

**AGM Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday May 5th 2022 at 7:00 pm**  
**Elmvale Community Hall**  
**33 Queen Street W Elmvale**

1. Call to order

2. Executive Introductions

- President (John Seney)
- Past President (Tina Robertson)
- OMHA/GB Convenor (Cullen)
- Local League Convenor (Ryen Oakes)
- Treasurer (Mike Kelly)
- Registrar (Sherry Hall)
- Secretary (Lorrienne Dutton)
- Equipment Manager (James Elliot)
- Technical Director (Brian Anderson)
- Tournament Manager (Kevin Fay).
- Game day Operations (Anthony Lalonde)
- Volunteer Committee manager (Mellissa Peterson)
- Fundraising Manager (Trista Belanger)
- Sponsorship & Publicity (Jen Brewer)

3. Approval of minutes from AGM 2021

**Motion: John Seney**

**Second:**

**Result: Carried**

4. Presidents address and reporting on activities of the Association from 2021-2022

**President (John Seney)**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome and thank everyone for joining us at our EMHA AGM for the 2021-2022 season. Your attendance here is important to the organization and we appreciate your dedication to Elmvale Minor Hockey.

Our organization cannot operate successfully without the countless volunteer hours our membership puts in. This starts with our parents who make sure their hockey players get to the rink, those early morning or late afternoon practices, giving up most weekends, travelling for tournaments, visiting other centers for game day and various other responsibilities hockey parents take on during the course of a season. In addition to all this, many parents have also volunteered their time to help with EMHA initiatives, fundraising ventures, tournaments and other events to improve the overall experience for our association. With true sincerity, I would like to thank all parents for choosing Elmvale Minor Hockey and committing your time to helping our association succeed.

As mentioned at our award presentations, I would really like to thank our coaches, trainers, managers and on ice volunteers who have worked so hard this past year to make the on-ice experience for our kids so memorable. The amount of time and energy that goes into running a hockey team, making/executing practice plans, planning/scheduling games, managing team events, booking tournaments, get health documentation, tying skates and trying to ensure the players not only improve their hockey skills but have a great time playing hockey can be an exhausting task. It is not said enough, THANK YOU! We appreciate your dedication and commitment.

I would also like to sincerely thank all Executive Members for putting in so many hours to help run this association. Our Executive met on a monthly basis as a whole, often discussing EMHA matters for hours. As a first-year president, I was completely shocked at how much time members give to their positions, often going above and beyond when needed. It continues to amaze me the dedication Executive Members have to the association. Without your hard work, EMHA would not be possible. Thank you. A special thanks to Tina for assisting myself in the transition from Local League Convenor to President. At the beginning of the season, Tina worked very hard to communicate as much as she could about the role and responsibilities of being the EMHA president. And talking about dedication, she stayed on as Past President, offered her assistance with many tasks over the season and even took on role of looking after the time keepers. Thank you again Tina and once again congratulations on the Eileen Reynold Volunteer Award, much deserved.

This season was certainly an interesting one due to the ongoing pandemic and uncertainty surrounding provincial directives. Right before the season started, collaboration was required by members of this executive and Springwater Township to determine if and how a hockey season would look like. With lots of credit to Brianne and Paul from the Township, EMHA was able to create a strong collaborative partnership that worked many hours to secure the resemblance of a "regular" hockey season. With pre-skates and tryouts starting our season off, EMHA worked with the township through many provincial health restrictions, capacity restrictions and safety protocols. Offices were turned into dressing rooms; furniture was moved around to maximize how many players could fit in a room and time adjustments were made so players could come and go as safely as possible. It was certainly welcoming news when it was determined that the hockey season would start up and games would be played at other arena's. Again, constant communication with the township on making this a possibility was appreciated. During the course of the season, provincial restriction changes were on a constant basis and I felt everyone did a fantastic job at working through those changes. Feedback I received from the township about the membership's respect and understanding of the changes at the rink was great as they too were trying to manage resources to accommodate the rules. EMHA was able to play most of the regular season, host tournaments and complete the playoffs even with the disruptions of covid shutdown during the holidays and shortly after.

