

# Eastern Shore Minor Hockey

## Meeting Minutes – October 5, 2026

**Location:** Eastern Shore Community Centre

**Call to Order:** 6:30 p.m.

**Adjourned:** 9:53 p.m.

### Attendance

#### In Person:

- Adam Jennex – Vice President
- Hughes Mackay – President
- Tanya Bezanson – EDI Coordinator
- Ashley Halloran – Ice Scheduler
- Whitney Halloran – Coaching Coordinator
- Danielle Warrington – Budget Coordinator
- Victoria Meldrum-Young – U7 Coordinator
- Erin Boutilier – U9 Coordinator
- Julie Wagner – Treasurer
- Chelsea Burgess – U15 Coordinator
- Jayne Breton – Secretary / U18 Coordinator / U11 Coordinator
- Janet Boutilier – Registrar

#### Virtual:

- Ryan Slade – Equipment Coordinator
- Laura Rockwood – U13 Coordinator / Risk Manager

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## 1. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

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## 2. U9

- Head coaches were approved.
  - **U9 A:** Nicole Estabrooks was named Manager and Hughes Mackay was named Treasurer.
  - The appointments were approved.
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### 3. U11

- All U11 head coaches were approved.
- **U11 C:** Sarah McKenzie was named Manager.
- Motion was put forward and approved unanimously.

A discussion was held regarding how the evaluation/trial committee arrived at the team structure being offered, including **one A team and two C teams**. The process and rationale were explained thoroughly to the Board.

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### 4. U13

- Head coaches were named and approved by the Board.
  - **U13 AA:** Manager and Treasurer were named and approved.
  - **U13 Black C:** No manager or Treasurer
  - **U13 Yellow C:** No manager or Treasurer
  - The Board will speak with the U13 cohort on October 6 regarding expectations for the upcoming season.
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### 5. U15

- U15 head coaches were named and approved.
- U15 A Manager and Treasurer were named and approved.
- U15 C Manager and Treasurer remain to be appointed.

#### U15 Roster Balance

Roster sizes and team balance were discussed. A request was made by the U15 A head coach to allow more than a one-player differential between the two rosters.

A vote was held:

- **7 votes** – maintain the current balanced teams
- **6 votes** – support changing the balance

The teams will remain evenly balanced at **17 players per team**.

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### 6. U18 A

The U18 A team remains in jeopardy of not running.

- Four players were released to Cole Harbour to participate in the balancing process.
- The remaining players have indicated they do not wish to play unless the team is confirmed.

- The Board discussed the **Love the Game** program as a possible contingency if an U18 A team cannot be formed.
  - There are currently six players on the waitlist in Dartmouth.
  - Adam offered Dartmouth as a potential option to absorb these players.
  - The Board will wait **24 hours** before folding the team in the hope that additional Dartmouth players become available.
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## 7. Additional Managers / Volunteer Recruitment

Due to a lack of volunteers within the advancing/intermediate cohorts, the Board will meet again in one week to discuss adding additional managers to teams.

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## 8. Jerseys

- Jerseys are ready for pickup.
  - Evaluators requested that smaller numbers be placed on practice jerseys next season to make it easier to see players during evaluations.
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## 9. Open Board Positions

- A post was made over the weekend to generate interest in the open Board positions.
  - Three individuals have expressed interest.
  - No formal appointments have been made at this time.
  - Conversations will continue.
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## 10. Out-of-Area Player Policy

A motion was brought forward to add a policy regarding out-of-area players. See below of exact language.

**Moved by:** Adam Jennex

**Seconded by:** Janet Boutilier

**Result:** Approved unanimously. Motion passed.

The matter will be added to the policy discussion/next steps.

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## 11. Mariner Month / Remembering Gavin Greenland

Mariner Month, including a tribute to **Gavin Greenland**, will take place during the second week of November.

Plans discussed:

- A script will be prepared for the tribute.
  - Richard Pelly will be available to read the script at Mariner games throughout the month.
  - A stick tap will be incorporated into the tribute.
  - Memorial stickers will be distributed to teams.
  - The possibility of hiring Richard for Mariner Month at **\$40 per game** was discussed.
  - No formal decision has been made regarding payment at this time.
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## 12. Team Communication App

Ashley requested that the Board explore having multiple teams share the cost of the **GrayJay Teams communication app** (as discussed).

Ashley will organize the teams and provide an update.

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## 13. Hole in the Glass

The ongoing issue with the hole in the glass was discussed.

The rink will attempt to use an alternative solution in the meantime.

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## 14. Dressing Room Security

A question was raised regarding locking dressing-room doors.

Coaches and managers are encouraged to lock dressing-room doors while players are on the ice, as the rink is also used by members of the public.

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## 15. Bench Equipment

Adam brought forward a request to purchase:

- One large table
- One small table
- Two boards for each bench

**Estimated total:** \$250

**Moved by:** Adam Jennex

**Seconded by:** Janet Boutilier

**Result:** Motion passed unanimously.

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## 16. Preseason Ice

A request was made to offer teams **two free hours of ice during October** for preseason use.

The two hours will be deducted from the team's ice bill.

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## 17. Team Selection / Heat Map

The Board discussed the heat map and how player selections are determined.

Discussion focused on:

- How players can earn positions/spots on teams when they did not specifically try out for that position.
  - The overall goal of placing the highest-ranked players on the highest-level team.
  - The process used by the evaluation committee when determining final team selections.
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## 18. First Aid Course

A first aid course will be offered to coaches.

**Date:** October 17, 2026

**Location:** Eastern Shore

**Format:** Online and in-person components

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## 19. Next Meeting

**Date:** October 13, 2026

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** Eastern Shore Community Centre

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## 20. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at **9:53 p.m.**

## **Player Tryouts from Another Minor Hockey Association**

ESMHA recognizes that players registered with neighbouring Minor Hockey Associations may not have access to a competitive classification appropriate to their demonstrated ability when their home association does not offer that classification.

Subject to Hockey Nova Scotia regulations and all required releases, transfers and approvals, ESMHA may permit a player registered with another Minor Hockey Association to participate in ESMHA tryouts where:

- The player's home association does not offer a team at the competitive classification for which the player is requesting to try out;
- The player has received all required approvals or releases from their home association and Hockey Nova Scotia prior to participating;
- The player participates in the same ESMHA evaluation process and is evaluated using the same criteria and scoring methodology as ESMHA players; and
- To be eligible for selection, an out-of-area player must finish within the top five (5) evaluated skaters at that classification, or, in the case of a goaltender, be ranked as the highest evaluated goaltender, unless otherwise approved by the ESMHA Executive.

Meeting the required evaluation threshold establishes eligibility for selection but does not guarantee placement on the team. Final team composition remains subject to ESMHA's Tryout Policy and Process, positional requirements, roster requirements, Hockey Nova Scotia regulations and the approval of the Evaluation Committee.

If the player does not meet the required selection threshold, the player will be released back to their home association.

An out-of-area player will not be permitted to try out under this provision where their home association offers the same competitive classification, except where otherwise permitted by Hockey Nova Scotia regulations and specifically approved by the ESMHA Executive.