

## **OMHMHA Meeting Minutes November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.**

**Attendance:** Jen Johnston, Marie Schaff, Kersti Toews, Mark Bissat, Ashley Keeping, Bill Forman, Trishia Edwards, Tammy Mikkelsen, Tiffany Pincott, Susan Cameron, Nicole Blades.

**Motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Seconded. Discussion. Carried.**

**Motion to approve the minutes from the October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting as presented via email. Seconded. Discussion. Carried.**

### **President's Report**

November 15, 2023

MH Board Meeting – Presidents Report

We are at the eight-week mark of the season and as per the past 20 seasons of my involvement with Minor Hockey, the wheels are falling off the bus in some areas.

I was on an NCD call on Monday, October 23. At that meeting, it was further reiterated by the district President, that affiliations (AP) at the rec level were not permitted. It's been a frustrating few months with player moves-up being denied and dealing with the Affiliation rule, that I know from experience, is permitted by BCH and HC. I respected the district decision; however, I never gave up and continued to fight for our association.

I am now happy to report that we are now permitted to AP all 14-2<sup>nd</sup> year U15's to the U18 Rec team. This came about after our U18 team did not have enough players to attend a tournament and required Player Relief. These Player Relief applications go to our NCD Task Group member, and he asked me why we were not APing the U15 players to U18 to avoid the paperwork and hassle to pick up players under these

circumstances. It also provides Player development opportunities. Right???? Long story short, two days later we had AP approval. In speaking with our District President, she reiterated that all players AP'd should be rotated to avoid the 10-game cap.

Aping is for U13 and up. U11 has the capability to ask for Roster Balancing for league games. All teams can ask for Tournament Player Relief when attending tournaments.

I just received the letter from Canlan regarding the horseplay and running in the facility during MH games and practices. I will send this to Susan to be sent out to the MH Membership as some nights are crazy in here.

We have a number of discipline issues including a fighting major that Marie has been dealing with. She will provide an update later as to not compromise the process.

I have added Mark, RIC as READ ONLY access to the HCR. He should receive email confirmation soon.

Socks have arrived and I am hoping that Nikki has a price for us so that we can get these available to the membership. Canucks Alumni funds contributed \$1000 towards this as approved at a past meeting.

I am working on a few concerns regarding dressing rooms for female players in arenas out of town as well as sportsmanship with teams playing league and tournament games.

That's it for this month.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kersti Toews', written in a cursive style.

Kersti Toews

## **Treasurer's Report**

Chequing account \$47,528.61 (closer to \$35,528.61)

Gaming account \$39,041.50

Volunteer account \$25,553.16

## **Registration**

-U11 Development program still figuring out ice time. Need to know number of ice times in order to calculate fees. Once fees are calculated and the parents are notified, they will have a two week deadline to pay the fees via Team Snap.

## **Discipline**

-First fighting major. 2 game suspension issued by the NCD.

## **Officiating**

-Going well.

-1 Senior Official quit. May come back on board as a mentor in future.

-RIC has done some mentoring.

-Digital scorekeeping on Spordle Play has been challenging.

-Need to bring in Refs for U18 Tournament. Still figuring out ref travel-related fees (hotels, meals, etc.)

-Larry Krause (BC Hockey Officiating Mentor) mentoring for 3 days.

## **Coaching**

-Bill has left U11 Division to Jason Cameron to manage.

-Not all coaches have been receptive to having Bill on the ice.

## **Tournaments**

- U18 Tournament-6 Teams attending. Schedule is complete.
- U11 Tournament-Not full yet. Need Schedule from Marie once number of teams is verified. Still waiting on 3 visiting teams.
- U9 Tournament-Full?
- U13 Rec Tournament in January- Full (7 visiting teams)

## **Equipment Manager Update**

- Jersey's have arrived from LAGA.
- Replacement Jersey's are not same material as the rest of the set.
- U13 needed a full set of matching jerseys so they will use the new full set that came in.
- U15 needed a full set of matching jerseys as well so they to will use a new full set of jerseys.

