



Minutes of Executive Meeting

Date: Monday, May 25, 2009

Time: 9pm

Attendees: Yves Laliberte, Phil Valiquette, Cindy Mousseau, Jason Rietze, Ray Michaud, Brian MacGillivray, Dawn Digby, Mary Ellen Parks, Liisa Huffman, Jason Houle, Diane Beneteau, Scott Fahey, Mark Elliott, Blair Holub, Steve Spadafore, Steve Atkins

All WMHA executive positions were filled at the Annual General Meeting. Yves needs to talk to Steve Blanchard to confirm whether he will stay on as Referee-in-Chief for another year. All executive members should let Steve Atkins know ASAP which email address and phone number should be posted for them on the website. Steve can set up firstname.lastname@waldenminorhockey.com email addresses, but it's not mandatory.

Recruiting coaches for the Bantam and Midget house league teams will be a challenge. It needs to be determined whether WMHA will offer both non-contact and contact teams this year in the NEHL Bantam division. Also, a discussion is required with respect to the amount of ice time to allocate for the house league Bantam and Midget teams for the upcoming season. There was some concern expressed towards the end of the last season that the number of games was excessive. Also, do the players actually want practices? The Bantam non-contact team had very good turnouts for practices, but the Bantam contact and Midget teams did not.

The registration form for the 2009-2010 season needs to be reviewed ASAP. Diane wants to get this sent out to the schools with their June newsletters. If this is not possible, it was suggested that a pointer to the WMHA website for registration information be included in the school newsletters instead.

All head coaches for the Rep teams were approved by the old executive. Yves will contact all coaches and applicants over the next couple of days to inform them of the results.

Approximately \$1200 worth of cards are being returned to the NOHA. That will leave the 2008-2009 budget with a surplus of \$600.

Since the AGM went longer than anticipated, the meeting for the new executive was adjourned early without going through all items in the agenda. Another meeting was scheduled for Monday, June 1st at 7:30pm.



Minutes of Executive Meeting

Date: Monday, June 1, 2009

Time: 7:30pm

Attendees: Yves Laliberte, Cindy Mousseau, Jason Rietze, Ray Michaud, Brian MacGillivray, Dawn Digby, Mary Ellen Parks, Liisa Huffman, Jason Houle, Diane Beneteau, Scott Fahey, Mark Elliott, Steve Spadafore

Regrets: Phil Valiquette, Blair Holub, Steve Atkins

The list of WMHA executives and the list of Rep team coaches for the 2009-2010 season has been updated on the website by Steve.

Registration:

With the \$100 deal last year for 1st time players, WMHA lost \$87 per player in the Initiation division. There were only a hand full of 1st time players in the other divisions. Diane suggested we charge \$150 per Initiation player this year. The numbers in Initiation need to be capped due to ice time, coaches, etc. Diane wants to know the maximum number of players per division prior to registrations being taken so that she doesn't have to call people after they've already registered to tell them they can't play. Ray suggested a cut-off of 70 Initiation players with a registration fee of \$100/player. Are we doing fundraising this year like the Dream Draw? That could affect the registration fee if we decide to add a fundraising component to the registration fee instead of asking for more money later on. Mary Ellen suggested charging for tournament raffle tickets at registration time so that team managers/convenors don't have to chase parents to collect the money. Based on Yves' registration fee comparisons among associations, our registration fees are mid-range. WMHA and Sudbury Girls are the only associations that offered the \$100 deal.

The Bantam and Midget Rep teams always run deficits, so it was decided to increase their registration fees so that parents don't need to be chased for extra money at the end of the year.

Decision → All registration fees for all divisions will increase by \$20, however, this is just tournament raffle ticket money being collected up front. The \$100 deal for 1st time players will be increased to \$120. An additional fee of \$100 will apply to Bantam and Midget Rep team players.

Diane will put her home mailing address on the registration form. Last year, some people dropped off their registration forms at her home whereas some of the forms were mailed to WMHA and that mailbox wasn't checked as regularly. By receiving all registration forms at her home (dropped off or mail), there will be no confusion as to which order they arrive in.

