

# Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

October 29, 2024

7:00PM

Mountain Arena

## **Attendance:**

### **Executive Members**

Greg Gillis - President  
Lesley Boyle -Secretary  
Jen Moore – Girls Field Director  
Darcy Jackson - Treasurer  
Gary Gallant – Director of Jr Operations  
Chris Sanislo – Social Media Director  
Jen Pate – Vice President of Finance & Admin  
Joel Firmin – Vice President of Technical

### **Membership Attendees**

Jonathan Johnson – U11/U13  
Rory Northrup – U15  
Adam Solonenko – U9  
JJ Jackson – U22  
John Boyle – U17  
Jamie West – U9  
Michelle West – U9  
Carla Guastadisegni – U9  
Hannah Moore – Womens Field U19  
Mary Monaghan – Womens Field U19  
Melanie Schleeahn - Womens Field U19  
Janene Monaghan – Womens Field U19  
Jeffrey Howe U15  
Marty Jackson – U15  
Jamie Anderson Farrugia – U15  
Beth Morrison – U17  
Lisa Coles – U13/U17  
Steve Lord – U13

## **1. OPENING REMARKS**

- a. **Jim Jackson motion to approve last year's minutes**
  - i. **Steve Lord second - carried**

## 2. REPORT REVIEW – detailed reports available on website

- a. **Joel Firmin – VP Technical**
- b. **Aaron Griese - House League**
- c. **Stacey Holditch - Registrar**
- d. **Darcy Jackson – Treasurer/Finance**
- e. **Chris Sanislo – Media Director**
- f. **Jen Pate – Team Apparel & Gear**
  - i. Everyone wants tank tops! On order for 2025
  - ii. Girls fitting night needs to be prior to Box – we have tried to have a fitting night for girls but attendance was not great – Need to work on collaborating with Box
- g. **Shawna Dolman – Rep Director**
  - i. The amount of work that goes into making the season “seem” seamless is extraordinary – Executive, Managers and Coaches
- h. **Gary Gallant – Jr B**
  - i. Winnipeg was not able to get their flight due to weather and Hamilton ended up having to play 6 days straight due to a last minute scheduling change
  - ii. Volunteers were a huge reason for the success of the tournament
  - iii. A lot of compliments from coaches, players, fans
  - iv. Minor teams organized for a great attendance from their roster
  - v. Arena staff complimented the players and players complimented the Arena staff for the cleanliness
  - vi. Teams commented about the floor being the best they’ve ever played on
  - vii. There were multiple obstacles regarding floor availability and scheduling – challenging, but our volunteers stepped up , stayed on their feet and made changes on the fly where required
  - viii. Other organizations are requesting feedback on how to host a successful event – this helps put HLA on the map
  - ix. Refereeing seems to be the only ‘complaint’
  - x. Beer gardens were a great success!
  - xi. Financial success for sure
  - xii. New volunteers contributed and made an impact - Connor McVey, Brandon Ames
  - xiii. Cable 14 volunteered
  - xiv. DVD copy of Founders will be available next week
- i. **Dave Colbourn - Sr B**
  - i. Brought from Oakville this year
  - ii. A great opportunity to keep players in Hamilton after Jr level lacrosse
  - iii. Presidents cup next year
- j. **Brent Love - Boys Field**
- k. **Jen Moore – Girls Field**
  - i. Scheduling for girl’s box and field is an issue to accommodate commitment
  - ii. HL has girls – need to figure out how to merge them into the girls field program
  - iii. Girls TBYB
    - a. 2 sessions this year
    - b. Representative at boys TBYB
  - iv. School opportunities need to be more vocalized

- a. NCAA & Canadian school opportunities
- v. Girl's hockey is a great crossover – use that as a draw for registration
- vi. HLA can do a better job at communicating these opportunities
- vii. Player Instagram Takeovers – Mary Monaghan volunteering?
  - a. Instagram is the social media preference for young people
- viii. Girls uniforms – deterrent for players?
- ix. Social Media crossover from HLA and Girls Field was encouraging this year
- x. Registration determines teams – cannot “age down”
  - a. A few girls requested a release b/c they didn't want to “age up”
- xi. QR codes to give “player stories”
- xii. Can we look at “Basketball” as a second sport and recruit from there? For both Boys and Girls – it's a great compliment sport
  - a. Steve Lord – liaison?

#### I. Jen Pate – Tournament

- i. Need to consider adult volunteer recruitment
  - a. Implement mandatory volunteer hours from Rep Team Parents
- ii. Years past – tournament had 16 teams – now limited to 8 teams
  - a. Every Rep team would have been responsible for an arena
- iii. Hamilton Teams do not pay full price for the tournament
  - a. Need to consider this for volunteering

### 3. AWARDS

- a. **Eddie Comeau Award – HL coach of the year** – Winner Terry Morgan
- b. **Butch Guthro Award - Bengal's Coach of the Year** – Winner Greg Gillis
- c. **Bill Buckley Award - Volunteer of the Year** – Winner Lisa Coles
  - i. Founder cup – before / during / after
  - ii. Super Series
  - iii. House League
- d. **Lois Minchin Award – Dedication to the sport of Lacrosse** – Winner John Boyle
  - i. His family and extended family are passionate about the game
- e. **Dedication to Boys Field** – Winner Lyle Jobe
- f. **Dedication to Girls Field** – Winner Melanie Schleeahn
  - i. An HLA U13 + player and now back to coach
- g. **Motion to award Life Time Membership Award** from Greg Gillis - Second Joel Firmin – motion passed unanimously – Winner: Jen & Bill Moore

### 4. Constitutional Amendments

- i. Article M.4 – Proposed by Joel Firmin – to align with ONCA requirements. (Approved)
- ii. Article G.1b – Proposed by Joel Firmin - Addition of the Privacy Officer. (Approved)

## **5. Elections – All positions are up for election**

No one is running against the following nominations

- i) President - Greg Gillis - accepted
- (ii) Vice-President Finance & Administration – Jen Pate - accepted
- (iii) Vice-President, Technical – Joel Firmin - accepted
- (iv) Director, Media/Social – Chris Sanislo - accepted
- (v) Director, House League Operations; Aaron Griese - accepted
- (vi) Director, Boys Field Lacrosse Operations; Brent Love - accepted
- (vii) Director, Bengal Operations; Shawna Dolman - accepted
- (viii) Director At Large – vacant – to be filled on an interim basis at next exec meeting.
- (ix) Girls Field Lacrosse Operations – Jen & Bill Moore – accepted
- (x) Privacy Officer – Ashley Duxbury - accepted

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Recruitment – Hockey Arenas
  - i. Can we look at “Basketball” as a second sport and recruit from there? For both Boys and Girls – it’s a great compliment sport
    - a. Steve Lord – liaison?
  - ii. We have some financial means to support this
- b. Off Season Skills Sessions
  - i. Bring in outside instructors @ Eastwood
  - ii. Compete with Ball Hockey for floor time
  - iii. Players paradise
- c. City Facilities
  - i. City is Not happy with “fixes” at Mountain Arena
  - ii. Chedoke may be under construction/repair
  - iii. Causes challenges for scheduling with house league

Most Recent Zone Meeting – HLA received the highest monetary fines – All fees were collected!

Motion to adjourn - Rory Northrup  
Second - Carla Guastadisegni

Motion Carried.