



**2026 Annual General Meeting
Minor
June 2026**



**Hockey New Brunswick Minor Council – Annual General Meeting
June 13th, 2025 – 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Edmundston – Four Points by Sheraton**

8:30 a.m.	Luc Martin	Welcome / Call to order
8:35 a.m.	Nic Jansen	Credentials / Roll call of delegates
8:50 a.m.	Luc Martin	Additions & Approval of Agenda
8:50 a.m.	Luc Martin	Business arising from Minutes
9:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m.	Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minor Chair - Female Commission representative - Elite Hockey representative - District Directors - Executive Director
9:45 a.m.-10:30 a.m.	Spordle	Spordle Play / HCR / Website
10:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.	BREAK	
10:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Ian Donald / Luc Martin	Notices of Amendment
12:00 p.m.-12:30 p.m.	Brogan Bailey	Player Evaluation & Coach Selection
12:30 p.m.	Adjournment	

**New Brunswick Minor Hockey Council
Annual General Meeting
June 7th, 2025
Saint John, NB – Delta Hotels by Marriott Saint John**

Present: Luc Martin, Mark Wright, Lisa Law, Hazel Wells, Richard Hawkes, Lee MacWilliams, Alexandre Mallet, Ian Donald, Francine Albert, Lee Benoit, Denis Sheehan, Jodie Driscoll, Eric Friolet, Jonathan Comeau, Arianne Milliard, Kellie Benoit, Marco Plourde, Lyn Colford, Tim Curnew, David Melanson, Eric Brun, Corey Gowan, Jamie Ross, Alexandre Violette, Tommy Cyr, Daniel Huard, Philip St-Pierre, Mary Champion, Angela Langille, Ben MacFarlane, Mike Gillingham, Francois Parent, Raymond Page, Denis Charest, Mathew Richardson, Kelly Emberley, Zach McCarthy, Maggie McCarthy, Craig Mills, Mark Marshall, Christian Bossé, Elisabeth Richard, Dale Melanson, Rejean Gallant, Mike Conley, Scott Nelson, Evan Scully, Ryan Beers, Kathie Slattery, John Milson, Shaun Abbass, Nancy Haslett, Anne Corrigan, Tim White, Alicia Tremblay, Curtis Rossignol, Derrick Fillmore, Mathieu Haché, Sarah Bernard, Robin Taylor, Andre Bornais, Scott Phinney, Brandon LeBlanc, Chris Dunn, Caroline Héту, Roger Gaudet, Mireille LeBlanc, Marc Belliveau, Kelly DeLucry, Sean McSorley, Danny Holder, Logan Hawkes, Cathy Waugh, Shawn Roach, Fred Harrison, Kyle Hemphill, Nathan Stokes, Kevin King, Jennifer Hurley, Ruthie Bresson, Joel Nason

Absent: Eric Pelletier

Observers: Rob Newson, Louis Gaudet, Dawn Shaw, Daniel Rousselle, Lori Williams, Kevin Pottle, Craig Moore, Eric Lebel, John O'Toole, Serge Bourgeois, Allain Savoie, Robert Greenlaw, Mark Boutilier, Ashley Clements, Heather Strickland (Staff), Katie Peddle (Staff), Nic Jansen (Executive Director), Michelle Currie (Staff Resource), Todd Pye (President)

1-Welcome- Luc Martin opened the meeting at 8:30am. He presented the agenda and welcomed everyone. There were 79 voting delegates registered.

2- Credentials Committee Report

The credentials committee report was presented by Michelle Currie (Staff Resource). Michelle proceeded to list the District Associations and Community Club (and Leagues) and the number of voting delegates. Roll call for Credential Delegates: 79 voting delegates, or 40 votes to carry Notices of Amendment.

District Associations and Community Clubs

Association	#	Association	#	Association	#
Edmundston	2	Elite Hockey	1	Petitcodiac-Salisbury	1
Haut Madawaska	0	Grand Lake	2	Sussex	2
District 11 Director	0	Moncton	2	Riverview	2
Grand Falls	2	Hampton	2	Sackville	2
York North	2	Kennebecasis Valley	2	Kent Center	2
Restigouche North	2	Charlotte County	2	Kent-Sud	2
York West	2	Female Rep on Minor	1	West Kent Female	1
Victoria-Tobique	2	St. Stephen	1	Restigouche Ouest	2
Fredericton	2	Dieppe/Memramcook	2	Miramichi	0
Oromocto	2	Grand Manan	0	Greater Miramichi Female	2
Lewisville	0	Hillsborough	0	Baie des Chaleurs	2
District Director 2	1	District Director 3	1	Bathurst	0
District Director 6	1	District Director 7	1	Péninsule Acadienne	2
District Director 9	1	District Director 10	1	District Director 1	1
Rogersville	0	Minor Chair	1	District Director 5	1
Carleton Minor	1	Lancaster Minor	1	District Director 8	1
Woodstock	2	Boiestown/Doaktown	1	Shediac Cap Pele	2
Res-Ma-Vic	1	Western Valley Female	0	Central Female	0
South East Female	2	Fundy Female	2		

Leagues

League	#	League	#	League	#
NB Female AAA	2	Southern NB League	1	Central U15 League	1
Central U18 League	1	South East NB League	1	Central U11 League	1
District 1 & 2 League	2				

3- Motion to approve the 2025 Agenda.

Moved Mark Wright, Seconded Lisa Law.

Motion Carried

4- Minutes of 2024 AGM.

Motion to approve the NBMHC 2024 annual meeting minutes – Moved Alexandre Mallet, Seconded Lee MacWilliams

Motion Carried

5- Business arising from 2024 minutes.

There was no business arising from minutes.

6- Minor Chair – Luc Martin’s report

Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder.

7- Female Commission Representative- Jodie Driscoll

Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder.

8- Elite Hockey Commission: Denis Sheehan

Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder.

9- District Director Reports:

Mark Wright- District 1: Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder.

Lisa Law- District 2: Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder.

Hazel Wells- District 3: Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder.

Richard Hawkes - District 5: Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder.

Lee MacWilliams- District 6: Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder.

Alexandre Mallet- District 7: Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder.

Ian Donald - District 8: Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder.

