



Markham Minor Hockey Association

Markham Waxers Hockey Club

Annual Report

**Annual General Meeting
July 3, 2014**



2012-2013 Season Annual Report



President’s Address 4

 2013-14 Season Highlights 4

 Board of Directors 2013-2014 5

 Markham Minor Hockey Association..... 5

 Markham Waxers AAA Zone Inc. 5

Treasurer’s Report..... 5

House League Report 6

 Registration Summary..... 6

 Volunteers 7

 Highlights of the Year..... 7

VP/GM AA/A/AE Report..... 9

 Coaches of the Year..... 9

 Markham Resident Players 9

VP/GM AAA Zone Report 10

 A Season Synopsis 10

 Issues/ Ongoing Matters/ Work in Progress..... 10

Special Events Report 11

 Players’ Banquet 11

 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 12

Hockey Development Report..... 12

 Highlights of the 2013/2014 Season 13

 Coach Mentorship Program..... 13

 Coach Seminars..... 13

 Coach Mentors..... 13

 Player Development Program..... 14

 Plans for 2014-2015 14

 2014-2015 Coach Mentor Team 14

 2014-2015 Player Development Team 14

 Long-Term Hockey Development Program Goals..... 14



2012-2013 Season Annual Report



Referee Report	15
Referee Highlights	15
Referee Development	15
Timekeeper Scheduler's Report	15
Ice Scheduler's Report	16
2013-2014 Playoff Format	16
2013-2014 Season Ice Recap	16
Head Trainer Report	17
Planned Activities for the 2014-2015 Season	17



President's Address

Submitted by George Schnarr

Welcome to the 2014 MMHA and the Markham Waxers Hockey Club AGM.

I begin as always with a heartfelt thank you to our volunteer group who dedicate their time and effort towards running this organization for the benefit of our membership. We have a cohesive and interested group who continue to do their best for our hockey community!

2013-14 Season Highlights

We continued our traditions of celebrating the players and recognizing their efforts through our annual MMHA House League banquet and the Waxers Rep banquet. For the first time we held a Rostered select banquet as the number of teams participating in this format continues to grow. The fourth annual MMHA Celebrates Hockey festival was held at the community centre in Cornell and again was successful at offering the used equipment sale and swap.

We were very fortunate to host the Central Region OHF Midget AAA championship put on by our own Waxers Midget AAA team who collectively did an amazing job which was appreciated by all participants.

Our Waxers rep teams enjoyed a high level of success this year with many teams achieving greater levels of success than in recent times.

The Saturday clinics for House League and Rep players continued to be popular for those players looking to advance their skills during the season. New this year were the pre-tryout clinics for both players and goalies, which sold out quickly.

The coach mentorship program continued to provide support for both first year coaches as well as those with previous experience but looking to learn how to improve their skill set.

We added a new volunteer position – Head Trainer, which was shared between Brian Sneek and Andrea Winarski. This position was created in part due to the interest in advancing both the awareness of AND returns to play protocol for concussions. Based on recommendations from the head trainers, the board voted to make baseline testing mandatory every year for all Waxers players. Thank you to Brian and Andrea for your efforts this year.

The board also voted to end our “joint venture” with the UMHA for the Midget and Juvenile HL programs. We will be running both these programs on our own with some exciting new features being added.

**Board of Directors 2013-2014****Markham Minor Hockey Association**

Position	Term	Current Occupant	Elected (E) / Appointed (A)	Term Expires
Past President	Immediate	Neil Bullock	N/A	N/A
President	One two-year term	George Schnarr	6/27/2013 (E)	2015
Vice President General Manager of House League	One two-year term	Darren Mori	6/27/2012 (E)	2014
Vice President General Manager of AA/A/AE Rep Program	One two-year term	Mike Matthews	6/27/2012 (E)	2014
Secretary / Treasurer	One two-year term	Gary Ashford	6/27/2013 (E)	2015

Markham Waxers AAA Zone Inc.

