



Markham Minor Hockey Association

Markham Waxers Hockey Club

Annual Report

**Annual General Meeting
June 12, 2013**



2012-2013 Season Annual Report



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President's Address

Submitted by George Schnarr

Welcome to the 2013 MMHA and the Markham Waxer Hockey Club AGM.

A special thank you to our volunteer group who continue to step up every year and invest their time to ensure we can offer our membership the best experience playing the game of ice hockey here in Markham.

2012-13 Season Highlights

- Our two major events celebrating our players and the game of hockey continue to thrive. We hosted over 750 players, coaches and other volunteers at the 4th annual Player's Banquet which included for the first time a Battle of the Bands that was received enthusiastically by the all in attendance! The 3rd Annual MMHA Celebrates Hockey festival was another success with a focus on reaching out to those in the community not familiar with the game of ice hockey and a chance to buy used equipment at very affordable prices.
- We are into year two of the Markham Floorball league which is growing in participation and has now moved to the new Cornell Community Centre.
- The Saturday morning clinics for House League and Rep players continue to evolve with new instructors being added to meet the demand.
- The coach mentorship program continued with a greater focus on the younger age groups.
- Mt. Joy arena renovations are soon to be completed in time for the upcoming season including a new ice plant and boards.
- We completed the transition to the white helmets for our Rep players. All Current players are now outfitted.
- Our volunteer base has once again been key in delivering the programs we run throughout the season. A very special thank you to Jenn Bigioni who has stepped down from her role in Special Events & Communications. She will be missed but has mentored a good group of volunteers who will collectively carry on with this important role.



Board of Directors 2012-2013

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	6/15/2011 (E)	2013
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	6/15/2011 (E)	2013
Appointee from Markham Waxers AAA Zone				

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	6/15/2011 (E)	2013
Secretary / Treasurer	One two-year term	Gary Ashford	6/15/2011 (E)	2013
Appointee from Whitchurch / Stouffville MHA	One two-year term			
Appointee from MMHA	One two-year term			

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, 2013 the MMHA House League account held approximately \$219,916 in cash. The year end fund balance is \$241,892, a decrease of \$30,554 from \$272,446 the previous year.

Revenues increased year over year, primarily due to increased registration. Expenses increased—the primary contributors are ice, a set of exhibition season jerseys, on-ice hockey development instructor fees, and floorball equipment purchases.

As of March 31, 2013, the Markham Waxers Rep account is holding approximately \$216,145 in cash. The year end fund balance is \$226,432 down from \$256,216 from the previous year.



Revenue increased year over year due to the increase in assessment fees to teams. Registration fees decreased as we had 12 fewer players in 2013 than 2012. Clinic revenue increased as we successfully ran more clinics. Ice rental costs increased as we were forced to purchase private ice for use by teams due to an inadequate ice allocation from the City of Markham. Clinic expenses rose, but were offset by clinic revenue. Tournaments and events expenses increased as the association took over the administration of the Waxers Early Bird Tournament and we hosted the OMHA Minor Peeewe AAA Championship tournament. Tryout costs decreased in 2013, which reflects the one-time purchase of tryout jerseys in 2012. We paid the administrator, ice scheduler, chief referee, and timekeeper scheduler fees of \$25,000 which are included in administration. To offset the cost of switching to white helmets, the association offered teams rebates totalling \$9,975—this is the last year of the rebate program.

House League Report

Submitted by Darren Mori

Through our team of remarkable volunteers, the Markham Minor Hockey Association had a very successful 2012-2013 season.

Registration Summary

Division	Teams	Players	Volunteers
Mite	10	133	46
Tyke	4	62	14
Novice	4	59	14
Atom	8	98	26
Peeewe	8	117	27
Bantam	6	77	20
Total	40	546	147

The Midget and Juvenile divisions are 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 2012-2013 committee members: Steve Creaser, Elyse Floyd, Deb Larsen, and Darren Mori from MMHA; Marzia Del Bianco, Lisa McConnell, and Karie McDougall from UMHA.



