

SOOKE & DISTRICT MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 383
SOOKE, BC V9Z 1G1

www.sookeminorhockey.ca

AGM 2021 Presidents Report

This past season started well in advance of when the ice went in at Seaparc. It was a long and busy spring and summer after we were shut down at the end of the season in 2020 due to COVID. A COVID committee was formed with many of the South Island Associations to develop a Return to Play protocol for the upcoming season. Our newly appointed Risk Manager, Duncan Havens eagerly took on this massive task with being SMH's delegate for this newly formed committee. Much time was spent and many meetings were held to develop a process where we could safely get the kids back on the ice. The outcome of this process resulted in our COVID Return to Play protocols that we all came to know well. A big thank you to Duncan for all his time and efforts in helping to create this document. A big thank you to Carrie Coleman, our VP Admin who was also our COVID Communications person who relayed much of the updates through to the executive and association members that was communicated from VIAHA and BC Hockey.

The season began a little later than previous seasons, but we were grateful to be able to get back on the ice. We were able to get a few practices in and then a season within cohorts began. Sadly there was limited viewing for families to watch their player on the ice. Then we found out about streaming the games and we embraced it. This seemed to work well and hopefully can continue in the future for those that aren't able to attend the games or friends or family members that live elsewhere. Nothing is more exciting than being at the rink and watching the game live, but watching it online isn't too bad when you can't be there. Then shortly after we had the streaming set up, games were cancelled and we weren't sure what was going to happen for the remainder of the season. Sadly no further games were played the remainder of the season. However, the kids were able to at least get to go on the ice and practice. I know many of the coaches kept the practices fun and entertaining to keep the kids interested in coming out.

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Thank you to the coaches, managers, safety's and on ice helpers that were there to help the kids develop their skills and have fun playing the game they love. Without all those dedicated volunteers out there helping the kids, we wouldn't have an association. So, thank you to the volunteers out there and I hope that everyone helps however they can to continue to make our Association great.

Off the ice, we have a very strong executive board and I am happy to say that through all our efforts, the association is in a very good position now and poised to take great strides in the future. With that being said, I have announced that I am resigning from the role of President after the AGM concludes on April 27 and a new President is elected. I know the board is very strong and the new leader will have a great team surrounding them. I wish them continued success and look forward to watching SMHA grow further.

So thank you to everyone for your support of the Association over the last 2 years of my term, I appreciate it. There were many difficult decisions that needed to be made and they weren't always popular, but I think through being open and transparent, you were able to understand the reasons behind the decisions that were made and while maybe they weren't liked, you accepted them.

Thank you again to everyone and I leave you with a quote that really resonated with me from Forest E Witcraft:

"A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove...but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child."

Sincerely,
Les Lewco
President
Sooke Minor Hockey Association

VP Admin/Pandemic Coordinator Report

Our 2020/2021 was a successful season all things considered. I worked through out the summer of 2020 to make sure we had our Return To Play plan submitted to BC Hockey. I worked closely with the manager of Seaparc as well as Duncan Havens our director of risk management to make sure we were following and abiding by all of ViaSport and the PHO requirements. Despite the challenges, we had a modified season which allowed all players and coaches to stay on the ice until the end of the season. We had no Covid-19 outbreaks or transimissions. There were some challenging times but we have a great executive team and supportive SMH families. I'm looking forward to next season!

Carrie Coleman

VP Ops

There is not too much to report on as we had a pretty unique year. I want to start off by thanking all of our volunteers, players, and parents for keeping this modified season going. Special thanks to Duncan Havens and Carrie Coleman for keeping up with all of the ever-changing Covid protocols. I'm very hopeful that new protocols will allow us to play games next year but won't know until we are closer to the season starting. There were some new faces in new roles this year that have great ideas on how to have Sooke Minor Hockey take part in more community involvement and I look forward to seeing that. Overall, the association is in good working order. Have a great off season and will see you soon back at the rink in September.

Thanks,

Nick Szadkowski

VP Ops

Treasurer Report for April 27th, 2021 AGM

My first year as Treasurer was definitely a challenge! However, we managed to tackle a lot with many milestones along the way.

