

Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association
2024 Annual General Meeting
Wednesday April 17, 2024

Call to Order by Marc Luff

I will now call the meeting to order and confirm that in accordance with the By-laws notice of the annual General Meeting of the WSMHA being held today, Wednesday, April 17, 2024, was published at least 15 days prior to this date.

Confirmation of Notice by Marc Luff

“In accordance with the By-Laws, the notice of the annual general meeting of the WSMHA being held today, Wednesday, April 17, 2024, was published at least 15 days prior to this date.”

Confirmation of Quorum by Roula Vessio

The Constitution of the WSMHA requires that a minimum of 25 members be present or represented by proxy at the Annual General Meeting to constitute a quorum. I have been advised that there are sufficient members present or represented to meet quorum and that we can therefore proceed with the AGM.

Adoption of Minutes

“Copies of the Minutes from the 2023 AGM have been distributed.

May I have a motion to approve the Minutes of the 2022 WSMHA AGM as written?

Motion: Don Barker

Second: Duane Douglas

Motion: Carried

Presentation of Dan McNeil Award

Each year a member of this Association is chosen to receive an award donated to the WSMHA some 28 years ago by the family of Dan McNeil, a former member of this Association who lost his life in a tragic automobile accident. This award goes to a player who stands out among the crowd. The criteria for this award include leadership – on and off the ice, work ethic, perseverance, and being a good teammate. The 2024 Dan McNeil recipient is Wesley Redshaw. Wesley was presented with a plaque and \$100 gift card by the McNeil family and Marc Luff.

Presentation of the Steve Wright Award

Several years ago, we lost a member of the Stouffville hockey family. Steve Wright was a long -time coach in our Association and in his memory an award was created to recognize the efforts and contributions of other volunteer coaches, managers, or trainers who consistently demonstrated his/her commitment to the interest of the players of our Association and Stouffville Minor Hockey in general.

and have gone “above and beyond” in their team official duties. The recipient of the 2024 Steve Wright Award is Anthony LoPresti. Anthony was presented with a plaque by Marc Luff.

Presentation of the Don Easter Award

The Don Easter Award was created this year to honour a past volunteer who has spent over 50 years involved with minor sports, not only here but abroad in Australia. Don has been involved with coaching both in the house league and Rep programs, he sat on our Board from 2002 to 2021 and was also the President from 2009 – 2017. This award was created to recognize the efforts and contributions of other volunteer coaches, managers, trainers, or convenors who consistently demonstrated their commitment to the interest of the players of our Association in the House League program and have gone “above and beyond” in their team official duties. The recipient of the Don Easter award is Derek Emmerson.

Presentation of the President's Award

The AGM gives us an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the many individuals that contribute to the WSMHA. The President's award is given to the individual who goes above and beyond their volunteer duties, without hesitation, for the betterment of the league. I am thrilled to announce that the WSMHA's President's Award for Outstanding Volunteer of the Year goes to Sean Musson.

Presentation of the Kids First Fund

Several years ago, the WSMHA established a special fund to assist children in the community who might wish to play hockey but were prevented from doing so by family financial constraints. The WSMHA contributes the proceeds from various special events to the Kids First Fund and may direct people who wish to make a financial contribution to minor hockey to the Committee which manages the Fund.

In 2018 the WSMHA and the Kids First Fund collaborated on a new initiative- the establishment of a bursary to assist members of the Association graduating from High School and planning to enter a post- secondary educational institution. The OMHA Central District Vice President and a member of the Kids First Fund Board, Peter Harmsen introduced the recipients. A plaque and cheque for \$2000 each was awarded to Calen Arnold and Nathaniel Yee.

Vice President Rep's Report (Julia La Marca)

Hello everyone, I'm Julia La Marca, the Vice President of Rep Programming. We've successfully rostered a total of 19 teams spanning from U9 to U18. Our season kicked off with great momentum, and all our teams showcased their competitive spirit in the York Simcoe Championships. Each team displayed commendable effort during the tournament-style playoff round-robin, and I extend heartfelt congratulations to all. A special shout-out to our U9MD and u16A teams for reaching the finals and semi-semis, respectfully, in the York Simcoe championship. Numerous rep teams participated in various tournaments, with several emerging victorious, congratulations to all those teams. Well done to all for representing the Clippers with excellence! As Marc stated we celebrated 75years this season and brought back our vintage cream-coloured jerseys, we definitely made our mark in the jerseys and on the ice. A sincere thank you goes out to everyone who supported the rep program this season. To our coaches, coaching staff, and managers: your adaptability to the season's changes and dedication to our players are truly appreciated. Special appreciation to Louie for his meticulous roster management and to Kristal for her tireless efforts in scheduling and rescheduling ice time. Thank You to Ilir Mehmeti and Total Hockey Skills for their invaluable mentorship to our coaches and team development, and to Scott and Around the Net for his expertise in skating. Thank you To Sean Musson and Gary Abdee for putting together a great training and development program and in getting us closer to an elite rep program.