Position	Term	Current Occupant	Elected (E) / Appointed (A)	Term Expires
Past President	Immediate	Neil Bullock	N/A	N/A
President	One two-year term	George Schnarr	6/27/2012 (E)	2014
Vice President	One two-year term	Stephen Gaunce	6/27/2013 (E)	2015
Secretary / Treasurer	One two-year term	Gary Ashford	6/27/2013 (E)	2015

Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Gary Ashford

We have once again engaged the services of Lott & Company Chartered Accountants to provide financial statements for the organization.

As of March 31, 2014 the MMHA House League account held \$144,015.97 in cash. The year end fund balance is \$203,057, a decrease of \$38,835 from \$241,892 the previous year.

Revenues increased year over year, primarily due to the expanded rostered select program and increased sponsorship. Expenses increased—the primary contributors are increased ice costs, additional ice for the rostered select program, and on-ice hockey development instructor fees.

As of March 31, 2013, the Markham Waxers Rep account is holding \$238,398 in cash. The year end fund balance is \$225,890 down \$542 from \$226,432 the previous year.

Revenue increased year over year due to the increase in assessment fees to teams. Registration fees decreased as we had fewer registered players in 2014 than 2013. Clinic revenue decreased. Ice rental costs decreased slightly as we had one less team. Tryout costs



increased but were offset by tryout revenue. We paid the administrator, ice scheduler, chief referee, and timekeeper scheduler fees of \$29,000 which are included in administration.

House League Report

Submitted by Darren Mori

Through our team of remarkable volunteers, the Markham Minor Hockey Association had a very successful 2013-2014 season.

Registration Summary

Division	Teams	Players	Volunteers
Mite	8	117	46
Tyke	4	71	15
Novice	6	62	20
Atom	6	93	26
M. Peewee	4	50	15
Peewee	4	51	15
Bantam	6	98	20
Total	38	542	157

The Midget and Juvenile divisions were run jointly with the Unionville Minor Hockey Association. We share costs and support to run the divisions by a committee made up of volunteers from both associations. The 2013-2014 committee members: Deb Larsen and Darren Mori from MMHA and Marzia Del Bianco, Lisa McConnell, and Karie McDougall from UMHA.

Division	Teams	MMHA Players	UMHA Players	Total Players
Midget	10	44	103	147
Juvenile	6	41	58	99
Total	16	85	161	246



Volunteers

The countless hours our volunteers contribute annually are what allow the MMHA to offer the programs that we do.

Thank you to Steve Creaser who served as our Equipment Manager this year.

A special thanks to our wonderful group of conveners. We are very fortunate to have such a vibrant and dedicated group. They work countless hours both at the rink and behind the scenes to ensure that our children have a positive hockey experience.

Mite	Joanna Potts and Melanie Vavoulas
Tyke	Ann Marie Lovatsis
Novice	Alisa Saranchuk
Atom	Jennifer Siemens
Pee wee	Sandra Benedetto and Anna Tsiampouris
Bantam	Doug Smith
Midget	Karie McDougall
Juvenile	Norine Graham-Robinson

Thank you to the men and women who volunteered as coaches, trainers, and on-ice volunteers. We are very fortunate to have so many dedicated people take on these very important roles. Your dedication and devotion to creating a fun and safe environment for our children is appreciated.

Highlights of the Year

- 100% of our teams from Mite through Bantam were run by fully certified coaches and trainers. MMHA is the only minor hockey association in the City of Markham to provide a certified trainer on every bench.
- MMHA ran a ten-week session of player development clinics—from October through January - at a cost of \$95 per session. We accommodated over 50 house league players.
- MMHA hosted a Volunteer and Sponsor Appreciation Night where we honoured Ryan Krkachovski as Volunteer of the Year.
- We recognize our Long-Standing Coaches and Trainers. This we recognized Gary Bando, Paul DeGray, Alan Pang, and Alan Thompson as Long Standing Head Coaches. We also recognized our first Long Standing Trainer: Joe Bazzano.



