



KELOWNA MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date	Monday, September 14, 2026
Time	4:59 PM - 6:56 PM
Location	KMHA Board Room, Memorial Arena / Microsoft Teams
Chair	Scott Millard, President
Board	Scott Millard; Aiden Nix; Wes Rota; Mark Baese; Barb Thody; Diana Woolridge-Jones; Rob Starke; Sara Cubberley (remote); Natasha Nicholls; Mack O'Rourke; Jason Williamson
Staff	Daryle Assman, Executive Director; Quintin Laing, Director of Hockey Development

1. Call to Order, Quorum and Agenda

The President called the meeting to order at 4:59 PM and confirmed quorum. The Chair noted the volume of current Board priorities and the intention to address regular Board business before considering strategic priorities.

The agenda was accepted for the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting had already been approved and published prior to this meeting.

2. President's Report

- The President provided an update regarding member conduct and communications arising from recent tryouts. Matters requiring external follow-up were referred through the appropriate channels.
- The Board discussed the need for clearer expectations regarding tryout-related enquiries and feedback, including timing and communication to families. No specific response timeline was adopted; this was identified as part of the broader process review.
- Female hockey participation and retention were discussed, with further work on program growth and retention identified for later in the season.
- The President will meet with OMAHA representatives regarding conduct and officiating matters and report back at the next Board meeting.

3. Treasurer's Report / Organisational Capacity

- The Treasurer advised that financial administration was generally current, with some work deferred while registration activity remained high.
- The Board discussed administrative capacity across KMHA. The Board supported the principle that operational resource requirements should be identified by the Executive Director and brought to the Board with the required scope and cost.
- The Executive Director was asked to outline the administrative support requirement, including role scope, resource needs and estimated cost, for Board consideration.
- The 2026 gaming grant decision is expected shortly.

4. Executive Director's Report

- OMAHA is exploring a U16 AA Tier 1 pathway and further use of inter-association exhibition games as part of Tier 1 evaluation.

- OMAHA is reviewing overage-player rules, including a potential exception process for female programs where players would otherwise have no team available.
- Female AA programming continues to expand, with strong interest at U15 and U18. OMAHA is also exploring a future U15 AA team in the Pacific Coast league.
- U11 female development currently has three declared teams, with further flighting/parity work under consideration.
- OMAHA has introduced online portals for complaints and other submissions. The Board noted the potential value of a similar structured intake and triage process for KMHA.
- Registration was reported as very healthy across divisions. U7, U9, U11, U13 and U15 Recreation were full; U18 Recreation was close to full; female teams were reported as full with goalies; U21 had sufficient registration for one team.

5. Director of Hockey Development's Report

- Tryouts had been underway for approximately four weeks. U11 and U13 representative/development selections were completed by the September long weekend, and U15/U18 selections had also been finalised.
- The accelerated tryout schedule was reported as generally well received, with positive feedback regarding the shorter timeline and reduced uncertainty for players.
- All development and representative teams were staffed with head coaches, with remaining assistant-coach appointments being finalised. One U15 Female Recreation head coach remained outstanding.
- Summer hockey camps were well attended and will continue to be reviewed as part of future programming.
- The U21 program launched successfully with 16 skaters, two goalies and a coaching staff in place.
- The Board discussed the 1616 mental-health and life-skills program and supported promoting the program to coaches, particularly at U13 and above.

6. Governance Committee

6.1 Governance Committee Terms of Reference

The Governance Committee Terms of Reference were discussed. Minor updates have been made to the prior version. The revised Terms of Reference will be circulated to Directors for review and subsequent approval. No approval was given at this meeting.

6.2 Constitution and Bylaw Modernisation

The Constitution and Bylaw review remains in progress. Initial review work has been completed and the Governance Committee will continue the detailed review before recommendations are brought to the Board and, where required, the membership.

6.3 Affiliate Player Policy

The Governance Committee presented the revised Affiliate Player Policy, developed to align KMHA requirements with Hockey Canada, BC Hockey and OMAHA requirements. Key changes included tryout participation expectations, female affiliation eligibility, practice attendance, development fees, approval controls and separation of annual operating rules from Board policy.

MOTION: THAT the revised KMHA Affiliate Player Policy be approved.

