

**St. Thomas Minor Hockey Association
Annual General Meeting
May 14, 2014
John Wise Public School**

1. Called to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

2. Presidents Message:

The Annual General Meeting is often thought as the conclusion to any season, and, in some ways, it is. The games are over and the equipment is put away so we have a chance to sit back, catch our breath, and reflect. However, it also signals the beginning of the next season; the starting point for preparations that will allow for over 500 athletes to participate in one of the greatest games ever created.

On the travel side of the Association, the highlights were many. From the business perspective, a very generous donation from the Green Lane Trust allowed the Association to leap beyond projected timelines and purchase brand new jerseys. There was an OMHA Semi-finalist with another 4 teams qualifying for play beyond the preliminary round. In league play, there was a Shamrock Championship, 3 Shamrock division playoff finalists, an Alliance League Constellation qualifier and a Bristol playoff finalist.

The house league program under the direction of Lisa Matchim, once again, demonstrated tremendous commitment and energy from all the volunteers and players from the opening evaluation skates right through to the Championship games on the final day. The chance for players from the community to come together within their own community to both play and develop a passion for the game of hockey is the very fabric of Canadiana.

I am also very proud to pass on to the Association's membership that, through close and careful fiscal management, the Board has eliminated the budget deficit and now stands with the desired zero-balance ledger. To maintain what was so difficult to achieve, the Association will have to continue to find new streams of revenue, and to diversify within those streams.

A look to the horizon to see what challenges and opportunities the Association will face brings with it a sense of excitement and also a tremendous sense of responsibility. The landscape of minor hockey in Ontario is changing at a pace never before seen and the STMHA must evolve to stay competitive and relevant. To that end, the outgoing Board has entered into the preliminary stages of discussions with a number of nearby centres to explore the possibility of amalgamation. This exciting opportunity would give a greater number of athletes access to a level of travel hockey to which they are suited and, at the same time, increase the ability of teams to challenge for championships.

Before I sign off, I want to send along a heartfelt thanks to everyone who gives so generously of their time to ensure that the children of St. Thomas and area have an opportunity to play the game of hockey. Without the Board members, convenors, coaches, trainers, managers, schedulers, timekeepers, referees, and administrators, it would not be possible for the STMHA to offer what it does.

Yours in hockey,

*Joe Bilyea
President, STMHA*

3. Minutes of 2013 Annual General Meeting:

Motion – AGM – 05/14/2014 #01

To accept the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held May 15, 2013.

J. O'Brien/T. McIntyre

Carried.

4. Treasurer's Report:

We had a fantastic year, Membership was up and costs were kept inline. The grant received from the Green Lane Trust to purchase Travel Jerseys was key. The Association is officially out of a deficit which means more money can be put back into programming in the future.

We have started a Jersey Replacement Fund to ensure the money is available to replace jerseys when needed.

Online Registration is going well, the costs are low. We are investigating ways to accept credit card payments for other things – such as travel fees, however it makes it difficult to reconcile the accounts.

The Association's financials for the past 2 years have been reviewed by an accounting firm and things are good.

Motion – AGM – 05/14/2014 #02

To Accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.

A. Douglas/M. Moore

Carried.

5. Association Update:

Scott Nugent updated the membership on the potential for amalgamation. Talks started with Belmont, Aylmer and Port Stanley, Belmont has dropped out but talks will continue with Aylmer and Port Stanley. This is a long process, but the Board feels that with declining enrollment and other amalgamations taking place around us, this was the best way to stay competitive & viable in the quickly changing landscape of hockey. The decision to amalgamate would have to be approved by the membership, so we will keep you updated as the process progresses. An amalgamation section has been added to the STMHA web site along with a FAQ section and an email address for questions.

6. New Business:

There was no business.

7. Constitutional Amendments:

The following Constitutional Amendments were passed:

Remove all references to "old" Constitution Articles.

Article 2-5 shall now read:

1. Promote the game of hockey and provide guidance required to obtain financial support to ensure all players are given an equal opportunity to participate in the game.

Article 9-3 shall now read:

3. Shall be a member of the Budget Committee. With the co-operation of the Budget Committee establish the budget for the travel team program under the S.T.H.M.A. budget guidelines.

