



OMHA-AAA East Conference Meeting Minutes

Jan 10, 2025 - Zoom 7:30 PM

Attendance: Pat Colucci, Jennifer Kahlen, Jill Trueman, Jeff Caplan, Daryl Holmes, Rick Lefort, Leo Nat, Don Linthwaite-Ajax, Greg Hotham -Barrie, Nelson Pereira- Central, Tim Closs - Kingston, Stephen Gaunce - Markham, Chris Sharland, Roger- NCP, Cheryl Littlejohn - Whitecaps, Walter DiClemente – Peterborough, Garry Sage - Quinte, Mark Swirla, Sean Sporogis-York Simcoe, Bill Bowden-Whitby

Absent:

Guests: Paul Allen, Peter Harmsen

1) **Call to Order** – Pat Colucci 7:31PM

2. Approval of Minutes – December 2024

Motion to Approve: Mark Swirla, York Simcoe

2nd by: Cheryl Littlejohn Northshore

Approved

3. VP East Conference Report – Pat Colucci

Special welcome to our guests Paul Allen & Peter Harmsen.

a. U18 East All-Star Game Kingston Re-cap; thank you Kingston for hosting the showcase; lots of positive comments; Response from parents and players was very positive

b. U18 OMHA All-Star Game York Simcoe Re-cap; Thank you YSE for hosting East vs West game. Frist time East vs West since pre-pandemic. Phenomenal support and a ton of work into the event. Many positive comments from both East and West sides.

c. U16 Showcase update. Schedule cutoff date; Quinte hosting; that weekend will be set up similar to other cross overs and scheduling will be based on seeding. Cut-off date will be Sunday January 19th for seeding.

d. 2025-2026 Crossover and All-Star dates are close to being finalized. U16 is going back to early December. Some centres have reached out with interest to host. U15, U16, U18 East and U18 East/West Cross over will be confirmed events. There is question of U16 All Star Game to be confirmed. Dates are not negotiable. If interested in hosting, please let Pat know.

e. **2025-2026 Tournaments-** limit per team, submission dates of tournaments to Rick. Cutoff date to be established. 3 in season tournaments; block dates will not be released to scheduler until tournaments are submitted. September Early Birds and Christmas are not counted in the 3 in season tournaments.

f. **2025-2026 April Try-outs.** All age groups including U18. Regulation K in OMHA has been eliminated. Please ensure schedulers are aware. 7-day time frame is still valid; discussion of 5 but not confirmed. There is no 4th day where you must sign a player; if centres want to allow players to come and go from their centre at tryouts that is centres decision. Self-governance will occur. Tryouts start Saturday and Monday of Easter Weekend. Concern of not enough ice time for smaller centres with only 1 ice pad. Is there possibility of doing one age group first 4 days, and next four the following 4 days. Pat will present the option to be considered. Some centres are closed East Monday. Is PTS required from HEO? – Please confirm as HEO is not with OHF. Virginia Jacobson at OMHA office can confirm procedure

4. Treasurers Report – Jennifer Kahlen

Present financials were sent via email.

- a. Kingston has submitted all expenses for U18 Allstar on game, on budget.
- b. OMHA U18 Allstar jerseys – half of the cost will be recovered from the West and jerseys will be reused.

Motion to Approve: Stephen Gaunce, Markham

2nd by: Walter DeClemente, Peterborough

Approved

5. OMHA AAA Conference Reports –

6. Schedulers Report – Rick Lefort

- a) U16 Event schedule will be created quickly
- b) Playoff flow charts completed; will populate on web in next couple of weeks; format has been sent to all ice schedulers
- c) Playoff round robins – teams losing in OT will gain 1 point.
- d) 2 emails in last 24 hours from parents in regards to playoffs; Rick will not answer any parent emails.
- e) Question of August 2025 start date – Paul will have a look at the seasonal calendar. If it is not on there, Paul will send to Pat to distribute ASAP.