Francine Albert- District 9: Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder.

Lee Benoit- District 10: Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder.

Éric Pelletier – District 11: Report submitted and included in Minor E-Binder. Was not able to attend this year’s

10- Executive Director - HNB: Nic Jansen

Report As submitted. Nic presented a summary of his report highlighting the main points from this past season.

11- Hockey Canada- Updates – Rob Newson

Rob Newson presented some Hockey Canada updates. Rob touched on the following:

- Canadian Development Model (CDM) – Hockey Canada’s Core Values, Player-centric to provide players with choice and development.
- Hockey Canada Registry (HCR) – update.
- Learning Lab -Standardized and Inclusive Education. Additional Courses, Enhancing the Coaching and Safety Resources and connecting them to other Digital Platforms.
- Digital Scoresheets and App – Applications and Data-Driven Safety, Training and Accountability.
- Data Hub – Good resource that shows the growth, decline, trends etc. per branch /association. Associations will have access to Data Hub in the near future.
- Women & Girls – Updates and 2025-2026 goals.
- First Shift – Update.
- Hockey Canada Foundation (Assist Fund) – Update
- Game Change – New initiative to provide best practices, Communication with MHA’s, Education & Program support and Promote Growth and Inclusivity.

12- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion – Presentation by Normand Hector

Nic Jansen welcomed Normand Hector to the group. Normand presented the progression of Diversity and Inclusion in Hockey. He touched on the backlash at the beginning of this journey a few years ago to the growth and development within the Hockey Community.

13- Notices of Amendment:

Ian Donald was tasked to read out the NOA's and associations voted for or against the motion. 79 voting delegates and 40 votes were needed to carry.

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT:

6.2 (g.): Moved to amend by Luc Martin / Seconded by Eric Pelletier

Proposed Wording – NEW

g. Suspensions issued through the Video Review Policy are not required to have a hearing.

Motion Carried

15.11 (d) Moved to amend by Luc Martin / Seconded by Eric Pelletier

Proposed Wording:

Years 1 and 2 allowed a maximum of 20 modified games with a start date of the **first Friday in December** and will apply to any jamboree modified game structure.

Motion Carried

15.12 Moved to amend by Luc Martin / Seconded by Eric Pelletier

Proposed Wording:

Maximum of **50** games per season, includes all tournament games and exhibition games, but exclude league and provincial playoffs.

Motion Carried

15.13 Motion moved by Ian Donald / Seconded by Richard Hawkes

Proposed Wording - NEW

U11 Team Classification

Team Registration Guidelines:

The following numbers are based upon the association's total registration numbers at the U11

AA Teams:

- 1 AA team for every 60 players (with a +/- 10 player flexibility).
- Maximum of 3 AA teams per association.

A Teams:

- For 24-59 players (with a +/- 10 player flexibility).

General Rules:

- Associations must have A and AA teams based on the player count.
- Additional teams are optional.
- If associations combine make an A or AA team, registrations from associations will be used to determine classification.

Special Cases:

1. U11 AA/A/B teams can be formed with neighboring associations, if associations do not meet the minimum registration numbers. Final approval for teams will be made by the local District Director in consultation with the boards of both associations.
2. Associations can request to play at the highest level without meeting player count requirements. Requests are made to local District Director
3. More than one team in the same division is allowed, but teams must be balanced. (This supersedes league rules)
4. If no U11 AA team exists in their district, players can transfer to another district.
5. It's recommended that no more than 50% of teams in an association are at the recreational level exceptions are to be approved by the local District Director

Motion Carried

15.13 (b) Motion moved by Ian Donald / Seconded by Richard Hawkes

Proposed Wording - NEW

b. Players will be permitted to transfer to a neighboring association if their home association doesn't offer U11AA. If the player is unsuccessful in making the U11AA team they return to the home association, if the home association offers a competitive level program.

Motion Carried

19.4 (c) Moved to amend by Tina Sewell / Seconded by Richard Hawkes
On the question by Jodie Driscoll / Seconded by Lori Williams

Proposed wording:

Female players registered in Female Associations who are first year or second year players in a division may also affiliate to a higher female category within their division or to the next female division. Co-ed female players are not eligible to affiliate to female association teams. Female Association players are not eligible to affiliate to Co-ed Association teams. Exception may be granted from the female representative to minor council and the district director.

Motion Carried

19.4 (f) Moved to amend by Luc Martin / Seconded by Eric Pelletier

Proposed wording:

Players can only affiliate within **the association that they're rostered to**. Should the community club not offer a competitive team in that division, the player may affiliate to a competitive team in a neighboring community club.

Motion Carried

21.1 (a) Moved to amend by Luc Martin / Seconded by Eric Pelletier

Proposed wording:
DELETE

Motion carried

21.1 (b) Moved to amend by Luc Martin / Seconded by Eric Pelletier

Proposed wording:
DELETE

Motion Carried

22.1 Moved to amend by Luc Martin / Seconded by Eric Pelletier

Proposed wording:

All tournaments/jamborees must be submitted on the prescribed form **by September 1**. Those not sanctioned at that time can only be sanctioned upon receipt of the NBMHC membership so long as the tournament/jamboree does not conflict with one

previously sanctioned. This application must be accompanied by the appropriate fee as per HNB's Fiscal Policy. The NBMHC will send to all associations/clubs a list of registered tournaments/jamborees before September 30 of each season.

Motion Carried

22.7 Moved to amend by Luc Martin / Seconded by Eric Pelletier

Proposed wording:

No minor tournament or jamboree will be sanctioned for commencement during the Zone Playoffs, or provincial championship weekend.

Motion Carried

14- Workshop/Feedback on HNB Initiatives and programs – Nic Jansen

Nic introduced an interactive workshop for the associations to provide feedback using a Start/Stop/Continue survey. The survey results will be reviewed by Minor Council to determine strategic priorities for the upcoming season.

Motion to adjourn the 2025 Minor AGM: Mark Wright at 11:48 am - **Carried**

MINOR HOCKEY PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Luc Martin

Another season has come to an end. Once again, minor hockey, female hockey, development hockey, and the Officials' Association continued to collaborate and work together to develop and improve our programs. However, with some of our partners, the approach continues to be more challenging than with others.

