



**West Hants Minor Hockey Association
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Date: May 21, 2024

Time & Location: 7:00PM Newport and District Arena

1. Call to Order: 7:04pm
2. Roll Call and Identification of Voting Delegates.

Board Members:

- Todd Chiasson
- Jeff Davis
- Kristen Bonang
- Kodie Brown-Whitehead
- Jennifer Sutherland-Chiasson
- Marc Bildstein
- Rob Hood
- James Hartt
- Krista Beaton
- Will Eisener
- Nicole Gaudet
- Andy McDade
- Rob Davies

Members Attending

- Joy King
- Cory Millett
- Jenny Eisener
- Cory Eisener
- Michael Gillis
- Wayne Corbin

- Jamie Baxter Davis
- Jamie Leopold
- Brandon Jodrey
- Shane Naugle

3. Approval of Agenda

Kristen "Approve" / Marc "Second"

4. Board of Director intros and reports to presented

- 4.1 President
- 4.2 Director of Hockey
- 4.3 Vice-President
- 4.4 Treasurer
- 4.5 Head Coach
- 4.6 Development
- 4.7 VP Recreation
- 4.8 VP Female
- 4.9 Ice Chairperson
- 4.10 Referee-in-Chief
- 4.11 Fund-Raising Coordinator
- 4.12 Publicity Director
- 4.13 Registrar
- 4.14 Equipment Coordinator

5. Reports of Standing and Special Committees - None

6. Amendments to the constitution - None

7. Amendments to the By-Laws - None

8. Old Business

- Nathan Macdonald wants to discuss a plan for U7 next year a committee
 - Increased development opened up
 - U7/U9 coordinator (non-voting) will be appointed this year

9. Election of Officers

- Mike Gillis appointed to VP as there was only 1 person that applied
- Jeff Davis and Cory Eisener were given 2 min to present their case
 - Vote (13 for Cory/6 for Jeff) 3 members did not vote.
- Reminder given that fundraising position is still open

10. New business

- Summary of survey was provided by Krista that was sent out to the WHMHA members
- Discussion on female hockey took place. Even though a lot has been done there is a want to grow it further. Willingness of members to supported if needed.
- Tryout process – Coaches want more involvement to ensure kids are properly placed
- Rink concerns

- Windsor rink seating in dressing rooms are dangerous (metal cutting kids legs)
- Brooklyn – concerns expressed over cleanliness of rink and dressing room requirements to meet regulatory concerns.

11. Next Annual General Meeting: May 20, 2025

12. Adjournment: 8:54pm

Jennifer motioned /Kodie second

Reports of Board of Directors in writing or read:

President

We had a few key wins for the 2023-2024 season!

Our registration numbers continued to be strong and grow from the previous year.

Our Recreation program was extremely strong again this year, and again we may need to look into breaking it into two groups if the high numbers continue. This will be highly dependent on how many players decide to move from the recreation program into full minor hockey.

I believe one of our biggest wins for the year was being able to host a local U9 girls' team in addition to our 3 standard U9 teams, although the girls' team must be registered through Valley Wild as a female organisation, the girls got to play out of their local rinks. This grew from last year's hosting of a "U11 Rec Female Team" which had girls of multiple different age groups grouped together to play female hockey locally. This is something the board and has been striving towards for many years to help develop female hockey within the area and we hope that the relationship continues to bloom with Valley Wild and we can continue to host additional local female teams.

We ran the Birthplace of Hockey tournament, with lots of positive feedback from attending teams, this season again and hats off to Will Eisener and Nicole Gaudet for putting in tremendous amounts of effort organizing and fundraising for the event. As we look forward to next year, we will be looking at forming a committee to run the Birthplace of Hockey Tournament to ensure its success continues and we can expand to having a Rep Birthplace of Hockey Tournament as well.

I would like to give a special thanks to James Hart who has decided to move on this year, I thank him for all his contributions to our association.

I stepped in to act as an Interim President for this season, however I will be stepping down from the President role for next season and will stay on the board as Director of Hockey. Will Eisener, our current Fundraising Chair, has offered to take over, I wish him the best of luck and I will be there to support him through the next season.

Todd Chiasson

President

Vice President Report

This past 2023-24 Season will be my 6th and final year in the VP role. I learned all about how an organization like this manages and appreciate and respect all the behind-the-scenes work that goes into making a Minor Hockey program run smoothly. All our Hockey volunteers have done and continue to do an amazing job.

As VP, part of my role is Dispute Resolution, and while I cannot go into any detail, I had another busy year with a wide range of issues. We had 3 suspensions carried over from the previous season and 19 new suspensions throughout this season with 4 of those being carried over into next season. These suspensions ranged from one game up to six games.

I've met a lot of new people, had some laughs, and overall enjoyed my time in this role. Thank you.

James Hart VP, West Hants Minor Hockey

Treasurer – Year End Report 2023/24

We've had a very successful year as we've transitioned many new roles on the Board. As Treasurer, I'm pleased to present the unaudited year-end statement for the fiscal period from May 1, 2023, to April 30, 2024. Our financial records are currently with Davison Accounting for the year-end audit and statement preparation.