Division	Teams	MMHA Players	UMHA Players	Total Players
Midget	12	66	125	191
Juvenile	8	65	47	112
Total	20	131	172	303

Conveners & Coaches

It is due to the countless hours our volunteers contribute annually that MMHA can offer the programs we do. We would like to especially thank our conveners who not only spend countless hours each weekend at the rink, but significantly contribute to the success of the annual Tony Roman Memorial Hockey Tournament.

Mite	Charry Rauzino
Tyke	Tim Baker / Florin Ursu
Novice	Jennifer Siemens, Kara Daniels
Atom	Sandra Benedetto, Anna Tsiampouris
Pewee	Carin Hill
Bantam	Doug Smith
Midget	Karie McDougall, Steve Creaser, Sophie Paquet, Corra Pelligra
Juvenile	Elyse Floyd, Deb Larsen

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 ran two eight-week sessions of Player Development clinics—one from October through December and one from January through March—at the cost of \$95 per session. We accommodated 116 house league players.
- Both the Tyke B and C teams were successful.
- A Fall and Winter newsletter was distributed to all members.
- MMHA hosted a Volunteer and Sponsor Appreciation Night where we honoured Elyse Floyd as Volunteer of the Year. We introduced our Long-Standing Coaches award by



recognizing five coaches: Michael Coombs, Brad Ing, John Larsen, Stuart Robertson, and Roger Seguin.

MMHA Celebrates Hockey!

In August we held our third annual equipment swap benefitting our Yes, You Can Play fund. 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 2012, we introduced the game of floorball to our members by running a 9-week floorball league at Mt. Joy Community Centre. Floorball is a fast-paced, exciting, safe and low-cost type of co-ed indoor hockey. It resembles floor hockey or ball hockey but is played with light-weight, plastic composite sticks, a whiffle ball and rules that promote safety and skill.

Tony Roman Memorial Hockey Tournament

MMHA again took part in the annual Tony Roman Memorial Hockey Tournament (TRMHT)—the biggest house league tournament in the world! The TRMHT is a two-week tournament hosted annually by the City of Markham and run jointly by the City, the Thornhill Community Hockey League, Unionville Minor Hockey Association and the MMHA.

This year all teams enjoyed three round-robin games and several of our teams continued on to the playoff rounds.

VP/GM AA/A/AE Report

Submitted by Mike Matthews

During the 2012-2013 season, 23 of 27 teams were iced. We continue to face challenges in the 1996, 1997 and 1998 age groups. We were able to ice two teams per division at the 1995-1996 and 1998 age groups. With the 1997 age group we were only able to ice a AA team. This will continue to be a challenge in the coming years. In the 1999 and younger age groups we have been successful in icing full AA/A/AE programs, but we are expecting a drop off in the 1999 age group for 2013-2014.

This was the first year for the York-Simcoe Minor Hockey League to adopt a new playoff format in which only the top four teams in each division/category qualified for the OMHA



Playdowns. This was a change from prior years where the top eight teams qualified. The purpose of this was to allow for a longer regular season, ending in late January as opposed to early January. It also allowed for a longer York-Simcoe playoffs, the purpose of which was to keep all teams playing meaningful games until the third week of February, as opposed to prior years when many teams were eliminated from both the OMHA's and the York-Simcoe's by the first week of February. Although it makes qualifying for the OMHA's more challenging, it makes for a longer overall season and a less condensed regular season schedule between September and January. The MMHA is in support of the new format. The OMHA will determine in the Spring of 2013 whether this format will be adopted on a permanent basis.

Although not successful in OMHA Playdowns, we were successful in the York-Simcoe Playoff Championships in 2012-2013 with the Novice AE and Minor Atom A teams both winning championship titles. The Atom AA, Minor Bantam AA and Minor Midget AA teams were all York-Simcoe finalists.

