

February 2024

South Muskoka Minor Hockey Association Monthly Newsletter



Bailey living his best mascot life at Fire and Ice Bracebridge with SMMHA coach Sandy Davidson



Join the SMMHA Board of Directors!

South Muskoka Minor Hockey Association is accepting nominations for board positions for the 2024/25 season until February 22, 2024 at 11:30 am. These volunteer positions are vital to the operation of SMMHA and is an excellent way to give back to your community.

- President (Executive) - 2 year term**
- Secretary (Executive) - 2 year term**
- Registrar (Executive) - 1 year**
- Director of Player Development - 1 year**
- Director of Off Ice Officials & Volunteers - 1 year**
- Director of Tournaments - 1 year**
- Director of Equipment - 1 year**
- Director of Sponsorship - 1 year**
- Director of Public Relations & Marketing - 1 year**
- Director of Local League U5 to U9 - 2 years**

Elections will be held during a General Meeting March 5th @ 6:00pm at the Bracebridge Arena. We invite you to attend the elections meeting as the board and those in attendance from the membership, will be voting in our new board members.

All new board members will shadow current board members for the remainder of the season. This will involve attending our monthly board meetings and learning the positions. Once we hold our AGM, new board members will assume full duties and voting capabilities.

Visit the SMMHA website to nominate someone you think would be a great fit for a role!

Need to Give Us Feedback?



RESPECT THE PLACES WE PLAY IN

The arenas we play in are the places where we play the game we love, it is for this reason that we should treat these places and the people that take care of them with the utmost respect. Facilities have on occasion been trashed by teams (both home teams and away) and these places haven't been treated with the respect they deserve. When players wear their jerseys they are representing the association and a simple act of mistreatment towards the facilities we play in tarnishes our reputation, most importantly though it shows a lack of respect to the individuals who keep our arenas in working order. It is up to each one of us to play a part in respecting these spaces whether you are a player, coach, parent or spectator. Let's all do our part!

Updated: Ontario Dressing Room Policy

As the Ontario Minor Hockey Association's governing body, the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF), alongside Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO) and Hockey Northwestern Ontario (HNO), are the governing bodies for amateur hockey in Ontario and members of Hockey Canada.

The three members have come together to create the Ontario Dressing Room Policy. The Policy comes into effect February 1, 2024.

The Dressing Room Policy is focused on enhancing inclusion and safety for all participants on any team or officiating team across the province. Dressing rooms are designated team spaces for all team participants to use and interact in on a welcoming, equitable, inclusive, and safe basis. In addition, to minimize occurrences of maltreatment, bullying, and harassment in the dressing room these spaces now come with minimum attire and supervision requirements, and a requirement to accommodate individuals if they require additional measures or supports.

"To best promote inclusion and to respect the privacy of all participants on a team, Hockey Canada requires all participants to wear minimum attire at all times in a dressing room or in dressing environments where more than one participant is present," Hockey Canada's policy document reads. "This means that participants should arrive at the rink wearing a base layer." It also noted that a base layer could be shorts and a T-shirt, compression shorts and a shirt or a sports bra.

More information on the new policy can be found here: [**Ontario Dressing Room Policy**](#)

Ref Maltreatment Reminder

As the season heats up in intensity for our teams with playoffs approaching it's crucial for each and every one of us to remember that referees are out there doing their job. Ref maltreatment is a serious issue facing minor hockey as less and less refs are willing to take the abuse faced by players, coaches, parents and fans. No one should be subjected to abuse while on the job, plain and simple.