

OMHMHA Meeting Minutes – September 25, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 5:44pm

Attendance: Kim Marinus, Kersti Toews, Natalie Scott, Irene Tinney, Mark Bissat, Sean Ross, Teresa Ritchie,

- Meeting called to order at 5:44.
- Voting will be delayed until a quorum is reached.

Land Acknowledgement read by President

Agenda

- Agenda has been circulated.
- IT asked on behalf of Lindsay Crites, adding something under new business.
- Agenda adoption will occur later.

September 2nd Meeting Minutes read by Kersti

Presidents Report –by Kersti Toews

OMAHA Semi-annual Meeting

- Mark, Teresa, and Kersti attended the OMAHA semi-annual meeting on September 14th in Kelowna. I found the meeting refreshing and well-structured compared to North Central District meetings. The meeting included a registrar seminar, female hockey session, and a meeting for RIC's. The speaker learned a lot about registration in the HCR and how OMAHA wants to do things. OMAHA made a formal announcement welcoming the association into their district.

North Central District Zoom Call

- I had a Zoom call on September 8. There are no changes at the NCD board table yet. Mine and Marie's status' with North Central district has been tabled to another meeting. North Central district is working on rules and regs for U11 development league.

Goaltender Meeting

- Kersti hosted a U13, U15, and U18 goaltenders meeting on Tuesday night. The goal was to ensure everyone is on the same page and to develop a plan to ensure everyone has a spot to play. Mark attended both meetings that the speaker hosted.

- A U15 Female goaltender that was previously approved to play U13 also declared ONLY female and not co-ed as previously noted.
- Moving a goalie up, possibly to U18, moving one down to U13. Trying to provide at least two goaltenders per team, not have three. We have about 14 goaltenders from U13-U18.

U13 Meeting

- Kersti hosted a meeting for U13 due to having one head coach declared but two teams. Wanted to be transparent and open about the process and rumors about how many players, etc. Reiterate how important it is that parents volunteer and help out their kids starting now through U18 because we aren't a babysitting service and we volunteer and they need to, too. Courtney is one of the coaches that would help out and also a list of 5 more that are willing to get certified. Stated that the Draft for teams will happen on Friday, September 26. A

New Equipment Manager

- Courtney offered to take the role of equipment manager. The speaker has started the role for her and will meet in the coming weeks to hand over keys, etc.

Positions Still Needed

- Sponsorship lead.
- First shift lead. SR will be emailed information about the first shift program. The first shift program starts in the middle of November. Adult coaches in that program can be super beneficial.

Treasurer Report – by Irene Tinney

- Gaming account: \$81.79.
- Volunteer fee account: \$9,168.02.
- Main account: \$15,550.42.
- Tournament account: \$35,207.71.
- There was a lot of E transfers submitted. Team Snap tournaments is with Stripe.
- There is a different login for Stripe, Team Snap tournaments, and regular Team Snap.
- Regular Team Snap has all the banking information. Team Snap tournaments was set up this year.

Regular Season Fees

- Regular season fees collected: \$51,308. \$46,000 outstanding. Accounts are being updated with E transfers. MT was refunded for TG U18 carded with WLMHA. There are still some adjustments to be made for the U18s from last year.

Year End

- Year end is done. T2 return will be filed by PMT. They will not get updates via letter mail from CRA anymore. Keith said to phone PMT for a copy of the GST and T2 return. The accounting fee was \$2,069.69. We received a \$400 discount from PMT; but were charged almost \$400 for QuickBooks online.

Tournament Entry Fees

- \$27,000 was paid out. There is U11 development tournament. Two teams are going to Clearwater, one U15 and one U13 team. JC already registered the U13s for Kamloops. Goaltender coaches are paid \$300 including next Monday and Trish can request cheques for the boys.
- A form should be created for goaltenders and first shift facilitators getting a stipend.
- KT had \$1,050 for travel to the OMAHA Semi-Annual Meeting. BC Hockey invoice: \$17,333.65 for insurance. Insurance is based on numbers as of February 10th last year. It's \$57 a player. League Fees are \$15 a player to OMAHA. The grant hasn't been heard from yet.

