secured that it will be spilt 1/3 each at the McLeod/Snyder and St. Jacobs arenas
  - Expect parents should be happy
  - Township advised that this is only for 1 year
  - Ice will be going in August 25, 2009
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- Parent asked if the St. Jacobs & Elmira ice will be balanced between LL & rep
  - Deb advised that she will try to balance – to allow teams to play in new facility
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- Parent asked why only 77 hours
  - Deb advised that Girls hockey is growing, and there are other Use groups but she can't answer those questions
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- Parent asked – when have ice scheduling change – do you make any consideration – kids have jobs (PeeWee & up) – maybe more convenient to move other schedules around as kids had to miss hockey because of work
  - Deb advised that she can't schedule Atom teams to play at 9 at night and can't expect younger kids to travel at later time (9 p.m. at night)
  - Jim added that the extra 15 hours this year will make huge difference in upcoming season; it will be a much easier job on Deb for movement of games
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- Karen Pogue asked if we will see consistent practice times?
  - Deb responded that if we get hours that we asked for – yes
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- Parent asked if the extra 15 hours prime time
  - Deb advised yes – expect ice time to start at 5 p.m.
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- Parent asked if there are new user groups from Township

- Deb commented that yes - all from here – there are 4 or 5
- Jim added that we don't know what they will get
- Deb mentioned that the Sugar Kings don't have contract yet either – all get them on Friday and then it will become public
- Parent asked if there is a difference between how much ice time is allotted between rep & LL
- Deb noted that Bantam rep require 1.5 hr
- Parent asked if this is factored into rep fees
- Deb responded yes it is
- Gord added that a lot of work was done to balance this more efficiently this year - rep will be hit abit harder– offered his spreadsheet if anyone wants to see – more representative of ice time – looks at fees incurred
- Deb mentioned that Gord worked hard on this and can justify based on analysis
- Parent asked if rep fees be announced tonight
- Deb responded that – no – will not be done with operating budget until August
- Deb mentioned that WMH is adding another tourney – applied for Silverstick - Midget AE tournament – this will factor also into our hours

**f) Office Administrator: Val Martin**

- Val mentioned that it was a good year in the office
- Currently working on Coaches refreshers & clinics
- Office is in limbo with move – will do best to answer phone & emails from home
- Jim mentioned that in the next 2 wks – will disconnect phone line in office; internet OK
- If you do phone and no answer – please email
- Parent commented that Val is great to deal with – appreciated patience
- Gord asked Val if she could speak about rostering
- Val advised that they didn't do it at clinic she attended and she– won't know until get into it
- Gord mentioned that Hockey Canada has new system that is impacting us – should be easier and hope some of last year's issues will be non-existent
- May train other people to approve rosters – good thing

**g) Registration: Gord Maier**

- Gord mentioned that currently registration for next season is only up 1 person over same time last year
- Tracking more efficiently this year
- Spent a lot of time on new database which is now irreverent
- New online registration is a great time saver
- Projecting one new team this year – 2 Juvenile teams (one LL and one rep)
- There will be one less Novice LL team as there will be a 7 year old select team

**h) Referees: Brent Bloch**

**Referring Assignments:**

- Brent mentioned that there were some problems with officials not showing up this past year
- As a result, discipline of several officials occurred

### **Amendments to Constitution**

- Motion was passed to have assigner position determined by Exec Committee through an interview process
- Motion defeated to have minimum age of requirement of new officials changed from 14 to 16 years of age

### **EDHRA High School Scholarship**

- No High school scholarship was awarded this year – one applicant and it was received past the deadline
- Clarification made to Guidance staff at EDSS regarding eligibility
- Scholarship open to graduating referees and hockey players who pursue post secondary education

### **Supervision and Promotion**

- 90% of our referees were supervised this season
- Several officials certified at present levels – no advancement of levels
- Murray Martin served as Chairman of OMHA Regional Supervisors

### **Complaints**

- Complaints and investigation last year led to dismissal of one official
- Some written complaints were received this year; investigations ensued and discussions took place with officials; modification of assignments occurred