7. OMHA Report – Jeff Caplan

- a) VSC are still an issue; Another list of bench staff who have declared but not provided VSC to OHF. Once profile shows complete the ineligible status can be approved. Virginia has been spot checking and there has been unapproved bench staff on the benches
- b) Roster cutoff date is January 10th; any player released after then cannot register with another team. January 15th is AP cut off

- c) OMHA Town Halls on Open Borders – watch for upcoming dates
- d) Discrimination or GM – has been a large amount of infractions for this. The 7 game suspension is not going to change this season.
- e) Looking for help at AGM to assist Martha with registering delegates from 6. It comes with hotel room and mileage.
- f) Question for VSC – if bench staff has been charged but not convicted are they automatically removed – this has not come up yet but will look into this question.
- g) There is a new check – Broader spectrum check for those working with children and young people. It could become an annual check. Jeff will follow up on this.

Daryl Holmes:

- a) Thank you to Rob, Mark and Walter for the U18 AllStar game.
- b) U15 showcase – some kids sat for suspensions and did not need to; many teams from East showed up without iPad; luckily some teams had extras; we need to get these messages out. Showcase was otherwise successful; minimal blow out games and rankings seem to have worked well.
- c) For those expressing interest in hosting, please get names in to Pat ASAP and would like to finalize within the next week to confirm season schedule.
- d) Early Feb on OMHA AAA Web there will be an information about Open Borders and OMHA pros to play here.
- e) Would like to have U16 showcase expenses submitted to get invoices to other centres please.

Paul Allan:

- a) You should have received a bid for TELUS Cup for 2026; if you are interested, please consider and connect with OHF.
- b) 2026 U18 AAA Regional Championship is being hosted by OMHA. Bid documents will be out in the spring; we have a lot of great programs and worthy centres who should consider hosting.
- c) Thank you everyone for hosting the events this season to date.
- d) Please be sure you are passing the information to centres/ teams etc. If you need assistance please reach out.
- e) Thank you everyone. This is our 2nd year with OMHA AAA in one league. We are continuing to develop and will continue to do so. Our showcases and harmonization of rules is pointing us in a great path.

Peter Harmsen

- a) Thank you for allowing me to join this evening. Would like to emphasize with the new OHF Open Broders, we want the organization to promote your programs. Provide your values, philosophies and seasonal structure along with your history to promote hockey. There is a large focus on tampering including parents trying to form a team and then find a coach. If it is a reasonable probability, the OHF says they will look at it. Don't make offers, commitments or suggestions. They are looking at not sanctioning tournaments for associations who tamper. Do not have your coaches promoting their team and players –

promote your product as an association.

b) Questions/ Comments:

- o Included in Member Business

8. OMHA East Convenor Report – Leo Nat

- a) pay attention to ONEDB and ensure suspensions are up to date and correct
- b) do not give cell number to any team members
- c) exhibition game – you cannot serve suspension in an exhibition game.

9. Member Business

- a. **Ajax-Pickering**; Apologize to all AAA Centres and OMHA for missing All Star events; We appreciate the time Kingston and YSE put into these events and apologize.
- b. **Barrie** - Nil
- c. **Central Ontario** - Nil
- d. **Kingston** - Nil
- e. **Markham** – Showcase: the word should elude something more than “Just an exhibition game” perhaps in future meetings we need to review this and ask how we are promoting and educating players/parents/coaches etc. Daryl has suggested that they are looking at options for education sessions next year.
- f. **North Central** – Trying to understand the Open Borders – please tell us why the OMHA voted in favour of this, when last year at the AGM it was voted down with a 65-70% majority. Peter: feels it did not go against its membership; the focus is no longer on the association – it provides a product and the parent chooses where they will go. Centre suggested OMHA was a group of members who voted in favour. Paul: the associations have been the focus for many years, and now the focus has changed to the player and families.
- g. **North Shore** Nil
- h. **Peterborough** Nil
- i. **Quinte** - U16 East Showcase Weekend Update: on schedule; looking for logos – OMHA East Daryl will send to Gary
- j. **Whitby** - Nil
- k. **York Simcoe** - Nil

10. New Business

- a) Kingston: in terms of tampering – reports from U10 and U11 teams of other organizations reaching out to players – who does the report go to? – Ian at OMHA who will forward on
- b) Tryout Question: Will players be required to preregister? This is TBD and the OHF simply stated someone is going to have a list of players. This is still being worked out. A player

can go to more than one center for tryouts at the same time.

11. Next Meeting Date – Tuesday February 11th, 7:30PM (VIA ZOOM)

12. Motion to Adjourn 8:20pm

Motion by: Cheryl Littlejohn NorthShore

2nd by: Don Linthwaite AJP