Lac La Hache

- Lac La Hache was straightened out from last season. A spreadsheet was created to determine how much should have been paid. They had a change in treasurer. The first invoice had double dipped. They ultimately agreed with the spreadsheet. There is a chance there is a new person running the LLH arena. In order to use LLH, Marie will have to do a facility inspection.

Mileage for meetings

- Mileage for Kelowna for MB and TR needs to be put in. TR was going to donate it, but she should put in her receipt.

50/50 License

- An email will be sent to apply for a 50/50 license. Treasurer/Director and 2 responsible people per team are needed on the application and on the license.

U11 Development Manager Role

- CW spearheaded the manager role at the beginning of the season but decided to step down. Kim Marinus and Kimberley Brown will be signing authority on the U11 Dev account. A letter to the credit union is needed.

Referee in Chief Report – by Mark Bissat

- Attended the meeting in Kelowna. There are 21 associations in the new district. The Thompson Caribou Super League is great for recreational teams. Communication with Kelly McKenzie is happening almost every other day. Kelly is helping work through different issues. Social media

awareness for referees was discussed. There is a chart posted in the dress room for ice time lengths.

U11 Development NCD Icebreaker

- For this weekend, U11 development will be all stop time. There is an hour and a half game allotment. Waiting for the rules, hoping to have them tomorrow. For league games it'll be 15, 20, 20, all stop. Make sure teams are aware of potential ice time changes. The updated schedule is on the website.

Change Room Policy

- Reinforcing the change room policy that's been in place for players for two seasons already.
- The policy concerns male and female officials. It will be posted in the room and discussed at the clinic.

Clinic

- The clinic date is October 11th. Links will be kept in house until everyone in house is registered. Every link is specific for age and whether you're a new level one or returning two, three and all that sort of stuff.

SPORDLE

- OMAHA is currently trying to get MB into the system so they can do scheduling for the officials. Rob Fryer out of Kamloops is going to help with it. When bringing up a game in the time box, the ref names will populate already.

Ray Krueger

- Ray Krueger reached out saying he was available to do some officiating this weekend. He was suggesting that maybe he could do some evaluations for officials and the associations. He was sent a link from BC Hockey.

Finances

- NCD teams attending the icebreaker will be paying for the refs. North Central will cover all the costs for the icebreaker.

Referees

- There is always a challenge to cover the U18 games. There are some adults that have signed up as well as a few potential adults. Melody, formerly Watkins, is looking to come back. Vanessa Betschart didn't respond; but we are hopeful to have her .

Entry Level One Clinic

- Hockey Canada isn't providing the entry level one clinic this year for some reason. The entry level one clinic is for 10 to 12 year olds – cross ice programming. There are three kids that have fallen into that. Hockey Canada is potentially doing a 180 on cross ice hockey.

U13 Recreational Practice

- MB ran the first practice (Team 1) two weeks ago. Wade provided a practice plan for last night's practice. Shawn Archie reached out and said he's missing coaching and would love to go out with the U13s and help out. Amber messaged that Adam Milward is willing to head coach, and Jim Malm will assistant coach for U13.

Coaches

- Adam and Anthony need to do criminal record checks. Wayne Pincott has a higher level coach than what is needed; so will need Coach 2 to be a Head Coach. Danielle Prince will manage the second team (Team 1)

Coach Coordinator

- Jason's away. Gord's still super busy.

Tournament Coordinator Report – by Natalie Scott

- We have lots of traffic coming, getting on emails for all the tournaments. For U18, there are three teams paid and three other leads. Tournament Registrations - U15: 4 paid, 1 registered but not paid, 2 leads; U13: 2 registered, not paid, 2 leads; U11: 1 paid, 2 leads; U9: 1 paid, 2 leads. U18 Tournament - Two local teams are participating. There will be only six visiting teams.

U15 Tournament

- Accepting seven teams. There is one local team.

U9 Tournament

- There are 21 kids registered. Splitting the team would result in small benches. There are 2 leads from Ashcraft and one from Williams Lake.

Tournament Rules

- Tournament rules should be updated to OMAHA tournament rules.
- The format will be all stop time with a 1:30 game slot for U11 and U13 and a 1:45 minute game slot for U15-U18. North Central implemented the Gretzky rule, but OMAHA does not have it. Can implement own tournament rules, but they can't supersede NCD's or OMAHA's rules. There's a three minute warm up. There are no floods in U11, but there is a flood halfway for U15 and U18. Mercy rule: clock runs in the last 10 minutes if there is a 7 goal difference.

Tournament Awards

- Need to determine a budget for awards. Awards should be inexpensive. Can find awards online and present them for approval.

Kersti - U11 Development Flight Weekend

- The team went 1-1-1 in Kamloops. They ended up in the C1 flight. "We need to let our policies and our rules and regs follow through." The coach got his 15 players because the policy and the rule that we have in place worked.

Affiliates for U11 Development. Can utilize the one player that didn't make it on the team. Can AP from U11 rec to U11 development in OMAHA. Can AP up to 20 players from the U11 rec side. They can be used for up to 10 league games. There is paperwork to be filled out for player agreements. DB/HC should AP three to five players. Invite players out to practice. The more the kids skate, the more they develop. The culture on the bench and in the dressing room also needs to be inclusive.

Kersti - Coaching Updates

- U7 Head Coach: Jordan Geddert
- U9 Head Coach: Sean Ross
- U11 Rec: Tyler Wells, Alan Richards, Drew Taylor, and TJ Graboweicki
- U11 Development Coaches Dale Brown is the head coach. Dave Cadsan, Grayson Winters, and Wes McKay are also coaches. Kim Marinus and Kimberly Brown are co-managers.
- U13 Coaches - Kris McFarland is one head coach. Wayne Pincott, Anthony Keeping, Matt McCallum, Courtney Arsenault, Adam Milward, Mr Sullivan (Scott Jongbloets) and Steve Gibson are also in this group. Danielle Prince and Trish Edwards are managers.
- U13 Female Coaches - Jason Cameron is the head coach.

U15 Coaches - Brian Sblendorio is the head coach and Ashley (his wife) is the manager. Jim Mead is AC.

U18 Rec Coaches- Gord Moore and Dallas Burgess are head coaches. Dave Bissat, Rick Fowler, Jeremy Mitchell, and Anka Leverman are also in the group; but status unknown.

U18 Female Coaches- Jamie Heit with Miguel Vieira and Rick Daneef with Heit managing.

Kersti - Player Movement Requests

- 3 Requests:
- A brand new U15 player who has requested to go down to U13. New to hockey
- A U13 Goaltender who played U11 last year and is U13 by age. Has a younger brother in U11. Wants to be a designated full-time goaltender. The reason for the request is that he is smaller than most of the other players, which affects his ability to compete safely. There are currently four goalies in U13.

- A U15 player making a request to move up to U18. A second-year U15 player. His father is coaching U18 rec. Has requested to move up to U18 to help the family manage travel.

Motion to approve the 3 Player Movement Requests as stated above.

Second

Carried

- U15 Goalie Situation:
 - There is one team and five goalies in U15. Rowan Johnston is trying out for a Tier 2 team in Williams Lake. The plan is to move Thorsten Cibrian up to U18 and Jace Bigham down to U13.

