



BDMHA Executive Nomination Candidate – VP Operations

Ken Lenihan

Personal Background

I was born and raised in Bedford and currently have two boys, Zack (14) and Carter (12) who are playing in Bedford & District Minor Hockey. I have been employed for 30+ years with the Halifax Regional Municipality and currently am the Manager of Geographical Information Systems. I am responsible for 14 staff of GIS Specialists, Data Analysts and GIS Developers. Previous to becoming Manager, I served several years as a Data Analyst for the Municipality.

EXPERIENCE

President, Bedford Minor Baseball

I have served many years as the President of Bedford Minor Baseball and still hold this position currently.

U15 Coordinator, Bedford & District Minor Hockey Association

For the past 2 seasons, I served as the U15 Coordinator for the association.

Secretary, Maritime Sports Hall of Fame

Currently served as Secretary for the Maritime Sports Hall of Fame. A position I have held for the past two years.

Selection Committee, Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame

For the past 10 years, I have been on the Selection Committee for the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame.

Atlantic Canada Scout, Major League Baseball Scouting Bureau

Spent 20 years as the Atlantic Scout for Major League Baseball Scouting Bureau which saw approximately 25 Atlantic Canadian players be drafted by Major League Baseball teams.

Learning Facilitator and Coach Evaluator, Baseball Canada

For the past 18 years, I have served as a Learning Facilitator who teaches the many baseball modules required to coach in the sport of baseball and I am the only Coach Evaluator in the province of Nova Scotia for baseball. My role is to evaluate coaches in order to get them the proper certification for National Championships.

VP of Operations and Regional Director, Baseball Nova Scotia

Sat on the board of Baseball Nova Scotia for 5 years as the VP of Operations and another 8 years as a Regional Director for the Hammonds Plains, Bedford, Sackville and Fall River Area.

Baseball Canada Coaches Committee

Served 10 years on the Baseball Canada Coaches Committee which was responsible for creating the training documents for all Baseball Canada Coaching Modules across the country.

Why am I Running?

There are several reasons why I am running. The main reason is I grew up in a family of volunteers. Both my mom and dad volunteered in the community of Bedford and also served on the Board of Baseball Nova Scotia for several years. The baseball fields at Range Park are named after my mom and dad because of all their volunteering in Bedford. Volunteering is part of my DNA and always has been. I volunteered long before my kids were even alive. I continue to serve on the board of Bedford Minor Baseball as President, I have coached for many years both locally and provincially having been a Head Coach of the Provincial team for 15 years and coached at the Canada Games in 1997, 2001, 2005 and 2013. Though my kids are involved in sport now, I believe I have demonstrated that I am in it for more than just my kids. I believe my experience prior to being involved with my kids gives me a perspective that many do not have. I have been on both sides, one without kids involved and one with kids involved. Anyone who has worked with me knows that I look at the big picture and try to do what is best for the larger group. My background may not be as strong as some in the sport of hockey but I am a sport administrator and have been at the local, provincial and national level. I believe my background in administration, coaching, officiating (I was a National Certified umpire for 5 years) and in professional scouting gives me a wide range of knowledge and understanding of not only how organizations should operate but an even broader experience than most.

I believe in transparency and communication and I believe I am very responsive to people, sometimes to a fault but I think if you ask anyone in the sports world, I am very quick to reply to people and try to help in whatever way I can. I believe people appreciate that and often just want to be heard and respected.

The last reason I got involved was to honor my late wife Joanne who passed away in 2021. Joanne served on the Board of Bedford & District Minor Hockey for a number of years both as a coordinator and VP of U7/U9. I felt given her dedication to minor hockey that I would continue what she started as we were both very active in our kids sports. Joanne in the winter and myself in the summer.

What I can bring to Bedford & District Minor Hockey Association

I feel I bring years of sports administration to the association and have a background in many areas of sports. I bring a passion for trying to provide a program for the youth of the community. I am a good communicator and someone who believes the association is for the kids. I have many years of tryout experience in sport both as an evaluator and as an administrator. I recognize the number of hours it takes to run an organization and I also understand that all decisions may not please everyone but I am not someone who runs away from those decisions. I believe the people who have dealt with me recognize me as a person with integrity and commitment and have the best interest of the kids in the program.

My previous job as a Data Analyst provides me with a background in developing proper surveys with questions that help dig deeper into the data itself, analyzing that data and making data driven

recommendations and decisions from that data. I believe any association belongs to the members and any successful association works from the membership and up to the board and not the other way around.

Tasks I would like to see completed?

For me there are several things as an organization we can do better but a few things that I would want to see completed are:

a) Amendments to the Constitution but with membership input along the way. As VP of Operations for Baseball Nova Scotia, I was involved in the rewrite of their new By-Laws several years ago which is long overdue here in Bedford Minor. The Constitution is the guiding document we as a Board should follow.

b) More input from qualified people around evaluations. Scores are not the only thing that can be used to identify players and make teams. We need to utilize the strong hockey backgrounds we have in this association.

c) Coach Selection and development - create and follow a process to identify and select coaches and develop our coaches. We started some good initiatives this past season and I think we need to grow upon them.

d) Look at Core Skills or something like it for older kids and develop ways to incorporate checking into these core skills to better protect our players who wish to play contact and to also create a larger pool of players who can play contact if they wish in the future.

In closing, I would love to be elected to the position of VP of Operations and if there is any further questions anyone has for me regarding my nomination for the position than please reach out to me at klenihan10@gmail.com and I would be happy to answer your questions or set up a time to talk.