

WHITBY GIRLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

May 28, 2013 – IROQUOIS PARK, Whitney Hall

6:09 p.m.

Executive Attendance:

Melissa Thompson – President
Dave Martin – 1st VP GM Hockey
Denise McKinnon – Registrar
Jason Hunt – 2nd VP House League Director
Patrick Brown – Referee-in-Chief
Louis Kyron – Sponsorship Director
Melanie Wilde – 3rd VP Administrative Assistant/Secretary
Patrick Birrell – Equipment Director
Russ Winters – JR House League Director
Shane Hill – Director, Coach and Player Development
Nancy Cable – Treasurer
Brian Mikkelsen – Ice Scheduler

Paul Konarowski – Parliamentarian
Jill Martin – Minute Taker

Regrets:

Shane Hill – Director, Coach and Player Development
Lisette Stapley – Clothing Director
Jonathan Beam – PR Director

1. Welcome and Introductions

Melissa Thompson, President, called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m., and called upon Paul Konarowski to begin the meeting.

2. Guidelines

Paul Konarowski, Parliamentarian, reminded everyone that there was no Sergeant of Arms but other members can still vote and register. Mr. Konarowski reviewed the guidelines for the meeting and provided some of his background as a Parliamentarian. Mr. Konarowski stated the rules of parliament exist, and such conduct is in the best interest of the Whitby Girls Hockey Association. Robert's Rules of Order was on hand

to be referred to, and Mr. Konarowski reminded those present that cell phones should be on silent during the meeting. The agenda was posted as per the constitution, and the President will perform the welcome.

3. Acceptance of Minutes of AGM (May) & GM (Sept.) 2013

The President, Melissa Thompson, thanked everyone for coming and apologized for the early start time, as she wanted Joe Neil to have appropriate time to speak to the issue of the new WGHA by-laws.

Moved by Patrick Brown

Seconded by Heather Patterson

That the minutes of the AGM (May) and GM (September) 2013 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

4. WGHA By-Laws

The President, Melissa Thompson advised that a by-law relating generally to the transaction of the business and affairs of Whitby Girls Hockey Association had been drawn up. The constitution was not there, and this had taken three years to reach compliancy. Ms. Thompson introduced Joe Neil, a constitutional lawyer who can review any of the changes and can answer any questions the floor may have.

Mr. Neil explained the purpose of the By-law and explained that the "*affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors.*"

By-Law No. 1 Section 2.03 Election of directors and term of office

"There shall be fifteen (15) directors, whom shall, in lieu of election, become directors by virtue of their election as an officer at the Corporation's Annual General Meeting of members, seven of whom shall become directors on even years, and eight of whom shall become directors on odd years. Each term will last for two years." There will be telephone meetings (meaning everyone doesn't have to be physically present).

By-Law No. 1 Section 4.05 to Section 4.10 Duties of President, 1st VP, 2nd VP, Secretary, Treasurer, and Other Officer

Duties of President, 1st VP, 2nd VP, Secretary, Treasurer, and other officers are outlined on pages 4 and 5 of By-Law No. 1. The duties of the Treasurer are different, as "*in order to be nominated for election at the AGM, the treasurer shall have a recognized accounting designation, provided that if no one is nominated, the Board may appoint a treasurer who has equivalent related experience until the next AGM.*"

By-Law No. 1 Section 7 Membership

Section 7 of the By-Law speaks to the issue of Classes of Memberships (ordinary and life members).

“The membership shall be effective as of July 1 in each year, and expire on June 30 of the following year.”

By-Law No. 1 Section 7.05 Termination of Membership

“The Board may, by a resolution passed by a majority vote, terminate any membership for just causes, provided, however, that the member is given at least 15 days notice of the termination and the reason, and the member is given the opportunity to be heard orally or in writing at least five days before the termination becomes effective.”

By-Law No. 1 Section 8 Meetings of Members

Some discussion in regards to Section 8.01 **Annual Meetings**, and how members are notified. Section 8.04 **Omission of Notice** was also discussed. Section 8.06 **Voting** was discussed in greater detail. Section 8.06(3) was also discussed *“Members may speak once to a resolution or other order of business after they have been recognized by the Chair, and shall be limited to two minutes when addressing an order of business, and the mover of a resolution may speak last to the resolution, followed by the Chair.”*

The mover gets to speak last; they don't get to keep on speaking. This will help business move along.

By-Law No. 1 Section 8.09 Quorum

“A quorum for the transaction of business at any meetings of members shall consist of 15 of the members present in person.”

If enough members are concerned about an issue, they will attempt to pass the order of business.

Mr. Neil explained that this would be a good document because it is consistent with the Corporations Act.

No questions from anyone on the floor.

Melissa Thompson thanked Mr. Neil for attending the AGM.

Motion: To accept the new constitution.

All in favour

CARRIED

5. Nominations and Elections for 2013/2014 positions

The position of Jr. House League Director is open. This position would be for one year. No nominations put forward. Nominations are now closed.