Goaltender Fees

- Last year, a pilot program offered half-price fees for U15 and U18 goalies. U13s have requested the same program for their designated goalies. This would be for designated goalies only, not for players who also skate out.
- **Motion to extend the 50% discount to U13 goaltenders, contingent on attending goalie training, was second and carried.**

The Monday night goaltender sessions are co-sponsored by Matt Giroday and Sunrise Ford (KoT Auto Group). Only nine goalies can participate in the half ice slot.

Coaching Staff Incentives

- Discussion of offering incentives to attract coaches, such as financial compensation. Previously offered tracksuits or jackets. Noted that Soccer coaches receive half off their fees. Concerns about the financial implications of offering discounts, given high ice costs and insurance. Minor hockey spends almost \$100,000 on ice. Insurance costs \$17,000. Coaches are already reimbursed for clinics and training. **Suggestion to table the discussion until after January to consider a broader approach.** Consider a dinner or barbecue for coaches.

OMAHA Final Declarations

- Final team formations were submitted to OMAHA by September 21st. U11 recreational development: Flight three, considered C1, with potentially eight teams. Female recreational teams: U13 female (U11/U13 combined) with seven teams. U18 female (U15/U18 combined) with six teams. Teams: Penticton, Kelowna, Kamloops, Greater Vernon, Lillooet, and the 100 Mile House.

Thompson Caribou Super Rec Leagues

- Recreational side at U11, U13, U15, U18. U11 integrated: Seven teams in the league. Meritt has two teams. Logan Lake has one. 100 Mile has one. Lillooet has one. Clearwater and Chase each have one.

- U13 rec: Eight teams in the league. 100 Mile has two teams. Merritt has two. Ashcroft, Lillooet, Clearwater and Chase each have one.
- U15: Six team's total. Clearwater, Lillooet, 100 Mile, Logan Lake, Merritt, and Ashcroft each have one.
- U18: Seven teams in the league. 100 Mile has two. Chase, Clearwater, Lillooet, Logan Lake and Merritt each have one.

Scheduling

- Our Ice Scheduler will schedule based on blackouts provided by coaches. Jason Cameron booked a U13 team into the Kamloops U13 rec tournament. Our Ice scheduler will utilize ice based on OMAHA's game length, blackouts, and ice availability.
 - Clinton ice: Cheap ice, but no proper scoreboard or clock, and no Wi-Fi in the dressing room for the ref. Ice cost is \$45 or \$50 an hour down there.

Practice Schedule

- Mondays: U7 with goalie training, U11, U13 female, and U15 rec team.
- Tuesdays: U9, U11 development, and U18 team one.
- Wednesdays: U13 team one and U18 girls team.
- Thursdays: U11 development (morning), U11 rec (evening), second U13 team, and second U18 team.
- Fridays: One-hour slot will rotate among teams.
 - Time will fluctuate based on Wrangler schedule.
- Sundays: U9s and U7s are currently practicing on Sunday mornings.
 - **The board decided to move the U9s and U7s back to Saturday mornings.**

Wranglers Liaison

- Marie Heit is the liaison for the Wranglers and 100 Mile Minor Hockey. Requests for Wranglers players to attend practices must go through her.

Schedule Availability

- Our Ice Scheduler will schedule on Sunday for U11 and up. A draft will be available by Tuesday, with a final schedule by the end of next week. MG is putting the schedules on the website.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

- Practices were moved to the weekend.

Wranglers Game

- There's a Wranglers game on Sunday the 5th, which is why the ice time is cut off at 1 o'clock.

Female U18 Team Request

- Marie is the team manager for U18 female rec. They would like to host OMAHA playoffs March 6th through 8th. Playoffs February 27th to March 1st: U11 and U15 female rec, U13 and U18 rec. March 6th to 8th: U11 development playoff, U13 and U18 female rec, U11 and U15 rec.
- Districts are March 13th to 15th for everyone except the girls.
- **The board approved the U18 girls hosting OMAHA U18 Female Rec playoffs March 6-8.**

Fundraising for U18 Female Team

- The team has been approved to go to Wickfest in Calgary. Entry fees are \$3,000. They want to fundraise through sales at Wranglers games and a raffle. Raffle prizes: Tickets to Canucks, Kamloops Blazers, and Abbotsford Canucks games with \$200 cash add-ons.

