



EHMHA Board Meeting

December 21, 2025 7:00PM

Bannister Room, East Hants Sportsplex

Attendees: Brett Garden, Greg Heard, Gus Smith, Evan Taylor, James Thompson, Mike Norris, Katie Muise

Tyson Spencer arrived late, provided an update, and was not present for any votes.

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome and Approval of Agenda by Brett

Approved

2. Ratification of board meeting minutes from October 19, 2025 by all board members

Approved

3. President's Update by Brett

- Our First Shift program has been very successful. We are excited to be opening up registration for those who wish to continue with hockey. The cost to register will be prorated to reflect the remainder of the season. We will host an in person registration session so that we are there to assist with any issues or confusion that may arise at the time of registration. We will ask Jenn to assist us with this process.

Motion: Registration for First Shift players will be \$200 for U7 and \$250 for all other divisions.

Moved by: Brett Garden

Seconded by: Greg Heard

Result: *Carried Unanimously by those present (1 absent)*

- There has been discussion with Hockey Nova Scotia in regards to expanding the EHMHA boundaries. A proposed boundary expansion would extend as far as the Fall River overpass, and possibly slightly beyond. More discussion with HNS is required. It was noted that this adjustment would open up additional ice availability for neighboring associations. The goal is to have this boundary update finalized in time for next season's registration.
- Conflict Resolution: The proper process for conflict resolution was reviewed. It was emphasized that members must use the correct channels when submitting complaints and should not contact Hockey Nova Scotia directly as a first step. The required process is to wait 24 hours and then submit the concern to the team-level coordinator. This procedure must be followed before any further

escalation. Geoff Churchill from Hockey Nova Scotia called to give us a heads up that they were receiving complaints and that the policy was not being followed. It was also discussed that Hockey Nova Scotia will be invited to the Sportsplex sometime in the new year. This session will be open to the membership and will provide a valuable opportunity for members to ask questions and gain clarity on procedures and expectations.

- There have been some concerns around substance use with the older divisions. It is important that players understand the expectations regarding substance use at practices and games. It was agreed that an information session should be planned for all older players to review these expectations and reinforce standards of conduct.

4. **VP Hockey Ops Update** by Tyson

- We are planning to get the Todd Hunter skates back up and running.
- We have had a lot of people signing up for bi-weekly skates and will use some of this extra ice time for 2-line games.

5. **VP Admin Update** by Greg

- We need to understand the process for when players are on a 1 year release. The understanding is they come back to EHMHA after one year unless otherwise specified/approved by HNS. We have had players due to return from other associations and they did not return.
- Parent fees are due December 31, 2025. These fees are paid to the team treasurer.
- To ensure we have the cash flow to pay our ice fees to East Hants, we need to vote on the payment schedule from our teams for fees. Our goal is teams pay on time and the association does not have to pull the funds from the team bank accounts.
- **Motion:** 50% of team fees due to the association by January 15th with the remainder due by January 30th.

Moved by: Greg Heard

Seconded by: James Thompson

Result: *Carried Unanimously by those present (1 absent)*

6. **Finance Update** by James

- Overall, finances are looking good thanks to the increase in association events. Our jerseys are totally paid for. We will begin putting money towards a jersey fund so that we will be financially prepared for the next time new jerseys are needed.
- The first GrayJay 50/50 draw was launched this month. Changes have and will be made based on feedback received from users.
- ScotiaConnect bank accounts for the teams have been working well. There have been a few minor hiccups but any issue has been easy to resolve.

- **Motion:** To increase the per diem for non parent coaches while travelling with team from \$35.00 - \$60.00 per day
Moved by: Greg Heard
Seconded by: James Thompson
Result: *Carried Unanimously by those present (1 absent)*
- Eastlink Bingo is going well. MK is doing a great job calling the numbers. We have received good feedback from Alcohol & Gaming from the few drop ins they have made and they also provide great observational coaching. We are really pleased with this partnership so far. In the new year we would like to highlight some of the vendors. We will also consider asking Roxie's to become one of our vendors.
- Level Up and Gray Jay said clothing sales was a success and the pilot project was worth the investment. There are opportunities to improve the process going forward, particularly with clothing deliveries. EHMHA would like to explore the possibility of getting our own printing press for the association. The cost is relatively low and would be a great way to produce merchandise for tournaments.

7. Events & Tournament Update by Evan

- The U7 jamboree is really taking off. Our volunteers are doing a great job. Ice will be in divided in thirds to accommodate different groups on the ice at the same time
- We have 83 teams registered for the Ettinger-Smith tournament. This will bring in approximately 1900 extra people.
- Volunteers are mandatory for both of these events. It would be ideal to have at least one volunteer from each team.
- It costs \$1500/day for High Button Sports to come out and film the events. This is a high cost and might be possible if we can find a sponsor.
- Looking into ways to utilize merch from past tournaments. Moving forward, dates will no longer be printed on tournament merchandise. This will allow unused items to be carried over to future years and will help reduce costs.

8. Any Other Business by all board members

- Should a player move to a new team after December 1st, we have 2 policies that help provide guidance with regards to dealing with the finances for parent contributions, fundraising & sponsorship. The Fundraising and Finance policy deals with refunds after the money has been deposited while our Registration policy deals with refunds after Dec 1st. We should change the policy such that it explicitly outlines the process for families so it is very specific should this happen in the future.
- **Motion:** If a player leaves or changes teams after December 1st, they are still responsible for their original player fees which aligns to our finance policy. This ensures that budgets remain the same and that members do not end up paying more than originally agreed upon as per the parent team vote.

Moved by: Greg Heard

Seconded by: James Thompson

Result: Carried (6 in favour, 1 abstained; 1 absent)

Meeting adjourned: 8:43PM

Next Meeting: January 18th, 2026