



2017-2018 Annual Report

June 26, 2018

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President's Address

Submitted by George Schnarr

Welcome to the 2018 Markham Minor Hockey Association and 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!

2017-2018 Season Highlights

- Congratulations to all the players, coaches and bench staff on their respective seasons. While the number of championship teams was down from previous years, we were able to ice three more teams than last year.
- Our parent and player surveys continued to show positive feedback and participation has remained steady.
- We continued our tradition of celebrating the players and recognizing their efforts through our annual Waxers banquet and our Markham Waxers House League Championship Weekend. The coach mentorship program continues to provide support for both first year coaches as well as those with previous experience looking to improve their skill set.
- The Saturday clinics for house league and rep players continued to be popular for those players looking to advance their skills during the season. The pre-tryout clinics for both players and goalies were another great success and we will continue to look for ways to add to this kind of programming.
- After much discussion and research at the board level along with the fine efforts of Barb Matthews (Head Trainer), the board voted unanimously to switch providers of our concussion management program to Holland Bloorview from Konkussion starting with the 2018-19 season.
- Our Waxers Select teams participated successfully in the North York Hockey League. Due to a decision by the GTHL, our teams can no longer participate and will return to the YSMHL select programming for the 2018-2019 hockey season.

Board of Directors 2017-2018

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	6/13/2017 (E)	2019
Vice President General Manager of House League	One two-year term	Darren Mori	6/21/2016 (E)	2018
Vice President General Manager of AA/A/AE Rep Program	One two-year term	Mike Matthews	6/21/2016 (E)	2018
Secretary / Treasurer	One two-year term	Gary Ashford	6/13/2017 (E)	2019

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	6/21/2016 (E)	2018
Vice President	One two-year term	Stephen Gaunce	6/13/2017 (E)	2019
Secretary / Treasurer	One two-year term	Gary Ashford	6/13/2017 (E)	2019

Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Gary Ashford

Many thanks go to Deb Larsen, our administrator, for her diligent work keeping our books in excellent shape. We have once again engaged the services of Lott & Company Chartered Accountants to provide financial statements for the organization.

Markham Waxers House League

	2017-2018	2016-2017
Income	\$526,374	\$530,048
Expense	\$555,235	\$505,126
	<u>(\$28,861)</u>	<u>\$24,922</u>

As of March 31, 2018, the Markham Waxers House League cash reserves were \$118,303 with current assets of \$151,768, a decrease of \$20,118 over the previous year.

We suffered a slight drop in revenue this year (\$3,674) in comparison to the 2016-2017 season. The decrease in revenue is due primarily to a decrease in ice sales to select teams, and an increase in registration refunds. There was a slight drop in sponsorship fees and we did not hold a certification clinic.

Expenses increased \$50,109 over the 2016-2017 season.

- Ice rental costs increased \$3,705.
- Insurances and Association fees were up due to assessment fees paid to the NYHL (\$16,600) and a reconciliation with Unionville Minor Hockey Association for Midget/Juvenile house league fees (ice, referee, and timekeeper) paid by UMHA (\$7,980) during the 2016-2017 season.
- Banquets, trophies, and photos increased this year as the total contains two years of food expense (\$3,476) and the purchase of championship hats (\$1,220) for the players on the championship team in each division from Tyke through Bantam.
- Advertising and Events expense increased due to the purchase of an upgraded gift for volunteers (sweatshirts) over last year's t-shirts.

Markham Waxers Rep

	2017-2018	2016-2017
Income	\$1,478,373	\$1,419,395
Expense	\$1,400,853	\$1,398,939
	<u>\$77,520</u>	<u>\$20,456</u>

As of March 31, 2018, the Markham Waxers fund balance is \$398,384 an increase of \$77,520 from the previous year.

Revenue increased \$58,978 year over year. Team registrations and Assessments both increased as we iced more teams this past season.

Expenses remained flat with only a slight increase of \$1,914 over the 2016-2017 season.

We paid the administrator, ice scheduler, chief referee, and timekeeper scheduler fees of \$31,928, which are included in Administrators Fees.

As an added note here, because of this surplus we will not be increasing assessment fees for the upcoming season despite the large increase in ice costs.

House League Report

Submitted by Darren Mori

Due to the dedication of a team of remarkable volunteers, the Markham Waxers House League (MWHL) had a very successful 2017-2018 season.

