

NORTH METRO GIRLS HOCKEY LEAGUE

General Managers Meeting

PLACE: Thornhill Community Centre

DATE: February 22, 2007

Executives Present: John Chandler, Lindsay Oliver, Chris Soucy, Colin Graham, Sherry Hobe

Regrets: Doug Tiffin, Tracy Hutton, Mandy Patterson

Members Present:

Ancaster	Chris Rowles	X
Aurora	Brian Donaher	X
Baltimore	Bryan Rose	
Barrie	Paul Palmer	X
Belleville	Beth Ramsay	X
Bluewater	Terry Nield	
Brampton	Ivana Sproviero- Occhiogrosso	X
Brantford	James Leeming	X
Burlington	Chris Hanlon	
Cambridge	Gary Roberts	X
Chatham	Zeke Milkovic	
Clarington	Dan Hilker	X
Clearview	Glen Godovitz	X
Cobourg	Bill Poelstra	
Cold Creek	Randy McDonnell	
Dundas	Julia Crouch	
Durham	Rob Bois	
Etobicoke	Chris Soucy	X
Georgina	Dave MacDonald	X
Grafton	Jen Keller	
Guelph	Don Higgins	
Hamilton	Hub Harris	
King City	Valerie Walker	
Kitchener	Bruce Woolner	
Lady Bugs	Laura Healy	
Leaside	Steven Radcliffe	X

London	Ted Sheehan	X
Markham-Stouffville	Sharon OShaughnessy	X
Mississauga	Joanne Moody	X
Niagara Falls	Tom Hamilton	
North Halton	John Santos	X
North Simcoe	Gary McIlravey	X
North York	Jeff Campbell	X
Oakville	John Burgess	
Orangeville	Rob MacLachlan	X
Orillia	Gord Gregus	X
Oshawa	Mike Nicholson	X
Peterborough	Richard Watson	X
Sarnia	Rob Filip	
Saugeen-Maitland	Robert Wagner	
Scarborough	Wendy Boyle	X
St. Thomas	Dave Scidmore	
Stoney Creek	Tammie Weston	X
Stratford	Brenda Bannon	
Toronto	Ted Ashwin	X
Uxbridge	Charles Ramsey	
Vaughan	Lino Milano	X
Waterloo	Tony Bolger	
Whitby	Pattie Paling	X
Willowdale	Rick Campbell	
Windsor	Ray Charron	
West Northumberland	Dave Boyko	X

The meeting was called to order by Chris Soucy @ 7:05 pm.

MINUTES

The minutes from the January were posted on the website.

MOTION: To accept the January 2007 minutes (Joanne Moody/Sharon O'Shaughnessy).

CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

It was agreed that discussion of the tabled motion regarding the tier structure for next season be moved to “Other Business”.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

TREASURER

Colin reported that there is currently a bank balance of \$68,150.50 and that everything is in great shape. If we continue the way we are, we will be on budget at the end of the season. Colin and Lindsay are currently working on bringing the issued fines up to date.

HEAD CONVENOR

Lindsay reported that after the initial transition, the data entry system is working well. She would like to change the time criteria for entering the data for next season to 24 hours. This would assist in updating standings, etc. more quickly.

John added that the results from the playoff games have been posted on the top of the tier standings pages on the website. He encouraged all teams to input their data as soon as possible and to check the standings so the next round can be scheduled. Some divisions may be juggled due to distances but for the most part the results as to who will be playing who are being posted as they come in.

2nd VICE-PRESIDENT

No report.

1st VICE-PRESIDENT

Chris asked that all General Managers speak with their coaches for next year to find out just how much travel they want for their teams so that the General Managers can vote appropriately at the AGM.

HEAD REFEREE

No report.

DISCIPLINE CHAIR

In Doug’s absence John reported that four hearings have been held within the last couple of weeks as there are coaches reaching the two game suspension mark. John believes that for the most part these coaches understand what is happening, however the Executive has been able to offer some suggestions as well. Ultimately the coaches must have some control over their players. Doug is satisfied with what the coaches have said but did remind them that teams who have had to attend hearings will continue to be monitored during playoffs.

