

**Wilmot Girls Hockey Association
Annual General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 12, 2009
Wilmot Recreation Complex, New Hamburg**

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

People in attendance: Peter Postrozny, Michele Postrozny, Dennis Clifford, Lisa Clifford, Michele Brenneman, Colleen Huras, Val Sanderson, Doug Hammer, Gail Cote, Darlene Vorstenbosch, Catherine Nesbitt-Timmons, Dee Dakin, John Szustaczek, Jeff Gerber, Tanya Szustaczek and Chris Larochele.

P. Postrozny welcomed all in attendance and thanked them for attending. The Agenda was reviewed and it was announced the C. Huras would oversee the election of the new WGHA Executive.

1. Approval of Minutes of AGM Meeting March 25, 2008

“That the minutes presented from the May 25, 2008 AGM be accepted as is.”

**Moved: D. Hammer
Seconded: D. Vorstenbosch
Carried.**

2. President’s Message

P. Postrozny expressed satisfaction with the success of the WGHA moving into our third season. We have grown from 0 to 76(in our initial season) to almost 120 girls playing hockey in 2008-2009. This past season we ran FUNdamentals, 7 teams and the Ladies FUNdamentals. We were also able to run at least one team at all levels from Novice to Midget. This fell into our five year plan but we still need time to be able to offer both House League and Rep teams at the older levels and this will happen as our younger girls move through the system.

We have had a lot of support to start and grow the organization: grants from Wilmot Township (goalie equipment), Bell True Sport Grant (equipment, awards, etc) and the Trillium Grant (equipment, equipment room, office, etc.). The support continues with the team sponsors and other groups who have sponsored water bottle, pucks our tournament, etc. From this point we only will be receiving money from the Trillium Grant and this will continue to support our Development Sessions, Certification, and Coaching Materials for the next season.

The foreseen challenges that we expect to face in the near future are that as we add more teams the ice time will become harder to schedule and it may result in some shared ice times for practices. Also the economy may start to have some effect on our ability to get sponsors and on the girls playing hockey. It is important to note that the WGHA does have some of the Grant money set aside to provide financial aid for families who may need some assistance with registration fees or equipment.

3. Treasurer’s Report

C. Huras presented the report submitted by Tim Wagler. The report shows a surplus of \$3916.00. The executive has restricted \$1800.00 of this money to be set aside for Equipment replacement when needed. The other has been left unrestricted.

“Accept the treasurer’s report as presented.”

**Moved: C. Huras
Seconded: D. Clifford
Carried.**

“To Appoint Wagler and Seebach as accountants for the 2009-2010 season.

**Moved: C. Huras
Seconded: J. Gerber
Carried.**

4. Other Reports:

Vice President: V. Sanderson reiterated that the WGHA is on target, possibly even ahead of the 5 year plan, our ultimate goal is to be able to offer both House League and Rep. League hockey at each level for the girls.

The OWHA meeting is May 23 and will be attended by V. Sanderson and M. Brenneman. The Lower Lakes meeting will be in June.

Registrar: M. Brenneman noted that we showed an increase of approximately 46% in registered players from 2007-2008 to the 2008-2009 seasons. We also added 3 Rep teams last season.. New this year is online registration which is up and running now. We have 23 players registered to date and the Early Bird runs until May 31 2009. The on line registration will make team registrations easier as all team rosters are now online as well. The Ladies FUNdamentals will continue and we have a future plan to run a Ladies rec. Team if feasible. A Parent Behaviour Program will be initiated in the fall.

Development Director: D. Clifford advised all that we have held both Bantam and Midget tryouts this spring and will be running a Bantam Rep team. Development tools have been purchased this year and are available to be signed out from the WGHA office and more will be added to it next season.

Friday, May 15 is the deadline for coaching applications

Equipment Director: J. Gerber emphasized that the WGHA want to develop goalies and has provided 2 sets of goalie equipment for each of the younger teams with the hope that if more girls get to try the position when they are young we will not run into years when we cant support a team because of the lack of a goalie. He also noted that most older girls have their own goalie equipment and we have some unused equipment that may be able to be traded for smaller sizes. All coaches and staff are encourage to let the executive know if there is any equipment or tools they would like to consider us purchasing.