## **Manager's Report**

- Ashley Keeping U11 Team Andrew- Wade Balbernie has been helping/mentoring.
  - Practices are going well.
  - Still only have 19 games scheduled. Adjustments will be made to make it 20 games.
- Trishia Edwards U11 Team Wes- Doing great.
  - No issues so far.
  - Gord Moore and Elias came out to mentor.
  - Corey Harding assisting as well.
  - Wranglers have been helping.

- Trishia Edwards U18 Rec- Went to Quesnel tournament. The kids had great fun. Parents were a bit rowdy. Won 1 game.
  - Home tournament coming up. Planning almost complete. 6 Teams.
  - Requesting to order new socks. The team will purchase their own socks.
  
- U11 Dev    -Just had the meeting.
  - Jason Nash is Head Coach.
  - Marie to figure out number of ice times.
  - Will have safety in time for the tournament.
  - Need tournament team application for Shane Davis Tournament in March.
  
- U13 Rep    -Going well
  - Won 5 of the first 6 league games.
  - All parents have been doing a great job volunteering.
  - First meeting agenda, attendance, and player/parent contracts are in the OMHMHA office. Travel form for February South Okanagan tournament is also in the OMHMHA office.
  - Carlos at Fraser & Pine asked if the Rep team parents would be interested in doing the safe ride for New Years Eve. Kersti suggested Jen reach out to him.
  
- U15 Female-Exhibition Game in Sunpeaks was lots of fun.
  - Asked for goalie relief for and upcoming league game.
  
- U15 Rec    -Behaviour issue Nov 11<sup>th</sup> weekend is being dealt with by NCD.
  - Issue with Female dressing room in Clearwater.

## **Old Business**

### **First Shift Update**

- Trishia Edwards
- Meet and Greet went well. Super Fast.
- 22 Participants
- Great group of Wranglers helping.
- Great group of participants.

### **Sportsmanship Starts in the Stands/Team Meeting Deadline**

- Susan & Jen to send out an email to team managers to remind them to hand in their team meeting information. Needs to be sent to BC Hockey by Dec 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Player Movement Request**

- Player movement request. Goalie requesting to move down from U15 to U13. Discussion with the father. U13 Rec already has 3 goaltenders. Application withdrawn by parent.

### **Championship Host site update**

- U13 Rep T4 Championships moved to Revelstoke.

### **Volunteer Hours update and feedback**

- All of the volunteer hour calculations have been sent in by team managers to Susan and Jen with exception of U15 Female Rec (Marie to email Susan and Jen).
- Please ask coaches before assigning new ice time on weekends where they weren't originally expected to play.

- Please give managers a heads up when schedule changes (i.e., game move, cancel, get added; practices move last minute etc.)
- Please provide tournament schedule for home tournament minimum 2 weeks before tournament.
- Don't want to be required to coordinate removal and adding of jersey sponsor bars.

### **Esso Fun Day Update**

- Lots of fun.
- U7-U18 players
- 26 participants
- 3 Coaches

### **Action Items from previous meetings:**

- Tammy to verify that Wranglers have Respect in Sport and Criminal Record Check completed. OMHMHA will reimburse money to take the course. **Ongoing.**
- Kersti to reach out to the Balbernie's regarding the female account. Nicki was asked to contact the Balbernie's to answer the Balbernie's questions.
- Kersti to get Susan latest NCD policy, complete NCD and OMAHA playing rules, and OMHMHA constitution all to be linked to our website. **Kersti waiting for NCD update.**
- Mandy to create file folders in OMHMHA office for disciplinary issues. **In progress.**
- Everyone put thought into how association wide and rec division/team fundraising should be allocated so that we can create clear and consistent policy/direction. **In progress.**

-Susan to write a policy about meal stipend for officials who ref 3 or more games per day and present it at the next board meeting. **Mark to assist.**

-Set up Team Snap for Officials. Mandy, Mark, Susan, & Nicki. **Ongoing.**

**-Unable to discuss remaining action items as there was not enough time left in meeting to do so.**

-Mark to fix OMHMHA door so that kids can't reach their arm in and unlock the door.

-Mark to put a lock box in the equipment room to store the iPad for teams to use for games.

-Bill to speak to the U9 Coaches about Wranglers helping with practices.

-Susan to add <http://northcentral.hisports.site> to our website. This site is to view league schedules.

-Marie to add U13 Rep & U15 Coaches to Team Snap.

-Susan to email Tournament Coordinators a list of Managers.

