

WMHA DIVERSITY COMMITTEE



Who is the WMHA

The Whitby Minor Hockey Association and its Board of Directors are committed to delivering a hockey program to its members. We are dedicated to creating an environment that fosters fun sportsmanship, fairness and respect in our Competitive and Recreational Programs to not only develop young athletes but also young men and women.

Who we are

Organized hockey began in Whitby in 1943 and has been a proud member of the OMHA for over 79 years. Brooklin and Whitby hockey associations amalgamated in 1971. Whitby Minor Hockey Association's unsurpassed reputation has grown extensively. The Association currently boasts a membership of over 2,000 players that encompass over 100 House League teams and 40 Representative teams.

WMHA takes pride in providing the opportunity for all players to participate in various levels of hockey, consistent with each player's level of skill and interest.



What we do

Our Philosophy is rooted in fostering young men and women who will be positive examples and leaders in our Community through values learned from our dedicated volunteers.

A) Create an opportunity for eligible individuals (given availability), to participate in recreation house league ice-hockey in a community based program, and the development and participation in representative ice hockey providing the opportunity to participate at the highest competitive level

B) The association shall be operated without the purpose of pecuniary gain to any Members and any surplus or accretions of the Association shall be solely for the purpose of the Association and the promotion of its objects

Why it matters

We recognize that, as a system, we have much to be proud of, but also that it often falls short of being the best it can be. Plus certain vulnerable segments of the population are not receiving acceptable levels of our attention. Our intent at Whitby Minor Hockey Association is to continuously improve the quality of services and mentorship in the city regardless of who you are and what tier your child plays within. We are driven by the desire to make the organization better, and by the inarguable fact that better has no limit



Diversity Matters

An effective advisory council reflects the diversity of the people that your organization serves and the broader community we share. A diverse council ensures that the decisions being made reflect, and respond to, a broad range of lived experiences. Diverse representation on your advisory council is important for a number of reasons. As a service that intimately touches people's lives, Whitby minor hockey providers need to deliver culturally appropriate mentorship and be sensitive to social and cultural differences and preferences. Social and cultural background affects a person's experience of care in many ways – from the language used to communicate with a provider, to expectations about what role family may play as caregivers, and activities people find comforting. As not for profit entity, WMHA also have an obligation and responsibility to reduce barriers so that all families within Whitby to provide access high quality development and fun experiences that is appropriate to their needs. For the people who may face the highest challenges in navigating the politics and blindness of inclusiveness of minor hockey, this means making clear efforts to involve those with these lived experiences in decisions that affect our families experiences within our organization. What the advisory council collectively brings are a variety of experiences to the table, it expands their ability to contribute ideas that apply to the diverse lives of people and families served by our organization.

Members of the council can become active participants and partner with the organization in developing recruitment strategies to broaden the diversity on their council. The tone and activities of the council should also reflect an interest in bringing all perspectives to the table.



How to apply

Seeking your help to recruit for a diversity advisory council at Whitby Minor Hockey

Dear parent and/or community member,

Whitby Minor Hockey is looking to start a diversity advisory council. This advisory council should reflect the diversity of our parents, their families, and our wider community. I am writing to ask for your advice and assistance to help us reach people in the community and invite you and those interested to consider volunteering for this council. The advisory council plays a vital role in our organization by advising our board members on ways to improve the quality of service we provide to our youth, their families and our community.

By joining the council, people have the chance to be part of changes that can benefit everyone who uses our services. Specifically, we are seeking people who:

- Are a parent
- Can work respectfully in partnership with a variety of other people.
- Have or have had a child participate in WMHA or any other youth sports organization
- Take a constructive approach to discussing concerns and ideas in order to address them.

Thank you.

Ryan Smyth, VP of Marketing and Sponsorship, vpmarketing@whitbyhockey.com