MMHA Celebrates Hockey!

In August we held our fourth annual equipment swap benefitting our *Yes, You Can Play!* program. The swap provides an opportunity for families to purchase gently-used equipment at reduced prices and in time for the upcoming season. We were able to outfit many families with full equipment under \$70.

Floorball

In the spring of 2013, we moved our spring floorball league to the beautiful, new Cornell Community Centre. The ten-week league was played on hardwood in the new triple gym. One hundred twenty six registered players played on 10 teams: 4 Novice/Atom teams, 4 Pee wee teams, and 2 Bantam/Midget teams.

Tony Roman Memorial Hockey Celebration

MMHA hosted the annual Tony Roman Memorial Hockey Celebration in its new format. On Saturday, MMHA players enjoyed a skills competition similar to those held at the NHL All Star game. On Sunday players were provided an “NHL game experience” in which players were introduced before the game, *O Canada* was sung, and music and commentary were provided throughout the game.

Rostered Select Program

Three years ago our rostered select program had only three teams. Last year we iced nine teams. The Minor Bantam team won gold at the Oshawa Rostered Select Tournament in January and the Bantam team won gold at the Ajax Christmas Tournament.

Rostered Select Team	Head Coach
Initiation (formerly Tyke C)	Kevin Sally
Tyke (formerly Tyke B)	Mark Sumi
Novice	Dave Spence
Atom	Ryan Krkachovski
Minor Pee wee	Michael Coombs
Pee wee	George Mombourquette
Minor Bantam	Alan Thompson
Bantam	Doug Smith
Midget	Gary Miura



VP/GM AA/A/AE Report

Submitted by Mike Matthews

During the 2013-2014 season 22 of a possible 27 teams were iced. We continue to face challenges in the 1996/97 (Midget) and 1998 (Minor Midget) age groups where only AA teams were iced. In the 1999 and younger age groups we have been successful in icing full AA/A/AE programs, except in the 2000 age group (Minor Bantam), which did not have an AE team. We continue to see a drop off in rep hockey starting in the Minor Bantam years as players enter high school and find it challenging to balance the commitment of rep sports with school and part time work. In addition, more players are choosing the non-contact and lesser commitment requirement option of playing in the Rostered Select program.

This was our most successful season in the OMHA Playdowns in recent years. The Minor Atom AA and Bantam AA teams reached the OMHA semi-finals, while the Atom AA and Novice AE teams were OMHA Finalists. The Minor Bantam A and Minor Pee wee AA were York-Simcoe Finalists.

Special thanks to the conveners for all their help and support during the season;

Debbie Williams

Jeannie Daniels

Allison Thompson

Pat O'Callaghan

Coaches of the Year

Coaches of the year were announced at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in May. The recipients were:

AA Adam Lamarre, Bantam AA

A Bill Toleck, Minor Bantam A

AE Brad McKee, Novice AE

Markham Resident Players

We continue to reinforce the importance of building teams with Markham-based residents. This is in keeping with the OMHA Hometown Hockey philosophy and also impacts ice allocation from the City of Markham, which is based upon registered Markham-resident players. In the 2013-2014 season, greater than 98% of registered players at AA/A/AE were Markham residents.



VP/GM AAA Zone Report

Submitted by Stephen Gaunce

Our AAA Zone is proud to use the name Waxers and to be considered a part of the “family” but just a reminder that our home boundaries are different than those of the AA/A/AE and House League organization. We are recognized and treated as a separate organization in the eyes of the OMHA and OHF.

We believe that we had another successful season for no other reason than we were able to provide a welcoming place for players to play hockey and for them to acquire more knowledge on working in a team environment.

