



Woolwich Minor Hockey Association

www.woolwichminorhockey.ca

24 Snyder Ave. South (Elmira Arena)
P.O. Box 204 ▪ Elmira Ontario ▪ N3B 2Z6
519-669-2789

Annual General Meeting Report

April 16, 2015

LOCATION: WMC Community Room

TIME: 8:00 p.m.

CHAIR/PRESIDENT: Rob Waters

SECRETARY: Jasmine Roth

Present: Rob Waters, Mike Laenars, Rob Moyer, Fred Hale, Jeff Weber, Tracey Williams, Jodi Young, Leanne Rollins, Pat Leonard, Dave Lee, Jasmine Roth, Matt Roemer, Deb Good

6 parents in attendance.

1) Minutes of Previous Meetings

Motion to accept previous minutes: Tracey Williams, Second Brad

2) Presidents Report – Rob Waters

Recap of Year

- Timekeepers
- Introduction of (2) AE teams
- Sun Rays Special Hockey
- Elmira Jr. Sugar Kings
- 4 on 4 Spring League
- Crimestoppers Day

New Business:

Amendments to constitution
Fundraising
Executive Positions: Voting

3) Treasurer Report – Deb Good

- Separated into operating, revenue and fundraising
- Approx \$15,000 from sponsorship this year.
- Misc income ... we get money from the OMHA for players who have moved on to a professional level.
- Player development decrease due to ice time changes and less hours
- Ref fees increased due to more rep teams and more teams moving on.
- Coaches dinner one of the biggest expenses under Misc
- New computer increased office expenses this year.



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4) VP Rep – Mike Lenaers

- I would like to take a moment to thank all executive, coaching staff and volunteers for making this, another successful year for Woolwich Minor Hockey.
- Again this year, I would also like to acknowledge Rob Waters for the incredible amount of work and time he puts in behind the scenes for the betterment of Woolwich Minor Hockey.
- Also a thank you to Rob Moyer for all your work with Crime Stoppers day and at the year end banquet. As well as organizing a great coaches dinner that was very well attended.
- We have had a good year with our Rep Teams with 2 moving on to the Quarter finals from the preliminary round or the OMHA playdowns. Both teams made it to the Semi final round. Midget AE were eliminated at this point. The Juvenile A team made it to the OMHA finals, congratulations to the Juveniles for being finalist in the OMHA's and congratulations to all rep teams for a strong showing in the OMHA playdowns.
- With in the Tri-county league playoffs, Woolwich had 3 teams (Novice A, Novice AE and Minor Atom A) making the finals and 2 team bringing home the championship congratulations to the Novice A and AE teams on their wins.
- We tried what I will call an experiment with the AE teams this year from Atom thru Bantam, where we tried to have 2 AE teams at all of these levels. I feel this initiative worked well at the Atom and Peewee levels, but due to lower registration levels at Bantam it was a tough year for all involved. Moving forward I propose we keep 2 AE teams at Atom and Peewee as long as registration numbers allow this and move back to one team at Bantam age. We will also need to discuss whether we move to a minor and major AE program for these ages as well.
- Another first for me was applying for Goaltender relief at the bantam age. We were successful in finding on goalie for relief for our Minor Bantam AE team. This is something I feel we will need to address in the years to come to have a good stable of young goalies develop and want to stay in the association and also stay in goal. Maybe it was a perfect storm last year with goalies making a higher level or moving away or quitting hockey (which is most alarming) but we need to come up with a strategy to develop goalies at the younger ages. At the bantam age we do have options occasionally with NRP goalies and we will have to monitor this during tryouts.
- We implemented Hockey Canada's new policy of Parent Respect in sport whereby one parent of any player for Woolwich Minor Hockey must complete the online course for the player to be rostered to a team. This was a challenge for the first year and hopefully will be much easier with most registrants now done for their players hockey careers
- I would also like to thank Matt Roemer for his contributions and input over the past 2 years on all the situations that have come up over this time.
- As mentioned by our guest speaker at the banquet, we all need to keep the fun in the game, cheer on all players, and enjoy your time at the arena. The seasons will pass by quickly! Enjoy them.
- In closing, I would like to say that I have enjoyed my second year on the Executive and look forward to another great year.
- Rob W -clarify – as an A centre we do not qualify for goalie relief.