TRAINING

During the past season, Hockey New Brunswick offered several development camps as well as certification programs.

August

- Bathurst, Moncton, and St. Stephen all hosted pre-season HNB development camps.

September

- Male and female development sessions in Sackville and PD Day sessions
- Woodstock Minor Hockey (body checking techniques)
- Hockey classes at Oromocto High School / Leo Hayes High School: HNB staff delivered Coach 1, Coach 2, and Safety certifications
- Miramichi selected to host the neurodiverse hockey program (Skate Your Way)
- Oromocto Minor Hockey – on-ice body checking techniques
- FYHA body checking sessions
- Dieppe Minor Hockey – on-ice testing

October

- Development weekend (skills and drills) – Carleton Minor Hockey
- Petitcodiac Minor Hockey – Goaltending 1, Defense Development, and Skills 1
- Atlantic Challenge Cup
- PD Day in Dalhousie
- Richibucto – body checking techniques
- Oromocto Minor Hockey – body checking techniques
- Coaches' clinic – shooting and goal scoring in Grand Falls
- Skate Your Way (Quispamsis / Fredericton)

November

- Leo Hayes High School – PD Day in Fredericton
- Development sessions in Hillsborough
- Hartland / Woodstock / Carleton (Western Valley Panthers themed camp)
- Skate Your Way (Quispamsis / Fredericton)

December

- Oromocto High School – PD Day in Oromocto
- Development sessions in Grand Bay
- Charlotte County Hockey Day – skills sessions on December 29
- Female skills training in St. Isidore
- Skate Your Way (Quispamsis / Fredericton)

January

- PD Day in Edmundston
- Development sessions in Minto
- Shooting and goal-scoring sessions during the female tournament in Quispamsis
- Skate Your Way (Quispamsis / Fredericton)

February

- PD Day in Hampton
- Female camp in Sussex (Katie was on her own)

- Development sessions in Minto
 - Skate Your Way (Quispamsis / Fredericton)
- March
- March Break Camp in Grand Falls
 - March Break Camp in Kent Centre
 - March Break Camp in Sunny Corner
 - March Break Camp in Dalhousie
 - Development sessions in Chipman
 - Development sessions in Hillsborough
 - Skate Your Way (Quispamsis / Fredericton)

I would like to thank Matt Vautour and his team for organizing all of these clinics.

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The Provincial Championships were held over two weekends: March 20–22 for the M11 and M13 divisions, and March 27–29 for the M15 and M18 divisions.

This season, the New Brunswick Dairy Farmers served as the main sponsor for our various tournaments. Milk was distributed to every player following each game during all 16 provincial tournaments.

I would like to thank the host committees for their organization and coordination of these provincial tournaments. I also congratulate both the championship teams and the finalist teams.

Host Association	Winning Team	Finalist Team
U11 C, Carleton	Victoria-Tobique Thunder	HDM Eagles (Perry)
U11 B, Petitcodiac/Salisbury	Shediac Cap-Pelé Predators	Miramichi Wild
U11 A, Grand Falls	Sackville Rangers	Riverview Blues
U11 AA, Miramichi	HDM Eagles (Bourgeois)	York North Coyotes

Host Association	Winning Team	Finalist Team
U13 C, Edmundston	Lewisville Lightning	Moncton Hawks
U13 B, Riverview	Jr. Blizzard Edmundston	Acadie Peninsula Gladiators
U13 A, Kent Centre	Moncton Hawks (Doucet)	Miramichi Wild
U13 AA, Shediac/Cap-Pelé	FYHA Outlanders	FYHA Ice Dogs

Host Association	Winning Team	Finalist Team
U15 C, Edmundston	KV Canadiens	HDM Eagles (Babineau)
U15 B, Victoria-Tobique	Tri County (Albert)	Shediac/Cap-Pelé Predators
U15 A, Grand Falls	Jr. Cats Grand Falls	KV Hawks
U15 AA, Oromocto	Oromocto Eagles	HDM Eagles (Belliveau)

Host Association	Winning Team	Finalist Team
U18 C, Kennebecasis Valley	Grand Lake Wild	Tri County RiverRats
U18 B, Fredericton	Baie de Chaleur Flames	Miramichi Wild
U18 A, Fredericton	Dieppe/Memramcook Eagles (Hebert)	Lewisville Lightning
U18 AA, Fredericton	Dieppe/Memramcook Eagles (Boudreau)	Petitcodiac-Salisbury Flyers

Sixteen (16) provincial tournaments were held, bringing together a total of 145 participating teams. Over the course of these two weekends, I had the opportunity to visit eight host communities.

During my visits, I witnessed a tremendous level of volunteer involvement, and I would like to highlight the outstanding work of my District Directors in overseeing these various tournaments.

I also had the opportunity to speak with many coaches, parents, and volunteers. What continues to stand out during these events is the positive energy and commitment shown by the volunteers, which greatly contributes to the success of the tournaments. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to them: without their dedication, there would be no provincial tournaments in our province.

No major incidents were reported during these tournaments, aside from a few suspensions. That being said, we must continue to improve in order to ensure the participation of the strongest teams possible. I also identified several areas that the Minor Council should review in order to implement further improvements.

SUSPENSIONS

This year has been particularly busy in terms of managing suspensions. We recorded a total of 602 suspensions, including 512 players and 89 coaches, compared to the 2024–2025 season, which had 565 suspensions, including 477 players and 88 coaches.

During the season, the Minor Council Discipline Committee held 28 meetings involving suspended players or coaches, in addition to conducting several video reviews.

Year after year, the U18 C category remains the most problematic within minor hockey, as it accounts for the majority of suspensions. However, it is important to note that a decrease of approximately 23 suspensions was observed in this category this season. In addition, the U18 level also saw a reduction of 8 suspensions.

Conversely, the U11 and U15 categories recorded the most significant increases. Notably, there was an increase in the number of suspensions involving coaches at the U11 level, as well as a high number of penalties related to body checking in the U15 AA category.

Several suspensions fall under Section 11, which relates to physical and verbal abuse. The Minor Council will need to address this issue in order to consider stricter measures, particularly regarding the use of social media and discriminatory racial remarks during games.