While the hockey season was underway, many initiatives were taking place in EMHA. This year was the first year that a new Hockey Canada Registration System was implemented (HCR 3). EMHA made the decision to begin doing registrations online instead of the previous two or three day meetings where members would come into the arena and register. Like with any new system, there were a few kinks to work out but for the most part this new way of hockey registration was fairly seamless. I won't begin to try and explain how many hours Sherry Hall

put into this process but she did a phenomenal job and we are very thankful for all her hard work. I honestly don't know how she did it and to think you volunteered all your time to make it happen is astounding to me. Thank you.

Another area we worked hard at this year was to improve our fiscal responsibility, accountability and security systems while ensuring a transparent approach to the membership. I would like to thank Mike Kelly for all his hard work, knowledge and time in putting systems in place to ensure that the hard-earned dollars our members pay to have their children play hockey is properly tracked and accounted for. From ensuring myself and Mike approve every expense payment to providing the executive with a monthly financial report, Mike has certainly earned the trust of the membership as our treasurer.

As an executive we also tried to improve the communication with EMHA members. Social media posts increased over last year, more information was posted on the EMHA website and mass member emails were sent out more frequently. Although we continue the need to improve in this area, we hope that this helped to navigate what was going on and kept the membership informed about the constant changes taking place due to the pandemic restrictions.

This past year was also a difficult one due to the changing ice conditions at the arena. The ice surface was of concern throughout parts of the year which resulted in sometimes dangerous conditions causing EMHA to have to cancel some practices and send Springwater Township an official letter of complaint. Springwater Township acknowledged the challenges they were facing and worked with EMHA to improve the ice surface so that the safety of all members was a top priority.

Finally, another initiative undertaken by EMHA for the first time was the decision to refund our membership due to the covid shutdown for a period of time. I applaud all the Executive Members as the decision to do this was unanimous. In speaking with other associations, there were many centers that chose not to provide any refunds to their membership. We felt it important to do so and having better financial systems in place allowed us to do this without much struggle.

Going forward I have learned a lot in my first year as your EMHA President. There are areas I need to improve upon and we need to improve upon as an Executive. I have set a few goals for this upcoming year and certainly welcome any feedback or suggestions. I truly believe if want to improve, we need the views and voices of our members to help guide that change.

Transparency is important to me and I hope that as members, you have become to see some areas of improvement. Over the next year, I hope as an executive we can continue to improve upon this by putting better systems in place. Improved communication is also an important goal for the upcoming season. Continuing to keep the membership informed, posting our meeting minutes on our website and getting more feedback/involvement from our members are a few more goals.

Thank you once again to all our membership, our volunteers and our executive for a wonderful and successful season. I look forward to working hard as your president next year to make our next hockey season even more of a success.

### **OMHA/GB Convenor (Cullen)**

It was another eventful year for EMHA both on and off the ice. My role as OMHA Rep was much more active this year with a return to a regular schedule, and a revamping of the OMHA Playoff

structure. Despite having a shutdown during the month of January, we were able to get a large portion of our season in, including a full playoffs. We had some very good results with our Rep teams: U11 AE Regional Silver Stick Finalists, U11 Rep team winning the League Championship and qualifying for the OMHA Tournament in Barrie, U13 Rep winning Maple Syrup and Aylmer Tournaments, and Midget Rep winning the Brian English Tournament.

Once again, I want to thank all of the executive members and parents for their efforts to provide hockey to our kids this year. It took a lot of effort and communication, but was all worth it to be able to be on the ice for the majority of the season.

My 2 year term is up, but I am willing to continue on in this position if that is what the membership decides. There will continue to be league changes and I look forward to helping EMHA implement a program and schedule that will benefit all of our young hockey players.

Finally, I want to thank Tina for all she has done as a member of the executive - it has not been an easy go for her over the years, and she has handled things wonderfully. Thanks for all your many years of dedication to Elmvale Minor Hockey.