### **Hockeyville Participation**

- Members participated in Hockeyville by:
  - Decorating houses and voting
  - Played in “Stars in Stripes” game
  - Volunteered time to referee several games

### **Representation at OHF Championships**

- were asked to send the eight EDHRA officials to the OHF Championship Tournaments this spring:

### **2008- 2009 EDHRA Awards of Distinction**

- EHRA Award of Coaching Excellence – presented to Brad Nickel, Tim Hall, Rob Martin, Eric Brubacher and Vale Martin at WMHA Banquet
- Most Promising Official – Mark Hockley
- Most Improved Official – Jake Radcliffe
- Most Dedicated Official – Dennis Hahn
- Most Deserving Official – Richard Rank

### **Executive for 2009 – 2010:**

- Brent advised that he is stepping down as President
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President – Richard Rank

Vice-President – Jeremy Weber

Secretary/Treasurer - Jason Weber

Directors – Blake Moggy, Adam Good, Jake Radcliffe

Director of Supervision – Nick Betts

Assigner – TBD through interview

Brent thanked WMH for another great season and commented that we look forward to an even better one in 2009- 2010

- Parent – is it realistic for coaches to have list if official doesn't show up?
- Brent - there is a list in arena – don't want to circulate
- One copy under discretion of arena attendant is OK
- Call president or assignor so coaches know who to contact first

Parent asked if it is your rule or OMHA that need 2 officials for Novice LL

Brent advised that it is OMHA ruling that 2 officials are required – if only 1 ref officiates then he is suspended from EDHRA & OMHA and for Insurance purposes – OMHA would be held liable

Parent commented that there are three refs for Bantam/Midget – are all required?

Brent advised that no – only 2 are required but 3 go to help develop refs to move up

Parent asked what level can 14 yr old ref>

Brent responded that it depends on if you are certified/registered and you have to be 2 yrs older than those you are refing

Eric added that Brent's organization helped out with Optimist Road hockey tourney - appreciate support

**i) Tournament: Karen Ziegler & Steve Hartman**

- The tournament was held November 14, 15 & 16, 2008 - 24 teams participated in the Minor/Major Pee wee A and Minor/Major Bantam A divisions.
- Raised \$6000.00 for WMHA.
- Next season's tournament will be held November 13, 14, 15, 2009 – and we are adding Pee wee AE and Bantam AE divisions. This is pending OMHA approval. That would be an extra 12 teams for a total of 36 teams in the tournament.

**j) Equipment: Paul Wilson**

- Paul commented that it has been a successful year and he is already planning for next year's requirements.
- Presently we are in the third and final year of a three year endeavour to equal the quality of jerseys across all teams. This has allowed minor hockey to now be able to supply a possible second set for all local league teams.
- This past year goalie equipment purchases have been kept to a minimum trying to match needs to requirements. Paul has had discussions with some parents about purchasing their equipment and will be taking a look at this over the next month.
- Will continued with jerseys available for tryouts, which work well as long as coaches making cuts in the group before did so in a timely manner so not to overlap with the next group (i.e. rep to a/e to local league)
- Paul commented that he is looking forward to moving into the new room with the larger work area. This will allow a good opportunity to review all equipment and see what is required.
- Minor hockey will be selling off some of the older sets check the website for the timing of this most likely close to tryouts.
- Rick asked if LL jerseys will be ready when they start season?

- Eric asked that with funds that came in from NHL “Goals & dreams” – could something be put together for that
- Jim noted that when we retire jerseys – they are pretty much done
- Eric asked even goalie stuff? - worthwhile looking into
- Jim commented that we will look at it

**k) Photos: Wayne Lamers**

Photo dates: Rep teams – week of Oct 20; LL & conflicts – week of Nov 10

Photo distribution dates: Weekend of Dec 13

Sponsor Distribution Dates – Framed Photos and thank you letters completed by April 30