Registration Summary

Division	Teams	Players	Volunteers
Initiation	10	144	37
Tyke	6	83	26

Division	Teams	Players	Volunteers
Novice	4	61	12
Atom	8	122	32
Peewee	8	97	25
Bantam	4	63	13
Midget/Juvenile	6	100	18
Total	46	670	163

Volunteers

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

A special thanks to our wonderful group of convenors. They work countless hours both at the rink and behind the scenes to ensure that our children have a positive hockey experience.

Division	Convenor
Mite	Jo-Anne de Lima Leclerc Alifa Somani
Peewee	Ann Marie Lovatsis
Bantam	Martin Seto
Midget/Juvenile	Lorraine Gilmour

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

- One hundred percent of our teams from mite through bantam were run by fully certified coaches and trainers. MWHL is the only minor hockey association in the City of Markham to provide a certified trainer on every bench.
- MWHL hosted a Volunteer and Sponsor Appreciation Night where we honoured Ann Marie Lovatsis as Volunteer of the Year.
- We recognize our long-standing coaches and trainers. This year we recognized long-standing trainer Alfred Baghouzian and long-standing coaches Dave Cameron, George Mombourquette, Mark Schuler, and Duane Smith.

Coach of the year

Markham Waxers House League is proud to honour one coach in each division who exemplifies our goals of developing hockey skills, physical fitness, cooperative

sportsmanship, social interaction, and enjoyment of the game of hockey. Congratulations to this year's recipients.

Division	Coach Name
Initiation – Stamkos Division	John MacIsaac
Initiation – Gaunce Division	Michael Blake
Tyke	Feisal Sachedina
Novice	Al Simpson
Atom	Nicole DeKort
Pee wee	William Kazura
Bantam	Mark Schuler
Midget/Juvenile	Alan Thompson

Equipment Swap

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

Ninth Line Series

MWHL participated in the Ninth Line Series against the Whitchurch Stouffville Minor Hockey Association (up Ninth Line) allowing MWHL players to play both a home and away game against a team outside our association. The program was very well received in both associations and we will continue it next season.

Rostered Select Program

Last year we iced twelve rostered select teams. Ten of our teams (novice through midget senior) participated in the North York Hockey League (NYHL).

The NYHL was a great experience for our teams as they offer division tiering, online standings, and playoffs for all teams. Unfortunately, the GTHL has withdrawn permission for non-GTHL teams to participate in the NYHL.

Congratulations to our rostered select champions!

- Midget Senior NYHL playoff champs
- Minor Bantam Shamrock Tournament champs

Rostered Select Team	Head Coach
Initiation	Mike Gellard
Tyke	Colin Hartill, Sal Paglialunga
Novice	Al Simpson
Minor Atom	Dave Cameron
Atom	Nicole Dekort

Rostered Select Team	Head Coach
Minor Pee wee	Grant Seppanen
Pee wee White	Werner Siemens
Pee wee Blue	George Mombourquette
Minor Bantam	Alex Tashos
Bantam	Mark Shuler
Midget Junior	Duane Smith
Midget Senior	Richard Clark
Select Convener	Paul Bullock

March Break 3-on-3 Tournament

This year we offered ice time to our mite division to run a division-wide 3-on-3 tournament over the March Break. Thank you to the volunteers who provided a great on-ice experience for our players over the break.

House League Hockey Development Program

This was our second year that our Hockey Development team supported teams and coaches from mite through to peewee. The program was very successful allowing coaches the opportunity to learn and develop from individuals that have coached in the past. The Hockey Canada curriculum was followed and ensured that all players were developing at the same pace.

VP/GM AA/A/AE Report

Submitted by Mike Matthews

The 2017-18 season saw the introduction of non-contact Minor Development (MD) divisions at minor bantam and above ages in the York Simcoe Minor Hockey League. The purpose of this division is to provide a competitive non-contact hockey experience for ages minor bantam and above. Contact hockey is introduced at minor bantam and participation was decreasing, particularly at the minor midget and midget AE programs. This was a pilot project that was very successful. MD teams were iced at minor bantam, bantam and minor midget ages. This program will continue in 2018-19.

During the 2017-2018 season, twenty-seven teams were iced. This was an increase from twenty-four teams iced during the 2016-2017 season. Additional teams were entered in the minor peewee (two AE teams) and peewee (two AE teams) divisions. A decision was made prior to tryouts in April to eliminate the second minor peewee AE team for the coming 2018-19 season as the team was not competitive, losing all 28 regular season games. The plan for 2018-2019 is enter two AE teams at the minor peewee and two MD teams at minor bantam.