Finally, to all players and parents, thank you for your unwavering support throughout this hockey season. Here's to another fantastic year ahead! Go Clippers!

Vice President HL's Report (Candice Miller)

Good evening, my name is Candice Miller, and I am the Director of House League.

The house league season kicked off on September 23rd with evaluation skates. This year, we had 6 divisions and 30 teams, totaling 443 players. Unfortunately, registration numbers for U12 to U16 were lower than expected. Despite our efforts to try and combine two consecutive age groups, we didn't have enough players to form 4 teams. After careful consideration, we split up the U12/13 division and merged it with the division below and above.

Over the season players enjoyed many events. The Marlies game, The Marlies Community event, Halloween skate and the Santa Skate. The house league divisions from U7 to U13 had the opportunity to sign up for extra training and development on Thursday nights. Those sessions were run by ATN and were a great success. Jeremy and his team from EXCEL visited the U7 to U12 divisions every other Sunday from November to the end of February. I received a lot of positive feedback from parents, coaches, and players. We plan to continue with the training and development program for the next season and add in some specific goalie training. Our Select program had 6 teams participating this year. It was the inaugural season for U7, U8, and U9 Select teams, in addition to teams at the U11, U14, U15, and U16 levels. All our teams from U9 and up took part in our Year Ender Bender tournament on the weekend of April 6th. The U15 team were champions in the Niagara Falls tournament over March break, while the U9 team won the Newmarket Spring Thaw tournament this past weekend.

I want to extend a big thank you to the house league council for their hard work and dedication. Laura, Stefanie, Maya, Christine, and Roula, your efforts, from meetings to multiple phone calls to being at the rink during house league events, do not go unnoticed. I couldn't have gotten through the season without all of you. To Louie, thank you for our daily phone calls, for being at the rink on Saturdays longer than your normal hours to help with the IPADS, for picking up medals and for many countless extra hours you put in over the season. Kristal, thank you for helping me figure out the schedule repeatedly. I express my deepest gratitude to all the incredible volunteers who make our hockey community thrive. Whether you're a coach, a team manager, a board member, an on-ice helper, or involved in any other capacity, your dedication and hard work are truly appreciated. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our players.

We had a wonderful celebration to wrap up the season on March 23rd. Many family members and friends were out on the final day to cheer on the teams. Thank you to everyone for a great season. I look forward to continuing to work together with the house league council, WSMHA members and board members to make our hockey community even stronger.

Thank you,

Treasurer's Report (Michael Palmer)

Michael presented the unaudited financial statement for the year ending April 30, 2024, and the proposed budget for the 2024 – 2025 season.

Motion to Accept Year-end Financial Statement

Motion: To accept the unaudited consolidated financial statement as presented by the Treasurer for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2024.

Motion: Don Barker

Second: Mike McGuire

Motion: Carried

Motion to Appoint Auditor for 2024-25

Motion: To appoint Chaggares & Bonhomme Chartered Professional Accountants, our current accounting firm as the Auditor for the 2024 – 2025 fiscal year.

Motion: Shawn McGovern

Second: Roula Vessio

Motion: Carried

President's Report (Marc Luff)

Good evening, I would like to start by thanking the many volunteers that make up WSMHA. Without you, we would not have over 750 youths playing hockey in our community. From the coaches to the conveners, to the managers and board members, I thank you all for your tireless support. Together we offer a wonderful hockey experience for our kids. This past season has been challenging for player recruitment and retention. Rogue leagues and economic trends have led to a slight decline in membership this past season. WSMHA has been focused on reversing this trend by continuing to add meaningful programs, bringing hockey to more local families. Our Come Try Hockey program has become a mainstay in Stouffville since its inception over 5 years ago and continues to grow each year. Two years ago, the Kids First teamed up with WSMHA to offer a learn to skate program that's completely free to participants. A special thank you to Kids first for funding these two wonderful initiatives. Next season, we are excited to announce the new Competitive Pathways Program offered to U7,8 and 9 age groups. This program is an extension of House league that will offer players a chance to develop their skills in a competitive environment. More than 30 York Simcoe teams have committed to offering this new initiative, which will be divided into north and south divisions for ease of travel. This exciting program will offer eligible house league players a chance to play in approximately 18 regular season games, culminating with a year-end jamboree. A special thanks to Mike McGuire for spearheading this amazing new program. The league will also have approximately \$30,000 to spend on player development and other special initiatives thanks to another successful year end tournament. This year saw 80 teams over 9 divisions compete for gold while providing local businesses some much needed support. A special thanks to Louie Volpe, Daren Banks and all the board members for their contributions. As our 75th year comes to an end, I'd like to take a moment to thank you all for being here tonight. Your passion for hockey continues to fuel this association well into the future.