As of April 30th, the Association's account holds \$75,050.93, with \$70,516.62 in retained equity and \$4,534.31 in restricted equity, which is held as registration credits and assistance for members in the upcoming 2024/25 season.

There are no outstanding accounts payable. All registration fees were paid in full, and we are currently awaiting year-end financial reports from a few teams to ensure all funds have been dispersed or credited to player accounts.

The Birthplace of Hockey tournament was a great success this year. A summary of the tournament's financials is included on the following pages. The Birthplace of Hockey tournament made a profit of \$7,475.71, which will be allocated towards jersey replacement and growth in our 2024/25 Birthplace of Hockey tournament. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who contributed to the success!

Looking at 2024/25 and beyond, the board and I aim to achieve long-term financial sustainability by incorporating Association income versus expenses, fundraising and sponsorship efforts while we strive to maintain affordable registration fees, new equipment purchases, referee compensation and hosting development programs and training for all skill levels.

All that to say, here is an overall image of our annual report, reflecting our dedication and success of the Association this year. I'd like to extend my sincere appreciation to our board, volunteers, sponsors, and all of you members for the support as I worked through my first year on the board. Together, we look forward to another year of growth, achievement, and excellence in serving our hockey community.

Nicole Gaudet, Treasurer

treasurer@westhantswarriors.com

Year-End Financials – As of April 30, 2024

WEST HANTS MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION		
ACCOUNT BALANCE	Current	As of Apr 30, 2023
Bank Account (balance before receivables resolved)	\$ 75,050.93	\$ 70,130.64
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLES		
Accounts Receivables	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	\$ -	\$ -
ACCOUNTS PAYABLES		
Accounts Payable (Ice & BOH Pucks)	\$ -	\$ 18,687.50
TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLES	\$ -	\$ 18,687.50
EQUITY		
RESTRICTED EQUITY		
Registration Credits Remaining (Teamsnap entry)	\$ 2,088.22	\$ 1,723.63
Registration Credits (Assistance fund, not in teamsnap, see offline reimbursement)	\$ 2,446.09	\$ 2,895.85
TOTAL RESTRICTED EQUITY	\$ 4,534.31	\$ 4,619.48
UNRESTRICTED EQUITY		
Unrestricted Equity from Previous Year + Act. Rec - Act. Pay at Year end	\$ 65,511.16	\$ 45,134.89
Current Fiscal (Income - Expenses)	\$ 5,005.46	\$ 17,279.42
Transfer to (-ve) restricted equity. +ve means equity released	\$ -	\$ 3,096.85
Adjustment for Acc. Receivables and Payable	\$ -	\$ 18,687.50
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED EQUITY	\$ 70,516.62	\$ 46,823.66
CLOSING BALANCE - YEAR END	\$ 75,050.93	\$ 70,130.64
INCOME/EXPENSE SUMMARY - Not adjusted for Acct. Rec. & Liabilities		
Income (May 1 to present)	Actual	Last Year
Registration (inc. tryout fee, excludes use of prior year registration credits)	\$ 230,135.62	\$ 188,958.20
Registration Teamsnap Credits - Used 2023/24 Season	\$ 1,100.04	
League Rep Fees	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 33,600.00
Grants/Contributions/Advertising	\$ 1,325.00	\$ -
BOH Tournament Registration	\$ 20,625.00	\$ 27,043.60
BOH Sponsorship/Advertising	\$ 7,350.00	\$ -
BOH Fundraising	\$ 3,781.25	\$ -
Re-Billing (Buy-Ice, Valley Wild Refs)	\$ 16,775.00	\$ 24,823.50
Referee Reimbursement (Hockey Nova Scotia - Female Provincials)	\$ 4,377.00	\$ -
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 322,968.91	\$ 274,425.30
Expenses (May 1 to present)	Actual	Last Year
Ice Rentals (inc tryouts, development & regular season)+\$18,687.50 previous season)	-\$ 206,698.68	-\$ 171,345.20
Referees (inc tryouts & regular season)	-\$ 26,063.00	-\$ 37,119.96
Referees (Female Provincials)	-\$ 4,377.00	
BOH Ice Rentals	-\$ 14,352.72	
BOH Referees	-\$ 4,422.50	
BOH Supplies (Medals, Banners, Game Sheet, Snacks, Fundraising)	-\$ 3,948.32	
BOH Expenses (Clock & Square Board Winner)	-\$ 1,557.50	
Hockey Nova Scotia / Scotia Minor / League Fees / Valley Wild	-\$ 34,232.29	-\$ 24,248.00
Professional Fees (inc. tryout honorariums to evaluators)	-\$ 3,301.94	-\$ 3,025.00
Administration	-\$ 441.14	-\$ 71.71
Website - Teamsnap	-\$ 1,944.84	-\$ 1,861.88
Miscellaneous (Supplies, Mileage)	-\$ 1,137.86	-\$ 1,297.43
Clinics, School and Conference	-\$ 4,660.59	-\$ 3,646.26
Equipment	-\$ 9,777.76	-\$ 13,410.35
Bank Fees	-\$ 328.56	-\$ 401.34
Accounting (Davison Accounting)	-\$ 718.75	-\$ 718.75
TOTAL EXPENSES	-\$ 317,963.45	-\$ 257,145.88
*Windsor Rink late processing last cheque, noted as expense under 2023/24 FY		

