

**BARRIE WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**  
**MONDAY, MAY 27, 2024 – 7:00 PM**  
**EAST BAYFIELD RECREATION CENTRE - MULTIPURPOSE ROOM**  
**MEETING AGENDA**

**Attendance:** 106 members present and/or represented by parents/guardians, including  
14 Directors

**Call to order** – Rob Emerson called the meeting to order at 7:18PM

**Introduction of Directors** – Rob Emerson (President), Jason McKenna (Director of Competitive Program), Mike Robinson (Director of Game Officials), Anita White (Chief Trainer), Jay Zealand (Director of Coach & Player Development), Kate Gee (Director of Sponsorship), Nick Leigh (Director of Tournaments), Lee-Anne Whittaker (Registrar), Laura Carbis (Director of Youth House League), Jason Rodd (Director of Marketing & Communications), Sue Rymsha (Director of Women's House League), Kathleen Gardiner (Secretary)

Absent: Rob Whitehead (Past President)

**APPROVAL: 2022-2023 AGM Minutes**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the 2022-2023 Annual General Meeting held on May 29, 2023 be approved as presented.

**MOVED BY** – Joe Givens

**SECONDED BY** – John Philbrick

**CARRIED BY MAJORITY OF VOTE OF MEMBERS PRESENT**

**REVIEW: 2022-2023 Financial Statements**

Review of 2022-2023 Financial Statements. They have not been audited yet so we reviewed the unaudited Financial Statements that have been prepared by Kevin Anderson, BWHA's accountant. Letter from Paul Ambercrombie of Smith Sykes Leeper and Tunstall has been provided to confirm that he is in receipt of materials required to complete the audit and that audited statements will be forthcoming.

Rob Emerson provided the review of the 2022-2023 Financial Statements which were

prepared by Kevin Anderson, BWHA's accountant. These financial statements are not yet finalized and have not been through the audit process.

### **Preliminary Review of 2023-2024 Financial Statements**

Rob Emerson provided a review of the 2023-2024 preliminary financial statements as prepared by Kevin Anderson, BWHA's accountant. These financial statements are not yet finalized and have not been through the audit process.

7:28PM - John Philbrick asks for more detail regarding U22AA entry. Rob Emerson addressed John and explained that the General Manager departed and there was some work needed to ensure clarity. The Board had to step in to ensure that all outstanding amounts were paid in full

### **Reports from Board Members**

QR code provided to access all reports. Reports were reviewed on the projector. No questions were received from members on reports.

### **Correspondence**

Ice Scheduler's Report - included in QR code provided to access all reports.

### **New Business**

#### **APPROVAL: SSLT Services for 202024-25**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT BWHA shall retain the services of Smyth, Sykes, Leeper & Tunstall for the 2024-2025 season, including preparation of financial statement and yearly audit of financials.

**MOVED BY – Eric McFadden**

**SECONDED BY – John Philbrick**

**CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE OF MEMBERS PRESENT**

#### **APPROVAL: Repeal and replace Bylaw No. 1 of the BWHA**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-law No. 1 is hereby repealed, provided that such repeal shall not affect the previous operation of such by-laws so repealed, or affect the validity of any act done or right, privilege, obligation, or liability acquired or incurred under the

validity of any contract or agreement made pursuant to any such by-law prior to its repeal;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the board of directors of the Corporation do hereby approve and adopt By-Law No. 2, being a by-law relating generally to the conduct of the business and affairs of the Corporation, and the president and the secretary are hereby authorized and directed to sign said By-Law.

**MOVED BY–** Kathleen Gardiner

**CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE OF MEMBERS PRESENT**

**APPROVAL: BWA Articles of Amendment**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Articles of the Corporation be amended:

1. by providing for a minimum of Seven (7) and a maximum of Sixteen (16) directors; and
2. any director of the Corporation be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute and to deliver all documents and to do all things necessary or desirable to effect such amendment including the execution and delivery to the ministry of said articles of amendment for such purpose

**MOVED BY–** Kathleen Gardiner

**CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE OF MEMBERS PRESENT**

**APPROVAL: AMENDMENT to Motion to update the Articles of Incorporation:**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. the Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation, dated December 16, 1994 (the "Articles"), did not provide for a minimum and maximum number of directors;
- B. the Articles did not provide for different classes of membership;
- C. the Corporation proposes to file Articles of Amendment to provide for a minimum of Seven (7) and a maximum of Sixteen (16) directors and to provide for the following membership classes:

The Corporation shall have Five (5) classes of Membership as follows:

1. Voting Player Membership which shall include any player aged Eighteen (18) or older who, having properly registered and paid all required fees, appears on the roster of any BWHHA team during a season which falls within the current fiscal year.
2. Voting Parent/Guardian Membership which shall include and or legal guardian for each player aged 18 or older who, having properly registered and paid all required fees, appears on the roster of any BWHHA team during a season which falls within the current fiscal year.
3. Non-Voting Honorary Membership which may be granted to an individual who has rendered extraordinary and distinguished service to the Corporation. Individuals may be nominated to be Honorary Members by any Member in Good Standing of the Corporation and the granting of Honorary Membership must be confirmed by a majority vote of the Directors.
4. Voting Volunteer Membership which shall include any individual properly appointed to a volunteer position by a resolution of the Board of Directors. Such positions will include head coach, committee chair, convener, advisory roles, or other positions as appointed by the Board.
5. Voting Director Membership which shall include any individual elected or appointed, by the Members or through the filling of any vacancy by the Board of Directors, to any Director position.

Any member of the Board of Directors (including voting and non-voting members), having been properly elected or appointed in accordance with Bylaw No. 1 of the Barrie Women's Hockey Association shall be recognized as a member for the duration of the term of their appointment. Directors shall be eligible to stand for re-election as members, even in situations where they no longer have a dependent who is a registered player with the BWHHA.