Ratification Votes

Motion: "To approve all by-laws, resolutions, minutes, contracts, appointments, payments, Acts, and proceedings of the Directors of the WSMHA and release them from all liability in connection therewith. "

Motion: Don Barker

Second: Candice Miller

Motion: Carried

Discussion regarding the new Bylaws

Ida Morra-Caruso from the Morra-Caruso Law Firm spoke to the members regarding the new Bylaws that needed to be update for the WSMHA to be in compliance with the new Ontario Not-for-Profit Act, 2010 (ONCA). This new act came into effect October 19, 2021, and the association had 3 years to update their bylaws. The updated bylaws were presented to the attending members as well as being available on the website.

Motion: To accept the new Bylaws as written and presented to the members.

Motion: Mike McGuire

Second: Roula Vessio

Motion; Carried

Motion: The number of directors comprising the board of directors of the Corporation shall be 12, being a number within the prescribed range, and the total incumbent and newly elected directors shall not exceed 12.

Motion: Mike McGuire

Second: Roula Vessio

Motion: Carried

Motion: to accept the Articles of Amendment as written to comply with the Ontario Not-for-Profit Act 2010 (ONCA)

Motion: Paul Lynch

Second: Kathrine Ross

Motion: Carried

Dissolving the Current Board

In accordance with the current Bylaws, there are no Director's whose terms are expiring this year. There is 1 Directors, Paul Johnson, who is stepping down. In addition, 4 people were appointed to the Board during the 2023-24 season and their terms also expire this evening. They are Darren Banks, George Constantinou, Nancy Ho and Gary Abdee. I would like to thank all of them for their commitment to the association and all the hours they have put in over their time on the Board. I will now ask for a motion to dissolve the current Board, after which I will ask those whose terms have expired, to leave the head table and have a seat with the other members.

Motion: KC Arcinas

Second: Don Barker

Motion: Carried

Election of Directors

We have 1 individual who has been nominated and has agreed to let his name stand for a new three-year term on the WSMHA Board of Directors. This individual is Gary Abdee. In accordance with the Constitution given that the number of nominees is equal to the number of vacancies, this 1 nominee are elected to the Board of Directors by acclamation.

Temporary Adjournment to Elect Executive Committee

"The Constitution requires that the new Board of Directors caucus to elect the Executive Committee for the upcoming fiscal year. A motion to temporarily adjourn the AGM for the purpose of allowing the Board to caucus.

Motion: Duane Douglas

Second: Josh Lewis

Motion: Carried

Call to Order

The Board of Directors caucused and elected the new Executive Committee. The members of the Board of Directors Executive Committee for 2024 – 2025 season are

President – Marc Luff

1st Vice President – Julia La Marca

2nd Vice President – Candice Miller

Treasurer – Michael Palmer

Secretary – Roula Vessio

New Business (President)

Dana Arcinas inquired about the WSMHA's plan for a BB noncontact team at the U16 division, she would like to know if a decision will be made before the fall. The WSMHA's first priority is always HL therefore a decision can not be made before the evaluations take place. We need to fill our AA and A teams and if we still have enough players to fill a third team without affecting our HL division then it will be considered.

Motion to Adjourn (President)

Motion: to adjourn the annual AGM meeting

Motion: KC Arcinas

Second: Jeff Ground

Motion: Carried

WSMHA
Profit Loss by Class
May 2023 through April 2024

	HL			REP			RS			TOURNAMENT			GENERAL			TOTAL		
	May 23 - Apr 24	May 22 - Apr 23	\$ Change	May 23 - Apr 24	May 22 - Apr 23	\$ Change	May 23 - Apr 24	May 22 - Apr 23	\$ Change	May 23 - Apr 24	May 22 - Apr 23	\$ Change	May 23 - Apr 24	May 22 - Apr 23	\$ Change	May 23 - Apr 24	May 22 - Apr 23	\$ Change
Income																		