PRESIDENT

John reported that we are continuing to work on the Championship Weekend. Charles has ordered the awards. Two Novice series will be held on the final weekend consisting of four teams for each. John will check into the fees for the Championship Weekend and Lindsay will let the GM’s know.

If any GM's know of timekeepers please let Lindsay know and she will pass the info along to the scheduler. In addition, GM's were asked to send their volunteer lists to Lindsay. Chris would like to see a representative from those associations advancing to the final weekend present in order to present medals to their teams. Sunday is usually the busiest day due to presentation of medals.

OTHER BUSINESS

Tabled Motion

The tabled motion regarding the tier structure for next season was brought forward at this time. Chris allowed 30 minutes for further discussion.

John went over his message to the GM's providing his comments on the proposed tier organization for 2007-08. It is the Executive's belief that the motion was presented to address two concerns:

1. to try to limit the number of weaker teams in a tier; and
2. to provide opportunity for B and C teams to play in their own loops.

John pointed out that the Executive has been getting a lot of e-mails about teams playing in improper categorizations. After discussions of these issues by the Executive, it is the Executive's recommendation that the following tier structure be used next season:

Novice:	2 tiers plus the Teddy Bears
Atom:	3 tiers
Pewee:	4 tiers
Bantam:	4 tiers
Midget:	4 tiers
Intermediate:	1 tier
Seniors:	2 tiers

There was some discussion at this point whether the Atom Division should go with four tiers. However by creating another tier, depending on numbers of teams in that particular tier, you could be creating another problem in that fewer teams could increase the travel distances. Other the other hand, without teams from outside the boundaries, tiers could potentially be smaller thereby creating less variety in opponents.

It was reiterated again that it is important that the GM's provide their prospective team lists for the April meeting so that the Executive will have a clearer understanding of team numbers and tier placement in order to further determine whether another tier should be added in some instances. As well, GM's must ensure that their teams are being directed to play at the proper levels.

Markham-Stouffville requested that in the event that B and C teams are combined in a tier, that the Executive consider an unbalanced schedule (i.e., C teams playing more games against other C teams, and B teams playing more games against other B teams). Again, this is why it is important for the GM's to provide the prospective team lists for the April meeting.

There was a suggestion that perhaps North Metro should come up with its own categorization process but the Executive felt that associations/teams abusing the system is the real problem.

Joanne Moody of Mississauga requested that we change the term “tier” to something else and John stated that the Executive would discuss and consider the request.

There continued to be discussion about potential problems with associations not being allowed to place two teams into the same tier therefore requiring some teams to play in improper categories. GM’s must do their due diligence regarding proper categorizations of their teams and hopefully these instances will be few and far between.

It was stated by several members that the Executive have the discretion to fashion the divisions and the number of teams as they deem most appropriate.

At this point Chris read the motion regarding the tier structure for next season:

MOTION: That next season the tiers in North Metro coincide with the OWSHA categorizations in that Tier 1 would consist of AA teams; Tier 2 would consist of A teams; Tier 3 would consist of BB teams and Tier 4 would consist of B/C teams. The Novice, Atom and Senior Divisions to remain the same. If there are 8 or more C teams in any division the prospect of 5 tiers would be looked at. (Mike Nicholson/Joanne Moody)

CARRIED.

Curfews

John noted that there have been a large number of complaints this season about curfewed games. There was a brief discussion regarding what direction GM’s should be giving their teams if there is a practice following a game; should games take precedence over practices and how to deal with operators of facilities in arenas where curfews are an issue.

By-law 3.4.4g of the North Metro By-laws clearly sets out the manner in which curfews are to be handled. At this point there is no real answer to the problems regarding curfewed games. The Executive will check into the number of curfewed games and will discuss further at the meeting in May.

Teddy Bear Division

John requested that the clubs think about a second novice tier and whether they would prefer to play a shorter season for further discussion at the meeting in May.

Proposed Change to the Constitution

Sharon O’Shaughnessy spoke to her proposed amendment to the Constitution to be voted at the AGM:

1. To include any teams within the current published North Metro Girls Hockey League boundaries have the ability to vote for teams applying to join the league for next season.
2. To implement a requirement of 50% attendance at meetings of the General Managers before a club can vote at the Annual General Meeting.

Motion to adjourn: (Glen Godovitz/Joanne Moody).

CARRIED. Meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM