



Hockey West Island

Minutes from Annual General Meeting

Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 19:30

Centre nautique Baie-de-Valois

90 Chem. du Bord-du-Lac-Lakeshore,
Pointe-Claire, QC H9S 4H7

100 Attendance: Rick Ness, Mark Brown, Mike Vallée, Christine Latreille, Eric Paradis, Evangeline Soriano, Julie Chalifour, Sylvia Pedicelli, Julie Chalifour, Bethany Brassard, Paige Carlyle, Drena Walker, Eric Webber

200 Adoption and Approval of the Agenda

Motion to change the title of **504 President AHM-HWI** to **Vice-President Single Letters**

Proposed by: Rick Ness

Second by: Eric Webber

Unanimously adopted

300 Reading and Adoption of the Minutes from the 2022-2023 Annual General Meeting (May 11, 2023)

Proposed by: Eric Webber

Second by: Paige Carlyle

Motion to adopt the Minutes from the 2023 Annual General Meeting held on May 11, 2023 was
Unanimously adopted.

400 Reading and adoption of any changes to the by-laws of Hockey West Island Inc.

Proposed Modifications:

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE HWI CONSTITUTION/BY-LAWS

Article III: Goals of HWI Inc.

1. Change of age

III.2. To promote and administer hockey for youths between **four (4)** as of January 1st and **twenty-five (25)** years of age December 31, who live in the municipalities of Dorval and Pointe-Claire.

Article VII: Executive and Board of Directors

VII.4. The Board of Directors is composed of the members of the Executive of HWI Inc. plus the following people:

1. Remove the following positions:

- Director of Girls' Teams
- Goaler Equipment Manager

2. Add the following position:

- **Convenor, Senior**

VII.4. The Board of Directors is composed of the members of the Executive of HWI Inc. plus the following people:

1. Change the names of the Pre-Novice, Novice, Atom, Peewee, Bantam, and Midget divisions to as follows:

1. **Convenor, U7**
2. **Convenor, U9**
3. **Convenor, U11**
4. **Convenor, U13**
5. **Convenor, U15**
6. **Convenor, U18**

Proposed by: Eric Webber

Second by: Eric Paradis

Motion to adopt the proposed changes to the HWI by-laws was *Unanimously adopted*.

500 Reports of the 2020-2021 Season

501 Treasurer/Accountant

The 2023-2024 Financial Report was not completed in time by Martin and Cie.

Temporary financial report submitted by Evangeline Soriano.

Unanimously adopted to accept the temporary report in lieu of the official report that will be submitted by the accounting firm Martin & Cie by the end of May 2024.

502 Secretary – Mark Brown

I will be closing the year as Hockey West Island's Board Secretary. This included assisting Christine and Mike with certain administrative jobs including applying for funding from our generous municipal partners, and generally becoming acquainted with the world of hockey governance.

A task I picked up along the way was acting as HWI's complaints officer, as mandated by Hockey Québec, overseeing the new complaint portals. My impression from exploring the platform is that there remain deficiencies that need to be addressed in order to strengthen the system and provide a better service to players, families and officials. In the coming days, I plan on sending Hockey Québec and Hockey Lac St-Louis a brief review of the portals in this respect. I still believe from the perspective of accountability that it may still be best for complainants to address their concerns following a clearer chain of communication that is more easily documented and acted upon.

Beyond this, I was happy to have been a voice for our members and to assist with member requests throughout the year, and proud to be working alongside a great team of volunteers.

503 Vice President: Administration and Development - Christine Latreille

TEAMSNAPE

HWI again purchased the TeamSnap for Clubs and Leagues package which gave all of our teams a "free" team account. Due to HWI's growing numbers we updated to a larger plan that will allow us to have 1200 members. TeamSnap was also used for clinics, group chats for managers and coaches, pre-season evaluation groups, as well as a monthly newsletter to all of our members. HWI has renewed and paid its Teamsnap contract for the 2024-2025 season.

CLINICS

Goalie clinics started in mid-October and all took place at Bob Birnie over 20 weeks during the season. The price was increased this year to \$300 from \$250. This is still a very, very inexpensive clinic (\$15 per session) when we look at the prices at other associations and private schools, most of which average around \$45 per session.

Most, if not all of the goalie clinic fees were paid for from their team budgets. Even with the increase in price, HWI still lost money on the goalie clinics due to the needed high coach-to-player ratio. Should we open registration up to non-HWI goalies next season to try and recoup some costs? To discuss.