Although the MD program increased the number of teams at minor bantam, bantam and minor midget to three per division (teams at AA, A and MD in all three age groups), we

continued to face challenges in the midget age group where we only iced a AA team. This trend will improve in 2018-19 where we will ice teams at MD, A and AA.

The Waxers had one York-Simcoe Championship team: Novice AA.

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

- Bill Govedaris
- Lesli McKee
- Pat O'Callaghan
- Allison Thompson
- Debbie Williams
- Cory Woron

Special thanks to Allison Thompson who decided to step down at the end of the season, having served as a convener since the 2009-2010 season. Thanks to Allison for her dedication to the organization over the past eight years and taking a proactive approach to dealing with and resolving issues.

Coaches of the Year

Coaches of the Year were announced at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in May. Once again, this year teams were asked to nominate their coaches for the awards based on the following criteria:

1. The coach is a good teacher and hockey coach.
2. The coach creates a positive, fun and respectful environment.
3. The team has had some form of success, either in the league, a tournament, playoffs, or has improved as a team over last year.

The 2016-2017 recipients are:

AA Kent Anderson, Minor Peewee

A Darren Birta, Novice

AE Steve Chipun, Peewee

Markham Resident Players

We continue to reinforce the importance of building teams with Markham residents. This is in keeping with the OMHA Community Hockey philosophy and impacts ice allocation from the City of Markham, which is based upon registered Markham residents. In the 2017-2018 season, 85.53% of registered players at AA and 92.54% of A were Markham residents.

VP/GM AAA Zone Report

Submitted by Stephen Gaunce

The Markham Waxers AAA Zone is proud to use the name Waxers and to be considered a part of the “family.” But a reminder that our home boundaries are different than those of

the AA/A/AE/MD and house league organization. We are recognized and treated as a separate organization in the eyes of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) and Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF).

Season Synopsis

- Nine AAA teams from novice through midget
- 156 players registered to the teams
- 50 bench staff registered
- Approximately 602 games played including exhibition, league, tournaments and playoffs. Approximately 588 practice “slots” for all teams combined.
- Combined league record 127-127-45
- Four teams above the “500” level and five below the “500” level
- Minor peewee team and families hosted the OMHA championship weekend and came away with the silver medal.
- Midget team made it to the OMHA championship weekend after winning 2 rounds of playoffs.
- Paul Giallonardo, head coach of our minor peewee team, was our AAA Coach of the Year. This was our fourth year accepting nominations from players and parents in this process and it worked well.
- Luke Strickland from our minor midget team was selected in the recent OHL draft. We have many graduating midget players moving on to various levels of junior hockey.
- Our teams attended 40 tournaments spread across Ontario, Michigan, New York, and Quebec, resulting in many lasting memories for players, families, and teams.

Issues/ Ongoing Matters/ Work in Progress

- Strive to keep more Markham/Stouffville residents playing AAA hockey in our organization. This is an annual goal that we stress to our coaches.
- Work with coaches to improve/promote communication levels with players and families. Coach surveys completed by parents show we are improving, but still have work to be done. A large component of this is managing the expectation level of parents. We are attempting to meet face-to-face with more teams/parents to discuss any issues. We also had the highest response rate in overall surveys being completed by parents and players this past season. Parents should know that they can come to the executive with issues other than at survey time.
- Continue coach development. The mentor system and clinics help to improve the knowledge level and provide a valuable sounding board for all of our registered coaches.

- Meet the new High Performance – HP1 program, which is mandated for all head coaches in minor bantam and above. We will be able to meet this requirement.
- Continue to work on issues which arise as a result of being in the Lake Ontario Region (LOR). Being a member of the LOR and dealing with the ever-changing rules/system does not get any easier.
- Continue to keep hockey affordable. The costs of minor hockey for all members is an annual ongoing issue that must be considered in all decision making.
- Continue to develop players through offering player and goalie clinics. The Hockey Development group are doing a good job with these clinics, which are helping with the player numbers in the younger age groups.

Special Events Report

Submitted by Deb Larsen

Players' Banquet

On Wednesday, April 4, 2018, at the Crystal Fountain Banquet Hall, all Markham Waxers players, coaches, trainers, staff, convenors, and volunteers were invited to attend the seventh annual Markham Waxers Players' Banquet. All invited guests were treated to the night by the Markham Waxers Hockey Club.