Finally, this season marked the arrival of a new suspension coordinator. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her excellent work, as well as for her strong availability, particularly on weekends when the majority of suspensions are processed.

	2024-2025		2025-2026.	
	Joueur	Entraîneur	Joueur	Entraîneur
District # 1	19	3	35	11
District # 2	14	7	19	2
District # 3	126	23	140	17
District # 5	91	19	102	17

District # 6	107	14	106	21
District # 7	32	8	30	6
District # 8	21	5	22	6
District # 9	31	7	31	1
District # 10	17	0	8	0
District # 11	19	2	19	8
TOTAL	477	88	512	89

TABLEAU DE SUSPENSION PAR NIVEAU

	2024-2025			2025-2026		
	Joueur	Entraîneur	Total	Joueur	Entraîneur	Total
U9	0	0	0	0	2	2
U11 C	9	2	11	11	7	18
U11 B	2	2	4	4	3	7
U11 A	9	2	11	8	2	10
U11 AA	6	3	9	3	6	9
TOTAL	26	9	35	26	18	44

	2024-2025			2025-2026		
	Joueur	Entraîneur	Total	Joueur	Entraîneur	Total
U13 C	30	11	41	29	7	36
U13 B	4	2	6	8	1	9
U13 A	14	6	20	13	5	18
U13 AA	14	4	18	10	4	14
Total	62	23	85	60	17	77

	2024-2025			2025-2026		
	Joueur	Entraîneur	Total	Joueur	Entraîneur	Total
U15 C	63	12	75	66	12	78
U15 B	3	0	3	10	2	12
U15 A	46	6	52	40	7	47
U15 AA	37	8	45	48	8	56
Total	149	24	175	164	29	193

	2024-2025			2025-2026		
	Joueur	Entraîneur	Total	Joueur	Entraîneur	Total
U18 C	187	14	201	163	15	178
U18 B	21	3	24	5	0	5
U18 A	45	4	49	70	5	75

U18						
AA	16	3	19	24	3	27
Total	269	24	293	262	23	285

REGISTRATION:

This season, we recorded 9,956 male players and 2,773 female players, for a total of 12,729 participants in the New Brunswick minor hockey program. This represents an increase of 60 male players and 178 female players compared to the previous season.

Of the 10 districts in the province, 8 recorded an increase in player numbers, while 2 experienced a decline in participation.

I believe hockey remains in good health in several of our regions. However, some areas are experiencing greater difficulty recruiting volunteers to serve on the boards of their local associations. This situation is concerning, as without volunteer engagement, our young athletes will not have the opportunity to participate in their sport in a structured and organized environment.

The districts that recorded an increase are as follows:

- District 3: +135
- District 5: +55
- District 6: +48
- District 1: +38
- District 9: +25
- District 10: +17
- District 7: +14
- District 11: +6

The districts that recorded a decrease are as follows:

- District 8: -65 players
- District 2: -35 players

COMMENTARY:

During the season, I travel to several locations across the province to visit different associations and attend hockey games in various arenas, including Bathurst, Caraquet, Miramichi, Kent Centre, Shediac, Moncton, Riverview, Oromocto, Fredericton, Carleton, Victoria-Tobique, Saint-Léonard, Edmundston, and Grand Falls. This has allowed me to attend and observe more than 100 hockey games. These trips are always very rewarding and give me the opportunity to engage with parents and spectators. However, unfortunately, I find myself repeating the same message year after year, as in my previous reports: there are still inappropriate behaviours in arenas during minor hockey games. Some parents, grandparents, and coaches still do not seem to fully understand the objectives of minor hockey, particularly at the grassroots levels. Too many individuals continue to shout inappropriate remarks toward opposing players and, especially, toward officials. At the U9 and U11 levels, it is important to remember that officials are often young referees at the beginning of their development. They need to start somewhere in order to build their skills and progress. On the other hand, some officials should also learn to better manage their emotions and avoid any inappropriate comments, particularly those of a racial or linguistic nature.

Many people still view hockey as a right rather than a privilege. It is essential to continue raising awareness among all stakeholders in this regard. As a result, Hockey New Brunswick (HNB) has implemented various measures to promote respectful behaviour. These include the presentation of the parents' code of conduct as well as the requirement for parents to complete the "Respect in Sport" training.

As you can see, the Minor Council takes certain suspensions very seriously. We recognize that some penalties are part of the game and occur in the heat of the moment. However, avoidable suspensions, such as those related to fighting, abuse, or coach expulsions, are closely monitored and may result in more severe sanctions. In total, 89 coaches were suspended this season.

Some associations will also need to pay closer attention to their coach and assistant coach selection process. Too often, the same individuals receive suspensions year after year. Furthermore, at the U9 and U11 levels, it would be beneficial to place greater emphasis on coach training and supervision.

In conclusion, my Minor Council and I continue to face several challenges that must be addressed. However, we remain committed to improving minor hockey in the province and ensuring a safe and accessible environment for all young athletes to play the game.

I would like to sincerely thank Nic Jansen for his valuable support over the years, as well as the HNB staff (Heather, Michelle, Matt, Katie, and Brogan) for their excellent work within the organization. Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to all members of the HNB Minor Council for their dedication and outstanding contributions in their respective regions, as well as to all volunteers involved in the associations for their commitment to the development of hockey in New Brunswick.

Thank you and have a great summer. I look forward to seeing you again this fall.

Luc Martin
HNB Minor Chair

FEMALE HOCKEY REPORT – Jodie Driscoll

Overview of the Season

The Female Provincial League experienced a highly successful season marked by growth, development, and increased participation across the province. Teams were represented in every age category from **U11 through U18**, demonstrating strong engagement at all levels. Notably, several regions were able to ice their **first-ever all-female teams**, a milestone that reflects the expanding interest in female hockey.

Growth and Development Initiatives

Projections for the upcoming season are promising, with expectations of continued growth and the addition of new teams. Development programs such as **First Shift** and **Eso Fun Days** played a significant role in promoting female hockey and introducing new players to the sport. These initiatives helped strengthen grassroots participation and supported the league's long-term growth strategy.