BOH Tournament Financials – As of April 30, 2024

BIRTHPLACE OF HOCKEY			
REVENUE			
REGISTRATION:			
U11C Teams x 5 @ \$900	\$	4,500.00	
U13C Teams x 5 @ \$925	\$	4,625.00	
U15C Teams x 5 @ \$950	\$	4,750.00	
Home Teams x 3 @ \$300	\$	900.00	
U9 Teams x 9 @ \$650	\$	5,850.00	
U9 Home Teams - Waived	\$	-	
TOTAL	\$	20,625.00	
SPONSORSHIPS:			
GFL	\$	5,000.00	Superstore Gift Card (Gatorade) \$ 200.00
OK Tire	\$	250.00	Sobeys (Juice/Granola Bars)
Walkers Restaurant	\$	500.00	Ice Subsidy (WHRM) \$ 1,500.00
Jessy's Pizza	\$	500.00	
Melissa Sheehy	\$	300.00	
Credit Union Atlantic	\$	500.00	
Chef Dilly/Benedict/Boyd	\$	300.00	
TOTAL	\$	7,350.00	
FUNDRAISING:			
Game 50/50, Squareboard x2, Gift Card Tree	\$	3,781.25	
TOTAL	\$	3,781.25	*Squareboards - Cash (\$160), E-transfer (\$157.50)
TOTAL REVENUE	\$	31,756.25	
EXPENSES			
ICE:			
Newport Weekend 1 - (U11-15)	\$	4,655.00	19 hrs @ \$245
Windsor Weekend 1 - (U11-15)	\$	6,090.15	1hr @ \$150 - 24.75hr @ \$240
Newport Weekend 2 - (U9)	\$	2,572.50	10.5 hrs @ \$245
Windsor Weekend 2 - (U9)	\$	1,035.07	11.5 hrs @ \$240 \$1,750 subsidy
TOTAL	\$	14,352.72	
REFEREES:			
Referees (U11-15)			
U11 @ \$82.50 - 12 Games	\$	990.00	
U13 @ \$99.00 - 12 Games	\$	1,188.00	
U15 @ \$121.00 - 12 Games	\$	1,452.00	
Referees (U9)			
U9 @ \$44.00 - 18 Games	\$	792.00	
TOTAL	\$	4,422.00	
TIMECLOCK:			
U11-15 - 35 Games @ \$20	\$	700.00	
MUSIC:			
U11-15 - 35 Games @ \$20	\$	700.00	
TOTAL	\$	1,400.00	
SUPPLIES:			
Medals for BOH (U11-15)	\$	1,016.26	
Historical Society - Pucks (U9 & MVP)	\$	800.00	
Stickers/Tournament Banners	\$	656.65	
Sponsorship Banners (U11-15)	\$	388.70	
Gatorade Costco	\$	438.77	
Game Sheets	\$	126.50	
Dollarama - BOH Supplies and Gift Cards for fundraiser	\$	253.74	
Dollarama - 50-50 Tickets	\$	31.05	
U9 Drinks	\$	17.96	
Granola Bars	\$	43.69	
Squareboard winner - Etransfer by Association	\$	157.50	
Reimburse Cash Float provided by Association	\$	175.00	
TOTAL	\$	4,105.82	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	24,280.54	
SUMMARY			
Total Revenue:	\$	31,756.25	
Less Expenses:	\$	24,280.54	
SURPLUS:	\$	7,475.71	

Director of Hockey

Our regional U13 AAA level Team who was based out of Acadia this year, were rebranded as the Valley Jets. The team is comprised of players from the Nova Zone Region which includes; Acadia, Western Valley, Clare/Digby and West Hants. We had 4 West Hants players who wore the jersey for this program during the 2023-24 season. It is to be noted that the team is being moved to be hosted by Western Valley for the next 3 seasons and will be playing out of Berwick Apple Dome.

The local tryouts followed the same process as the previous year, which was deemed a condensed format which aimed to streamline the tryout process and was recommended to be maintained going forward. I would like to thank the Valley Maple Leafs once again for performing the player evaluations. A special thanks goes out to our very own Rob Hood who led all the on-ice drill sessions during tryouts and to Aiden Durnford for running the goalie evaluation session.

Based on our tryouts we were able to ice competitive teams at the following levels:

U11-A,
U11-B,
U13-AA,
U13-A,
U15-A, and
U18-A.

Our competitive Teams from U11 to U18, had very productive seasons, showing that the development over all was tremendous by all coaches at these levels, each level provided its own sets of challenges with each coach providing strong on ice and off ice leadership to their teams. A special congratulations to the U11A who won the SMHL South Division Banner.

