



**Kanata Minor Hockey Association 2024/25 Annual General Meeting
April 23, 2025, via Zoom**

Quorum has been met.

Roll Call

President- Erin Murphy

VP Competitive -Terry Zanatta

VP House League -William Burnie

VP Operations- Chad Mariage

Director at Large Risk and Safety- Sam Bhalesar

Director at Large Official AA/A/B David Chin

District Chair- Ralph Petersen

Invited Guests

Annette Jensen, Manager, MKP Accounting Professionals

Meeting is called to order 7:15 pm

Erin Murphy

This meeting is being recorded for the purpose of minute-taking. Everyone is reminded that this AGM is being done as a webinar, all in attendance will not have their audio on or video. If you have a question during the question period, please raise your hand and your audio will be turned on so that you may speak.

Voting will be done virtually. When it is time to vote a pop-up will appear on your screen asking the motion question, and you will be asked to vote. Voting results will be calculated and shown instantaneously.

I would like to thank everyone for taking the time to attend this AGM.

MOTION 1-*Adopt minutes from 2023-24 AGM*

1st Chad Mariage 2nd William Burnie

Motion carried

President's Report- Erin Murphy

To our Board of Directors, General Manager, Committee members, Head coaches, Assistant coaches, Goalie coaches, Trainers, Safety officers, and all other team volunteers, I want to say "Thank You" for the many hours you dedicated to making this season another successful one.

I want to give a special thank you to both Lori Thornton and Ralph Petersen, who are leaving KMHA this year. We cannot thank either of you enough for the many years of dedication you will truly be missed. Our association and the hockey season do require a large amount of work from our volunteers, your efforts are truly appreciated.

We were able to implement and continue with some great programs this year that we hope to carry over through the years to come.

Financial Statement Report Annette Jensen MKP Accounting Professionals

We have audited the financial statements of Kanata Minor Hockey Association, which comprise the statements of financial position as at April 30, 2024 and the statements of fund operations and changes in net assets (operating and capital asset fund) and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. In our opinion, except for the effect of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Kanata Minor Hockey Association as at April 30, 2024 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

VP Hockey Programs- Terry Zanatta

To our players and Blazer families, I want to take a minute and thank you all for your passion and dedication to the great game of hockey and our organization. Your time and commitment meant a lot this past year. I want to thank all the fantastic hockey players and families for competing so intensely and for representing both the Kanata Community and the KMHA in such a positive way. As I reflect back to my second full year as VP of Hockey Programs, I can say with confidence that we once again provided programs that make KMHA a great place to play minor hockey. My ultimate goal was to provide extra value to all KMHA members by providing programs with the sole intent of player development while players having fun.

I would like to thank all the Board Members, Convenors, General Manager, Coaches, Trainers and all team support staff for their countless hours of volunteering to make our players have a great experience this year.

A special call out and appreciation for all the coaches who volunteered to help run all the programs that were initiated this year:

House League Goalie Ice before Sort-outs U9, U11, U13 and U15 HL Development Sessions

Aspiring IP/U7-U11 Goalie information sessions with ice times

Without all the support and volunteers, none of these programs would have been made possible. Again, on behalf of KMHA, a huge thank you to you all.

Big congratulations to the coaching staff and players of our U12 AA team for their amazing season and for bringing home the league championship.

VP House League-William Burnie

I would also like to thank all the volunteers, convenors, coaches, managers, and team staff, who dedicated their time, I will ask you to refer to my AGM report for more in-depth comments.

VP Operations- Chad Mariage

General

Overall, the 2024/25 season was positive. It was great to see the continued smiles and fun being had in and around the rink. I would be remiss if I didn't thank all those who have contributed to the success of the operations for this season including our new equipment Manager for this year Debra Schalla who took the reins and ran with the role. She has been an incredible resource and tremendous volunteer in the equipment room, ensuring everything was in order and ensuring coaches had what they needed for their teams. I also want to thank Ralph Petersen again for all the work in putting the scheduling puzzle together and given this was his final season to thank him again for all his service to making KMHA what it is. Finally, I also wish to thank William Burnie for serving as Registrar again this season. My sincere thank you to all of the other volunteers as well who lent a hand in the equipment room and elsewhere in the association's operations. The success or failure of a season is entirely dependent on our volunteers, and I certainly want to recognize that.