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5) VP LL – Rob Moyer

- 13 LL teams this season in the Grand River league. 9 of 13 LL teams competed for a championship with 1 Novice, 1 Atom and all 3 Midget teams winning their division.
- Thanks to all coaches, managers, trainers and all other staff members for working with our players to ensure they have the best possible season. Will need some new convenors for next season as some are stepping down and we are always looking for good staff to help with our teams. Need to remind all LL coaching staff next season to make sure their police checks are done and all qualifications are up to date.
- Body checking is now removed from LL for a 2 year pilot program beginning next season.
- Having LL teams practice on Thursdays worked well from a scheduling point of view and help with game preparation as LL normally plays their games on the weekend so they did not have 5 days in-between ice times.
- CRIMESTOPPERS “PUTTING CRIME IN THE PEANLTY BOX” was held on April 12 and was very successful again. Thanks to Pat Delay, Darryl Paquette and Kurt Wilkie for helping run this great community event.
- Thanks to the entire executive for volunteering their time to make WMHA run and ensure our kids have a place to enjoy this great game

6) VP Coaching – Matt Roemer

- A & AA coaches selected and announced for next season.
- Close to 100 for coaches dinner. Best turn out to date.
- Thank you to executive, great 2 years.

7) VP Player Development Fred Hale / Jeff Weber

- Development conducted online surveys for both our goaltending development program, led by Steve Sumka, and our power skating/skills development program led by Tony Code. We heard from approximately 20% of participants and feedback was very strong and very positive for both programs. We will be continuing both programs this coming season with a few adjustments.
- Goaltending clinics will continue as they have the last two years offering 8 sessions per representative goaltender over a 16 week period from mid September to mid January. This year additional focus will be placed on ensuring that every
- Representative coach name a goaltending coach, and that they attend all of these sessions and all team practices with their goaltenders. As well additional efforts will be made to ensure that we have adequate and age appropriate shooters for each session. Sessions will continue to be led by Steve Sumka of Angles goaltending school. This program will be directed by Jeff Weber, WMHA executive member.
- Power skating/skills sessions will continue as they did this past year with the following changes. Representative teams from Tyke Select through Major Peewee will have 6 sessions from early September to mid October. These will be skating and skills sessions led by Tony Code and his staff from WHA. They will NOT include goaltenders this year. Even though support for having goaltenders included was high in survey results(97%), we want these sessions to be more specific in their focus. We want our coaches to be on the ice observing these skating/skills sessions and collaborating with WHA staff on development issues and strategies. With only skaters present on the ice, coaches will be free to do just that. WMHA coaches have a high level of skill and knowledge and we want to add to and support that excellence with this program. As stated above we have an aggressive goaltending development program already in place



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- **Initiation and Pre Novice**
- This season we were very fortunate to have experienced coaches assisting with the Initiation and Pre Novice programs.
- Tim Weigel and Josh Gruhl ran the Initiation program. Both Tim and Josh have a few years of experience running the program. The program was once again run by focusing on skating and skills. Both Tim and Josh were fortunate enough to have a lot of support from the parent group. Strong parent support on the ice at this age drastically increases the success of the program.
- Rob Hall and Scott Basler ran the Pre Novice program. This was Rob's second year in a row running the program and Scott's first year. Both Scott and Rob were very passionate all year. The program continued with lots of focus on skill development as the Pre Novice group carried on from the Initiation program.
- All Initiation and Pre Novice teams competed in the Annual Wallace Fun Day's tournament in Kurtzville.

- Question – Chris Taylor – What are the initiatives for LL development? Fred – ran it 2 years ago and there was a lack of interest. Fred suggested that maybe they can work together and get the numbers and then put something together.
- Could they LL join the rep teams if they wish? Fred - At goaltending level yes but not at a team level.
- Chris would be interested in working with Fred to possibly put something together for the fall.

8) Ice Scheduler – Jodi Young

- Everything was business as usual at the hockey office this year but things definitely changed as I took over the scheduler duties. It was very challenging but exciting at the same time and I really enjoyed that aspect of the job. I felt like after one year under my belt I could do an even better job next season. But unfortunately after 4 full seasons at the hockey office and 1 year as scheduler I am resigning from my positions with Woolwich Minor Hockey to pursue a full time job at the Township of Woolwich. It has been a pleasure to work with all of the coaches, parents, players and all of our wonderful volunteers on this and past executives.

- Brad – suggestion – AE and AP not practise the same night as the A teams. This will help the players be able to practise with the A team.

9) Office Administrator/Registrar – Jodi Young

Registration Summary

- * Total registrants for the 2014-15 season was 580.
- * 20 rep teams, 12 LL teams for a total of 32 teams + 44 Initiation and 54 Pre Novice players.



