

HOCKEY EASTERN ONTARIO

813 Shefford Rd.
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PRESS RELEASE

Date: September 27, 2024
Ottawa, Ontario:

Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO) held their Annual General Meeting on September 26th, 2024

Some highlights include:

HEO Board of Directors Election

Congratulations to the following individuals who have been elected to the to the HEO Board of Directors for a two-year term:

HEO President: Craig Halpenny
HEO Director: Andrew Creese
HEO Director: Fabio Onesi

These individuals will join the existing HEO Board of Directors:

HEO Director: Sylvette Brousseau
HEO Director: Del Brown
HEO Director: Mario Paquette

HEO and its members thank Jacquie Dixon, HEO Director for their service and contributions to amateur hockey across the Branch.

Other key AGM highlights included the following:

- HEO Members received the 2023-24 HEO financial and audit statements from KPMG.
- HEO's Members received a report from the Interim- President, Craig Halpenny on behalf of the Board outlining progress made in 2023-24 on a variety of policy, program and governance initiatives for the benefit of members. Some examples include:
 - HEO participated in the 2nd Hockey Canada Girl's and Women's Hockey Summit which looked at ways and means to strengthen the women's and girl's game across the Country.
 - HEO placed a focus on an initial review of HEO Tier 3 Competitive hockey within the Branch
 - HEO participated in the Beyond the Boards Summit which Hockey Canada hosted on the culture of the game. These were very informative sessions with great speakers and workshops.
 - There has been a focus on the role of non-sanctioned hockey within the Branch and across the Country. The topic of non-sanctioned hockey was identified as a priority for Hockey Canada and for HEO and the work in this area will continue.

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- HEO partnered with Hockey Quebec to host the Cross Border Challenge for U14-U16 AAA program of excellence players. The event was a success, and we look to build on the experience for HEO players in the coming years.
- HEO was fortunate to have 29,059 total participants registered in 2023-24 of which were players, coaches/bench staff and officials.
- HEO families received \$82,978 from the Hockey Canada Assist Program in 2023-24. There was a \$20,000 increase from funding from the previous season.
- HEO organizations ran 7 NHL First Shift programs involving 280 participants.
- 17 HEO bursaries were awarded to deserving HEO participant/students in 2023-24.
- Saw the implementation of the Gold Medal Pathways in the AAA league.
- Approved the application of the Canadian International Hockey Academy to operate as an accredited school in the 2023-24 season and beyond.
- Supported the Officiating Referee School
- Supported the pilot for “no cost” for new Officials
- Saw the start of EDI education with some of our AAA teams.
- Approved recommended revisions to the U9 Player Pathway policy and other Pathway Policies
- Approved an Ontario wide policy for PRC/VSC (more information to follow)

For more information, consult the Governance webpage on HEO’s website: www.hockeyeasternontario.ca