Registrar Report

With thanks to William, I am pleased to say that the 2024/25 hockey had a total of 1,183 registered players. Compared to the 2023/24 season, the total registration remains largely unchanged. The number is, however, still down from pre-COVID numbers. The Association took in 20 Imports at the Competitive levels and 7 House League transfers. All imports and house league transfers expire at the end of the current season, with the players returning to their home Associations.

During the 2024/25 season, the KMHA iced 15 Competitive teams and 62 House League teams for an overall total of 77 teams. This a decrease of 4 teams compared to the previous seasons. The number of competitive teams remained unchanged while the House League program saw a reduction of 4 teams. The reduction in teams at the House League level is due primarily to a shortage of goalies that resulted in fewer teams with larger rosters approaching 16-17 skaters per team.

Equipment Manager Report

The equipment room continues to be an area that requires dedication and strong organizational skills. This year, a new KMHA volunteer took over the role of equipment manager. Between Deb's own time dedicated to the role and her family coming in to help, there were 300+ collective volunteer hours that were

required to do a variety of tasks. These included processing nearly 4000 jerseys, 100 First Aid Kits, 40 goalie gear bags, 6 convenor bins and 100 puck bags.

****Additional volunteers will be needed and called on to help with the end of season jersey and equipment inspection. Please reach out to equipment@kmha.ca if you are able to help. Great opportunity for students trying to get their volunteer hours.****

In addition to these regular tasks and familiarizing herself with the role, Deb has ensured the smooth operation of the equipment room mainly by private appointment. She has worked with coaches to distribute coach wear, team photos, and player of the game awards. She also made delivery and pickups of jerseys that required repairs with the seamstress. Needless to say, this season would not have been possible without her tireless work and I want to ensure to note our/my appreciation.

Some other highlights this season included:

- Coordination and distribution of tryout jerseys.
- Providing estimates for volume and sizing of tryout jerseys required for spring AA tryouts.
- Taking a full inventory of house jerseys for future replacement by age group.
- Reviewing the jersey policy and policy & procedures manual and recommending updates for the upcoming hockey season.
- Order, pickup, and distribution of coach wear to 40 coaches.

Other items of note:

Due to the sheer volume of volunteer hours required to run the room effectively, Deb has made a recommendation to split the role between 2 volunteers: an equipment manager and an assistant equipment manager. A callout will be made to seek an individual to fill the role of assistant equipment manager, scheduled to start training in the summer. Roles and responsibilities will be discussed later and will be clearly defined to ensure there is no confusion.

At the end of each season, all jerseys are inspected. Parents who return jerseys that do not meet the usability standard are notified to pick up the jerseys to address the issues. In the past, approximately 35% of parents who were contacted were not responsive to requests or refused to have the jerseys replaced or repaired. The jersey policy was updated to ensure that players are unable to register for the upcoming hockey season until the repair or replacement fee is paid. We would like to remind all parents to consult the Jersey Policy (<https://kmha.ca/kmha-jersey-policy>) to better understand your responsibilities as it relates to borrowed jerseys.

In an effort to increase the number of goalies, KMHA began loaning goalie gear to any member in good standing during the off season, which continues to be a popular program among new goalies.

As always, we would like to thank our U7 program sponsor: The Malcomson family, owners of the Kanata Canadian Tire.

Ice Scheduler Report

Schedule planning for the season started in April with ice applications to the City of Ottawa, negotiations with the Sensplex, season planning and projecting the number of registrations versus the number of teams.

The season started in late August with competitive tryouts and ended April 6th with the conclusion of House league playoffs. In total 3339.5 hours were managed to accommodate all KMHA's hockey programs which included games, practices, development sessions, clinics, Bauer's First Shift program and special events. This process of managing ice also includes adapting to many changing scheduling items such as competitive team declarations, competitive game schedules both home and away, tournament blackouts for both competitive and house, teams forgetting to enter blackouts, house interlock schedules and opposing teams' blackouts, delayed schedule release for both competitive and house interlock, special event blackouts such as 67's day or extra ice purchase to just name a few.