The evening began at 6:00 pm and dinner was served at 7:00 pm. Darren Mori 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 Nicholas Soehner; 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 member of the 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-seven Markham Waxers teams attended. Approximately 814 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, Deb Larsen, Kristal Kobold, Annie Lee, Lari Nakamichi, Dale O'Callaghan, Heather Sally, George Schnarr, and Helen Soehner.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

The Markham Waxers Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held on Wednesday, May 23, 2017 at the Meadowbrook Golf & Country Club. 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. Approximately 95 guests attended the dinner. They 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:

- AAA – Paul Giallonardo (Minor Peewee AAA)
- AA – Kent Anderson (Minor Peewee AA)
- A – Darren Birta (Minor Atom A)
- AE – Steve Chipun (Peewee AE)

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 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 executing them at the local level.

Highlights of the 2017-2018 Season

- This year the player development programs/clinics were moved back to Centennial Arena. We lost 2 hours of ice, this translated into 1 less hour for both the player clinics and the goalie clinics. The goalie clinic ran out of Mt. Joy Arena at 7 a.m.
- 75 players/goalies registered for the fall clinics. 83 players/goalies registered for the winter clinics. 134 players/goalies registered for the April Skills Enrichment Clinic.
- The shooting, defensive, and pre-tryout clinics continue to be a huge draw for parents and players. The semi-private goalie clinic in the winter session continues to be a big draw for goaltenders.
- Feedback on the coaching seminars, coach mentorship, and player skill development programs was very positive once again.
- This past season, coaches were offered the opportunity to attend both the OHL Coaches Clinic at UOIT, the Team Snap Coaches Conference in Toronto, and the Roger Neilson Clinic in Windsor.

- The OMHA continues to endorse our coaching seminars with professional development points under the new NCCP Coaching Requirements.

Coach Mentorship Program

Coach Seminars

The Hockey Development program presented two coach seminars.

- In October, Terry Brown (Trenton), Paul Legault, Rob Bunton, and Jeff Flanagan presented a seminar for all of our house league and rep coaches. This included an on-ice and off-ice session. It was well attended, and each coach received a drill package to take home.
- In December, Dave Chambers presented to both our house league and rep coaches at Angus Glen Golf Club.

Coach Mentors

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

2017-2018 Coach Mentors

- Ted Baker
- Dan Daoust
- Paul Titanic
- Phil Kestin
- Rob Binetti

Player Development Program

2017-2018 Player Development Team

- Scott Badali
- Robert Matthews
- Emmanuel Bertsoulakis
- Eric Daoust
- Adam Turner
- Benjamin Carr
- Paul Giallonardo
- Jacob Misquitta
- Charlie DaFonseca
- Michael Gouglas
- Ben Reeves
- Kieran McFadden
- Darren Mori
- Benjamin O'Callaghan
- Gabby McFadden
- Al Nixon
- Jamie Bruno
- Michael Pellegrini
- David Titanic
- Scott Della Vedova

Plans for 2018-2019

- Work closely with the OMHA/Hockey Canada in preparation for any new programs and accreditations.
- Work closely with the Markham Waxers House League Hockey Development Team.
- Schedule coach seminars throughout the season.

- Continue to recruit new junior instructors and mentor them.
- Continue to provide evaluation and certification status for all coaches during the upcoming hockey season.

2018-2019 Coach Mentor Team

- Ted Baker
- Dan Daoust
- Paul Titanic
- Phil Kestin
- Rob Binetti

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 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

2017-2018 Highlights

Markham scheduled officials for 1,372 games

- 442 house league games with teams from tyke to juvenile
- 813 rep and select games including exhibition, regular season, and playoff games
- Markham supplied officials for 117 tournament games.

During the playoffs, 21 of our home games were covered by "out of town" officials. Markham officials covered 36 games at other centres during playoffs.

Referee Development

- Markham and the Whitchurch Stouffville Minor Hockey Association hosted an OMHA entry level referee clinic in October 2017. From this clinic, Markham received 10 new officials. They all worked in our house league division.
- We will host another entry level clinic for new officials this fall.
- We had three officials successfully attend a level 3 OMHA clinic.
- Our area supervisors worked with both our house league and rep officials.
- Last season we had 29 officials on staff for rep and 17 for house league.
- We also used officials from other OMHA centers for our rep games.