-Mark to get a quote for the cost of new whistles. Email Nicki the quote.

## **Other**

-Socks came in. First pair available for lower price then next pair will be available at regular price. \$7 for first pair, \$12 regular price. We are able to offer discounted price on the first pair of socks due to the \$1000 donated by the Canucks Alumni.

**-Motion to have the U15 player's BC Hockey suspension be extended by one additional game. Seconded. Carried.**

## **New Business**

### **Minor Hockey Office and Info Email**

-Not enough time left in meeting to discuss. Will discuss at the December 13<sup>th</sup> OMHMHA meeting.



## **Policy Changes**

**-Motion to approve the policy changes presented and amendments to these changes suggested by the board. Seconded. Discussion. Carried.**

## **Fundraising Policy for Recreational teams**

-Not enough time left in meeting to discuss. Will discuss at the December 13<sup>th</sup> OMHMHA meeting.

## **Other**

-Board members requesting more meetings and earlier start time for meetings.

-Discipline issues were mentioned so that the board was aware that there were a few issues ongoing.

## **New Action Items:**

-Susan to send an email to the association about Canlan conduct and sock info.

-Marie working on calculating number of ice times in order to figure out U11 Development fees.

-Susan & Jen to add more info to board book regarding tournaments and how the money is managed. The Treasurer and Manager should work together.

-Nicki, Susan & Jen- Create a Tournament costing template.

-Kersti to deal with Post Office Box.

-Susan & Jen to email managers reminder to turn first team meeting documents into the OMHMHA office.

-Kersti to send BC Hockey first team meeting information.

-Susan & Jen to purchase and compile HCSP folder for each team.

-Nicki to look at association wide 50/50.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:30pm.**

**Next OMHMHA meeting will be held on Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.  
(OMHMHA President is taking an earlier start time under consideration)**

## OMHMHA policy change proposals for Nov 15, 2023 Board meeting

1. Add the following to Affiliations Policy 5.4:
  - a. Affiliation is meant to provide development opportunities for players and address unexpected absences of regular players from a roster and should be supported by the coaches of both Rep and Recreational teams.
  - b. The OMHMHA Officers of the Association reserve the right to charge an affiliation fee prior to the player being affiliated.
2. For Affiliations Policy 5.4, combine 5.4.1 (c) and (e) as it is duplicative. Currently reads as “(c) AP’s may not play for their higher category team before the written consent from both teams involved in the affiliation, is filed with OMHMHA and BC Hockey. (e) AP’s cannot participate with their higher category team before a written agreement is approved by both teams.” to “(c) AP’s may not play for their higher category team before a written agreement is approved by both teams and is filed with OMHMHA and BC Hockey.”
3. For Suspensions Policy 7.1:
  - a. Change 7.1.3 from “OMHMHA will follow the BC Hockey minimum suspension guidelines as set out each season.” to “OMHMHA will follow the NCDMHA and BC Hockey minimum suspension guidelines as set out each season. OMHMHA Officers of the Association may choose to add to the BC Hockey minimum suspension guidelines at their discretion.”
4. For Abuse of an Official Policy 10.1:
  - a. Change title from “Abuse of an Official” to “Officials”
  - b. Remove 1st paragraph “All players, coaches, managers, officials, and members, including parents/guardians/caregivers, other team officials, volunteers, and Officers of the Association shall always conduct themselves in a polite and sportsmanship manner. Obvious and persistent unacceptable conduct and/or blatant disregard of the Hockey Canada, BC Hockey, NCDMHA, OMAHA and/or OMHMHA rules, regulations, policies and procedures will result in disciplinary action” as it is not relevant to this section and is already covered in Codes of Conduct - General Conduct Policy 3.4.3 as “Obvious or persistent unacceptable conduct and/or blatant disregard of the Hockey Canada, BC Hockey, NCDMHA, and OMAHA rules and regulations, and OMHMHA Policy will result in disciplinary action.”
  - c. Adjust the existing Abuse of an Official wording from “There will be a zero-tolerance policy on abuse of an official before, during or after a game. When the abuse of an official is reported it will first be reviewed by the Officers of the Association to see if a resolution can be found. There will be a minimum 14-day suspension from all games and practices after the report has been filed, until a resolution can be obtained. If it is deemed necessary, a further suspension may be handed out based on the severity of the complaint. If no resolution can be found, the complaint will then be sent to the Discipline Committee.” to “OMHMHA has a zero-tolerance policy on the abuse of officials before, during or after a game. The formal complaint portion of the OMHMHA Complaint Process - Policy