Fundraising Director: L. Clifford announced that we had 3 fundraisers this season: raffle, tournament and pizza cards. The pizza card were received later than expected. Next season we will also do fundraising. The WGHA executive explored the possibility of adding a Fundraising Fee to registration instead of doing other fundraising but decided that adding approximately another \$75-\$90 to the registration fees might deter some players especially with the economy as it presently is.

House League Director: M. Postrozny told all that we added an extra Novice team this season to make two, had an Atom and Midget House League team in the Kitchener house League as well. Our two Novice teams both advanced to the “A” pool for the second half of the season with the Novice #1 team winning the “A” division. The Atoms welcomed many girls without any hockey experience and were able to take a couple of ties and a win. The Midget team was a combination of Bantam, Midget and Intermediate aged players and as such also welcomed some girls without

hockey experience. They were also able to take a few ties and wins.

Competitive Director: M. Brenneman complimented the three Rep teams on their successes. The Atom "C" team ended 3rd in their division, with a silver in the Stratford tournament and a gold in the Woodstock tournament. They also played a successful Silver Stick loosing in overtime of the semi-final to the eventual winners. The Peewee "C" team ended the season 6th in their division and had a good playoff round. They did not loose a game at Silver Stick but did not have the numbers to advance. The Bantam "BB" team had a challenging season with many close games and great improvement was shown by all players.

From the Lower Lakes Annual Meeting - Midget BB will be playing longer games. The importance of exhibition games prior to the start of the season was also stressed so that teams makes sure they are playing at the appropriate level.

From the OWHA - The districts will be re-aligned and it looks as if we will be playing other Waterloo Region and Brant County teams in Playdowns. Mouth guard will once again be on the agenda at the meeting. (It was noted that the decision made by the OWHA will not affect our players as we already have made mouth guards mandatory for WGHA players.)

Ice Scheduler: D. Vorstenbosch voiced a concern with the late start to the season and the short time allowed for playoffs and Playdowns.

Next season she hopes to be able to keep the teams' schedules as static as possible with our home ice schedules. She also will make it very clear to coached that if they need to cancel ice time they must do it more than one week in advance of the ice time. She must cancel any unused ice one week prior to the ice time or the WGHA will be charged for it.

Tournament Director: G. Cote announced growth in the Kyla Kowalik Memorial Tournament. The first tournament ran with 8 teams. This past season the tournament ran with 12 teams and 3 divisions. Next years she hopes to open up another division and add 4 more teams.

5. Election

P. Postrozny announced that for the 2009-2010 season: D. Vorstenbosch has been appointed as Ice Scheduler and C. Huras has been appointed as Treasurer. He called for a confirmations vote and both positions were confirmed by an unanimous vote of the membership.

Election of Officers: President Peter Postrozny (V. Sanderson) Carried.
Vice President: Val Sanderson (C. Huras) Carried.
Communications Director: Michele Postrozny (D. Clifford) Carried.
Competitive Director: Michele Brenneman (D. Vorstenbosch) Carried.
House League Director: John Szustaczek (D. Clifford) Carried.
Registrar: Michele Brenneman (L. Clifford) Carried.
Development Director: Dennis Clifford (D. Vorstenbosch) Carried.
Fundraising Director: Lisa Clifford (M. Brenneman) Carried.
Equipment Manager: Jeff Gerber (D. Vorstenbosch) Carried.
Tournament Director: Gail Cote (P. Postrozny) Carried.

6. Other Business

P. Postrozny informed the membership that there has been some discussion with NHHA about the switching of ice surfaces for games vs. practices. We did in fact do it once last year when the Firebirds delayed some of our ices times and it worked to both organizations benefit to switch ice surfaces. The decision will be made on a case by case basis but it is not easy to accommodate

because of the staggered starts and NHHA has various game lengths. It will only be done when it works to the benefit of both organizations.

WHGA has also shown its support of the NHHA's instigation of opening talks with Wilmot Township about reconfiguring the penalty, player and timekeeper boxes in the WRC.

The question of adding "Executive Members at Large" for the 2010-2011 season was raised and supported by the membership. The present Executive will explore and make recommendations about this for the next AGM in May 2010.

Questions from the Membership: None

"Meeting Adjourned 8:09 pm"

Moved: J. Gerber
Seconded: D. Hammer
Carried.