#### **Local League Convenor (Ryen Oakes)**

During the season, I attended monthly meetings either virtually or in person to discuss and review topics like roster sizes, players moving age groups, scheduling and playoffs.

As I learned through attending these meetings, typically we should look to have larger roster sizes as attendance can sometimes be an issue. There is a general reluctance to have kids move age groups as it can really impact the numbers on teams as we experienced this year with our U8 teams after some movement. Scheduling for the younger groups is a bit of a nightmare as coaches are expected to reach out to other coaches and schedule exhibition games but keep them limited and only have them starting after Christmas. Playoffs seemed to go smoothly and kept a similar format as in year's past, which I know especially in the older groups, was appreciated.

This past year we had several local league teams in the association that played well and had an enjoyable season, despite the COVID break.

Our two U7 - IP teams had their main focus on skill development but did play a couple exhibition games and traveled to a jamboree to give the kids their first taste of a road tournament!

Our two U8 – Minor Novice teams also maintained a core focus on skill development on half ice but were able to play about a dozen games each and looking primed to make the leap to U9 next season.

The U9 Local League team spent the first half of the season on half ice and then transitioned to full ice following the break. They managed to get in 16 games and one tournament along the way, as well as their championship tournament at the end of the year. Off to full ice next year for the entire season!!!! Just a reminder that next year there will be no U9 rep team. All U9 hockey will be at the local league level in the OMHA.

The U11's got in 23 games this year, which included their Silver Stick Tournament. The team ended up with an overall record of 8-15. Good enough for 6th overall in their loop. Good job Yotes!

The U13 squad was able to get in 24 games with an overall record of 5-19, but really turned it on in their playoff run, winning 5 out of 8 games and putting together a nice little 4 game winning streak. Way to finish strong team!

Our U15 LL team finished with an overall record of 12-13-1 but brought home the hardware by knocking off the mighty Coldwater team in the Championship series. Nice job team! A great way to end the season.

The Midget U18 LL team ended up with an impressive final record of 14-4-6! They completed the strong season by having a solid finish and ended up ousting Midland for the Group B Championship! Awesome work team.

### **Registrar (Sherry Hall)**

As part of the 2021/2022 hockey season, EMHA continued with our online registration system. This year families had the opportunity to pay by e-transfer, cheque, or credit card which was a new feature to our online registration system this year. Online registration will continue for the upcoming season.

This year, Elmvale Minor Hockey had 176 families who registered their children to participate in our programming, which is down slightly from the 193 families we had in 2020/2021. We had 15 participants in our preschool program which surpasses all of our previous preschool numbers. EMHA had 29 players in U7, 21 registered in U8, 22 players in U9, 38 registered in U11, 51 players in U13, 31 registered in U15, and 36 players in U18 for a total of 243 members. This number is down from both the 254 members we had in 2020/2021 and the 310 registrations in 2019/2020. As the world begins to return to more of a normal lifestyle that we have had prior to covid, we hope that our registration numbers will continue to increase in the upcoming season.

Our programming offered opportunities for preschool, 3 U7 teams, 2 U8 teams, 2 U9 teams, 3 U11 teams, 3 U13 teams, 2 U15 teams, and 2 U18 teams for a total of 18 groups/teams. We rostered 5 Rep teams, 2 AE teams, and 10 local league teams.

We look forward to opening up our online registration tomorrow for the upcoming season and are excited to welcome our members back to EMHA for what will hopefully be a completely 'regular' hockey season. Information regarding the registration process, fees, volunteering requirements, as well as fundraising information can be found on our website, under the 'registration' tab.

### **Secretary (Lorriane Dutton)**

This is my eighth year as secretary for Elmvale minor hockey. Our organization couldn't run without the countless hours our executive puts into making sure our youth have a place to play. We continued to have our regular monthly meetings every fourth Thursday of the month via Zoom. It was really nice to be able to host Our 2021-2022 awards banquet in person this year

with food and drinks. My duties this year was to put out the agenda and record the monthly meeting minutes. I was in charge of organizing the banquet and ordering the awards.