In September of 2020, the association was able to secure \$43,000 in gaming grant revenues from the Province of BC to help offset expenses such as ice fees, player development and equipment. We will continue to apply for this annual grant and I expect that we will be successful in the foreseeable future. In addition, we implemented online registration and payments enabling families to register at their convenience with several payment options. This has made registration and reporting more efficient for the association by eliminating paper based forms and large scale cheque deposits.

COVID-19 certainly had a financial impact. Sponsorship revenue fell below our original target since the lack of spectators was imposed as a restriction. While we were able to save some money on expenses such as game fees for referees, lower assessment and insurance fees, and player development, we also absorbed some unanticipated incremental expenditures in order to comply health guidelines. Currently, we are seeking \$7,500 from viaSport to cover some of these expenses through their provincial funding relief program.

Overall, our revenues exceeded expenses and we were able to clear out the majority of payables from the previous fiscal year. I expect the financial health of the association to improve even more next year as we continue to deliver a minor hockey program to almost 200 players in Sooke and surrounding areas.

Kathleen Chisholm

**U7-U9 Year End Report
April 2021**

The 2020-21 Hockey season was unlike any other as players, families, bench staff and the Association navigated the season while dealing with COVID-19. This season the Association implemented new safety procedures to keep our players and bench staff safe, which allowed all U7-U9 players to be able to continue to play hockey during the pandemic. As expected, some obstacles were encountered along the way, which provided an opportunity to learn and grow for future seasons.

Even though this year saw many new challenges, overall it was another successful season. The majority of parents/families and players were able to adapt to the new guidelines quickly. Unfortunately, this division was unable to play any games, attend tournaments etc. this season; however, players were still able to continue to work on skill development, foster friendships and have fun!

For the 2020-21 season there were four teams in this division. Two U7, (one Minor and one Major), as well as two U9 teams, (one Minor and one Major) with a total of 66 players. Bench staff and player/team placement was determined before the start/beginning of the season by myself and U7-U9 Head Coach Duncan Gray. I would strongly recommend we continue to make this a priority for upcoming seasons.

Finally, thank you to all the Coaches, Managers, Safeties and Executives who volunteered countless hours to make this season a success and to the players and their families for their commitment to the sport – it really was a team effort this year!

Sincerely,

**Brianne Crocker
U7-U9 Coordinator
Sooke Minor Hockey**

U11-U13 Report Sooke Minor Hockey

This season was a season like no other. Faced with restrictions due to Covid-19 our players, managers and coaches made the best of what season we had. Coaches adapted which ever level of restriction we had to follow and using the equipment at the rink were able to conduct practices while maintaining social distance. Players remained engaged through the tough times of only being able to practice. Parents were very responsible for reporting illnesses and ensured that all guidelines were adhered too.

Our U13 program had 2 teams (1 development, 1 rec) and our U11 program saw 3 teams (1 development and 2 rec). In speaking with team managers they reported that the organization the executive and effort of Seaparc to keep our players on the ice was exceptional.

A huge thank you to the executive for the many hours spent planning, implementing protocols and working through the pandemic in the name of hockey!

I would like to thank all of the coaches and managers for their hard work, dedication and keeping our players engaged. Parents, a big thank you to you too for following the rules and ensuring your player got to the rink with proper equipment.

Let's hope next season is a little different than this one.

Kala Chaulk
U11-U13 Coordinator
Sooke Minor Hockey

SDMHA 2021 U18/U15 Coordinator Report

Getting used to the new division names was a challenge but we persevered 😊. Communicating solely via email made things difficult as face-to-face relations is always preferred. The managers did a great job relaying the ever-changing protocols to the teams, and even though games were minimal they had a tremendous workload keeping the players safe. Job well done.

Head Coach

This was my first year as head coach of sooke minor hockey and with covid becoming a factor it did create some challenges for sure. With not being able to get together in groups it made it very challenging to have sessions for learning and sharing. We had many volunteers come forward which is great to see as this makes it easier to have enough direction and teaching for each player on the ice. The aim next year will be to have every coach certified earlier in the season with a focus on having each coach follow a plan from the start of the year to the end of the year focusing on a strong commitment to player development.