Operational Changes and Growing Pains

While the season was successful, the introduction of several new initiatives brought expected challenges:

- **Spordle Implementation:** The league adopted Spordle for scheduling and game sheets. Training videos were provided to associations to support the transition, but as with any new system, there were learning curves and adjustments required.
- **New Operations Manual:** This season marked the first full implementation of the league's new operations manual, which provided clearer structure and consistency across all divisions.
- **Game Scheduling Policy:** A new scheduling policy was introduced; however, it was not fully implemented due to early-season scheduling complications. To reduce travel demands, **double-headers** were scheduled whenever possible. The first half of the season featured matchups between teams from various regions, while the second half shifted to a more defined **east-west split**.

Scheduling Challenges and Solutions

Game rescheduling continues to be one of the league's more complex operational challenges. To address this, meetings were held with ice schedulers from across the province to coordinate make-up games. These meetings proved to be **highly productive** and contributed to smoother scheduling processes as the season progressed.

Provincials

Provincial championships were held over two weekends and were **successful across all divisions**. The events were well-organized, competitive, and memorable for everyone involved.

A sincere thank-you goes out to all **hosts, volunteers, coaches, players, and parents**. Your dedication and support were essential in making Provincials—and the entire season—a positive and rewarding experience.

Jodie Driscoll

Female Representative to Minor Council

ELITE HOCKEY REPORT – Louis Gaudet

General Updates: Overall season has been good. Most teams were competitive this season. There was a reduction in teams from the western part of the province with the U15AAA team based in the Northwest not operating. Issues remain with ice allocation, and general lack of accessible ice in most areas of the province. Suspensions were down this season at all levels. Complaints regarding fair play and equal ice time for players continue to be addressed. There continues to be movement of players among zones and draw areas within zones that are primarily fueled by parents. Players are moving out-of-zone to compete for places on teams in other zones. Managing Parental expectations has become a great issue. Some teams are still attempting to find ways to circumvent regulations regardless of knowledge in attempt to 'win' and perhaps not develop.

Provincial winners were East Lynx (U13AAA); East Scorpions (U14AAA); East Hawks (U15AAA); St John Vito's (South) and Fredericton Caps (U18AAA).

Initiatives completed this season:

Established Financial budget standards for teams to follow to enable all players to maintain similar experiences throughout the province. Guidelines were sent to all elite teams within the province.

Team selection process is still not standardized throughout the province but the goal of using like systems is progressing forward. The resistance to change remains a challenge.

The GOLD Medal Pathway was again followed by most teams in the 'AAA' stream.

The 'AAA' Provincials were once again held in Moncton in early April declaring champions at the U13 AAA, U14 AAA, and U15 AAA divisions. A great atmosphere with several exciting games played over 4 days. Officials from around the province were brought in to officiate the tournament. U16 and U18 teams played series to declare provincial champions.

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion workshops were held again this season. Normand Hector again engaged athletes with his - E, D & I workshops which were completed for U15, U16 & U18 teams.

Preparation was completed to conduct the ongoing review of franchises within the elite 'AAA' stream.

A special thanks to Elite Hockey Commission board members - Denis Sheehan, Ray, Bobby Frees, Jason Kindred, Luc Martin, and Steven Jones for their time and dedication they give towards Elite Hockey within our province.

Special thanks to the staff of Hockey New Brunswick – Nic Jansen and Brogan Bailey for their dedication, support and guidance in helping guide Elite Hockey in our province.

Louis Gaudet
Elite Hockey Chair

DISTRICT 1 REPORT – Mark Wright

Here is my report for the 2025-2026 season. District 1 is represented by 4 active community clubs. To make a comparison with last year, the associations have seen an increase in their registration, which is good, and the U7 and U9 levels have seen a big increase, which bodes well for next year. As for the referees, the number to remain more or less the same.

At the beginning of the season, I met with the managers of the U7 to U18 teams to explain to them how the district works and the rules of the different categories. I wanted to do the same thing for the coaches but due to lack of time I don't have more but will be done next year.

During the season, we had a total of 8 meetings with a good number of participants, a lot of effort was put again this year by the associations to ensure that all their volunteers have the necessary courses to be compliant before the deadline. A big improvement from last year, but in 2026 we set ourselves the goal of reaching 100% before the deadline.

The district had a total of 46 suspensions for a total of 165 games compared to 22 suspensions and a total of 58 games last year, which is far too many for a small district, we will work with the associations to return to normal.

At the provincial championship levels, District 1 was well represented in the various provincials and came back with 2 banners, and the district had 18 teams out of 30 who participated, congratulations to all the teams.

We implemented the Spordle Play software and it was a great success and definitely we will be back next year, and I even helped other districts to work with it.

We also joined the Southern League this year for competitive teams and despite some shortcomings it was a success and we will try to have a Zone A league next year.

In closing, I would like to thank the members of the district executive (Marc-André, Marc and Louise), the presidents of the associations (Alexandre, Patrice, Marc, Pascal, Joey), ROC Éric Lebel, referee-in-chief Jean-Philip, women's hockey Arianne Milliard, the president of the minor council Luc Martin as well as all the volunteers for their involvement and all the efforts put into ensuring the smooth running of hockey in our region.

Mark Wright
District 1 Director

DISTRICT 2 REPORT – Cathy Waugh

This year was my first year as District Director for district #2. I must say it was a very rewarding and challenging position. I very much enjoyed my position this year and the opportunity to get to know more people in my district as well as interact with the kids in all of the associations in district #2.

We had 7 district meetings this year, 5 in person and 2 through zoom. My vice-president, Lisa Law was a great help to me this year and attended some things that I could not in the Woodstock area.

This year there were 6 community minor hockey associations, (Woodstock, Carleton, Victori-Tobique, Western Valley Female, Houlton, and Presque Isle). Although we did not see as much of Houlton as in past years, they were able to play some U9 and U11 games with us this year, while Presque Isle had U9 and U11 play mostly out of NB this year. There were some challenges with crossing the border, but the teams made it work and all of the associations made scheduling as easy as they could.

None of the associations in district #2 tiered their U9 divisions this year. With the U11 numbers being a little lower in all associations, we elected to move some of the second year U9 players up to play U11C, which made our U9 teams all Tier 1.