Article 9-4 shall now read:

4. Upon consultation with the President & Disciplinary Chairman , has the authority to temporarily suspend travel team coach, assistant coach(s), trainer(s), manager and player(s) for just cause pending a hearing by the Disciplinary Committee.

Article 9-7 shall now read:

7. Shall be a member of the Disciplinary and Ethics committee.

Article 9-10 was removed.

Article 10-4 shall now read:

4. Or Designate shall be responsible for equipment, both the current inventory and any new equipment required for the House League program.

Article 10-5d shall now read:

- (d) Upon consultation with the President & Disciplinary Chairman , has the authority to temporarily suspend travel team coach, assistant coach(s), trainer(s), manager and player(s) for just cause pending a hearing by the Disciplinary Committee.

Article 10-7 shall now read:

7. Shall be a member of the Disciplinary and Ethics committee.

Article 11-6 was removed.

Article 15-1 shall now read:

1. The League Representative(s) will assume the responsibility of O.M.H.A. Representative and Alliance Representative (when applicable) will be responsible for attendance at all league meetings or will assure that a designate is in attendance at said meeting.

Article 15-3 was removed.

Article 19-1,2 shall now read:

1. The House League Referee-in-Chief shall have the following duties:
 - a. To Select through an application process the required # of Referee for the House League season.
 - b. Look after making sure New Referee's are registered for the required training clinic.
 - c. Meet with the Referee's prior to the season to review expectations and assignment procedures.

Article 22-3 shall now read:

3. In the event that the neither President, Vice President of Travel Hockey nor the Vice President of House League Hockey are unable to fulfill the functions of the President, then the Executive/Board of Directors shall appoint a replacement to fulfill such duties until the following AGM.

Article 22-4 shall now read:

4. In the event any Board Member, Convenor or Board Designate are unable to fulfill his/her functions, the Board of Directors shall appoint a replacement to fulfill such duties until the following AGM.

Article 22-3 & 4 shall now read:

3. In the event that the President, Vice President of Travel Hockey, Vice President of House League Hockey are unable to fulfill their functions, then the Board of Directors shall appoint a replacement to fulfill such duties until the following AGM.
4. If the Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, Directors, Conveners or Assistant Conveners are unable to fulfill his/her functions, the Board of Directors shall appoint a replacement to fulfill such duties until the following AGM.

Article 23-4 shall now read:

3. No Special Meeting of the Association shall be called for the purpose of introducing, altering, modifying or eliminating any Articles of the Constitution. Amendments to the Constitution may only be made at an Annual General Meeting.

Article 30 – Convenors was removed.

Article 31-2 shall now read:

2. No amendment shall be made unless notice of the proposed amendments is mailed to the secretary at least four weeks prior to the date of the annual general meeting and published on the STMHA web site.

Article – New article added:

ASSIGNOR (S) –

1. Shall be responsible for the assignment of Referees and Time Keepers for all house league games.
2. Shall be responsible for the assignment of Time Keepers for all travel games.
3. To conduct any training sessions required to ensure Time Keepers are properly trained.
4. Shall meet with all time keepers prior to the season to review assignment procedures.
5. Ensure Referee's and Time Keepers are paid in a timely manner.

Job may be split into 2 jobs – Travel & House League

8. Election of Directors:

Each year the Board has 5 – 3 year terms of office come up for election, this year we also have 1 – 1 year term available due to a Director resigning before her 3 year term was up.

The following people were nomination prior to the meeting:

Rick Tales, Dale Nurse, Mike Babcock, Cindy Hodgins, Dan Van Belois.

The floor was open for nominations:

Tim Smart – Accept

Chris Holder – Accept
Brian Massachele – Declined

Lisa Smith & Lisa Matchim were appointed scrutinizers.

The following members were elected to the Board of Directors:
3 Year Terms – Rick Tales, Dale Nurse, Mike Babcock, Tim Smart, Chris Holder.
1 Year Term – Brent Smith

Motion – AGM – 05/14/2014 #03

To destroy the ballots.

J. O'Brien/T. McIntyre

Carried.

Motion – AGM – 05/14/2014 #04

To Adjourn.

T. Coombs/R. Tales

Carried.