With implementating new practice plans and the ability to bring in outside development coaches without covid restricting us, we will be able to provide each coach and player with a new fresh outlook on skill development. The idea is to not only teach the players new skills but the coaches as well.

We had many great success stories from each team this year and I am proud of each coach that volunteered their time. It was so hard to keep things fresh for the kids with no games but we made it with great numbers already committing to next year.

Thank you to everyone for all your hard work .

Steve Knowles

Head Coach U7 U9

It was a different year for all of us. We made the best of it and the kids kept looking forward to playing hockey even though it was just practices.

Development wise I'd say the kids in U7 and U9 made the most improvement this year then any of the last 4 years I've seen.

We are all looking forward to changes and getting back to playing games, and watching our kids play.

Thank you parents for committing your time and keeping your kids positive week after week, month after month. I look forward to seeing everyone at the rink next year.

Duncan Gray

April 23, 2021

Ice Allocator Report for the AGM: 2020-2021 Season

This year was my second year as Ice Allocator and second year as a member of the SMHA Board of Directors. I would like to thank all of the Board members for their hard work in this difficult season.

While the Ice Allocator position is always a busy one at the beginning of the season, this year was quite challenging due to COVID. The original practice schedule was built and rebuilt approximately 6-7 times in the beginning to keep up with the ever-changing regulations due to the pandemic. Once games were cancelled, we switched to a practice schedule only and I was no longer required to make changes at all for the rest of the season.

We had a new RIC this year and initially we had a few bumps to work out in the way we worked together in order to ensure refs were properly assigned to games, but once we had a new system worked out, we were able to schedule ref shifts for the few games that we had this season.

My second year as Ice Allocator was relatively uneventful. I would love to continue in this position for another year if I am re-elected.

Thanks to everyone for a great season and I'm looking forward to another great season in 2021-22!

Angela Gatari
Ice Allocator 2020/21

Registrar Report – April 2021

We registered just over 200 kids for this past season. We had very few players request a refund due to COVID before the deadline and had a very successful season despite the pandemic. Our head coach helped us secure some overage players so we were able to house a U18 C team and keep those players playing in Sooke. I worked closely with Hockey BC to clean up our records and have left the Hockey Canada roster in very good shape for the new registrar. I will be stepping down this year as my son ages out of minor hockey in this upcoming season, but will be working closely with the newly elected registrar to train them throughout the season. I have also created a bow to manual to ensure a smooth transition.

We implemented online registration with the the help of our treasurer Kathleen and webmaster Ted. It went very smoothly and allowed for an easy way to register during this time of social distancing. We have almost 200 players registered already and will hold a further registration in the summer to catch new to hockey, new to Sooke families and for returning players with a late fee of \$50.

Although there were very few games the kids showed up each week and continued to gain valuable skills. I am so proud of all the kids, parents and executive for making this season the best it could be.

Laura



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AGM Equipment Report 2020-2021

Very minimal spending took place this year due to Covid-19 and other factors, although I did have to acquire items not normally purchased each season such as hand sanitizer, gloves and masks to provide teams. Next season I would like to replace the U13 recreational team(s) game jerseys as those are currently in pretty rough shape and the oldest in circulation. If there's room left in the budget, I would also like to acquire some matching whites for some of the rep team jersey sets. I feel it's important to acknowledge the generous contribution made by the U18 A team this year, who went out of their way and fundraised for a set of black jerseys to donate for future U18 A team's to use. AtoMc jerseys were not kept by players this year so that I could instead order one home and away minor set (youth small size) to accommodate both smaller and taller players in the U11 recreational groups going forward. We are not eligible for new Timbits jerseys this season and unfortunately, their year-end swag gifts (mini hockey sticks) did not arrive until recently due to manufacturing problems so those have now been placed in storage to provide next season's U7 and U9 players. Gear distribution went well in the fall and collections in the spring went wonderfully. All team managers had the majority if not all of their gear returned within two weeks of the end of season and it was the best one yet. Last but not least I'd like to include a big thank you to all of our coaches, volunteers, players and families who stuck with us during this difficult year!