There are dwindling numbers in the district this year, especially in Carleton and Victori-Tobique. Both associations found it difficult this year to ice A and C teams at the higher divisions. They both decided to just have A teams at the U15 level, and at Christmas, they dropped back to B. Both teams had a rough year, but they stuck it out.

Woodstock hosted a U15AA team this year which seemed to go very well.

This is the first year that District #2 joined the Southern New Brunswick Minor Hockey League. The feedback from my associations has been very good. It was good to see them have more teams to play, and more teams at every level that were competitive to their level of play. We look forward to playing there again next year.

Carleton hosted U11C provincials and did a great job! Special thanks to Pam Underhill and Jordan Mean along with all of their parents for a very well organized and run tournament. Victoria-Tobique U11C won the provincial banner at that tournament.

Victoria-Tobique U15B hosted provincials as well this year. This team was a community team in all regards as they had kids from Perth-Andover, Plaster Rock, Grand Falls, Presque Isle, Caribou, Woodstock, and Tobique First Nations on that team. Special thanks to Jodi Corey, Taylor Roach, Sam & Denis Ouellette, as well as the coaching staff and parents/guardians for a well-run and organized tournament.

I would like to thank Mark Wright, District #1 Director, Hazel Wells, District #3 Director, Richard Hawkes, District #5 Director, Luc Martin, Minor Council Chair, and Dawn Shaw, District #2 ROC for all of their guidance and support this season. It was very much appreciated and made my year a little easier.

I would also like to thank my presidents of the associations for an amazing year. Tim McCarthy, President Carleton, Nathan Stokes, President Woodstock, Ricky Williams, President Victori-Tobique, Amanda Trickey, President Houlton, Keith Shirley, Vice-President Western Valley Female, and Dustin Supa, President Presque Isle. Your support and your associations have made this a great year for me and our district. It was a pleasure to work with all of you.

Cathy Waugh
District 2 Director

DISTRICT 3 REPORT – Hazel Wells

Season started with number of registered players 2911 and a total bench staff of 641.

Completed AGM's Boeistown/Doaktown, Keswick/Stanley York North OMHA and York West.

Tri Co will be held on May 21st, Central Female is being held on May 13th as well as Grand Lake. FYHA has yet to be determined and were advised based on the HNB operations manual it must be completed prior to HNB's AGM on June 11-13th

Out of the associations that have them completed we welcome back Kevin King, Jennifer Hurley, Lyn Colford and Valerie Favreau and we welcome new to the group, new president of York West Minor Hockey-Tom Miller and a huge Thank you to Ruthie Bresson for the 6 years of all her hours of volunteering with York West.

We as well will have a new president of Grand Lake minor Hockey-welcome Scott Ryan and thank you for stepping up to this new role. Thank you as well to Mat Richardson for his last 10 years of volunteering with Grand Lake.

Having our competitive teams play out of Southern NB League this season for all levels worked well. We had a balance of correct levels play within their respective levels AA/A/B and a very big thank you for all their work with schedules and any hiccups with weather. Thank you to District 5 for the returning invite.

Provincial winners in District 3 were:

U13 AA FYHA Ice Dogs

U15AA OMHA Eagles

U15B Tri County

U18B Tri County

Congratulations to all who participated in HNB Provincials and to district 3 champions.

We seen an increase in suspensions this season within District 3, 30+ U18 suspensions, U15 seen +35 suspensions, U13 under 10 (3 of these were abusive behavior which is very concerning at this level) U11 had 2 and 1 was ruling of 11.1e which is also concerning. We have 10+ bench staff that have received suspensions this season, some of these suspensions were for maltreatment- abusive behavior – how can we expect our minor players to behave when we are not having our coaches?

10+ hearing were held for player/coach within District 3 this season- again if we cannot control our bench how can we expect the players to be any different.

District 3 has also been involved in 3rd party complaints as well- most were sent back to the association level, but this is worrisome with “bullying” racial comments and just plain bad behavior. I would like to see all U15/U18 have mandatory sessions with Norman Hector in the season 2006-2027 before Christmas. This is something I will be working with associations and HNB to ensure as hockey is to be a fun activity and a safe place for all.

Goalie clinics/Esso Fun days were hosted within district 3

FYHA/York West and Central Female all hosted the First Shift program this season as well as the neurodiversity sessions in Fredericton. Thank you to HNB, Matt Vautour and volunteers who continue to help ensure that all is included.

This year a new VP will be elected within District 3 as well we are bringing the position of League President back. Names will be announced week of 05/16/26

Thank you to Luc/Nic and all the staff at HNB without having you available to answer all my questions and emails I would have been so lost!

Hazel Wells
District 3 Director

DISTRICT 5 REPORT – Kristine McLaughlin

Another hockey season has come to a close, and there have been many accomplishments throughout our district. None of this would have been possible without the Association Presidents and volunteers who dedicated countless hours to ensuring a successful season of minor hockey. Thank you for your continued commitment to your communities.

Throughout the season, several associations hosted programs such as First Shift, neurodivergent hockey programs, and goalie clinics hosted by members of the Saint John Sea Dogs, to name a few. A number of tournaments were also held across the district. Most associations experienced increases in player registration; however, this continues to place strain on ice availability within many communities.

For the first time, the SNBMHL included teams from Districts 1, 2, and 3 at the U11, U13, and U15 AA, A, and B levels in qualifying and playoff games alongside District 5 associations. This initiative was intended to provide more competitive play within each division. As with any inaugural season, challenges arose; however, the league and district directors worked collaboratively to mitigate negative outcomes. Overall, feedback has been positive.

KVMHL hosted 16 teams for the U18 Recreational Provincial Tournament this past March. Hampton hosted the Midget Central U18 All-Star Game in their brand-new arena, the Summit Centre. They also hosted the Southern New Brunswick Minor Hockey League Day of Champions weekend. The Hampton U18AA Bulldogs and KVMHA U15C Canadiens both brought home provincial championship titles.

District 5 has also experienced several leadership changes in recent weeks. There have been changes within the boards of directors of several associations, most notably the departures of District Director Richard Hawkes and SNBMHL President Kelly Delruey. I would like to thank them both for their years of dedicated volunteer service. Their knowledge and commitment to minor hockey will be greatly missed.