- D. the Corporation is able to pay its liabilities as they become due and the realizable value of the Corporation's assets is not less than the aggregate of its liabilities.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the articles of the Corporation be amended:

1. by providing for a minimum of Seven (7) and a maximum of Sixteen (16) directors and to provide for the Five (5) different membership classes and stated in section C above; and

2. any director of the Corporation be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute and to deliver all documents and to do all things necessary or desirable to effect such amendment including the execution and delivery to the ministry of said articles of amendment for such purpose.

**MOVED BY - Cliff Eastman**

**SECONDED BY - Eric McFadden**

**CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE OF MEMBERS PRESENT**

**APPROVAL: Update BWA's Policy & Procedures related to competitive team financial reporting**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** section 38.8 d) of the BWA Policy & Procedures be amended to read "Each team will maintain accurate financial records throughout the season to account for all revenues and expenses and to ensure alignment with the approved budget. This will include fully reconciled bank statements indicating the related revenue or expense for each deposit and withdrawal. Team financial records will be provided to the BWA's treasurer ***and to the players' parents/guardians on a quarterly basis.*** "

**MOVED BY – Susan Wilson**

**CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE OF MEMBERS PRESENT**

**Board of Director Results for 2024025 Executive**

The following positions, normally elected in ODD numbered years, received only a single nomination and the individuals noted will be acclaimed to 2-year terms at the 2023-2024 AGM:

Director of Adult House League – Sue Rymsha

Director of Communications and Marketing – Lisa Van Kolfshoten

Director of Game Officials – Mike Robinson

President – Rob Emerson

Treasurer – Nancy Hooper

The following position, normally elected in EVEN numbered years, received only a single nomination and the individual noted will be acclaimed to a 1-year term at the 2023-2024 AGM:

Director of Fundraising and Sponsorship – Kate Gee

Secretary – Kathleen Gardiner

The following positions did not receive an eligible nomination so the position will remain vacant until a suitable candidate is found.

Director of Tournaments

### **ELECTION: Director of Competitive Program**

*(Both candidates addressed the membership to present their plans for the next two-year term prior to the vote)*

I, being a member in good standing with the Barrie Women's Hockey Association, hereby cast my vote for the following individual for the position of Director of Competitive Program:

Answer 1: Jason McKenna – 35 votes

Answer 2: Jay Zealand – 68 votes

Answer 3: ABSTAIN/SPOILED – 3

Director of Competitive Program: Jay Zealand

Eric McFadden and Scott Mitchell appointed to run the election and declare the successful candidate.

As Jay Zealand was the successful candidate, the position of Director of Coach and Player Development is now open until a suitable candidate is found.

### **General Questions from members:**

- Member indicates that there is a difficult perception of team selection - they believe people are making teams based on connections rather than ability. Loss of confidence - they believe the coaches are being told who to select.
  - Jason McKenna thinks the solution is to have independent evaluators;
  - Jason McKenna agrees that it is a massive problem and he believes outside evaluators will solve the situation;
  - Jason McKenna states that over 50 players have left the organization over the last two years;
  - Rob Emerson confirms that the numbers that are being reported as players leaving are not accurate - they are not as high as 50 players;
  - Jay Zealand - we have 7 teams that are being coached by females;

- Jay Zealand wants to help improve the tryout process and ensure that there is no tampering with either the coach selection or player tryouts;
  - Jay Zealand is not in favour of independent evaluators as we have proper support within our own association to work out a system to improve the evaluators;
  - Jason McKenna confirms his own process.
- Member wants to know if Rob Emerson overruled Jason McKenna's decision to permit daughter to be considered an inside player
  - Rob would prefer not to discuss individual player decisions but agreed that a conversation took place between him and Jason McKenna;
- Member advises that there was an issue where there were not enough players to make a second A team because players were holding out for a lower level team;
  - Jay Zealand answered - despite players having skill sometimes they don't want the commitment of a higher level
- Member requests more meaningful feedback when girls are cut
  - Jason McKenna says that it is disappointing to hear that
- Parent of a U11 player is looking for change and would like to hear more from the Board. States that Directors shouldn't be making decisions about who makes a team and indicates that Association needs to do better. She proposes town hall meetings;
- Member wants to thank BWA for Women in Leadership initiative - can't wait to see this initiative grow.
- Member suggests a Risk Management Position. Feels as though the Import policy was rushed and it shouldn't have been done without more notice. Do we have someone overseeing our decisions? She thinks the optics were not great.
  - Rob Emerson responded to indicate that he acts as a Risk Management Position generally.
  - Rob Emerson agrees that we may not have gotten the role out correctly - he did come back to the board and they declined the invitation to change the role out.
- Member suggest that they would like to have an outside member on the board so that there is an impartial party on the board
  - Rob Emerson references sportcomplaints.ca (ITP process) and advises when there is a claim of maltreatment, abuse and/or bullying we have to refer parents/players to the ITP program for report.
- Member advises that U18HL is looking for more weeknight games to accommodate players with jobs - Laura Carbis took note and see what she can do

- Member indicates that the difference between HL and competitive is too vast (his daughters are 6 and 8 years old) - would like more focus on development for HL players
  - Rob Emerson confirmed that we abide by OWHA's direction re U7 and U9 but also indicated that he received notice of some changes this week which may help address all parent concerns. More to follow.

**ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn the 2023-2024 AGM 9:09pm.**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Annual General Meeting of the Barrie Women's Hockey Association for the 2023-2024 Season be adjourned.

**MOVED – Cliff Eastman**

**SECONDED – John Philbrick**

**CARRIED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF MEMBERS PRESENT**