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10) Fundraising Committee – Leanne Rollins

- We ran two very successful campaigns this year for a total profit to WMHA of \$15,184.
 - 1) Sugar Kings Cash Calendars:
 - sold 586 calendars total
 - \$2930 was retained by the teams
 - WMHA profit was **\$5860**
 - 2) Stemmler Meats:
 - Sold 5328 packages of pepperettes
 - WMHA profit was **\$9324**

11) Tournament- Tracey Williams/Jasmine Roth

- Once again, first and foremost, we want to give a great big shout out to all of the Volunteers that helped make this weekend possible!! Without these volunteers that help before and during the weekend, our Tournament would not be possible! Special shoutout to Shelley Deyell and Leanne Rollins who contributed many hours to the Weekend and were an invaluable support system.
- The Weekend was a great success. We had 40 teams participating this year - 6 divisions: Major Peewee, Peewee AE, Peewee LL, Major Bantam, Bantam AE and Bantam LL from all over.
- The feedback was excellent from all the teams and it's always nice to have many of the same teams coming back year after year!!
- Our profits were up considerably this year from last year, with Woolwich Weekend earning a profit of approximately \$14,400.
- A big difference this year was in our registration - we were basically full by mid-October and did not have to scramble for teams to fill the divisions, which we have had to do in the past. We kept our entry fee the same as last year and continued to provide high quality trophies and gifts for all our registrants as incentives for teams to join us.
- We also had a very impressive raffle table, including a children's raffle table that contributed to our profit.
- We sold Tournament Sponsor packages this year (3 different levels) to local businesses and that helped greatly with our bottom line. We didn't have an actual physical program, which cut down on costs and work. We did our advertising online and had all the scores and standings on our website.
- Woolwich Weekend had a greater Twitter and Facebook presence this year, which was very well received by our participants.
- On a personal note, I will be stepping down after 4 years as the Chair of Woolwich Weekend. I want to give a great big thank you to all of the Woolwich families who have supported the Tournament in so many ways. Thank you also to the Executive for their help and assistance throughout the years.
- 2015 will be the 40th year of Woolwich Weekend and I am excited to see what the new Chair and Committee has in store!

Woolwich Cup

- Another successful year. Most teams we have had in the tournament. 12 in Novice and 12 in Atom. We ended up using St Jacobs as well.
- Lots of positive feedback. Raised approx. \$7,000 profit for WMHA.



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12) Sponsorship – Christa Pollock/Ken Flaherty

- All teams were required to submit a picture with their sponsor and then all photos were voted on. Very successful.
- Chris – Sponsorship question – Atom McDonald was showing on website as Harvey's / Swiss Chalet. Rob W will look into on why that happened.

13) Webmaster – Leanne Rollins

- Will host an “open” meeting this year. Jodi also suggested that whoever takes over hockey office that they sit in on the meeting.

14) Photos – Pat Leonard

- Thank you to all the teams, coaches, managers and Jasmine Roth Photography for making the photography sessions run smoothly. I have received only positive comments regarding quality and pricing.
- Team photographs will be delivered to sponsors and thanked for their support of the Woolwich Minor Hockey Association.

15) Concussion Management – Dave Lee

- Continued the CMRG Concussion Management Program this year with all players Minor Atom and above in the Local League and Rep programs. All players completed their tests before the start of the regular season. The cost was \$25.00 per player which was included in their registration fee.
- 366 tests were completed before the beginning of the season. According to records, 42 were accessed by various healthcare providers in order to do follow-up post-concussion test/care. This is in line with current stats that demonstrate about 10 to 15% of hockey players will sustain a concussion in a single season.
- Please send me an email with any feedback that you may have. dave.lee2@sympatico.ca. Thanks and have a great summer

16) New Business from the floor

- Mike Weigel – just an observations that major / minors – when minors played against the majors they were very intimidated. He feels that if you split minor / major that you will develop both levels at their caliber.
- Rob - Harrison – they are typically AA centres “2nd” team. Russell division allows a safety net that you drop down. Big thing will be #'s and interest level at tryouts.
- Mike Weigel – Minor bantams will have a tough time skating against the majors with the hitting. Rob – at the end of the day it is the numbers that will dictate.
- Brad – Major Bantams – they had 1 50 minute practise per week. Would like to look at that being changed to 90 minutes.
- Rob made note to Jodi to put that as something to look at for next season.
- Positions available:
- VP coaching – Motion from the floor Mike Laenars, second Matt Roemer, all in favour. Motion Carried
- Tournament Chair – vacant
- Director of fundraising – vacant
- Director of sponsorship - vacant



WILDCATS

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- VP LL – Motion from the floor by Rob Moyer to nominate Kurt, Second Pat Leonard, All in favor.
Motion carried
- Mike Birmingham – question – voting procedure just went thru in line with constitution? Just feels that if there is a constitution- we should follow it as closely as possible as it puts out a good vibe to all knowing that we are following.
- Rob – Not 100% sure, this is the way it has been done for several years. We always have challenges filling positions and if there was more interest in filling the positions we would probably look at the way the voting was held.
- Leanne - possibly look at changing the closed ballot voting in the constitution. Deb has not recalled the closed ballot and she has been with the association for over 14 years.
- Spirit wear – vacant.
- Recognize the volunteers who are leaving us – Matt Roemer, Jodi Young, Tracey Williams, Christa Pollock

Conclude 9:17pm