As usual, Wednesday and Tuesday evening player clinics were a huge success with three different groupings for a total of about 90 players. There was a fall session and a winter session. Despite a small increase in price from last year, these clinics remain incredibly inexpensive at ~\$17 per session.

Tuesdays at 4:30 for U9 & U11

Wednesdays at 5:30 for U9 & U11

Wednesdays at 5:30 for U13 & higher

SPECIAL CLINICS

We held a couple of last-minute Ped Day clinics; some specialized shooting, defence, forwards clinics; and more over the Holidays and after New Years. Not as popular as our weekly clinics but only because I think we set them up and advertised them too late in the season and parents had already made other plans or registered their kids in clinics at private hockey schools.

I had quite a lot of questions about Spring Break camps or clinics as well as Summer camps or clinics. To look at for 2025.

EXTRAS

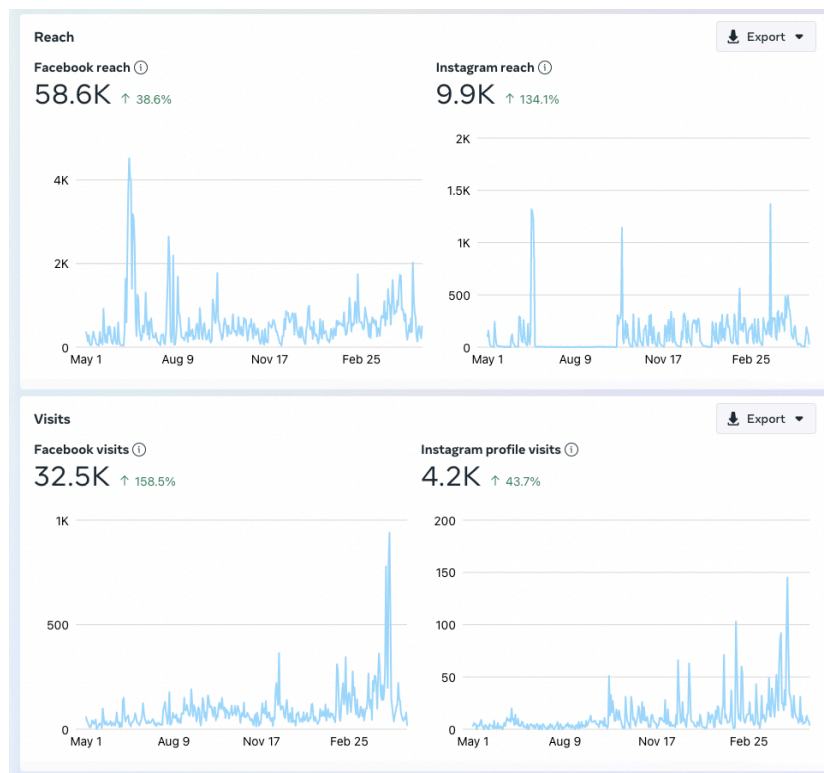
Some teams took advantage of Pointe-Claire's offer of the Ovide Chalet on Wednesday nights for off-ice training or used it for end-of-season or Christmas parties. Always well-appreciated and a great option for "extra" training for those who want it.

Pointe-Claire allowed us to use two outdoor rinks when the ice was ready. Teams signed up using a Google Sheet. Teams again needed to be reminded that all team activities need to be sent to Butch and added to their "official schedule" so that they are covered under Hockey Canada insurance. Unfortunately, Mother Nature wasn't on anyone's side this winter, but our teams were able to use the rinks for a couple of weeks and feedback was that the kids found it to be a fun and different kind of practice time (yay for hot chocolate!).

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Updates continue to be added to the website and I continue to try and make it user-friendly, informative, and full of useful info for first-time members. The Manager's Guide seemed to be popular with managers and coaches and had all of the seasons' rules, information, and forms in one spot.

Social Media has been active throughout the season and numbers keep climbing with lots of engagement.



OUTREACH AND RECRUITMENT

We currently have a promotional video in production with HWI parent and videographer Jason Bolanis. This will be used on our website and social media in hopes of attracting new players. The focus is on fun, inclusivity, and hockey for all - no matter your skill level, gender, or experience.

Last summer we had an info table and activity booth at both Canada Day and the Valois Fair in Pointe-Claire. While we were also supposed to attend St. Jean events at Dorval the weather did not cooperate and we were not able to find enough volunteers to man a table at both Dorval and Pointe Claire for Canada Day. We will try again this summer if the cities allow.