April Alexander
Equipment Manager 2020/2021

Risk Management Report

23-April-2021

1. ePACT

Player medical and emergency information profiles were completed with reasonable timeliness this year. There were a few outstanding players with incomplete or outdated information that required persistent follow-up. It is recommended that the initial ePACT reminder/request go out to parents/guardians in mid-September with a hard completion deadline of Oct 15th. To help with the level of effort required to follow-up, players without completed profiles should not be permitted to participate in sanctioned events after the deadline.

Team Safeties did not have issues or concerns accessing ePACT or using the mobile phone app. Good communication between the Safeties and Director of Risk Management helped resolve minor issues rather quickly.

2. Annual SEAPARC arena inspection

The Director of Risk Management completed the pre-season inspection of the SEAPARC arena and dressing room facilities on Sept 14, 2020. The facility was in overall good repair ready for SMHA to take the ice. There were a few minor defects noted with the boards but they were quickly repaired by facility staff prior to the SMHA schedule. The Hockey Canada arena safety checklist was completed and accompanied by relevant photos as well as email correspondence with facility staff. It is recommended the SMHA apply for and setup a Google Drive non-profit account to house these types of documents so that they can be reviewed by the Executive and retained as a documented record of safety concerns.

3. Safety Person Training

Team Safeties completed the HCSP, RIS, and CRC requirements prior to the Dec 1 deadline. One item that was overlooked and now a mandatory BC Hockey requirement was CATT training. Unfortunately it was a scramble to get the training completed by the extended BC Hockey deadline. It is recommended that the SMHA communicate with and review BC Hockey team staff requirements in late summer. The requirements and deadlines should be clearly posted on the SMHA website, articulated to the team staff during the team meeting and monitored/followed up prior to the deadline via the Registrar to ensure everyone is on track for completion.

4. Annual Team Safety Meeting

The manager/safety meeting was held outside SEAPARC on Oct 26, 2020. The meeting was well attended and covered the main aspects for team coordination and safety. This meeting was a good way to emphasize key aspects, ask questions and put faces to names. The meeting should be arranged well in advance to ensure everyone has ample time to arrange their personal schedule accordingly to attend.

5. Injuries

Due to the reduced number of games this year there were only a handful of injuries that required an injury report form and physician follow-up. All injury reports, BC Hockey notification and return to play notes were completed in the required time frames. Each injured player was able to return to full hockey activity after they were clear by their physician. There was some confusion regarding time lines and required documentation after a player sustained an injury. Document templates and timelines should be placed on the SMHA website under a HCSP menu and/or in a Team Safety guidebook so that they are clear and readily available.

6. COVID-19 Co-Coordinator

The Director of Risk Management was also co-coordinator for the SMHA COVID-19 response alongside the VP-Admin. Parts of the hockey season were challenging due to Public Health Office requirements and increased documentation. An extra level of coordination and participation was required to ensure teams had volunteers to complete health checks and attendance, sanitize stands/dressing rooms and monitor conformance to public health guidelines. Despite the challenges players were able to complete a modified hockey schedule without any COVID-19 outbreaks or transmission. It remains to be seen what the 2021-22 hockey season will look like but the Association is well positioned to tackle continued COVID-19 requirements or restrictions. One mandatory item throughout the 2020-21 hockey season was participant health checks and attendance. Should COVID-19 restrictions remain a reality for next season it is highly recommended that SMHA look into a digital way for players/coaches/spectators to complete health check and attendance. Digital submission/tracking would enable real-time monitoring and reduce the requirement for a health/attendance tracker.

7. Acknowledgement

Thank you to all of the Team Safety volunteers for donating their time to complete the required training and ensuring player safety throughout the season. It was a different and challenging season but our players had fun and made it through without any major or sustained injuries.

Duncan Havens
Director of Risk Management
Sooke Minor Hockey Association

SDMHA 2021 Fundraisers Report

Fundraising this past season had a positive response to the Raffle, which raised over \$10,000. It was a simple but effective way to start the season off on a positive note.

Sponsorships were down this year. However, we received important feedback from businesses to set ourselves up for the future. Some businesses were showing close to net zero profits, others wanted to know the direct impact their donations had on the players within SMH. With a community approach to the entire association sponsorships will grow.

I had grandiose ideas for community involvement but COVID really ruined everything.