### **Equipment Manager (James Elliot)**

The last few years have indeed been a challenge for everyone involved at every level in this organization, the locker room is no exception. As equipment manager of Elmvale Minor Hockey it is been a

pleasure to exercise the duties this job entails. This position is very much pre season and post season loaded. With much of the work load required in the late summer as teams prepare for a new season.

As equipment manager it was my job to maintain and equip the locker room. This involves organization of the jerseys, distribution of socks and equipping of trainers kits. It also involves stocking of pucks and training equipment. I have enjoyed working with the trainers, coach's managers and especially the executive of this organization. Thank you for your many hours of service. I would highly recommend this job to someone who enjoys hands on participation. Good luck to anyone willing to take on this position.

### **Technical Director (Brian Anderson)**

This past season, we were almost back to normal only missing a short time on the ice mid season. With that we were able to run some development clinics dependant on ice time availability. The following development clinics were run in the 2021-2022 season;

- Body Checking (Those trying out for U15 Rep) • Skating Skills
- I want to thank Parent/volunteer Jason Monk. He graciously volunteered his time and experience to several teams on the ice working on skating development.
- Jason has agreed to to assist EMHA again this upcoming season when available. • Passing and shooting. • Goaltending

Once our ice schedule becomes available for the 2022-2023 season, EMHA will be arranging many more development clinics.

Our coaches once again did a great job with our players on the ice. I would like to thank all the coaches, trainers and managers that stepped up and volunteered their time. Without you our players wouldn't have stepped on the ice.

Exit interviews with all of our head coaches will be set up and completed in the very near future. Coach evaluations are a great way to have yourself or your player heard. These evaluations are a great way to assist coaches with becoming a better coach and EMHA in the coaching selection process. If you have not already done so please take the time to fill out an evaluation on the website.

Moving forward as we prepare for our 2022-2023 season, we have already conducted our rep coaching interviews and your rep coaches for this season will be as follows;

U11 – Anthony Lalonde

U13 – Mike Kelly

U15 – Brian Anderson

U18 – Andrew Priest

I would like to remind everyone that coaching applications will remain open for AE and local league teams until the end of August. If you are interested in coaching any of these teams, please fill out an application on our website.

### **Tournament Manager (Kevin Fay).**

After a year hiatus EMHA was able to run most of our tournaments once again. In November we had the Brian English Memorial Tournament for U15 and U18 Rep teams. 16 teams attended the tournament with our Elmvale Coyote U18 team being victorious.

Unfortunately our January Orr Lake Golf Club Hat Trick Tournament had to be cancelled due to another Covid Shut down.

The ever popular Maple Syrup Tournament was able to run with 24 - U9, U11 and U13 teams competing for the Championship. Games were played in both Elmvale and Midland. Both our U11 and U13 teams come out on top as tournament champions.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make these tournaments run so smoothly. We hope to continue with the tournaments next season and may even add one during the March break.

### **Game day Operations (Anthony Lalonde)**

The 2021/2022 Season was challenging on many fronts. I personally wanted to thank everybody that made our abbreviated season possible. A few of the highlights from this season were:

Worked with Springwater to facilitate practice and game play.

Implemented internal health screening application.

Secured on and off-ice officials.

Also want to thank 2 volunteers who have helped me in my position over the past several years.

Derek Prescott - Scheduler of Referees

Denine Dempster - Scheduler of Timekeepers & Gatekeepers

The 2021/2022 was a big learning curve for me as it was my first year in this position. We also had the added challenges of shutting down for a month, rescheduling numerous games due to covid protocols and the implementation of the new GameSheets on the Ipad.

Fortunately, I had a great team around me which made it a lot easier. I would like to give a special thank you to Mike Kelly for mentoring me through this year as well as Jamie McClung our Scheduler of Referees and Tina Robertson our Scheduler of Timekeeping. They definitely took a lot of the heavy lifting off of my shoulders.

As Tina is finishing her time on the executive this year, I am looking for a scheduler of timekeepers for next year. Please let me know if you are interested.