A Season Synopsis

- 9 AAA teams from Novice through Midget
- 156 players registered to the teams
- 54 Coaching staff members registered
- Approximately 650 games played between exhibition, league, tournaments and playoffs
- The 9 teams combined for a 146-116-36 league record
- Our Major Midget team hosted the week long Ontario Central Region Telus Cup Championships. Thanks to the parent group for a very well-run event. Markham Centennial Arena had over 1,000 people in attendance for one of the round robin games!! The team played well but lost out in the semi-final.
- Our Major Midget team made it to the OMHA Championship weekend and won the Bronze medal.
- Our Minor Bantam and Novice teams won their respective ETA Playoff Championships while our Major Atom team were ETA finalists
- Our Major Pee wee team won the Gold medal at OMHA Championship / won the North American Silver Stick Championship and the Silver medal at the All-Ontario Championships
- Ilir Mehmeti, Head Coach of our Minor Bantam team, was our AAA Coach of the Year.
- We had three players selected from our Minor Midget team in the recent OHL Draft.

Issues/ Ongoing Matters/ Work in Progress

- Striving to keep more Markham/Stouffville residents playing AAA hockey in our organization



- Working with Coaches to improve/promote communication levels with players and families; Coach surveys completed by parents show we are improving some but still work to be done.
- The new 2-year, OHF-mandated pilot project of Freedom of Movement at the Midget AAA level has just finished year one and will continue.
- Respect in Sport – OMHA has now made it mandatory for all at least one parent of all players to take the on-line course
- Player and Coach Development; the Mentor system and clinics are helping
- A new High Performance – HP1 program is mandatory for all Head Coaches in Minor Bantam and above beginning in 2015-2016 season
- Being a member of the LOR (Lake Ontario Region) and dealing with the ever changing rules/system
- The costs of Minor Hockey for all members- an annual ongoing issue that must be considered in all decision making

Special Events Report

Submitted by Deb Larsen

Players' Banquet

On Wednesday, April 2, 2014, at the Crystal Fountain Banquet Hall, all Markham Waxers Players, Coaches, Trainers, Staff, Convenors, and Volunteers were invited to attend the fifth Annual Markham Waxers Players' Banquet. All invited guests were treated to the night by the Markham Waxers Hockey Club. The evening showcased the hard work and dedication of all Markham Waxers teams throughout the 2013-2014 season.

The evening began at 6:00 pm. Our theme for the night was The Kids Want to Rock. It was a night of music. Everyone arrived and enjoyed some time to socialize, and the kids enjoyed listening to the School of Rock perform and mix songs.

Dinner began at 7:00 pm. Sam Cosentino, Commentator from Rogers SportsNet, served as emcee, and welcomed everyone to the Banquet.

The evening's festivities included a welcome video highlighting our teams and their seasons; a photo slideshow with photos from every team; The Neil Bullock Scholarship Award—presented to Patrick Long; team award presentations for the Most Improved Player and Character Awards; player loyalty recognition for players who have been



Markham Waxers for five or more years; player loyalty recognition for players who are in their Midget year and have been a Markham Waxers for eight years or more; Long-loyalty Coaches who have been Head Coaches for five or more years; and Referee and Timekeeper recognition.

Thirty-one Markham Waxers teams attended. Approximately 726 players, coaches, staff, and volunteers attended.

A very special thank you to the Banquet Committee, who worked tirelessly to put this successful evening together: Sasha Braganza, Linda Ferrari, Maria Giorgio, Deb Larsen, Lari Nakamichi, Dale O'Callaghan, George Schnarr, Laurie Schnarr, and Sandy Smith. In addition, JC Le Pichouron kindly volunteered his photographic services to capture many memories of the night.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

The Markham Waxers Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 at the Markham Vet's Hall. Up to five staff members per team were invited to attend the event as guests of the Waxers. Additional tickets could be purchased for \$20 each. Guests were treated to a buffet dinner, catered by Carr & Company, plus refreshments and door prizes.

Coach of the Year awards were presented in each division. The winners this year are as follows:

- AAA – Ilir Mehmeti (Minor Bantam AAA)
- AA – Adam Lamarre (Bantam AA)
- A – Bill Toleck (Minor Bantam A)
- AE – Brad McKee (Novice AE)

Approximately 125 guests attended the dinner and the caterer is sure he served about 150 plates of food again this year!