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

- Gary Ashford
- Jeannie Daniels
- Debbie Williams
- Pat O'Callaghan
- Allison Thompson

Gary will not be returning for the 2013-2014 season.

Coaches of the Year

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

- AA Kim Rasmussen, Atom AA
- A Colin MacDonald, Minor Atom A
- AE Charles MacLennan, Novice AE

Player Development

We continue to promote the player development process and all coaches were requested to provide the association with a monthly log tracking player call ups for practices and games. This has been incorporated into the revised Coach Agreement and will again be tracked more closely in 2013-2014.



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 2012-2013 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 remember that our home boundaries are different than those of the AA/A/AE and House League organizations. 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.

2012-2013 Season Synopsis

- 9 AAA teams from novice through midget
- 152 players registered to the teams
- 56 coaching staff members registered
- Approximately 610 games played between exhibition, league, tournaments and playoffs
- The 9 teams combined for a 129-133-38 league record
- Our minor peewee team hosted the OMHA Championship weekend and came away with the silver medal. Thanks to the parent group for a very well run event.
- Our major midget team made it to the OMHA Championship weekend and lost in the bronze medal game
- Our minor midget and atom teams won their respective ETA playoff championships while our minor bantam team were ETA finalists
- Phil Kestin, head coach of our major midget team, was our AAA Coach of the Year
- We had one player selected from our minor midget team in the recent OHL Draft



Plans for 2013-2014

- Strive to keep more Markham/Stouffville residents playing AAA hockey in our organization
- Work with coaches to improve/promote communication levels with players and families
- Implement the new two-year OHF mandated pilot project of Freedom of Movement at the midget AAA level
- Prepare for implementing the new Respect in Sports requirements if approved
- Continue to improve player and coach development
- Establish more internal support and an internal network for sharing of tips and best practices for trainers
- Continue to deal with the changing rules/system of the LOR (Lake Ontario Region)
- Continue to keep costs of minor hockey reasonable for all members

Special Events Report

Submitted by Jenn Bigioni

Family Skate

The 4th Annual Markham Minor Hockey Association Family Skate was held on Sunday, December 30, 2012 from 2:00-4:00 pm at Markham Village Arena. All house league and rep players, and their families were invited to attend. This event continues to reach out to our hockey community and offers a free and fun event for everyone. This year’s family skate proved to have the largest attendance since we have started this event,

Hot chocolate and Timbits were offered to all who attended. Donations for our Yes, You Can Play program were requested from anyone who attended and were generously given. There were approximately 200 people who attended. All who attended were very positive about the event and had a great time.

Skating Marshalls were siblings of Markham Waxer players.

Costs

Ice provided by the Markham Waxers Hockey Club	\$00.00
Skating Marshalls	\$60.00
Timbits and hot chocolate	\$177.60
Total cost	\$237.60



Plans for next season

- Host the event again
- Continue to offer the event for two hours; the afternoon time seems to work the best for all ages and families
- Let teams know ahead of time so it can be part of their schedule, to get more people to attend

Minor Hockey Night in Markham

Unfortunately this season, we were not able to offer our usual Minor Hockey Night in Markham because the Waxer Junior team was not operating. We looked into running the night in conjunction with a Midget AAA playoff home game, but we couldn't get the schedule to work with a time that would be best for young families. Hopefully the tradition can continue another year.

Players' Banquet

On Wednesday, April 3, 2013, at the Crystal Fountain Banquet Hall, all Markham Waxer Players, Coaches, Trainers, Staff, Convenors and Volunteers were invited to attend the 4th 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 Waxer teams throughout the 2012/13 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 DJ Scammer perform and mix songs.

Dinner began at 7pm. Sam Cosentino, Commentator from Rogers SportsNet, served as Emcee and welcomed everyone to the Banquet. All the players were given blue glow sticks as gifts, so they gave a concert impact throughout the night.