6. Financial Statements Presented by Nancy Cable

Nancy Cable presented the report. Ms. Cable went over in some detail all Statements in the Financial Statement, but went over the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures in great detail, explaining what fees had gone up and down and why. The final page of Notes gives more detailed reviews and disbursements.

Motion: To accept the Financial Report as presented

Moved by Nancy Cable

Seconded by Jason Hunt

CARRIED

7. Appointment of Accounting Firm for 2013/2014

Motion: To appoint Arden Vanderhorst

Moved by Nancy Cable

Seconded by Louis Kyron

CARRIED

8. Executive Council Reports

Paul Konarowski advised that the Executive Council Reports for the 2013/2014 season would be presented.

President's Report

President Melissa Thompson presented the report. Ms. Thompson thanked the Executive for their dedication to the Association. She also thanked Jason and Russ for all the success with the House League. The Representative Program went very well and there was great achievement across the divisions. Special thank you was given to Gary for all his years coaching, mentoring and being on the Executive at the WGHA. This year a Sr. Team and possibly a Sr. Division team will be added at house league if the interest is there. Ms. Thompson thanked all the volunteers for their endless efforts, but stated that volunteers are always needed.

1st VP GM Hockey Operations

Dave Martin provided this report. Mr. Martin commented that this past year was a great year with 21 Rep Teams and five Development Stream Teams. Mr. Martin commented that this year there was a great program development program from house league to rep. There were more and more players making the jump this year with a special thanks to Jason, Russ and Lou who did a wonderful job. Twenty teams represented Whitby in the Lower Lakes Female Hockey League. Fourteen of the teams finished the regular season in the top three within their respective division. Six teams finished in first place, with all teams qualifying for playoffs. Eight teams made it through to the Championship Weekend. One gold, two silver and two bronze were awarded. This is a great testament to the coaching staff.

There were 21 suspensions this year. Three coaches were suspended this year, which is up from previous year, but lower than most years. We are lucky to have a great coaching staff, and a special thank you to them. Special thank you to the rest of executive counsel, coaches and everyone who has put in the time.

Question from the floor: How do we fair in regards to suspensions? Mr. Martin responded that suspensions are up across the province, but mostly with coaches.

Ice Scheduler

Report presented by Brian Mikkelsen. Mr. Mikkelsen stated that the ice allocation for rep was up significantly due to logistical reasons. One midget team was dropped. We won't know about house league schedule until the August time frame. With the combination of extra ice, (8% more ice than the year before), we have not gone out to seek more. There has been a deal struck with the Town, which has caused mixed feedback. Ice outside of Whitby can be pulled from us, and they can pull it at anytime, but with Whitby, they can't pull from us. At risk was 10%, but it has been as high as 15%. Ice scheduling is about the future, to be treated as a forecasting exercise. We will lose ice in Whitby, but not significantly. House league will remain the same, with a slight reduction of 5%, but close to being on track for 10%. Canlan Ice Sports in Oshawa is moving to a modified schedule, a two-zamboni system with five minutes between ice slots. Ice time will only be 50 minutes.

The Sports Garden Café is closed, and they have started construction.

Clarington is interested in partnership with us in regards to the concussion testing.

Question from the floor: How much ice will the Sr. team receive per month? Mr.

Mikkelsen responded that they are leaving it up to them, but looking for two spots per week.

2nd VP House League Director/Jr House League Director

Mr. Jason Hunt provided this report. Mr. Hunt spoke to the issue of development. The ice was open to all house league players. This year there were double the numbers of kids. Coaches run this. There were 30 players in each session. There were 7-10 hours of ice for the atom and peewee level. This is the best house league program in the province. There was a great quality of coaches, and good feedback was received. Thank you to the executive for the support, this shows in the success that we enjoyed. There was a high quality of coaching staff, with great people coming back. Thank you to all coaches and convenors. There was only one complaint from a parent. Thank you to Russ and Lou. Russ was heavily involved but now Russ is done after five years. It was great working with Russ, and the organization is going to miss him on the executive. Thanks again to Russ for all his support.

Director, Coach and Player Development

As Shane Hill was absent, Melanie Wilde presented this report. There were ten applicants who applied for the WGHA Development Program for the 2013/14 season including, Scary Skate, Step Athletics, Edge Hockey Academy, Journey to Excel, Smart Hockey, and Just Goalie. In the 2013/14 season, every rep player was tested at the beginning and the end of the year. Results are used for strengths and weakness. Results will be made available for next year coaches, by uploading them into the player database. Specific goalie testing is also being looked at in the future. There was a mid-season parent survey, with the results being utilized in part of updating the coaching selection process. In 2014/2015 the WGHA moved to use an online coaching

application process. All applicants fill out an application as well as provide a seasonal plan. All docs are time stamped. Feedback said everything was user friendly and conducive with the direction of future plans. This season the WGHA changed the current coaching selection process from previous years in relation to timing of successful applicants announcements. In the past, only AA coaches were named up front. This season, all coaches were named early and at the same time. This change has received positive feedback. This season the WGHA implemented an online player selection process. All players were given a unique number and this number followed them throughout tryouts. Players and parents were able to see comments and results. No more waiting for letters. This new process received rave reviews from the players, coaches and players. Each coach from the 2013/14 season was asked to fill out an online survey to aid in the future WGHA development program. This survey questioned the past season development program including their abilities, and strengths and weaknesses. This will be used in the selection process of the upcoming season

Question from the floor: In the future will the WGHA be using more female coaches? Any interested college graduates? The response was that we are trying to approach some female coaches. They need a strong female skating background (such as figure skating). We need to find ways to go after graduates. There was discussion in regards to a mentoring program with midget teams and tyke teams, as a mentor to encourage them. Another question was in regards to a non-parent coaching system. The response was that a lot of women would not get on the bench, because they are very intimidated. These women need to start out helping out as an assistant even by opening the gate.