Registration dates: July 8th and 9th – 6pm to 8pm, August 12th and 13th – 6pm to 8pm (Hillcrest)

Early bird Deadline: August 21st, 2009



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Scott offered to look into an online registration process, however, there would be transaction fees involved. Diane is content with her current system so it'll be left as is.

Rep Convenor:

Our Rep tournament needs to be advertised ASAP. A Minor Bantam division will be offered and we'll see what kind of response we get. If more ice is needed, we can see if we can secure Friday daytime ice at Countryside. There is interest in a Minor Midget Rep team because a number of kids are coming back from the Major Bantam AAA system. There is only one Midget division in the Rep system. There is no distinction between Minor Midget and Major Midget. Since there was no Midget Rep team coaching application received by April 15th, there will not be a WMHA Midget Rep team for the 2009/2010 season.

Another set of PeeWee Rep jerseys is required this year since we have both Minor PeeWee and a Major PeeWee Rep teams.

NOHA team applications need to be completed and sent in this month.

Cindy wants to get the Rep Tournament committee put together soon. King Sportswear goes to trade shows during the summer and can get really good deals on items. We need to let them know what to look for.

Scheduling:

Ray Mensour sent out an email indicating that Cambrian Arena will be getting repaired during the 2009/2010 season. Chelmsford Arena will then get repaired during the 2010/2011 season. That means we will be short one arena again for the next 2 years.

We can request weekday morning ice at T.M. Davies Arena. The city will open it up. A lot of discussion re: pros and cons. The Rep team coaches will be polled to find out if they are interested in weekday morning ice for practices.

Should we schedule house league practices during the week (i.e. 5-6pm)? We'll have to wait until we get a clearer picture of our ice allocation for the upcoming season. There may be some scheduling issues because much of our ice is late ice (i.e. 8:30pm to 10pm) and we won't have as many older teams this year (i.e. Bantam, Midget).

Should Rep team tryouts start the week that school starts (i.e. the week before Labour Day)? We need to check with the Rep team coaches and also see if we can get ice at T.M. Davies Arena that week. Perhaps instead of having formal tryouts the week before Labour Day, the ice time could just be used for more informal "skates".



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Initiation Convenor:

What about getting equipment costs subsidized? Jason contacted Reebok about this. Reebok could possibly supply equipment at production costs. We could put together some "kits" that could be loaned out to players who are unable to purchase their own equipment. Also, Reebok is just in the process of launching a new initiative to get more involved with communities and help them out, so Jason supplied them with information about Walden Minor Hockey and got us on the list to be considered.

We need to come up with a more visible process by which families can request financial support.

Policies with respect to various issues need to be set in place over the summer before the hockey season starts in September. A list of these issues will be emailed to executive members and they will be discussed at the next meeting.

Fundraising:

Mark proposed the following:

- (1) We need to give a face to WMHA so that we have a product to sell. This can be done via the website and by maximizing our internet outreach. We can reach larger companies by creating a face for WMHA.
- (2) We need to have WMHA known for more than just hockey. Community outreach should be an objective.
- (3) A goal would be to create a self-sustaining fund over time. How would the funds be used? What could we offer players in terms of programs? Memorable experiences. Out of province/country tournaments.

A fundraising committee needs to be formed. What about approaching a student in the Laurentian SPAD program to take this on?

Miscellaneous:

Mary Ellen hopes to get an audit of the books done for the period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. An audit is needed when applying for corporate donations (i.e. RBC).

Scott is investigating the use of wireless technology for the office, arena, etc. He is not sure about the cost right now.



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Motion #1:

Motion: Motion to support the letter from the Valley East Rebels to allow their Major Atom Rep team to play in the NDMHL Minor PeeWee division.

Put forward by Scott Fahey.

Seconded by Mark Elliott.

Vote → defeated

Next executive meeting:

Monday, June 15th – 7:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 10:12pm