Photos taken by: Calla Studios

Contact: Tina Wertz

Photo shoot location: Calla Studios, Howard Ave, Elmira

- Wayne mentioned that new year the new complex may be the venue as opposed to offsite for the location - might help logistically with scheduling
- Parent asked that several years ago – items were sold at same time – were you involved with that?
- Wayne commented that it was difficult to manage – small – hard to allow for clothing
- Parent commented that missed opportunity to buy hat for child
- Jim commented that Hockey Moms wound up this year; next year - putting hockey apparel out to tender – hoping Sports stores will pick it up and sell out of their store
- Jerseys will be put out to tender as well
- Parent asked if you– can you sell apparel thru website?
- Parent commented that the problem with Hockey Moms is that you get a couple of people doing all work – not enough hours on day – if put on website it would be putting burden on someone else – deliver/pick ups – bouncing cheques....
- Jim added that it is better to go and try stuff on
- Parent – if it’s gong to tender, maybe there could be a link to their business?
- Deb commented that we will advertise that going to tender to allow people to apply
- Parent asked about Velcro bar on bottom of jerseys for names
- Paul responded that there is a cost to that– was looking into – upfront cost per jersey is \$12 per shirt
- Parent asked why don’t we allow team to look after that?
- Paul – if one team has it – all teams have to have it - no special team (due to successful fundraising, etc) – everyone same all the way through
- Parent commented that in Novice LL –nicknames gone this past year
- Paul responded that we are focusing on the sponsors

**l) Sponsorship: Karen Pogue, Lisa MacDonald (Sponsorship Asst.)**

- Karen mentioned that she is new to sponsorship – took on role mid season
- Karen researched the cost associated with Sponsors and put together brochure – handed out at banquet



- Karen mentioned that if a company is not capable of sponsoring team, maybe put advertisement in
- 12 teams need sponsorships next year – 6 rep; 6 LL
- Mini & tykes – Waters & Goods will do again
- Karen still needs to approach expiring sponsors to see if interested in renewing
- If anyone knows of any sponsors, please have them contact her
- Company database – so Exec not contacting sponsors numerous times
- Karen mentioned that she contacted OMHA and found out about the Spirit of Hockey contest
- Karen submitted application for WMH
- had to answer 4 questions about hockey passion/spirit – used 2 stories from Hockeyville - referenced author
- Steve Hanley gave lead on '*friends of hockey*' program
- submitted 10 photos
- WMH was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> prize:
  - \$2,750 in credit towards OMHA Programming
  - One Maple Lodge Farms barbeque party for up to 5,000 people
  - One commemorative item courtesy of Frameworth including shipping and handling
  - VIP Invitation and recognition at the 2009 OMHA Annual General Meeting
  - One night accommodation in a Traditional Room at the Sheraton Parkway North Hotel for the 2009 OMHA Annual General Meeting

TOTAL APPROXIMATE VALUE: \$4,550

- Karen noted that funds could go to coaching certification, specialty clinics
- BBQ for 5000 people will be in July – Aug
- Karen added that she is looking to get people involved in Sponsorship – approach businesses

**m) Fundraising: Tammy McBay & Christine Weigel**

- This was Tammy and Christine's 1<sup>st</sup> year on Exec
- Held 'Hockey Fun Dance' in January - Dance raised \$3500, raffle tickets raised \$5000.
- Another Hockey Fun Dance has been scheduled for Saturday January 23, 2010. One band, Station X, will be playing.
- The pre-affle ticket selling will not be going on prior to the dance; Instead - going to sell right at the dance. Tammy noted that more light beer will be available at this dance as sold out of it at last dance
- Spirit of Hockey Calendars did not go over as well as expected. Will not sell again.
- WMH Golf Tournament is scheduled Sunday September 13, 2009 at 11:30 am in Ariss.
- It is expected that this date will be OK, even though the Opening of the new arena is scheduled that weekend. We are going to have approx. 5 to 6 really good prizes to be awarded, rather than trying to get 100 little prizes.