Our U9 and U7 programs had great leaders providing our youngest warriors with a great experience. This again demonstrates that West Hants is in great shape for years to come.

Head Coach

Another season has come to an end in West Hants minor hockey, and it was a great 2023-2024 season. Good job WARRIORS!

I want to thank all the volunteers from the coaches to the managers. You make minor Hockey happen in West Hants thanks so much for your commitment and time put into our association.

West Hants Warriors has seen some new coaches as well as many experienced coaches in multi levels, some even coaching at multiple age groups.

This year West Hants had:

68 coaches (8 at more than one rosters!)

15 managers

2 safety reps

This is great for developing our kids at all levels. I encourage our coaches to pursue higher levels of coaching to increase their confidence in their skills and promote the development our minor hockey players.

For coaches it can be overwhelming but we as an association strive to support you through the struggles and make it easy as possible.

It is important to note that Dec 1st is the deadline to have all requirements completed for the hockey season. Hockey Nova Scotia is very strict on these rules, so it is of the utmost importance that teams and staff stay on top of these qualifications and make sure everyone is approved to be on the ice and bench beyond this date. If not complete by this date, it can result in a team being ineligible to play. Teams will be notified in ample time to complete, but as fellow volunteers, it is challenging to have to send multiple reminders. The expectation is that teams should take the onus of ensuring these are completed on time.

Next year I would like to have more resources for our coaches (coaching seminars, coaches attending development nights - maybe picking up some drills to use at your practices).

Coaching applications will come out in late August again so keep a look out on the website. I encourage our coaches to apply through this application as it gives us better insight into your experience and goals of what age/level you are interested in coaching.

Thanks to all the Warriors and Warrior families for everything that you are doing for our association. Hope you have a great summer and see you in the fall!

VP Recreation

Well, another year is in the books. We had 5 teams competing in the AVMHL from U9 to U18. Over the years I'm seeing how competitive the C league has become. A big congratulations goes out to all the volunteers for making our C teams successful. Also, a big congratulations to Glen Hood on winning the Bernie Lawler coach of the month of March.

VP Female

Important numbers to note:

47 Female Players in WHMHA
22 Female Players rostered under Valley Wild playing out of WHMHA
69 TOTAL FEMALE PLAYERS in WHMHA (330 total players in organization- 308 + 22 VW rostered players)
<i>**15 of which are new players this season</i>
<i>***approximately 21% of players in WHMHA are female players</i>

Throughout the 2023/24 season we continued to work with Valley Wild to increase the numbers of females playing hockey. WHMHA had excellent female numbers this year from U7-U18, many females competing on co-ed teams at all levels.

One highlight was WHMHA's ability to skate a large U9 female team which consisted of 22 registered players. Interest existed all year and with minimal recruitment there could have been two full U9 female teams out of West Hants.

Highlights from their season included being part of the Avon view High School girls' hockey events, on and off the ice. Playing an intermission game at a Green foot Caps U18AAA game as well as playing during the intermission of the High School girls All-star game held in West Hants.

Interest in developing skills and genuine love of the game blossomed over the year and skaters from the U9 team went on to play in other events such as the Valley Wild's kick off to the season in October, competed in the SMU Huskies U9 Jamboree in February, the U9 team competed in the Birthplace of hockey tournament in the co-ed development division, the Valley Wild U9 jamboree on March 30th where WHMHA skated two teams with 14 females in total and to end the season Valley Wild hosted a female hockey night on March 29th for future U11 girls and WHMHA had 9 girls in attendance.

As players move to U11 and beyond, the ability to host female hockey teams becomes more difficult, however not impossible. Girls looking to play more competitive female hockey (rep teams) need to register and try-out with Valley Wild. Where Valley Wild chooses to host these teams remains their decision. Something to note, if numbers and demand are high here in West Hants, we as an organization with the support of the Female Hockey organization in our geographical zone (Valley Wild) can look at hosting a female rec team at any level. We will continue to be in contact with VW over the summer to look at numbers and registrants ensuring we are supportive in keeping females in hockey and encouraging more females to join. An important point for most individuals playing recreational female hockey is travel and with Valley Wild and the location of other female rec hockey teams the league games predominantly out in the city which makes travel minimal through the season and therefore appealing to many.

To start the process of gauging interest for next year a voluntary Google Form was created and shared with WHMHA members as well as the community, from those who completed the google form we received the following preliminary information:

U7- 11

U9- 14

U11- 23

U13- 11

U15- 14

U18- 4

Most of which indicated they would prefer to play on an all-female team out of WH if possible.

It has been refreshing to see all the girls on the ice this season. Numbers continue to rise, and this is very positive. Avon View will be hosting their camp in Aug/Sept to hopefully attract more girls to the game. Valley Wild continues to offer free/cheap programs to increase the number of female players in the Valley and there is still grant money available for female development.