Instead of a guest speaker for the evening, we again booked a big screen TV so everyone could watch the NHL playoffs.

Hockey Development Report

Submitted by Michael Gouglas

The Hockey Development Program (HDP) operates and encompasses the Coach Mentorship Program and the Player Development Program. The mission of the HDP is to provide the



support and resources necessary to aid in the successful development and continued learning of all of our coaches and players as members of the Markham Minor Hockey Association. The HDP runs under the direction of the HDP director, Michael Gouglas, appointed by the Markham Waxers Executive. The director oversees all aspects related to the program and communicates these operations to the Executive. The HDP consists of Coach Mentors, Instructors, and Volunteers.

The HDP works in partnership with the Ontario Minor Hockey Association and Hockey Canada. Whenever possible, the HDP uses resources and programs available through these governing bodies and executes them at the local level.

Highlights of the 2013/2014 Season

- Over 200 Players registered for both the player and goaltending clinics.
- 38 Goalies registered for McGuire's goaltending training.
- Feedback on the coaching seminars, coach mentorship program, and skill development programs was very positive again.

Coach Mentorship Program

Coach Seminars

The Hockey Development program presented four Coach Seminars.

- In October, Ted Brown (University of Western Ontario), Terry Brown (Trenton), Paul Legault and Jeff Flanagan presented a seminar for all of our HL and REP coaches. This included an on-ice and off-ice session and lasted an entire morning. It was well attended and each coach received a drill package to take home.
- In September Dave Smith spoke to our Rep and HL coaches.

Coach Mentors

All coaches within Markham Waxers hockey had access to a designated Coach Mentor who was able to provide the skills, knowledge, and support required to help them improve their coaching performance. The goal of the Coach Mentorship Program is to strengthen our coaching body and foster an improved level of camaraderie between all the coaches within the Waxers organization.

2013-2014 Coach Mentors

- Paul Titanic
- Dan Daoust
- Kim Rasmussen
- Phil Kestin
- Rob Binetti



Player Development Program

The Player Development Program continues to expand. This year we successfully combined both the REP and HL skill clinics to take advantage of our talented team of on-ice instructors. Moving forward this program will continue to get better and be able to provide out players and parents an opportunity for additional skill instruction unmatched by many other associations.

Plans for 2014-2015

- The hockey development program will expand by offering our own in-house goaltending clinic.
- Clinics will look to move to Stouffville on Sunday morning for the upcoming season.
- The hockey development program will work closely with Hockey Canada in preparation for new programs and accreditations being rolled out in the near future.
- Coach Seminars will be scheduled throughout the season.

2014-2015 Coach Mentor Team

- Dan Daoust
- Phil Kestin
- Rob Binetti
- Ted Baker
- Kim Rassmussen

2014-2015 Player Development Team

- Paul Giallonardo
- Scott Badali
- Michael Gouglas
- Darren Mori

Long-Term Hockey Development Program Goals

- Continue to recruit high-calibre individuals who are committed to contributing to the success of minor hockey in Markham.
- Realize the impact the program has had in our younger age groups (2000, 2001 and 2002).
- Realize better player and coach retention throughout the association.
- Continue to promote Markham Waxers hockey as one of the premier destinations for young, talented players and coaches.



Referee Report

Submitted by Jerry Brens

Referee Highlights

- During the 2013-2014 Markham supplied Officials for 1,460 games.
- There were 509 House Leagues games with teams from Tyke to Juvenile.
- At the Rep and Select levels, our officials worked in 860 games. This includes exhibition, regular season, and playoff games.
- During the playoffs 53 of our home games were covered by "Out of Town" officials. Markham officials covered 81 games at other centres during playoffs.
- Markham also supplied officials for 126 Tournament games.