Our evening of music began with a rocking performance by local Markham band Crisis Sanford. They were a big hit!

The evening's festivities included a welcome video highlighting our teams and their seasons; a Cheer Contest where our Super Seven team and our Minor Atom AAA team performed their team cheers for everyone; a photo slideshow with photos from every team; The Neil Bullock Scholarship Award—presented to Francesco Fusca; 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.

For many, our highlight of the night was our 1st Markham Waxers Battle of the Bands! Three Waxer bands performed, and all three went home with a prize. Crisis Sanford were the judges and did a great job giving the young performers some wonderful tips on their musical performances. The results were:

- 1st place: D'Tour
- 2nd place: Lockjaw
- 3rd place: Kings of the Ice

Thirty-three Markham Waxer teams attended. Approximately 550 players and 196 Coaches, Staff and Volunteers attended. Teams were offered a maximum of three additional tickets and 11 tickets were sold. In total, 746 people attended the event.

A very special thank you to the Banquet Committee, who worked tirelessly to put this successful evening together: Mariola Daher, Connie Locker, Hayley Nakamichi, Lari Nakamichi, Janice Pickering, Laurie Schnarr, Helen Soehner, Dale O'Callaghan, Sandy Smith and Sandra Bigioni. In addition, JC Le Pichouren kindly volunteered his photographic services to capture many memories of the night.

Costs

Crystal Fountain	\$26,500.00
Sound system, screens & music rental	\$2250.00
Décor & attendance gift	\$1,600.00
Team awards	\$900.00
Activities for the younger teams	\$100.00
Loyalty Awards	\$900.00
Coach Awards	\$360.00
Administrative	\$400.00
Emcee	\$600.00
DJ	\$500.00
Band	\$600.00
Battle of the Bands	\$450.00
Cheer Contest	\$200.00
Raffle	\$300.00
Special meal dessert	\$64.00
Scholarship	\$520.00
Total Expenses	\$36,244.00
Ticket Revenue	\$440.00
Grand Total	\$35,804.00

Plans for next season

- Continue the event – has become a tradition



- Many interested in continuing the Battle of the Bands event
- Look at March 31st or April 1st since Easter is later next year.
- Date to be communicated to teams early in the season.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

The Markham Waxer Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held on Monday, May 6, 2013 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 given out in each division. The winners this year are as follows:

- AAA – Phil Kestin (Midget AAA)
- AA – Kim Rasmussen (Atom AA)
- A – Colin MacDonald (Minor Atom A)
- AE – Charles MacLennan (Novice AE)

Approximately 110 guests RVSP'ed to attend, and the caterer is sure he served about 150 plates of food again this year!

Instead of a guest speaker for the evening, we booked a big screen TV so everyone could watch the NHL playoffs. The evening just happened to fall on the same night the Leafs' hosted their 1st playoff home game in nine seasons and no one wanted to miss the game. It was a great success and many stayed to watch the whole game. Unfortunately, the Leafs lost the game.

Costs

Door prizes	\$550.00
Rental of TV, sound system	\$734.50
Plaques	\$115.00
Vet's Hall	\$1,234.75
Caterer	\$4,690.91
Total	\$7,325.16



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

- For the first time we had a current NHL presence in Jay (San Jose Sharks) and Todd Woodcroft (LA Kings) at our coaching seminars. Jay was also a former Waxer.
- 89 House League Players registered for our Saturday morning HL clinics.
- 48 Rep Players registered for our FALL Saturday morning clinics.
- 80 Players registered for our Shooting & Scoring Specialty clinic.
- 61 Players registered for our Defence Specialty clinic.
- 38 Goalies registered for McGuire's Goaltending Training.
- Total of 316 players signed up for clinics.
- 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), and Mike Pelino (Peterborough Petes) presented a seminar for all of our HL and REP coaches. This included an on-ice and off-ice session and last an entire morning. It was well attended and each coach received a drill package to take home



- In September Dave Smith spoke about the game in transition. Jay Woodcroft spoke about winning, and Todd Woodcroft spoke about developing defencemen.
- In November James Boyd and Jason Nobili from the Mississauga Steelheads spoke on offensive attacks and defensive zone coverage.
- In December Mike Pelino and George Burnett did presentations on the Powerplay and the Penalty Kill.