KMHA once again used the scheduling program DNC to help manage all the ice contracts, team blackouts and functioned as a communication tool between teams, officials, and the ice scheduler. Scheduling this season had many extra challenges because of ice times impacted by the weather, the early closure of Jack Charron Arena and securing ice for the new process of spring AA tryouts.

On behalf of Ralph, I would like to take this time to thank all teams, both coaches and managers, for the help over the season with all the necessary schedule changes, it was truly appreciated.

Lastly, but certainly not least, I would also be very remiss if I didn't thank Ralph for once again taking on this challenging and often thankless role. It is with mixed feelings this year because, as previously announced, Ralph will be stepping aside from this role. His years of work on scheduling and other KMHA/hockey related endeavors are a testament to his dedication to our association and to the kids that play hockey here. Thanks for everything Ralph and all the best in your new adventures.

With Ralph's departure, I launched a call to replace him as ice scheduler. I want to thank all that put their names forward, it truly great to see so many folks interested in contributing to the success of the KMHA. Following a consultation and several discussions, I was pleased to announce that Grace Summerfield will be taking on the lead/competitive scheduler position and that Bari Ansari would take on the role of House scheduler. The transition is already underway and I thank them in advance for their work. As I stated in my announcement, any changes will be gradual and will be made in the most logical way possible.

Photo Day

Photo day was again a success with Ottawa Sports Photography. While there are certainly some small issues to work through with the photographer, the days were a success overall and seemed to have been welcomed by parents.

U15 House League Tournament

The 2024/25 edition of the U15 tournament was again a huge success.

I am very happy to announce that the tournament had 34 teams registered, a near sellout. In all I would say, the tournament was a success and I continue to work to improve the product.

We were also thrilled to welcome some important sponsors to the tournament and would like to thank them for their support and their contributions to the success of the tournament. This year we were also able to sell Maverick's Donuts at TGRC which brought some additional funds to the tournament.

I would like to thank all the volunteers and folks who help make this a success with a special shout out to William Burnie. I would also like to thank the referees and timekeepers for doing an amazing job and for handling some delicate situations and to Peter Hale for the heavy lift of figuring out the scheduling puzzle for our officials.

Finally, I would like to thank all the teams that participated and congratulate the champions for this year:

U15 A: Canterbury/Southend Capitals

U15 B: Richmond Royals

U15 C: Kemptville Royals

Director at Large Risk and Safety- Sam Bhalesar

Thank you to all those who volunteered this season. Serving as the Director of Risk and Safety this past season has been one of the greatest honors of my career. It has been both an interesting and rewarding experience, and I am grateful for the opportunity. Please accept my official report.

Upon stepping into this role, my first priority was to analyze the position and identify opportunities for improvement. I made it a priority to meet with as many teams as possible, successfully engaging with approximately 60% of them. The teams I connected with reported no issues, and throughout the season, any concerns that did arise were swiftly resolved—either through direct conversations or, in a few cases, formal hearings.

I am proud to have fostered an environment of openness and trust, ensuring that all members of our association had a safe space to voice their concerns. Through meaningful engagement, we have set a new standard for communication, strengthening relationships between parents, coaches, and the association as a whole.

The feedback I've received from parents and coaches has been overwhelmingly positive—they appreciated having a dedicated point of contact and felt well supported throughout the season.

While we did receive a handful of reports regarding injuries, none were excessive. Fortunately, all were quickly addressed, and both players and coaches were back on the ice in no time.

This position demands time, empathy, professionalism, and patience, and I am continually impressed by the dedication and collaboration within our community. We are incredibly fortunate to have such outstanding parents and players in our association.

Director-at-Large – AA/A and B League- David Chin

As the Director-at-Large and KMHA's representative for the AA/A and B Leagues, my primary responsibilities include appointing the Referee-in-Chief to oversee the officiating program and attending league meetings on behalf of KMHA.

AA/A League Updates:

1. Tryout Schedule Changes:

The tryout period has been moved from September to May. This decision was made by HEO, and official notification was received from Chair Ralph on December 3, 2024.

2. Digital Game Sheets:

Starting in the 2025–2026 season, the league will transition to using the Game Sheet app, thereby eliminating the use of paper game sheets.

3. AA Program Adjustment Proposal:

Gloucester has proposed that, beginning in the 2026–2027 season, the AA program will start at the U10 level. Associations with two U10 teams would field one AA team and one A team. This proposal is still under discussion and has not yet been finalized.