IT Motioned to approve the U18 Female request for fundraising for Wickfest Second MB Carried.

- Teams cannot canvas the community for fundraising. Fundraising must be done internally with team families and connections.

U13 and U18 Drafts

- The draft policy is on the website and in the policy manual. The speaker states, "this is not going to be a hand picking season." Coaches will assign each player an A, B, or C ranking and are randomly chosen. Teams are not set in stone until they roster them at Thanksgiving.

North Central District & Electronic Scoring

- North Central wants electronic scoring for the icebreaker. They want to track suspensions within North Central. U11 Dev manager has her Team ID number.

Lindsay's Question

- Lindsay wanted a refund on fees from last year because of the lack of league play. She was wondering if she could have the \$100 from last season transferred to her son.

The board decided no.

Forest Grove Legion Open House

- NS went to the Forest Grove Legion open house. The Forest Grove Legion has been sponsoring a team here for a long time and donated \$500 to minor hockey again.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting is scheduled for October 7th at 6 o'clock.

Sponsors

- Rock Island Fishing is sponsoring the U18 girls.
- Boreal West Forestry wants to do a three-year deal for cross-ice boards and sponsor the development team.

Sponsorship on Jerseys

- The sponsor bar will go on the very bottom of the back of the jersey.
- Name bars are okay on the one colored set of jerseys – U11 Dev.
- If they're putting their names on them, that's their cost.
- Amber and Jim Malm want to give a donation for the team.
- The money can be used towards paying for tournaments.
- Another set of parents wants to pay for the names on the backs of one set of the jerseys.
- They can have them invoice the team and then the parent pay the bill.
- Sponsor bars are needed for the white set jerseys, which can be sewn or screened on.
- Patches could be added to the shoulders, with larger ones for the white jerseys.
- Sponsorship fees will cover the cost of putting logos on the jerseys.
- Check AtoMC rules about other sponsors.

U11 Dev Team Bank Account

- The team needs to keep track of all revenue and expenses for the season.
- They need to leave \$1300 in the account at the end of the season.

Banners

- KT has been trying to get Job Dickerson to get the banners up. We may have to rent a lift to put them up. Josh told me they have to bring a lift in because they're putting fans in the ceiling.

On-Ice Helper

- A player's 17-year-old brother wants to be an on-ice helper. He needs to submit a paragraph explaining why he wants to help and who he wants to assist.
- Requirements for on-ice helpers:
 - Varies for different ages; but for 17 year old
 - Must have Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders
 - CSA-certified helmet, neck guard, gloves, tracksuit or hockey sweater.
 - Criminal record check if turning 18 before December.

- He needs his Hockey Canada number to link to Respect and Support.

Managers Meeting – Oct 2, 6pm

- Plan to work on forms early next week, possibly on Tuesday afternoon.
- Update on manager binders and player consent forms to be printed for the next week's meeting.

Volunteer Fees and Finances

- Discussing volunteer fees and the difficulty of charging them after the fact.
- There's money in the development binder from last season, including loose change.
 - The coins will be deposited into the bank account with a note indicating the date and source.
 - If Irene has sent any money for tournaments, minor hockey needs to be paid back by the teams. Payments can be made by check or cash once the account transfer is complete.
 - Winfield U11 Dev tournament fees were reduced by \$50 due to a team dropping out. The fees will need to be paid back, but future payments can be made directly from the bank account with approval from Kim and the speaker.

Registration and Office

- A parent called about registering their U9 child today and paying the fees. The child can attend the event tomorrow night.

Meeting adjourned: 8:35pm

Next meeting: October 7, 6:00pm