Aslo for next year, I look to improve on communication with the coaches and managers (especially the newer coaches) on the procedures that need to be followed throughout the season. Please look for those emails and meetings, starting in September.

Thank you everyone for a great season and I look forward to next year.

**Volunteer Committee manager (Mellissa Peterson)**

This was my second season as acting Volunteer Manager for EMHA. Without volunteers, we simply can't have a hockey program in Elmvale. All the hours everyone contributes is the reason we can have a successful organization.

My roll this season was to coordinate volunteers as required for various EMHA events.

Volunteers are needed for calendar sales, our home hockey tournaments, the End of Season Awards Banquet, our annual Golf Tournament and our Fall Fair Dance.

We have booked our annual golf tournament for May 28th. This will be the final opportunity to fulfill your hours.

We are very happy to be hosting our annual KICX dance again this October at the Elmvale Fall Fair which is Thanksgiving weekend. I have been running this even for several years now.

Ticket sales start in May and the event is over just after hockey starts up for the season. The Dance is our largest fundraiser. Please contact me if you are interested in helping with the dance.

I look forward to the upcoming season, and hope you all have a great summer.

**Fundraising Manager (Trista Belanger)**

As the Fundraising Manager I am thankful for all of the help that I receive from the Volunteers. I would like to thank everyone for working so hard at making this a success. Again this year we have had our hurdles with Covid-19. It definitely made fundraising difficult once again.

Our fundraisers were as follows:

Gift Card Calendar

Clothing Fundraiser

Unfortunately due to Covid-19 we were unable to go forward with the Golf Tournament last May, but are happy to be running it once again Sat. May 28th. If you have not already done so, please visit Orr Lake Golf Courses website to sign up. And feel free to spread the word. The more the Merrier.

The Gift Card Calendar was a success once again. It was still a challenge with all of the Covid disruptions, but we were thankful that we could proceed with it.

Unfortunately, with all the issues with Covid-19 our Clothing fundraiser was disrupted as well. The company Team Image was hit hard and was not able to keep their doors open. We will be looking for an alternative for this coming season.

Our hope for next year is that we will be able to once again draw on the successful fundraisers that have benefited our organization in the past, such as the Colts Night and the Kicx Dance.

We are always looking for people to help out and bring their expertise, so if you are willing to be part of the fundraising team we would love to have you. I hope everyone has a fantastic summer and can't wait to see everyone in the fall.



### **Sponsorship & Publicity (Jen Brewer)**

Collected sponsorship for all teams for EMHA-\$500 for local league teams, \$750 for rep and AE teams

Delivered pictures to team sponsors.

Posted new team pictures in the rink.

Arranged picture night and delivery of pictures to teams.

Arranged for team jerseys from Tim Hortons, medals and socks for IP teams

Organization of the annual golf tournament

### **Treasurer (Mike Kelly)**

#### 5. Financials

Mike went through the Financial report from 2021-2022 season and discussed the projected financial position for 2022-2023

Mike made a motion to accept budget for the 2022-2023 season  
Second: Cullen Fay  
Result: Carried

Financials and Budget for 2022/2023 Year can be found in the Appendix

#### 6. General Discussions and New Business

- Sherry spoke in regards to online registration
- Discussion from the floor in regards to parents concerned with the AE program and the negative effect it has on our LL teams.

#### 7. Election of new Elmvale Minor Hockey Executive positions

- OMHA convenor - Cullen Fay (Acclaimed)
- Registrar - Sherry Hall (Acclaimed)
- Secretary - Lorriane Dutton (Acclaimed)
- Equipment Manager - James Elliot (Acclaimed)
- Volunteer Manager - Melissa Peterson (Acclaimed)
- Fundraising Manager- Trista Anderson (Acclaimed)

8. Doug McConnell volunteer of the year award was presented to Mike Kelly

9. Closing remarks by John Seney

10. Motion to adjourn by Lorrienne Dutton

Second: Ryen Oakes

Result: carried