Kristine McLaughlin
District 5 Director

DISTRICT 6 REPORT – Lee MacWilliams

The 2025-2026 season was a busy one in District 6. With 8 minor hockey associations and approximately 200 minor hockey teams, there was something going on every weekend.

District 6 was also able to host Hockey New Brunswick Neurodiverse hockey program again this year in Moncton/Dieppe. The program allowed for many neurodiverse children (ages 6 through 17 years of age) an opportunity to try this amazing game. Special thanks to David Melanson (Head Instructor) and volunteer Julie Doucette for their championing this Hockey New Brunswick program.

Coaches, Referees, and Goaltending clinics were carried out throughout all minor hockey associations in District 6 with strong participation at all of them.

Getting the volunteer criminal and vulnerable record checks seemed much improved this year. Thanks to all the minor hockey associations in District 6 on staying on top of these this past season.

District 6 (specifically Riverview and Petitcodiac) hosted two (U11B and U13B) Provincial Championships this season. The host committees did a great job hosting this event and both were considered a success.

Congratulations to all the minor Provincial Championship teams throughout the province.

District 6 had a few of our own including:

- U11 A -Tier 2: Sackville Sirens
- U11 A - Teir 3: SEFHA Dieppe-Memramcook Panthers
- U13 A – Teir 1: SEFHA Dieppe-Memramcook Panthers
- U13 AA SEFHA Fury
- U13 AAA SEFHA Fury
- U15 A – Tier 1: Sackville Sirens
- U15 A – Teir 2: SEFHA Dieppe-Memramcook Panthers
- U15 AA - SEFHA Fury
- U11 AA – Dieppe-Memramcook Aigles
- U11 A – Sackville Rangers
- U13 A – Moncton Hawks
- U13 C – Moncton Hawks
- U18 C – Hockey Dieppe-Memramcook Aigles

A sincere thank you to the district 6 minor hockey club Presidents, executive directors, and league Presidents. Your attendance and participation in our monthly District meetings this season were appreciated and helped ensure a smooth season.

Special thanks to the other members of HNB minor council, Nic Jansen, Luc Martin, and the staff at Hockey New Brunswick. I have appreciated your support and guidance all season.

Thanks.

Lee MacWilliams
District 6 Director

DISTRICT 7 REPORT – Alexandre Mallet

The 2025–2026 season was an excellent year for District 7, with many great successes across our associations.

For Shediac/Cap-Pelé, the reopening of the Cap-Pelé arena greatly helped make the season run more smoothly. The association also had great success hosting the U13 AA Provincial Championship.

Kent Centre also had an excellent season and successfully hosted the U13 A Provincial Championship.

For Kent Sud, the season went very well with the organization of three major tournaments and one jamboree, very few issues involving players, parents, or coaches, and a total of 27 teams this year.

For West Kent Female, the Blizzard Tournament in January was a great success during its 18th edition, welcoming nearly 100 teams. The association also had a record season with 12 teams, a first in its history. It was also the first time they hosted both U9 Tier 2 and U15 AAA divisions. Several teams had strong performances, including the U18 Rec team winning the Kraken Cup, the U15 Rec team winning the Panthers Cup, the U13 AAA team finishing as provincial finalists, and the U15 AAA team winning provincials and finishing as runners-up at Atlantics.

I would like to sincerely thank all four associations in the district, especially their presidents, for their incredible work throughout the season. I would also like to thank Hockey New Brunswick for their continued support throughout the year.

We are already looking forward to next season

Alexandre Mallet
District 7 Director

DISTRICT 8 REPORT – Ian Donald

The 2025–26 minor hockey season experienced stable participation levels. All four associations—Miramichi Minor Hockey, Renous Minor Hockey, Rogersville Minor Hockey, and Sunny Corner Minor Hockey—were operational throughout the season. Each association demonstrated both successes and ongoing challenges.

All C-level teams participated in the North Shore Minor Hockey League, as well as most AA/A/B levels however the Miramichi U15B played in the Southeastern League due to no B division in the North Shore Minor Hockey League. Continued improvements to North Shore Minor Hockey League scheduling would benefit all associations, including District 8, however, the overall strength and effectiveness of the league depends on the level of involvement from its member associations. While District 8 associations regularly attended league meetings, increased engagement in league operations and development would be beneficial.

Off-ice discipline, particularly spectator behavior from parents, grandparents, and caregivers, remains a significant concern. Verbally abusive behavior toward players and officials has reached an all-time high. Incidents requiring game stoppages and the ejection of spectators have become increasingly common, occurring nearly every weekend. District 8 experienced an unacceptable number of such situations during the season.

The season concluded on a positive note, with many District 8 teams advancing to various provincial tournaments. In addition, Miramichi Minor Hockey successfully hosted the U11AA Provincial Tournament, delivering an exceptional event marked by strong attendance, excellent organization, and a positive experience for all participants.

Ian Donald
District 8 Director

DISTRICT 9 REPORT – Francine Albert

District enrollment rose to 751 for the 2025–2026 season, an increase of 77 registrations.

The 146 female players account for 21.7% of the total enrollment, and their numbers have increased by 5% compared to last season.

Starting at the U11 level, female players compete in co-ed teams and are, for the most part, "double-carded" to allow them to play a few games with a female team.

We created Tier 1 and Tier 2 teams at the U9 level. Overall, this structure worked well, and it will continue.

The number of goalies remains an issue.

Suspensions remained stable.

Complaints increased significantly. Efforts must be made to find solutions to reduce the number of complaints.

Mandatory presentations for teams covering the Operations Manual, regulations, and Minimum standard of discipline will need to be delivered, as it has become clear that most people do not take the time to review these documents.

Congratulations to all teams that participated in the Provincial Championships, and especially to the U13B (co-ed) Gladiators for winning the silver medal and to the U13AA Mystiks (female) for capturing the gold medal.

Thank you to the HNB staff for their assistance and to Luc Martin for his continued support. Thank you as well to the Acadian Peninsula Community Club for its involvement and confidence.

Thank you and have a great summer!