B League Updates:

• Pathways Program Implementation:

The adoption of the Hockey Canada Pathways Program has resulted in changes to the playoff format and a reduction in the number of allowable exhibition games.

Coaching Concerns:

The following concerns have been raised by AA/A and B League coaches and will be addressed in upcoming league meetings (if not already discussed):

1. Playoff Format Adjustments:

concerns were raised about the shift from the traditional top-8/bottom-5 playoff format to a system where teams are grouped based on even or odd regular-season standings. This change results in top-ranked teams facing much lower-ranked opponents, creating a significant disparity in skill level. Such mismatches are counterproductive to player development and may discourage younger athletes.

2. Knockout Playoff Rounds:

The current single-elimination format for quarterfinals and semifinals does not take regular season performance into account. There is a suggestion to consider an alternative scoring system—similar to the one used in AAA—where teams accumulate points, and the first team to reach a specified threshold advances.

3. Exhibition Game Restrictions:

Under the Pathways Program, recommended game limits are now being enforced as strict regulations, significantly reducing the number of permitted exhibition games. Coaches argue that, as these are intended to be recommendations rather than rules, greater flexibility should be permitted.

Referee-in-Chief Appointment:

In June 2024, the KMHA General Manager issued an email inviting qualified candidates to apply for the Referee-in-Chief position. Nik McLean was the sole applicant in the two weeks period and was subsequently appointed to the role.

Below is the summary report provided by Nik:

Referee-in-chief report

The season is over and here are some of the highlights from the officiating program:

We as a district completed 1744 regular season and tournament games, and 127 Playoff games.

We completed 21 Tournaments also this year.

We hired 36 new officials this year and acquired more than 10 officials from other districts who wanted to join the KMHA program which shows that the work that the development team is working and that officials want to learn from the experienced group that we have.

The number of officials hasn't been this high in Kanata since pre-covid. This is a huge success for the program.

363 supervisions were done on our officials this year.

We plan on developing some of our younger officials to get them ready for Centrally assigned hockey and making the jump to work Junior hockey with HEO.

We thank you for your support in providing a safe environment for the officials to work in.

We look forward to the upcoming season which starts this month.

Thanks

Nik McLean

District 11/KMHA Referee-in-Chief

District Chair-Ralph Petersen

This season did include a few new implementations from Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO), they included pathway programs for the U13 & U15 levels, spring tryouts for A/AA for levels U10-U16, updated code of discipline chart, appeal process, video review process and playing rule 11.4 acknowledgment process to name a few. This season there were 80 suspensions (player/coach) during the season that resulted in 181 games being served, this was slightly higher than last season's numbers of 74 suspensions and 174 games. These suspensions imposed by on ice officials were for various infractions such as, checking from behind, unsportsmanlike like conduct, fighting etc.... Once again, KMHA's teams did a fantastic job of recording affiliation through TTM.

In closing, thanks to all the teams in all your cooperation with the suspensions/affiliation recording in

Motion 2 - Appoint MKP Professional Accountants to perform our

2024/25 financial statement. 1⁵¹- Chad Mariage 2nd William Burnie

Poll Launched- Married carried

New Business

Motion 3 Current bylaw 5.03

Revise to

The title of the Vice President of Hockey Programs to Vice President of Competitive.

Poll Launched- Motion carried

Motion 4 Current bylaw 5..06 Qualifications of Directors

Revise to

The Vice President of Competitive shall be a member and director of the Corporation. The Vice President of Competitive must have served in a management capacity of a minor hockey association for at least 2 years, be certified at the equivalent of Coach Level, and have served as a coach for a minor hockey team for at least one year prior to taking office as Vice President of Competitive.

Poll Launched- Motion carried

Motion 5 Current bylaw 5.03 Composition of Board

Revise to The title of "Vice President Communications" to "Vice President of House League."

Poll Launched- Motion carried

Motion 6 Current Bylaw 5.06 Qualifications of Directors Section D

Revised to

(d) The Vice President of House League shall be a Member and Director of the Corporation. The Vice President House League must have served in a management capacity of a minor hockey association or equivalent sports association for at least 2 years prior to taking office as Vice President of House League.

