

Women's Report - Summer 2011

I need to report the following issues with the Women's Hockey Association of Minnesota (WHAM). They held an electronic Spring Meeting and annual elections in May of this year. I have informed them of the violation and told them they would need to hold a proper election. I gave them until May 31st to resolve this issue. I have not received a response to date. They seem to be moving forward with a board that is not properly constituted.

As an affiliate of Minnesota Hockey and USA Hockey WHAM is required to run their program correctly according to the rules.

A recent action by the WHAM board has required a player move up a division and leave her team with no prior notice to the player or team and no opportunity to be heard. The letter ends by stating that there are no appeal rights with respect to this decision. Following the action there were several e-mails from concerned players in the league. One concern is that they have this kind of authority and they are under the impression that they don't have to answer to anyone.

I am asking for support from the Minnesota Hockey Board of directors for input as to how to bring WHAM back in line.

In an e-mail from the former Minnesota District/USA Hockey Girl's & Women's rep Lynn Olson states, "WHAM has not changed a bit with regard to their attitude towards the Women's Director" stating that WHAM has a hatred for Minnesota Hockey and a general disregard for the authority of Minnesota Hockey.

If we let them continue along this path there is a danger that they will run a non-USA Hockey program.

They have a good organization with much positive but they need to understand how to run things correctly.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Wefler
Minnesota Hockey
Women's Director