Things to think about for next season:

1. Hosting a pre-season female hockey night where we can offer an on-ice session along with an info session for parents to encourage more females to join the sport.
2. Look at offering 1 night a month of all female skills development to females of all ages in WHMHA- this is a great way to grow the sport and create a more wholesome inclusive environment for females in hockey
3. Promote the Hannah Miller U7 jamboree and put together a WHMHA all female team. Two seasons ago we submitted an all-female team and it was the first in tournament history. Hannah Miller's Dad expressed his gratitude and loved seeing so many little girls interested in the sport his daughter loved.

Please note some important resources that include data to support the importance of females in sport, specifically all female teams and how it benefits the developing girl:

2020 Canadian Woman and Sport Report

2022 Canadian Woman in Sport Report

Future of Hockey Lab

Ice Chairperson

This year the ice schedule accommodated 14 WHMHA teams plus 1 Valley Wild U9 Girls team with home ice in Newport & Windsor. The division demographic was 1 U7 group, 3 U9 teams, 3 U11 teams, 3 U13 teams, 2 U15 teams, and 2 U18 teams. This was the same number of teams as in the 2022-23 season. In addition to team ice, the association dedicated ice slots to the player/goalie development programs and the Friday night recreation program. For ice assignments each team received 1 practice ice per week and 1 game ice per week. The player development program was pay to play format and included age groups U7 thru U13. The development program consisted of 8 skills development sessions prior to the x-mas break and 8 skills development sessions after the x-mas break.

The association used 743.5 hours of ice throughout the 2023/24 season, excluding tryouts & BOH ice. This consisted of 418.5 hours in Newport and 325 hours in Windsor with a typical regular season weekly breakdown of 23.5 hours per week in Newport and 17 hour per week in Windsor. The cost of ice in Newport for the 2023/24 season was \$245/hour, up 9% from the 2022/23 season rate of \$225/hr. The cost of ice in Windsor for the 2023/24 season was \$240/hour, up 4.5% from 2022/23 season rate of \$230/hour.

At time of writing there is no indication of the ice rates for next season.

For the past few season the weekend game schedule for Bantam & Midgets Rep games were scheduled back-to-back at the same arena so that games for this level were not occurring at both rinks simultaneously. These games require 4 officials and with current official numbers the Referee in Chief was struggling at times to line up officials in past years. This scheduling arrangement should continue be carried forward into future years.

During the past few seasons, the ice schedule was adjusted for weekend games such that the floods were done every two (2) periods as opposed to after every first (1st) period. This resulted in a 1.5 hours of ice time savings each weekend. This has worked OK and has become the normal expectation. Several other organizations have followed suit.

Some other notable points from the 2023/24 season.

The high demand for ice at both rinks makes it difficult to get to get all the preferred ice but working with both rinks we were able to secure the ice needed to run our minor hockey teams and additional development sessions.

Teams were reasonably good at providing the ice chair with early notification if they could not use their regular scheduled ice. This allowed the ice chair time to re-assign the ice to an alternative user or cancel the ice slot without charge. There were one or two occasions throughout the year where late notice resulted in ice sitting empty at the cost of the association.

One area of improvement of next year is better communication between Teams/League Scheduler/Ice Chair. This was highlighted last year but still needs more improvement. There were times throughout the season where the league moved home games away from West Hants to an away game. Although there were communications between the Teams and League Schedule this information never got passed to the ice chair therefore a home ice slot sat empty or was a last-minute rush to find a team to use the ice. All changes to league scheduled games need to be communicated to the ice chair when they happen.

During this past season both rinks were very accommodating if the association cancelled ice due to weather provided adequate notice was given and that it was done at an association level with all teams cancelling so rink personnel could be released early.

All in all, the season ran smoothly from an ice scheduling perspective.

Referee-in-Chief

WH Board Members and WH Association Members,

This year we had a total of 37 officials, six new officials this year, 2 out of retirement officials and 2 from another area moved into our association. We covered all West Hants minor hockey games this year with great local officials, not one outside official was needed. We also covered the following leagues, Senior Women's, Rec league, old timers, AV High School Female, AV High School Boys, Kings Prep School Female and Boys hockey, all middle school hockey, U 15 AAA Elite, U 16 AAA Elite and lines persons to Junior C and Junior B, with 8 of our officials refereeing Junior C and elite hockey in other associations.

38 Evaluations were completed throughout the year by me, with great success, in having each official improving leaps and bounds. I want to thank Past President Ray Croft for starting this evaluation program as it is helping create great officials. I was told by the Nova Zone Coordinator Ben Larouche we have the best group of young officials from here to Yarmouth. We also had the privilege of having Adam Aldered, the past Hockey NS high performance instructor evaluate at the AV Boys tournament where he was very impressed with all of the on-ice officials which is a great praise.

This year the association achieved the privilege to assign all hockey in our two rinks except for Junior C and Junior B middles. This was amazing for our growth as an association, because we were able to use all local officials in these assignments, which built character and passion for better hockey and professionalism amongst our association.

Finally, we here at West Hants Minor hockey we had an amazing thing happen last February, 2 of our officials Jenna Leighton and Brandon Marshall were invited to the level 4 high performance camp in PEI. They both attended the camp and passed with flying colours. That's an amazing feat. To my knowledge only once we have had 2 level 4's in our association they were Tim Lynch and Brad Pemberton who refereed together 20 plus years ago. Congratulations to our two NEW LEVEL 4 Officials!!

