



**Minutes of the Board Meeting
September 19, 2022**

Present: Tony Farago, Pat Lam, Mike Hollingworth, Jennifer Emery, Jamie Leppard, Helen Tyson, Jodi Parke, Kapil Uppal, Ingrid Meza-MacDonald.

Regrets: None

Guests: Greg Clarke

1. Approval of the Agenda

- a. Motion to accept the agenda.

Motion by Pat Lam seconded by Mike Hollingworth and Tony Farago

Carried.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

- a. Motion to accept the minutes of August 22, 2022, as presented.

Motion by Jamie Leppard seconded by Mike Hollingworth and Tony Farago

Carried.

3. Motions

- a. None.

4. Area Reports

a. President – Helen Tyson-

- i. Helen welcomed Kapil Uppal and Ingrid Meza-McDonald to their first meeting. Helen has discussed the portfolios that will be assigned to the new members.
- ii. Donation of \$1050 has been secured to provide the opportunity to a refugee family of new Canadians to take part in minor hockey.

b. District Chair – Greg Clarke –

i. Minor Council

Some changes in structure. I have stepped down as Minor Council Chair and this position will be assumed by Fabio Onesi from District B. Jen Primeau from District 9 will act as Vice-Chair. I will continue in my role as Chair of Discipline and Appeals.

ii. U9 Policy

We have a very long discussion regarding changes to the U9 policy, particularly regarding full-ice games after January 15. Most Districts were in favour of an immediate change as they are receiving pressure from parents that players are “bored” after 2-3 years of U7 and 2 years of U9 where they don’t play any real “games”. On the other hand, others argued that the U9 program had yet to prove itself as it was badly impacted by the pandemic and there has not been any time to really evaluate the results. I put forward the position is the NMHA had costed its fees based on the current policy and that an immediate change would have an impact on our costs and ice allocations.

In the end, a motion was passed to recommend to the HEO Board to change the U9 policy to allow for full ice games beginning in 2023-2024 season. Additionally, a motion was passed to allow U9 teams to attend one (1) full-ice tournament after January 15 in 2022-2023.

iii. House League Affiliation

I provide the Board the HEO policy on House affiliation which will allow us to manage call ups in a similar fashion as what we used to do under the Club system.

Note that this does NOT apply to competitive teams or players from House affiliating to Competitive teams.

iv. Membership Support Services Employee update. HEO has a new employee starting on September 26th, 2022. His name is Bailey Hyson, and the main part of his

position is to support Minor Hockey.

- v. HEO goalie equipment program has incurred some delays and the equipment should be here mid-October.

vi. Certificates of Insurance

Due to a change in position from Hockey Canada's general liability insurer, the period of insurance is from September 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023. Because of this end date, a new certificate request will have to be made for you to obtain a new Certificate of Insurance covering the period from March 1 to September 1, 2023. We will be informed by Hockey Canada when we are able to request the new certificate.

- vii. Hockey Canada will be hosting a Town Hall for the HEO Board, Voting Members and Associate Members September 15. I have registered for this event.

- viii. A question was raised by a District about using coaches to officiate U9 half-ice games. This was not supported by Council as it is a disaster waiting to happen. There have been several serious incidents in U9 over the last few years and not having an official present to supervise would only make a bad situation worse.

- ix. District 2 (Seaway) is piloting a 2-referee, 1 linesperson system for their U18 program this year. It will be interesting to see the results.

- x. U18 AAA camps finish Monday, September 19 although some teams are finished.

- xi. U12-U15 AAA has started their season. There are using a new website <https://heoaaaleague.ca/>

- xii. Most other Districts continue to show a decline in registration. In terms of raw numbers, we will slightly exceed last year's registration count of 1906.

c. **VP Competitive – Jamie Leppard –**

- i. Jamie raised the issue of ice allocations and particular the potential of having burnt ice and planning for a reduced reduction of ice allocation for new teams for 2023-2024 season
- ii. J. Leppard confirmed 12 of the 22 competitive teams are made. 10 more to complete and the U16- U18 tryouts start this weekend
- iii. 560 players registered for tryouts across all divisions, short of the target of 600 players as there was a significant shortfall in U11. He projects 21 teams from 22

potentially for 2023-24 season

- iv. There will be a review of the jersey order for next year

d. VP House – Jodi Parker –

- i. J. Parker provided an update on impacts post pandemic and review of team numbers being down. U9 lower than predicted; U15 is reduced to 16 teams while U18 exceeded its target. There will be two teams in U21
- ii. Manager Meeting will be held October 19
- iii. We have a family of new Canadians who requires transportation to and from sort outs. Several members have volunteered to help.
- iv. J. Parker has a task team reviewing tournament strategy and will come back with further updates.

e. VP Operations – Pat Lam –

- i. P. Lam advised that the jersey director is reviewing jersey sizing and organizing and will make a request to purchase shelves for the storage unit.
- ii. The goalie rental program has equipment that has been around for 10 seasons. The program requires replacement equipment and Pat will investigate what is required to be purchased.
- iii. Pat also noted that he has met with Jeff Deavy, the NMHA RIC, who is preparing a budget for the official's program including timekeepers.

f. VP Finance – Tony Farago –

- i. Tony provided a status on the NMHA banking procedures. All accounts are cleared and signing authorities have been updated
- ii. Tony is also assembling financial policies and procedures for the NMHA. More details to come on the updates at future meetings

g. Director At Large – Jennifer Emery –

- i. Emery noted that the \concussion protocols – return to play are to be updated on the NMHA website to reflect the HEO policies.
- ii. J. Emery will address at the Managers meeting the importance of Health and Safety items, PRC for volunteers, helmets being done up etc.

- iii. Pat Lam has updated PRC letter to include details about the role and required function.
 - iv. Tony Farago noted that an emergency action plan is required for sort outs.
- h. **Director At Large – (Communications Vacant) –**
 - i. No report.
- i. **Director At Large – Mike Hollingworth –**
 - i. M. Hollingworth updated the Pathway program is underway and running well. Some general complaints on the combination of House and Competitive players mixed. Following HEO guidelines
 - ii. Mike Hollingworth advised that House League Goalie Development will be conducted by SHIFT Performance and Wellness. 1- hour clinics will be held on Wednesday nights and broken down by age with each Goalie to be supported for 3 hours of training.
 - iii. Coach Mentor sessions will be held during the first two weeks of October.
 - iv. The Roster Select will be piloted with House U13 and U15.
 - v. Development opportunities will be initiated using available ice for skills sessions. Will target U11, U13 with 25 players on the ice, cost \$20.00
 - vi.
- j. **Director At Large – Membership Services (vacant) –**
 - i. No report.
- k. **Referee in Chief (RIC) – Jeff Deavy –**
 - i. No report.

5. **Next Meeting Date:** October 17, 2022, at 7:00 pm

6. **Motion to adjourn** Motion to adjourn by Mike Hollingworth and seconded by Tony Fargo.

Carried.