Moved: Natasha Nicholls | **Seconded:** Barb Thody | **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6.4 Tryout & Player Evaluation Process

The Board discussed the tryout and player-evaluation framework, including member communication, transparency, player feedback, evaluation methodology and the respective roles of the Board and Hockey Operations.

A motion was brought forward directing the Governance Committee to conduct a formal review of the tryout and player-evaluation policy and framework, in collaboration with the Director of Hockey Development, and to bring forward recommendations for Board consideration. The motion was defeated.

MOTION: THAT the Board direct the Governance Committee to conduct a formal review of KMHA's tryout and player-evaluation policy and framework, and to bring forward a recommended policy for the Board's approval. The review will be undertaken in collaboration with the Director of Hockey Development. The review will seek feedback from parents and members as part of the process. The purpose of the review is to ensure our evaluation and selection process is transparent to families, to improve the feedback players receive, and to keep our policies aligned with those of OMAHA, BC Hockey, and Hockey Canada.

Moved: Mark Baese | Seconded: Aiden Nix | DEFEATED | Vote: 3 in favour, 7 opposed

Following the vote, the Board discussed opportunities for continued improvement to the evaluation process, including communication, feedback and evaluation tools. Further work in this area remains under consideration.

6.5 U9 Evaluation Delivery

The Board discussed the delivery of U9 evaluations. Hockey Operations will review the evaluation format and associated operational requirements.

7. Manuals and Team Administration

- The Coach Manual is complete and available on the KMHA website.
- The Manager Playbook and Division Director Manual are complete. Because they contain internal access information, they will not be posted publicly and will instead be distributed through Division Directors.
- Team banking and budget setup will proceed through late September. Team budgets remain due October 15.

8. Recreation Tournament 50/50 Proceeds

The Board reviewed the treatment of 50/50 proceeds generated through Recreation tournaments and considered how proceeds should be returned for the benefit of participating Recreation teams.

MOTION: THAT 50/50 proceeds generated through KMHA Recreation tournaments be distributed back to the participating Recreation teams.

Moved: Natasha Nicholls | Seconded: Diana Woolridge-Jones | CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Board Priorities & Strategic Initiatives

The Board reviewed its current strategic initiatives and discussed the need to focus on a smaller number of priorities at a time to support completion and accountability.

- The President will circulate a Board priorities survey to support the prioritisation process.
- The President and Secretary will use the Governance Dashboard and existing registers to consolidate outstanding initiatives and support Board prioritisation.
- The intent is to identify a small number of priority initiatives for concentrated Board attention, with clear ownership and accountability.
- Constitution and Bylaw compliance/modernisation and coach mentorship were identified as immediate priority areas. Other existing initiatives, including female hockey growth, sponsorship, risk management and finance-system improvements, remain on the register for prioritisation.

10. Actions Arising

REF.	ACTION	OWNER	TARGET
09-01	Circulate revised Governance Committee Terms of Reference for Director review and approval.	Governance Committee	Immediate
09-02	Continue Constitution and Bylaw review and prepare recommendations for Board/member consideration.	Governance Committee	In progress
09-03	Implement the approved revised Affiliate Player Policy and supporting operating rules.	ED / DHD	Immediate
09-04	Bring further consideration of tryout and player-evaluation process improvements back to the Board.	Board	To be determined through Board prioritisation
09-05	Review U9 evaluation format and associated operational requirements.	DHD / Hockey Operations	Immediate
09-06	Prepare administrative resource requirements, scope and estimated cost for Board consideration.	Executive Director	Next Board meeting
09-07	Distribute Manager Playbook and Division Director Manual through Division Directors.	Natasha Nicholls / ED	Immediate
09-08	Implement distribution of Recreation tournament 50/50 proceeds to participating Recreation teams.	Finance / ED	2026-27 tournaments
09-09	Circulate Board priorities survey and consolidate open strategic initiatives.	President / Secretary	Before next Board meeting
09-10	Continue development of coach mentorship framework.	DHD / Hockey Development	In progress
09-11	Continue recruitment for the outstanding Female Hockey Division Director role.	Director, Female Hockey	Immediate

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 PM. The Board subsequently moved in camera.