Can't wait to see what next year will bring to West Hants Officials.

Fund Raising Coordinator

I am pleased to present the fundraising report for the 2023 season. Over the past year, we have made significant strides in enhancing our fundraising efforts and supporting the financial sustainability of our association.

Firstly, I am proud to announce that we have successfully addressed all violations that occurred in the previous year. Through collaborative efforts with the Director of NS Gaming, the board, and by providing clear instructions to coaches and managers, we have rectified these issues and ensured compliance moving forward.

Furthermore, I am excited to share our plans for a new fundraising initiative: a 50-50 raffle. We have partnered with Raffle Box to set up this program, which will launch next year after thorough preparation during the off-season. The 50-50 raffle will allocate a high% of all funds raised back to your child's registration fees, provided they remain part of the West Hants Association, with a strict adherence to regulations prohibiting any personal gain. The remaining % will go to the WHMHA.

In addition to the 50-50 raffle, we have implemented strategies to secure sponsorship banners from small businesses, resulting in significant sponsorships directly to our teams. These funds have been instrumental in supporting teams with various expenses such as rep fees, socks, tournaments, and extra ice time.

Throughout this year, the WHMHA diligently pursued several grant applications and is committed to maintaining this effort into the following year. Securing grants and sponsorships will play a more significant role in our strategic planning for the upcoming year. We aim to actively search for these opportunities even during the off-season.

I am thrilled to report that our annual Birthplace of Hockey (BOH) tournament was one of our most successful events in recent years. We received numerous compliments from teams across Nova Scotia, we were excited to offer fantastic "player of the game" prizes, great thank you bags to all teams. We collaborated with the Historical Society to brand the tournament with their logo and even got BOH medals and BOH wooden pucks which was a huge hit with the U9 kids. With the support of over 10 strong sponsors, we had an amazing tournament and raised \$3,376.25 during the tournament through the 50-50 draw, gift card draws and number boards.

As a result of these successful BOH endeavors, our association has achieved a profit for the first time in years from this tournament at \$7475. As a result, we will use these funds to invest in new C jerseys for all our teams and look into creating a BOH fund aimed at expanding and improving the tournament in the coming years.

Additionally, I want to highlight that we distributed a survey to all managers, providing them with the opportunity to provide feedback on fundraising and associated policies. The feedback received was consistent with our thoughts and will be invaluable in shaping our future initiatives. As a result, we will be reviewing and implementing changes on all fundraising forms, documents, and policies before the start of the new year.

I extend my gratitude to all members, sponsors, and volunteers who contributed to our fundraising efforts this year. Your dedication and support are invaluable as we continue to strive for excellence in our association.

Publicity Chair

As another season comes to a close, we reflect on the busy events that occurred. Social media was busy this year, especially with our successful Birthplace of Hockey tournament. As always, the start of the season is extremely busy starting with information leading up to tryouts and registration beginning in August. During tryouts we try to keep everyone informed of schedules and teams for tryout games etc. Unfortunately, there is very little turnaround time from the input of results/marks to the tryout game. It was brought to our attention that not everyone is on Facebook, which we are aware of, however, until all rosters are complete, we do not have access to emails of all players therefore Facebook is the most efficient way to get this posting out. This particular post (those sitting out/teams for the tryout game) is complementary allowing players to know ahead of time if they are sitting out the game (ie. already named to the top team) or which team they will be on for the tryout game, which they will also be informed upon arrival at the rink when receiving their pinny. We will review over the off season if we continue to post this information or just wait until the players arrive at the rink (as those who are sitting out should still attend the tryout). All pertinent information such as rink closures, payments due, schedule changes, etc. were sent out via email as well as Facebook once the season was underway. We have an external member who updates our website however it takes extra time to load these details so again only absolute necessary information is displayed here.

Before the season started our association participated in the Uniacke & District Volunteer Fire Department Annual Fireman's Fair Parade! This brought out a lot of families in blue and orange and an amazing float. We also had our U9 development team participate in the Windsor Christmas parade collecting food for the Foodbank.

The Birthplace of Hockey (BOH) tournament was a huge success and we teamed up with Steve Grant Media for some extra special photos this year. The few volunteers we had this year for the BOH worked tirelessly and collaboratively to make both weekends run as smoothly as possible. We were able to get a photo of many teams in action, random photos during the weekends, gold medal team photos, as well as the referees giving POG awards during each game and posting on our Facebook page, and we received many comments of these posts and how the players and even younger referees enjoyed seeing their pictures!

Again, this year we were able to give a shout out to our graduating players and wish them well as they venture out to their new chapters after high school! We also supported other local associations and groups (ie. Valley Maple Leafs, Avon High School teams, previous Warriors playing higher levels) by sharing their events to show how Warriors support their town as they do in return for our association.

Our volunteers play a huge role each season, as little or large a part they play, we cannot run our association without them. We made sure to acknowledge these individuals at the end of the season to make them aware that their help is beyond appreciated!