9.1 must be followed to report abuse of officials. Coaches who feel that a game has been poorly officiated or who have a valid reason for reporting an official should consider the incident for 24 hours, and then submit a complaint via the formal complaint portion of the OMHMHA Complaint Process - Policy 9.1 within 48 hours to be considered for review. All complaints regarding officials should be immediately brought to the attention of the Referee-in-Chief.”

d. Add the following to this policy:

- i. General Guidelines - Official's policies within OMHMHA are designed to ensure that all Officials are assigned to games consistent with ability. Ongoing evaluation and training will be provided to ensure an adequate level of competency to effectively officiate OMHMHA and the NCDMHA and OMAHA game play. OMHMHA strives to establish and maintain a cooperative relationship between officials, coaches, division managers, and the OMHMHA Officers of the Association. The Referee-in-Chief's role is to ensure that officials, including referees and linesmen, are available as required. The Scheduler is required to give a minimum of seven days' notice of a game to the Referee-in-Chief. When given less than seven days' notice, the Referee-in-Chief cannot guarantee a full complement of officials. The Referee-in-Chief will ensure that opportunities to officiate games are offered equitably among those qualified and available. Appropriate records will be maintained. Assigned officials are expected to arrive appropriately dressed and conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. Officials should arrive 30 minutes prior to Recreation League games and 60 minutes prior to Representative League games. Officials unable to attend a game to which they have accepted an assignment must notify the Referee-in-Chief. Only those games actually worked will be paid for. Officials missing or late for games and not providing for an approved replacement may be subject to discipline. Officials should be on the ice at the commencement of the ice slot. While the players are in their warm up, the officials should review the game sheet, introduce themselves to the coaching staff of each team as well as their off-ice officials, and confirm time limitations. Officials will enforce the rules of the game toward players, coaches and fans. They will show interest and enthusiasm in the game to gain the respect of players, coaches and fans. Officials will report all misconduct, gross or match penalties to OMHMHA and/or BC Hockey in a manner prescribed by the Hockey Canada Rule Book. They will not use profane language while on the ice surface or in an area visible to fans, players or coaches regardless of circumstances. Grievous issues with coaches and/or parent/guardian/caregivers must be communicated to the Referee-in-Chief so that proper follow-up may be achieved. Officials must never remove officiating equipment while on the ice. Officials are encouraged to assist younger players in understanding the rules of hockey.

- ii. Officials failing to show up for a scheduled game - If at least one official shows up, it remains the responsibility of the coaches to control their bench if they wish for the game to proceed; officials are not obligated to officiate games by themselves. If no officials show up, and immediate resolution is not possible, the game must be re-scheduled.
  - iii. Officials training - The objective of providing training is to ensure that officials at all levels have an opportunity to improve their skills and develop a better understanding of the application of the rules and their effect on the psychology of the game. Officials training program will consist of formal training via the Canadian Hockey Official's Policy Manual and all required courses; ongoing training when possible where senior officials will act as trainers monitoring junior officials during games and providing advice and guidance in a positive and constructive manner; and every effort will be made to evaluate officials from time to time through formal evaluations.
  - iv. Off-ice officials - All scorekeepers, timekeepers, and penalty timekeepers are considered off-ice officials. These positions are integral to the game, and as such, individuals performing these functions are expected to act in a respectful, neutral manner both on and off the ice. Duties and instructions for off-ice officials appear in the Hockey Canada Rule Book, and additional instructions for these roles are available on the OMHMHA website. Teams are responsible for providing off-ice officials for all home games and tournaments.
5. Add new section: Governing Rules - General Guidelines (before the Program Outlines - Initiation, Rec, Rep, Development) where various duplicate policies that currently live in the Program Outlines section can all be pulled into a General Guidelines section into policy categories such as: registration, wearing equipment, maximum team size, game/tournament play and travel, game sheets, blackout dates, player relief, etc. to eliminate duplication and inconsistent wording.