Before the end of school last year, Clearpoint, St John Fisher Senior and Junior schools all sent out our brochure and info to parents through their online newsletters or by email. While we also contacted Dorval's two elementary schools, and PC's three French elementary schools, none of them responded. Will try again this year with parent contacts. We would like to recruit more players from Dorval and a key way may be through summer pools, Dorval elementary schools, and Dorval summer sports associations such as soccer.

HWI COMMUNITY DAY

HWI collaborated with the Pointe-Claire Oldtimers and had a very successful day at the end of October, which saw many of our young HWI players helping out with food collection and sorting. A great success, an entire van was filled with donated food for the West Island Mission.

A few teams also held raffles and sold items to fundraise for their teams, and HWI had a successful sale of HWI merchandise.

Groups who came included Light-A-Dream and VOBOK.

FIRST SHIFT

This was our second year participating in the Bauer/Hockey Canada/NHL First Shift Program for 45 new-to-hockey players between the ages of 6-10. We thank Pointe-Claire for letting us use that third dressing room as there were a LOT of excited kids and their parents and it was crowded! We received many, many messages of praise about the program's organization, the coaches' attention, and what fun the kids had. It was a great introduction to the sport for the young kids, many who are new to Canada. We have already been approved to offer the program again in 2025. Registration will open on June 3 and will target friends of HWI families and the community. 1/3 of the spots will be set aside for female participants.

NAP TOURNAMENT

Thanks to the amazing efforts of our tournament director Karen Chan Kee-Nolan and with Mike Vallée, Butch Kennedy, and many amazing volunteers, the 27th HWI NAP tournament was a great success. And dare I say it, a BIT easier to plan and participate in this year, despite the repeated 13-hour days on site. This year we had 76 teams participate (up from 73 in 2023) and some came from up to two or three hours away. We had enthusiastic and involved sponsors, GREAT SUPPORT from our partner cities Pointe-Claire and Dorval, super help from arena staff, a popular raffle table and merch, games for kids to play in their down time, and an open canteen at Pointe-Claire. Approximately \$10,000 in raffle tickets and HWI merchandise were sold. During and after the tournament there was great feedback from teams, players, and parents, many of whom said they will return next year.

THANKS

Special thanks to Lyne and Raymi from Hockey Lac-St-Louis who are always willing to answer questions and give guidance, Mike for the almost daily phone calls, Butch for my generally last-minute requests (can we have ALL THE CLINICS!), Pointe-Claire and Dorval staff for their help during the season, all of our fantastic Convenors, and all our coaches, managers, and parent volunteers who give SO many hours for the kids.

504 OHM President - Eric Webber

We welcomed a new tech team this year. Feedback was positive, with clinics very popular and on-ice help welcomed by many teams. As well, "Coach the Coaches" classes were very positively received, and effective in bringing a common language and approach that will show results in coming years, provided we continue with them.

While evaluations and team balancing will need to be adapted with some of our lessons learned, we can say that our teams were very very closely matched.

All but one game on community day near the start of the season was close (two games went to 2 goal differences, but both were empty netters – the others were 1 goal games or ties).

There was one large blowout game in u11B that shows we need to address unbalanced teams more rapidly, especially as that team continued to struggle.

Excepting one level – the same U11B – All of our teams finished the regular season close to each other, with strong placement by all levels of U13 and by U15A. U11 struggled and may

benefit from additional support in the future

For our team that struggled the most to succeed, the U11B Knights, the coaches and parents asked for help, and it was given. HWI coaches and by the tech team went out with them a few times, and they succeeded in winning a game in the regular season. They are justifiably proud of their victory and we would like to congratulate them.

We would also like to congratulate the U15A Knights and the U13C Knights for finishing 1st in the regular season and representing us at Regionals. We would also like to congratulate the U11B Remparts who won their playoffs and also represented us at Regionals

Several of our teams got on the podium at tournaments, including the U13B Kings (Cougar Cup, 1st place), the U15A Kings (Cumberland Dukes, 2nd Place)

The U13B Knights were able to play at the Bell Centre in the Esso Hockey Festival, and were welcomed into the Canadiens' dressing room.