Poll Launched- Motion carried

Motion 7 Current bylaw 5.04 5.04 Election and Term

Revise to

The term of office of the Directors shall begin May 1st and run until April 30th of the following year. There are no term limits for Directors. To ensure continuity of KMHA programs the election of certain Director positions will be staggered in appointment years, and the appointment duration will be a two-year term.

President – 2-Year Term – Position will be up for election in odd years.

VP Competitive – 2-Year Term – Position will be up for election in even years.

VP Hockey Operations – 2-Year Term – Position will be up for election in odd years.

VP House League 2-year term- Position will be up for election in Odd Years

Treasurer- 2-Year Term Position will be up for election in even years.

Director at large (2 positions) will be one-year term positions.

Poll Launched- Motion carried

Motion 8 Current bylaw 5.10 Committees of the Board

Revise to

Subject to the limitations on delegation set out in any applicable legislation, the Board may establish any committee it determines necessary for the execution of the Board's responsibilities. The Board shall determine the composition and terms of reference for any such committee. The Board may dissolve any committee or remove any committee member by resolution at any time. Without limiting the foregoing, the Executive Committee of the Board, if any, shall be a standing committee and, to the extent possible, shall be comprised of the President, the Vice-President Competitive, the Vice President of House League, the Vice-President Operations, Director at Large, Officials AA/A/B and Risk and Safety and the Treasurer

Poll Launched- Motion carried

Motion 9 Current bylaw 7.01 Description of Offices Section B

Revise to

(b) Vice-President Competitive The Vice-President Competitive shall be a Member and a Director of the Corporation as provided by these Bylaws. The Vice-President Competitive shall be responsible for the overall management of the Corporation's Competitive programs, including, but not limited to, coordinating the coaching selection process and team assignment. The Vice-President Competitive shall present the interests of competitive players, parents, and coaches to the Board, and shall also perform such other duties as may be required by law or as the Board may determine from time to time.

Poll launched- Motion carried

Motion 10 Current bylaw 7.01 Description of Offices Section D

Revise to

(d) Vice-President House League The Vice-President House League shall be a Member and a Director of the Corporation as provided by these By-laws. The Vice-President House League shall be responsible for the overall management of the Corporation's House League programs, including, but not limited to, coordinating the House League coaching selection process and House League team assignment. The Vice-President House League shall present the interests of House League players, parents, and coaches to the Board, and shall also perform such other duties as may be required by law or as the Board may determine from time to time

Poll Launched Motion Carried

Motion 11- Cede the floor to the District Chair to perform the election

Poll Launched- Motion carried

Ralph Petersen

I will perform the election in the order in which they are presented in the AGM agenda.

President- Chad Mariage- Acclaimed

VP House League- Richard Carpentier- Acclaimed

VP Operations- James Holland- Acclaimed

Director at Large Risk and Safety – Sam Bhalesar

Director at Large, Officials AA/A /B league rep – Tom Sweeney

Treasurer- Clement Chen- acclaimed, but must be approved by the new board prior to taking office.(as per bylaw 5.06 (e)

The new Board will take office on May 1, 2025.

Congratulations to all and thank you to the current board of directors for all their hard work this past season.

Motion 12 -Return the floor to the President

Poll Launched-Motion carried

Erin Murphy

Awards

Congratulations to the award recipients for the 2024/25 season

U7 Coach of the year – Sean Dube

U9 Coach of the year – Catherine Hill

U11 Coach of the year – Derek Lalonde

U13 Coach of the year – Jason MacNeil

U15 Coach of the year – Brent Parks

U18 Coach of the year – Phil Vigneron

HL volunteer of the year – Sean MacDonald

AA/A Coach of the Year – Trevor Hawkins

B Coach of the Year – Mike Robichaud

Rep Volunteer of the year – John Ostapyk

President's Award of the Year- Lori Thornton

Final Thoughts

Our AGM does mark the end of the current season, and the process of planning for next season does begin very shortly. I sincerely hope that everyone had an amazing 2024-2025 hockey season, and I hope everyone has a great summer.

Motion 13- Adjourn 2024/25 AGM

Poll Launched- Motion carried

Meeting adjourned 10:15 pm April 23, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erin Murphy". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Erin Murphy, President April 2025