Timekeeper Scheduler's Report

Submitted by Debbie Williams

During the 2017-18 hockey season, timekeepers were provided for over 1,000 games (exhibition, tournament, regular season and playoffs), including house league (peewee to juvenile), select and rep.

This season's roster consisted of approximately 30 timekeepers. iPads continued to be used for all games in the AAA Zone. There is a strong possibility that the upcoming season will see timekeepers at all home games using iPads. This would require additional training which would be done at the beginning of the season.

We continue to train a few new timekeepers each season as well as retain many returning timekeepers including a few who continue to be involved while they attend local post-secondary schools. This adds a welcome depth to the roster of mobile, experienced timekeepers.

Some individuals have already expressed an interest timekeeping next season. New hires must be a minimum of 14 years old (or grade nine) and must show a strong work ethic. Those interested should complete the Timekeeper Application, which is available on our website beginning August 1st.

Ice Scheduler's Report

Submitted by Joe Quercia

During the 2017-2018 Hockey seasons, the Waxers used a total of 169.5 hours of ice per week for the following:

- House league practices and games
- Rep practices and games
- Development clinics

Additional ice at CanLan Ice Sports in Scarborough was purchased and used as practice ice for teams. The Town of Whitchurch Stouffville allocated Saturday evening ice for Waxers rep home games and provided additional optional dates during the week.

The team ice allocation was balanced prior to the season to address all team requests and to allow the participation of AP players with their affiliated teams. During the year ice was made available to teams for extra practice or to replace a lost practice due to playoffs.

Tryout ice booked for 2018-2019 season was a success. Tryouts were held at Centennial and Angus Glen.

Playoff Format

As each season progresses, ice schedulers and representatives from other associations continue discussions with playoff formats to adjust any issues that may arise with the approval of the York Simcoe Minor Hockey League (YSMHL) and Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA). The OMHA has advised that all 2018-2019 teams will play in the OMHA playoffs regardless of the standings from the season. This will give each team to participate in the OMHA's.

Meetings will be held with ice schedulers to review and provide recommendations to adjust the playoff format as 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.

2017-2018 Season Ice Recap

- 1,105 Regular Season games (Rep and Select)
- 402 Playoff Games were scheduled
- 192 Tournaments Games were Played
- 2,628 Practices scheduled (Rep and Select)
- 34 Clinic Sessions
- 133 Exhibition Games scheduled

Waxer Organization and Team Websites

The Waxers continue to provide an integrated club website. The website hosts each team's individual site that provides all team information. The organization website is the main location to review upcoming and new events that take place within the organization. As ice scheduler for the Waxers, the major benefit of the website is the integration of all changes that occur from TheOneDB, which is linked to other associations. Ice schedulers can see each other's schedule and assist each other when rescheduling home and away games.

Here are a few of the most important features of the website.

- Fully integrated team websites
- Web-based site maintenance that can be shared amongst authorized people in our association
- Fully integrated scheduling by our ice scheduler

- Automatic email and/or text message notification with schedule changes, game results, and more
- Social network integration such as auto-tweeting news articles to Twitter™
- Password-protection of pages managed by the team webmasters
- Automatic archiving of previous seasons
- **NEW** – Mobile and tablet access is now available for team managers to manage and update their team website.
- **NEW** – Parents with VIEW access only can see their team schedules and receive updates when changes occur.

Head Trainer Report

Submitted by Barb Matthews

The Markham Waxers organization organized two separate OMHA Action Clinics for our team trainers. The sessions which were presented by two paramedics and provided excellent hands on training for various hockey related injuries. Overall the clinics were well received.

The Markham Waxers organization once again mandated that all rep athletes participate in the Konkussion program. The cost for the program, \$50.00/player, was included in the team assessment fees. There were some issues with access to the 24-hour hotline, but overall no major concerns were brought forward.

At the end of this season, it was decided that the organization would secure a different organization, The Holland Bloorview Children's Hospital, to support us in our efforts to assist team staff with concussion awareness.

Holland Bloorview's Concussion Program will provide our players with baseline testing and provide OHIP-based care for those who suffer a concussion during the season. In addition, the program will offer education to our trainers, which will provide a better understanding of the newly instituted program, as well as a review of the signs and symptoms of concussion, and an update for trainers on current policy and protocols surrounding concussion and RTP.

The cost of this program is \$65.00 per player and is covered by the team's assessment fees.