Numbers

Overall registrations are up by about 50 players between U7 and U18
22 Teams Between U11 and U18

- 546 Players U7-U18
- M7: 69 Total
- M9: 108 Total – 11 Teams N1-N4
- M11: 104 TOTAL, 91 SINGLE LETTER, 7 TEAMS
- M13: 99 Total, 81 SINGLE LETTER, 6 TEAMS
- M15: 79 Total, 71 SINGLE LETTER, 5 TEAMS
- M18: 87 Total , 64 SINGLE LETTER, 4 TEAMS

- We anticipate continued strong registrations in the younger categories, while also improving overall player retention
- Strong growth is expected, with massive U9 numbers impacting U11 next season. It is possible that there will be one U11 level with four teams next season

- HWI team names are changing for next year, with the new sequence being:
 - Kings
 - Knights
 - Monarchs
 - Dukes
 - Remparts

505 Vice-President Double Letters - Rick Ness

Thank you to all the people who made the season possible:

HWI executive, city and staff of Dorval and Pointe-Claire, our volunteer coaches and managers. A new thank you this year to the executives of Pierrefonds and DDO who worked tirelessly to make the Grizzlies alliance a success.

As was announced last year we proceeded with the formation of the alliance with Pierrefonds

and DDO. All three associations had recognized that the exodus of double-leather players to school hockey over the years has rendered Lac St Louis double-letter teams uncompetitive when playing outside of our region in tournaments and the Chevy Cup. This theory was proven as the Grizzlies teams were dominant at most levels in Lac St Louis and were competitive but far from dominant outside the region.

The Grizzlies finished first in the regular season in U18AA, U18BB, U15AA, U15BB and U13BB. We won the regional playoffs in: U11AA, M15BB, M15AA and M15BB. We won the Chevy Cup in U11AA.

Despite the tight timeline to form the alliance, the experience is considered a success and each association is pleased to continue the alliance going forward.

The VP double letters is also responsible for Junior (U21) and Senior (U25). Both divisions had successful seasons. This is due almost entirely to the tireless efforts of our convener [Silvia Pedicelli] for both JR and SR.

The Junior A Rois finished 5th of 16 and were eliminated in the semi-finals in the playoffs. The JR A Royals finished 7th of 16 and were eliminated in the quarter-finals.

The Junior B Royals finished first of 19 teams and the JR B Rois finished 13th of 19 teams. With the Junior B Royals finishing the playoffs as regional finalists.

The Senior Royals were the regional finalists in our first season as seniors in many years.

Of note, we had Junior A and Junior B attend tournaments this season. This restarted with the JR B Royals last season and has not been the norm for many years. A very positive sign for our JR program. I would like to thank our convenor all of the coaches, assistant coaches and managers. We are blessed with some wonderful volunteers.

This has been my final season as VP double letters. I would like to thank all of the people who have helped me and the association over the years. It has been a truly rewarding experience.

506 – Past President –
Vacant

507 – President - Mike Vallée

Hello everyone, 2023-24 is in the books!

Thank you to everyone who made it all possible. The Executive and board members, Coaches, managers, Refs, timekeepers, Volunteers, Our city partners, sponsors, Regional support, parents and most of allOUR PLAYERS

1. Community

HWI looks to continue to find ways / continue to be part of the great community.

Some of our community initiatives to make hockey for everyone include: Autumn Food Drive, HWI Community Day, Fundraising for Partage Action, Fuller Cup, Volunteer Parties, First Shift NHL/Bauer Program for new-to-hockey players.....

We are more than games and practices. We are more than hockey.

2. Support of our Refs and timekeepers.

HWI WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AND LOOK TO IMPROVE OUR ZEBRA CREW.

HWI will look at LSL rate recommendations.

2025-26 will see a mandated pay rate set across the board.

We need to be competitive here...no choice.

Timekeepers; make sure they are well-trained and supported.

Same Re: Pay

3. New Jerseys

Jerseys are holding up well.

Should HWI allow namebars on the jerseys for the upcoming season?

Mike is looking to create an alternate set for our PW / U13. Budget approval will be needed. It's a cool idea and would create interest and excitement for players.

4. New Technical Team

The first year was great.

Feedback was tremendous!

We will work with Marc-André and the tech team to make improvements.

****More autonomy for evaluations. (NO COACHES / CONVENORS IN THEIR EARS!!)**

There are too many cases of coaches / parents trying to mess with our process: ie: coaches trying to be assistants on a team just to move their child up a level...coaches looking to circumvent proper protocol to get a player moved up.....

5. NEW DL / GRIZZLIES

Overall big success. (DL VP Rick will cover this in detail)

6. Westlake becoming autonomous

This year everything worked fairly well.

We will continue to work with Westlake to support girls from Dorval and Pointe-Claire who wish to play girls-only hockey.

Ice allocation is ongoing with Butch mentioning frustration as Westlake rarely wanted our discounted ice, and preferred to buy more expensive ice at NTR...?

7. NEW ROLE: DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS!

Welcome Christine to the new role!

This will help HWI get even better...