Francine Albert
District 9 Director

DISTRICT 10 REPORT – Lee Benoit

This was my second year as a District Director for district 10.

Regionally we had a total of 387 players which is an increase of 4.6% from the previous season.

We had a total of 27 teams. (6x u7, 6x u9, 6x u11, 4x u13, 3x u15, 2x u18)

Our numbers regionally were once again very healthy at the U7-U9 and U11 age group. Which is very promising for the years to come.

Both of my associations hosted various tournaments and participation was great.

Both of my associations appear to work well together to ensure everyone can play hockey at various levels.

As director I have attended over 75 games in my area. I do note that in general, the parent's composure was an improvement compared to the previous season. Player development, retention and recruitment remain some of my focuses when discussing with my associations.

Both associations were great to work with. Both associations continue to invest in putting importance on referee recruitment.

During the season and to respond to numerous member's requests in having 1 regional association vs 2. Both associations agreed to have a steering committee formed with individuals that were not part of both boards. The report was then shared with members, and a special meeting was held to present the report and answer any questions. I do note that 80% of teams U11 and up were composed of players from both associations. We wanted members to decide if AHMBDC and BMHA should dissolve and form 1 regional association. Members were called to vote and 94% were in favor from the AHMBDC and 90% in favor from BMHA. This new association has been approved by minor council and most recently held their first AGM.

Lots of changes are expected in the administration of regional minor hockey for the 26-27 season. On the ice, a new identity will soon be seen in the area. The future of Minor Hockey in District 10 is very promising.

Coming back to the 25-26 season, it was a successful year on the ice. The biggest loss is our region did lose a great volunteer to cancer; Sylvain Boudreau, he will be remembered forever, and he would be super happy to see 1 regional association. With over 12 years as a board member of AHMBDC, his knowledge, calm, friendship and leadership will be missed by all.

I'm always open to any questions.

Lee Benoit
District 10 Director

DISTRICT 11 REPORT – Éric Pelletier

The 2025-26 season in district 11 saw an increase in player numbers in Restigouche North minor hockey. The total number was 309 for this season. The increase can be attributed to Bauer first shift clinics and female recruitment. There was a full slate of teams, from U-7 to U-18 C, and a female only team. Many teams attended the different provincial tournaments, and had fun, but no champions this year.

The association had their AGM, but many positions remain vacant. We are trying hard to get these positions filled, in order to have minor hockey in Restigouche north next season. The many volunteers have been there for years but are now ready to pass the torch and spend more time with their families.

I am also hoping that the Amendment put forth for the AGM, on volunteers needing their criminal record and vulnerable sector check, completed before being rostered, is accepted. It would make it easier for the registrar and district director to approve rosters. I want to thank all the volunteers, that are remaining on the RNMHA executive and the ones that are stepping away. Without you, there would be no hockey for the kids in district 11.

I also want to thank all the members of minor council, who all volunteer countless hours to the sport and to everyone at the HNB office, that are always ready to help, and answer questions when called upon. Thank you very much and have a great summer.

Eric Pelletier
District 11 Director

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT - Nic Jansen

Hockey New Brunswick (HNB) continued to prioritize player development, accessibility, inclusion, and technology throughout the 2025–2026 season through a wide range of educational initiatives, grassroots programming, high-performance development opportunities, and strategic partnerships.

Education, Inclusion & Safe Sport

HNB delivered several province-wide educational initiatives focused on inclusion, respect, and responsible conduct. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion workshops led by Normand Hector engaged more than 250 participants, while Brock McGillis' Shiftmaker's Tour reached over 575 participants across 25+ teams with programming centered on inclusion and safe sport culture. Allison Forsyth also presented social media conduct sessions to HNB members, emphasizing responsible online behavior and digital citizenship. These initiatives reinforced HNB's commitment to fostering a safe and respectful hockey environment.

Accessibility & Grassroots Development

HNB expanded access to hockey through several grassroots initiatives:

- **Skate Your Way Program:** Offered free programming for neurodiverse youth ages 5–18 in four communities, with 118 participants taking part in 10 on-ice sessions. The season concluded with a year-end jamboree held in collaboration with Hockey Canada and the ESSO Cup.
- **NHL/NHLPA First Shift:** Continued to provide affordable entry points into hockey for new families through programs hosted in multiple associations across the province.
- **Skills Camps:** Co-ed camps were hosted in 16 communities, focusing on both on-ice skill development and off-ice life skills such as teamwork, fitness, and respect.
- **Esso Fun Days:** HNB members hosted 10 of the 50 national Esso Fun Day events, promoting female hockey participation through free and inclusive programming.

High Performance & Goaltending Development

Two Goaltending Level 1 clinics trained 45 coaches, while the High-Performance Goalie Clinic provided elite development opportunities for competitive U13 goaltenders through on-ice sessions, off-ice training, and presentations from high-level hockey personnel, including NHL goaltender Jake Allen.

ESSO Cup Legacy & Event Hosting

The ESSO Cup was hosted in Dieppe for the first time in New Brunswick history, led by the Moncton Rockets organization. In addition to the national championship event, HNB coordinated several development initiatives alongside the tournament, including Esso Fun Days, goalie camps, officiating clinics, and coaching certification opportunities, creating a lasting legacy within the province.

Financial Support & Partnerships

Through the Hockey Canada Assist Fund, 81 HNB members received a combined \$46,866 in registration assistance, helping reduce financial barriers for families across the province.

HNB also strengthened its partnerships during the season:

- Dairy Farmers of New Brunswick became the presenting sponsor of Minor and Female Provincial Championships.
- Falavory partnered with HNB to provide new fundraising opportunities for teams and associations.

Digital Modernization

HNB continued expanding the use of Spordle Play, enhancing league operations through centralized websites, electronic game scoring, scheduling, and mobile integration. The platform was utilized by several leagues and served as the official scoring and information hub for all Minor, Female, and AAA Provincial Championships. Based on strong feedback and operational success, HNB plans to further expand the platform during the 2026–2027 season.

Thanks again to all the outstanding volunteers throughout New Brunswick. It's a pleasure to work with a passionate and dedicated group of volunteers.

See you around the rink.

Nic Jansen
Executive Director