Referee Development

- The 2013/2014 season saw the implementation of a four official system for all Minor Midget AAA and Midget AAA games.
- Markham and Stouffville Minor Hockey hosted an OMHA entry level referee clinic in October 2013. There were 30 new officials invited to attend. From this clinic Markham received five young officials and two adults. They all worked in our House League division.
- We will be hosting another entry level clinic this fall for new officials.

Timekeeper Scheduler's Report

Submitted by Debbie Williams

During the 2013-14 hockey season, timekeepers were provided for over 1,200 games ranging from exhibition, tournament, and regular season games to playoffs. Teams covered included house league (Peewee to Juvenile), Select, and Rep. Timekeepers were also provided for the Midget AAA Telus Cup and the Minor Peewee AA Tournament.

This season's roster was comprised of over 30 timekeepers. A mandatory OMHA classroom clinic was hosted by MMHA at the beginning of the season to ensure that all new timekeepers were adequately prepared. Live game training was also arranged following classroom instruction.



We expect to lose a few experienced timekeepers to university, they will be replaced prior to the beginning of next season. Timekeepers must be a minimum of 14 years old, or entering grade nine, and must show a strong work ethic.

Ice Scheduler's Report

Submitted by Joe Quercia

During the 2013-2014 Hockey season, the Waxers and MMHA used a total of 154 hours of ice per week for the following:

- MMHA house league practices and games
- Waxers practices and games
- Development clinics

Additional ice at CanLan was provided as ice allocation to teams. Stouffville provided Saturday evening ice for Waxers AAA home games.

The team ice allocation was balanced to address all team requests prior to the season starting and allow AP players to be called up. During the year there was available ice to teams for extra practice or loss of practice due to playoffs.

Tryout schedule booked for 2013-2014 season was a success, as was the use of Stouffville Ice and Angus Glen during the tryouts.

2013-2014 Playoff Format

This was our second year with the new York Simcoe / OMHA Rep playoff format and favourable feedback was received by all associations. We will continue with new format and season extension in the 2014-2015 season.

In the upcoming 2014-2015 season there will be meetings held with ice schedulers and associations to review and possibly make adjustments to the playoff format if required.

Thank you to all the teams for another great season and looking forward in assisting all the coaches, managers and new staff members next season.

2013-2014 Season Ice Recap

- 1100+ practices
- 530+ regular season games



- 180+ playoff games
- 140+ player development clinics
- 150+ playoff contracts were scheduled

Head Trainer Report

Submitted by Andrea Winarski

The Waxers organization strongly suggested that all teams have their athletes baseline tested. In support of this request, the organization sent out an educational newsletter covering off the topics of concussion, baseline testing, and returns to play protocol. The organization also posted a short concussion education video on the home page of each team's website.

Approximately, 2/3 of teams baseline tested their athletes. These teams received a \$100.00 pizza gift card and were asked to show the HC/Parachute concussion educational film to their teams.

The feedback from the teams that participated in the program was very good. Parents commented that they were able to make more informed decisions regarding return to play after injury.

For the upcoming 2014-2015 season, the Waxers organization has made participation in the Konkussion program mandatory for all rep athletes.

In March, the Waxers organization participated in the York-Simcoe Minor Hockey Association safety survey. These results were presented the YSMHA meeting in April.

Planned Activities for the 2014-2015 Season

- Rollout of the all-inclusive concussion management program called Konkussion, provided through a local doctor and hockey parent Dr. Mike Poschar.
- Creating a home and away House League series with Stouffville Minor Hockey
- Feasibility study into running a year-end Waxers tournament
- We will be presenting a motion at the OMHA AGM in June to allow Minor Midget and Midget AAA teams the opportunity to use an extra five minutes of game time that otherwise usually goes unused.



-
- Continued talks with the OMHA and our local Regional Executive Member regarding adding to the number of Referee evaluations as well as the compensation provided to do such evaluations. We will also be considering paying for additional evaluations using our own funds if need be.