8. FULLER CUP

New name this year to honour Dave Fuller, longtime community volunteer and one of the tournament creators 27 years ago.

Maybe some new changes to the format? U9 only? We have some decisions to make.

Creation of a 3-person "Committee" to replace 1-person Tournament Director.

2024 Edition was a HUGE success with \$35,000 raised after expenses.

2025 Edition will see the creation of a proper "Tournament Committee" The three main organizers (Karen, Christine, Mike) are back for their fourth year! (2025 will be year 28 of

the event).

Small items:

- We will be adding a new Wall of Fame photo at Bob-Birnie Arena: Marc-Edouard Vlasik (four seasons with HWI, now with NHL - San Jose Sharks)
- Montreal Canadiens and HWI Hall of Famer MIKE MATHESON: Possibility of Warrior equipment for financially challenged families??
- Pinnies: Great Success...looking at Getting 2nd Pinnie Per Player.
- Storage: HWI office, Jersey room, Dorval cages all being used, have swapped 2 cages for 2 lockers with Dorval Oldtimers
- Recruitment: Ideas are being discussed on how to reach families new to West Island / hockey. (New promo video is in production. Cost of \$500)
- Volunteer party: 2nd year back was a success as most reported having fun while not being arrested.
- Support of goalies to continue: Season-long Clinics, equipment for U7-U9 + FREE REGISTRATION for goalies in U11-Senior?
- Registration online, but 1 payment day / BBQ Opening season party to take place during registration period. (Early bird to be reduced in length, in person payment will be limited to ONE DAY - BBQ)....Other sports do it this way...chasing payment for weeks / months is nonsense. WE NEED THIS TO HAPPEN FOR 2024-25 **WE DID NOT GET THIS DONE IN 23-24 (Would like to hold this at Edgar-Rouleau)
- Thank you to RICK, SILVIA, VANGIE AND TRACY FOR THEIR HARD WORK AS THEY WILL BE STEPPING AWAY FROM THEIR PAST ROLES
- New initiatives: U7 Jamboree hosted by M.A. / Concordia - To benefit HWI
- New Initiatives: Concordia exhibition game @ Edgar Rouleau(??) to benefit HWI + Concordia (Marc-André Élement to lead on this as well)
- New foam rink dividers work well!
- "Oh shit I forgot my stuff" locker and equipment getting used...more stuff needed?? Will create a similar locker at Edgar-Rouleau for 2024-2025. Christine has already purchased (some) spare equipment.
- New Single Letter team name list (in order): KINGS, KNIGHTS, MONARCHS, DUKES, REMPARTS.
- Personal items I took part in: Joined referees as a certified ref, Took part in "First Shift Program" for new-to-hockey players, and helped with the LSL Dragons game for players with special needs.
- EQUIPMENT / STORAGE at Bob-Birnie: LEAK FIXED, SHELVES REQUESTED, SOCKS: NO 20"
- LSL GALA: HWI coach ANDREW MILLER is being awarded CHL Coach of the Year, prior HWI President ANDY BROOKMAN being inducted into LSL HALL OF FAME!
- Need to fill empty Board of Directors spots.

* Moved GIC to Scotia (From RBC) Mature Date: Dec 2024 \$150,000 @ 5.5%

* Financially in good health (see report to come)

600 Election of the Executive Committee

601 Vice President: Administration and Development

One nomination

Christine Latreille acclaimed as VP-Admin and Development

602 Vice President - Double Letters

One nomination

Mark Brown elected as VP-Double Letters

603 Treasurer

There were no nominations - ROLE REMAINS VACANT

The Executive of Hockey West Island for 2023-2024:

President: Mike Vallée

Secretary: Rick Ness

Treasurer: *VACANT*

Vice-President Double Letters: Mark Brown

Vice-President Single Letters: Eric Webber

Vice-President Administration and Development: Christine Latreille

Past President: *VACANT*

700 Questions and Comments:

Still looking for Convenors at levels U7, U11, Junior

Eric Paradis: Is there an upcoming CHL meeting to talk about the prior year?

Eric Webber: Not that he knows of.

Discussion about the scoresheets.ca program and that HQ might make the Spordle equivalent mandatory. Some frustrations with the new program. Coaches very unhappy with the late instructions on how to use it, managers confused. Referees often don't get to see the actual (electronic) scoresheet to even be able to count the number of players on the ice. Some arenas don't have wifi so are still using paper.

800 Adjournment:

Proposed by: Mike Vallée

Second by: Eric Webber

Motion to adjourn the Annual General Meeting passed.

Unanimously adopted

Minutes submitted by Christine Latreille