As always, our goal will remain to spread information about our association and hopefully grow our name!

Registrar

The 2023-2024 minor hockey season marks my 3rd year serving as your registrar for West Hants Minor Hockey Association. This season we continued our use of TeamSnap as our registration and communication platform. With our two governing leagues (AVMHL & Scotia Minor) making the switch to Gray Jay as their online management platform, we have decided that for the 2024-2025 season we will be moving from TeamSnap to Gray Jay to make the integration within the leagues easier for managers, coaches and parents.

I will be working with our treasurer in the off season to build our registration forms in the new platform. This will be a transition for parents in the fall, however with guidance I am confident we will continue to offer an easy registration process and the adjustment will be for the better and with few complications. We have chosen to also use the Gray Jay app for all team communications and should be like the TeamSnap experience our members have come to expect.

This season I also worked closely with our VP of Female and the Valley Wild registrar on the U9 West Hants/Valley Wild all female team that was hosted out of West Hants. With strict guidelines on territory and insurance, we created a solution and are very happy with the positive outcome and ability to get this team on the ice. With the popularity of this team, I believe we'll continue to host this team next season and potentially a U11 option.

I have also been overseeing the Safety Rep role for the association since its introduction in 2020.

It continues to evolve, and I will execute all requirements set forth by HNS this coming season. This past season that meant ensuring all teams had at least one coach per team with valid CPR C and emergency first aid/AED training. To ensure this, we hosted the course for any volunteers interested at a competitive cost and right here in West Hants. I also worked with Acadia Minor Hockey to help them find a course provider for their volunteers, as well as had Acadia and Valley Wild volunteers present at our course. I spoke to more than half a dozen association registrars and presidents about this, to ensure best practices, and am satisfied we were on par with what most Nova Scotia associations were offering their volunteers to meet this new requirement. We will continue to monitor this as it spreads to include all bench staff in coming seasons and will look at how to best provide the training to our volunteers.

Here is a breakdown of registration numbers:

- We rostered 308 players across 14 teams and the Rec program. This is up from 297 players across 13 teams and Rec last year.
- We had 12 brand new players register between U9 and U18.
- We had 23 new U7, only 6 not returning from last year. 42 U7 players in total, up from 40 last season.
- Our Rec program rostered 38 players, 23 of whom were new this season.
- We rostered 47 female players this season, an increase from 27 last season. 15 of these were new to hockey.

**These numbers do not include the 18 West Hants-residing players who made up the West Hants/Valley Wild U9 all female team, as Valley Wild holds the official roster for this team.

It is wonderful to see the growth this season! I am confident we are setting the framework for a strong 2024/25 season and am looking forward to serving as your registrar once again.

Development Coordinator

This season was my second season as West Hants Warriors development coordinator. Development nights were very successful this year in West Hants, multiple divisions attended each session and multiple levels as well. A very productive year.

We ran every Wednesday night with 2 sessions back-to-back. U7 to U9 and U11 and U13 to follow, with a great turn out for both. I want to thank all the Warriors that participated. I hope everyone enjoyed and developed well from the drills and skating techniques we went through. Thanks Warriors!

Overview of year

U7:

We went out for 6 sessions with our new U7s and helped with getting kids moving and learning the basics of skating so our coaches could help focus with other kids and run them through drills. I think our U7 program was great this year.

Development nights 16 sessions

U7 to U9:

My development plan was simple for this because the fundamental skills are very important at this age. Skating-Starts and stops, beginning of using inside and outside edges and working on stride and crossovers, passing-the basics, learning how to pass, learning how to receive a pass (stick down hit the tape looking where you pass).

Puck handling-learning how to skate with the puck and the basics of puck control protecting the puck.

Also, as we progressed, I added some extra pressure on the drills which created early decision making and learning to control the puck under pressure only in small steps.

We played games to have fun, worked on small area games 1v1,2v1,2v2 etc

Also, added obstacle courses in the last few practices which the kids had to use all the skills we learned to get through the course (16 Sessions).

U11 to U13:

My development plan for this was to work on skating and more game situation scenarios to provide opportunities for to try these and build confidence in a development session and then take to a game.

Skating-20 to 30 minutes at the beginning working on different starting positions to gain more power off the start (v starts, side starts, etc.). Working on stride and how to work on developing control as we skate. As we progressed pucks were added and players chasing learning to control puck under pressure and learning to make decisions under pressure.

Additionally, worked on how to escape and using fakes to get away from the pressure.

Small area games to build confidence in these small areas on the ice

Puck touches and reputation are important to get confidence to use these in games

Goalie Development:

Ryan Fisher did Goalie development and did an excellent job. with not many goalies at points he made sure our goalies got technique, game skills to transfer into a game. Goalie development is very important to our Association, goalies cannot be forgotten about. They need their skills as well as we need them, and we need to

take care of their needs as we can't play without them.