3rd VP Admin Assistant

Melanie Wilde provided this report.

Question from the floor: What is the time line for posting minutes on line? Ms. Wilde commented that typically when we have the minutes approved from each meeting, they are passed along to John who would post them on line. They are one meeting behind.

Registrar Report

Denise McKinnon presented this report. In January of 2014, online registration was created and managed. As a breakdown of numbers, there were 498 house league players, 354 rep players, 852 players in the system, 60 teams in the association, with 449 volunteer staff. Thank you to the executive for their patience and encouragement.

Clothing Director

As Lisette Stapley is absent, Melanie Wilde presented the report. The WGHA Official Uniform and Merchandise supplier for the 2013/14 hockey season has been Supreme Sports Apparel. This is a review of the past season's uniform: Players had blue jackets (members liked these but there were too many problems with the zippers), yoga pants (many complaints, not conducive to all body shapes), long sleeve shirts (not conducive to all body shapes); hoodies were liked as long as they were good quality. The coaches

requested ties with logo or letters. Female trainers would like longer jackets. The website has some improvements to be made and members were asked for feedback for ideas and suggestions. Supreme Sports Apparel won the next three-year contract as the Official Uniform and Merchandise supplier for the WGHA. There is an electronic copy of the catalogue made available to the coaches.

Question from the floor: What will the new tracksuits look like? Ms. Wilde stated that they would be a blue jacket with better zipper, with wolf letters. They will be a very "cool" tracksuit.

Director of Equipment

Mr. Patrick Birrell presented this report. Replacement house league coaches and goalie equipment and WGHA supplies were purchased. The majority of loaned out house league goalie and coach's equipment has been returned and will be properly cleaned by Brooklin Skate Shop. Butterfly style goalie pads were purchased for a price of approximately \$4800-5000. The 2014/15 season will be the first year of our three-year rep jersey cycle. New style jerseys and logo are on the website. Thank you to the executive for their help and support during this past season.

Tournament Director

Melanie Wilde presented this report. Ms. Wilde spoke about the 2013 Tournament of Heroes. 115 teams from Ontario and the United States participated. This was 17 teams less than previous season but this was the first year that a minimum four game guarantee was given. There were many positive aspects spoken of. Improvements for next year include adding a senior division.

PR Director

Because Jonathan Beam was absent, Melanie presented this report. The website has been maintained and updated throughout the year, and now shows a slideshow of achievements. The site has been revised to show upcoming events and changes to policies. Due to overwhelming success of membership over the past years, the focus of recruiting has been reduced since an increase in numbers would likely conflict with ice availability.

Sponsorship Director

Louis Kyron presented this report. All house league teams had sponsorship. Sponsorship helps pay for House League and DS related costs such as team uniforms. Development Stream teams took advantage of the Boston Pizza team program whereby receipts are handed in and the team receives 10% back as a cheque payable to the team. DS teams also participated in Funscrip whereby every day Gift Cards are purchased at face value and up to 10% of the face value of the Gift Card is rebated to those teams in cash. In the past three seasons, DS teams have earned collectively over \$7,000.

Referee in Chief

Pat Brown presented this report. Mr. Brown stated that on behalf of Trevor, he would like to thank the executive for another good year. There were no games cancelled and no major issues. There were some suspensions, but none Mr. Brown got involved with. There was a referee clinic in September. This was especially for house league players and it was so successful we had to turn people away. Clinic scheduled for the 28th of September. Clinics are half day, with juniors in the morning and seniors in the afternoon.

Question from the floor: How much will this cost? The answer was between \$50.00 and \$60.00

9. *Any Questions From the Floor in Regards to Reports Presented?*

House league players for the past four years have had no recognition for league championships. Teams that have worked hard for the season aren't the ones winning the championships. Maybe some consideration and recognition should be given to these teams as well.

House league jerseys are so similar in colour that pinnies always have to be worn. Can something be done to make the colours of the jerseys completely different.

10. *New Business*

Melissa Thompson spoke to this issue. Ms. Thompson spoke in regards to the WGHA 2014 slate (this handout was attached to the minutes from the September 10th 2013 meeting.) This is the new executive until the next AGM.

11. *Thank you and Adjournment*

Melissa Thompson thanked everyone for attending.

Motion: To adjourn the AGM for Wednesday, May 28, 2014.

Moved by Dave Martin

Seconded by Louis Kyrton

All in favour

CARRIED

Meeting adjournment at 7:55 pm