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.

2011-2012 Coach Mentors

- Paul Titanic
- Phil Kestin
- Kevin Huhn
- Ted Baker
- Dan Daoust
- Kent Brimmer

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 2012-2013

- The hockey development program will expand with the addition of specific specialty clinics in the spring 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

2013-2014 Coach Mentor Team

- Dan Daoust
- Kent Brimmer
- Paul Titanic
- Phil Kestin
- Kevin Huhn



2013-2014 Player Development Team

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

Long-Term Hockey Development Program Goals

- Be one of the first associations to be recognized by Hockey Canada as a good example of how mentorship and player development can be successful at the local level
- Prepare for the new Hockey Canada programming and NCCP certification
- 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

2012-2013 Season Highlights

- Markham supplied officials for 1,869 games during the 2012-2013 season.
- There were 834 house league games with teams from tyke to juvenile
- On the rep side, our officials worked in a total of 852 games.
- There were 795 regular season and playoff games.
- 57 exhibition games.
- Markham also covered 183 tournament games (Markham Early Bird & Whitby spring tournament)
- During the playoffs, 40 of our home games were officiated by “out of town” officials,
- Markham covered 91 “out of town” playoff game assignments for other OMHA centres.

Referee Development

- Markham and Stouffville hosted an OMHA entry level referee clinic in October 2012.



- There were 28 new officials from our zone who attended the clinic.
- From that clinic we had 6 young officials and 2 adults join our team. They worked in our house league division.
- We plan on hosting another clinic this fall for new officials.

Timekeeper Scheduler's Report

Submitted by Debbie Williams

During the 2012-13 hockey season, timekeepers were provided for over 850 Waxer home games including playoffs and exhibition games and over 800 house league games (Pewee to Juvenile).

This season's roster was comprised of over 30 timekeepers, nine of which were new. All were asked to attend the closest OMHA timekeeper clinic, which was held in East Gwillimbury.

We expect to recruit additional new timekeepers for the upcoming season and are in contact with UMHA regarding the possibility of hosting a clinic in the fall for all timekeepers requiring certification.

Ice Scheduler's Report

Submitted by Joe Quercia

During the 2012-2013 Hockey season, the Waxers and MMHA used a total of 156 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 used
- Minimal Junior A ice was allocated to Waxers

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

Tryout schedule booked for 2012-2013 season was a success and the use of Stouffville Ice and Angus Glen during the tryouts was a great help as well.



2012-2013 Playoff Format

Revised playoff format and season extension of the 2012- 2013 season this year was a trial run and waiting to hear back from the associations with feedback. For the upcoming 2013 – 2014 season there will be meetings held with ice schedulers and association to review and possibly make adjustments to the playoff format. Information will be provided to all teams from the Waxers organization as they become available.

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.

2012-2013 Season Recap

- 1300+ practices
- 580+ regular season games
- 280+ playoff games
- 140+ clinics: goalie and player development
- 250+ playoff contracts were scheduled

Planned Activities for the 2013-2014 Season

- Consideration of ice time allocations and availability for our teams as the city has asked all user groups for part of our time slots back to meet the changing needs of the community.
- The recent Hockey Canada ruling to eliminate body checking at the PeeWee age groups with a focus on how we can better prepare our coaches to instruct the players who will now begin body checking at the Bantam age group (14 years old)
- Improved communications and relationships between the coaches and the referees as well as extra evaluations and mentoring for our referees beyond the minimum required through the OMHA
- Add a goalie development volunteer position
- Expanding the display case area at Mt. Joy and/or Centennial to house more historical and current day mementos from our organization