**n) Webmaster: Brian Knipfel**

- Launched new website for this past season. Rebuilt it from scratch with help to reorganize the information. Only heard good feedback on the site.
- News pages - please see these for updates, team successes, and general news about WMHA

- In February in the middle of playoffs, our old web space provider locked us out in the middle of playoffs so we had to scramble. Got a new provider and moved site in 3 days. This caused some of the confusion around schedules during the playoffs.
- Next year, working on site again to improve.
- Will use newsletter mailing list to send out the newsletters, AGM notices, and the odd announcement. This will be available in the next week. (up now)
- will be using some new email addresses...the hockey office will change to hockeyoffice@woolwichminorhockey.ca once the move happens when we setup the new computer. The old address will continue to forward for a while...then will be gone.
- Tax Receipts - tried to do electronically this year, but will be replaced with the new online registration. We didn't send out unless requested to ensure the privacy of the users.

Parent – was the move of website – part of scheduling problem?

Brian advised yes – in 3 days got moved over to new place

Jim – they advised some email addr they thought was WMH that they were going to do this -we didn't know

Parent asked if Brian used the website to track results of games

Brian advised that he only provided links to it, but didn't do it

Parent asked why the tracking stopped when playoffs started?

Gord advised that there was a separate section for playoffs

Brian added that if you ever have questions like that; send off to him and he will look into it

Brian advised that WMH may change some emails – will keep both live for a while

Please note that you may have to update your office email address contacts

## **5) Election of Officers and Directors: Jim Radcliffe**

- Mark Fackoury, VP of Representative Hockey is stepping down after 7/8 years
- Staying on as brief advisory role to help new VP
- As per the Constitution, Jim would like to promote from within Exec for VP level
- Paul Wilson has offered to fill role
- Lisa nominated Paul ; All in favour
- Paul is presently the Equipment Manager and has offered to stay on for next year
- Local League – Rick Cressman's Assistant, Mike Bender, stepped down part way through season
- Gord Maier has agreed to help out as Asst VP of LL
- Christine nominated Gord; All in favour
- Position for Director of Registration is now available
- Brent Bloch is stepping down as he is no longer the President of EDHRA
- Jim thanked Brent Bloch for all of his help on Exec and noted that he has been very patient with Exec & players & parents
- Richard Rank is welcomed as new President
- Jim asked the coaches and parents in attendance - how many people would like to join Exec?

- Registration – anyone interested?
- Lisa Vanelswyk and Tina Hanley (Assistant) offered
- Deb nominated; All in favour
  
- Kyle Young offered to assist with LL
- Karen nominated Kyle; All in favour
  
- Pat Kyte offered to take on Equipment role
- Pat owns Elmira sports
- Moving to tendering process - Pat would not be part of selection – Deb & Jim would approve tenders
- Rick Moser nominated Pat; All in favour
  
- Jim noted WMH aggressive sponsorship program could use extra person
- Fundraising committee – could use extra person
  
- Jake Baleshta – Rick Moser nominated for Sponsorship assistant ; All in favour
  
- Diane Weigel and Janet Hale – Joe Macdonald nominated for Fundraising Committee; All in favour
  
- Jim welcomed new Executive and thanked exec for past and present roles

## 6) New Business

### a) Constitution

- last revamped 8 year ago – this summer, committee will revamp – stay tuned
- Jim noted that a few areas are gray – need to get rid of them

### b) Hockey Canada Registration

- Wants to eliminate some boundaries – abolish boundaries so if you are Novice age, you can go anyway so many Km away
- Midget – could have player going far away
- OMHA is against this – having meeting in May – survey – looking for feedback – it would ruin some centers completely - not hometown hockey any more
- Deb noted that there are 5 votes and right now only 2 are against it
- WMH Registration might go down - kids can go wherever
- The purpose of the Questionnaire is to allow opportunity to express opinions
- Currently doing it in 3 provinces in Canada
- This is on our website
- May 2 – General Meeting - anyone can attend - Paul will rep WMH
- Tina – might this be worthwhile getting this out
- Deb could send to coaches
- Paul - Affect Rep & LL too
- Waterloo kids could come here
- Would affect AE teams
- Proposed for 2010
- Jim asked all to take time to fill out questionnaire

Jim mentioned that we are all looking forward to new complex this fall and asked New exec to remain in attendance for regular WMH meeting

**7) Adjournment 9:00 p.m.**