Rec program:

This is an awesome program to be a part of. All kids have a smile on their face and want to learn every time on the ice. Always look forward Friday nights for the rec program, it's so much fun. I hope the kids learned out of the station-based practices and had a blast playing games. Thanks so much for letting me run this program and thank you for all the help from the coaches and all the help behind the scenes to make this program possible

Things to implement:

- More involved at the U15 and U18 levels
- more camps at these levels
- more goalie development
- forward and defensive training

Have a great summer and see you in the fall

Equipment Coordinator

It's been another incredible year, and we could not do it without the continued support of our community and local partnerships. Here are a few highlights:

- **Annual Gear Swap was a success thanks to Sportswheels!**

This year through our gear swap this fall, we were able to over 50 kids, along with several U7 and U9 goalies, thanks to the generosity of Sportswheels and donations from members of the Association.



- **U7 & U9 continues to thrive, thanks to Tim Hortons' ongoing**

Tim Hortons helped our U7 and U9 kids hit the ice with smiles in Timbit jerseys and donated hockey cards, hats and medals. We are thankful for their ongoing support. To learn more about Tim Horton's Minor Sports Program, [click here](#).



- **U11C hit the ice in new jersey's thanks to MacDonald's atoMc Program!**

We are fortunate to continue to participate in the atoMc program, which provides our U11C team with jerseys, socks, and the coveted "golden jerseys" that our kids proudly sport.



- **U15A and U18A rocked their new Association Jerseys this year** and we are looking forward to purchasing new jerseys for our U13C, U15C, and U18C team for next year thanks to funds raised from the Birthplace of Hockey Tournament.

As we close out this season, here are a few important reminders:

- **Jersey & Goalie Gear Return:** Jersey return continues to be a challenge. We still have many teams and players who have not returned their jerseys or loaned gear. Please note that failure to return jersey sets on time (by April 10) or in good condition will result in a \$120 replacement fee applied against the player's account and the player will not be able to participate in tryouts until either the amount is paid or the jersey set is returned in good condition. Fees will be applied to accounts after April 30th. To make arrangements, contact the Equipment Coordinator below.
- **Jersey Name Bars:** There were several jerseys damaged due to how name bars were put on jerseys or were taken off. We are a small Association, and keeping hockey affordable remains a priority. This is why we to ensure we are taking care of our gear. Considering this, we are reviewing our policies to determine if name bars will be permitted going forward.
- **Equipment Rooms - Restricted Access:** A reminder that equipment room access is restricted to coaches only and is now closed for the season.
- **Equipment Donations** – We are accepting donations of used equipment to help kids get outfitted for next year and keep costs affordable for families. If you have any equipment you would like to donate, please contact the Equipment Coordinator.

It has been a pleasure making sure our kids have what they need to play and being a part of coordinating this season and the Birthplace of Hockey Tournament. Thanks again for all your support.

Addendum A
Financial Statement – April 30, 2024

WEST HANTS MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Financial Statements
April 30, 2024

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Compilation Engagement Report

To the Management of West Hants Minor Hockey Association:

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of West Hants Minor Hockey Association as at April 30, 2024, and the statement of operations and changes in fund balances for the year then ended.

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial information, including the accuracy and completeness of the underlying information used to compile it and the selection of the basis of accounting.

We performed this engagement in accordance with Canadian Standard on Related Services (CSRS) 4200, *Compilation Engagements*, which requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements. Our responsibility is to assist management in the preparation of the financial information.

We did not perform an audit engagement or a review engagement, nor were we required to perform procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion or provide any form of assurance on the financial information.

Readers are cautioned that the financial information may not be appropriate for their purposes.

September 12, 2024
Windsor, Nova Scotia

Davison Accounting Inc.
Chartered Professional Accountant

WEST HANTS MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at April 30, 2024

	2024	2023
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Operating account	\$ 75,051	\$ 70,131
	75,051	70,131
EQUITY		
Restricted funds	4,534	4,620
Unrestricted funds	70,517	65,511
	\$ 75,051	\$ 70,131

Approved by the Board:

 Director
 Director

WEST HANTS MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
For The Year Ended April 30, 2024

	2024	2023
Revenue		
Registration	230,051	\$ 188,958
Fund-raising, development and other income	61,077	85,467
BOH revenue	31,756	-
	322,884	274,425
Expenses		
Ice rentals	206,699	171,345
Referees	30,440	37,120
Hockey Nova Scotia	34,232	24,248
BOH expenses	24,281	-
Equipment	9,778	13,410
Clinics, school and conferences	4,661	3,646
Professional fees <i>(inc. tryout honorariums to evaluators)</i>	3,302	3,025
Accounting	718	718
Website	1,945	1,862
Supplies and miscellaneous	1,138	1,297
Office, administration and postage	441	72
Bank service charges and cheques	329	401
	317,964	257,145
Excess of revenue over expenditures	4,920	17,280
Fund balances, beginning of year	70,131	52,851
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 75,051	\$ 70,131

WEST HANTS MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
As at April 30, 2024

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the financial information is on the historical cost basis, reflecting cash transactions, with the addition of the following:

- Accounts payable and accrued liabilities