



Minutes of Executive Meeting

Date: Monday, June 29, 2009

Time: 7:30pm

Attendees: Yves Laliberte, Dawn Digby, Liisa Huffman, Diane Beneteau, Scott Fahey, Steve Atkins, Blair Holub, Jason Houle, Steve Blanchard, Jason Rietze, Phil Valiquette

Regrets: Brian MacGillivray, Cindy Mousseau, Ray Michaud, Mary Ellen Parks, Mark Elliott, Steve Spadafore

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved by Diane Beneteau, seconded by Scott Fahey. Carried.

Hockey Equipment:

The upstairs hall at T.M. Davies Arena is not available on Thursday, September 10th, but it is available on Tuesday, September 8th. It was agreed to move the date of the used hockey equipment swap to Tuesday, September 8th.

A discussion was had with respect to Reebok's offer to provide hockey equipment at production cost. Rep team players can get their equipment this way. WMHA can also take advantage of this offer with respect to purchasing equipment that can be loaned out to players. We need to find out the following information:

- Is a minimum order required and if so, what is the size of the minimum order?
- What is the return policy?
- What pieces of equipment will be offered at production cost and what are the associated prices?
- What is the turnaround time once the equipment has been ordered?

This venture with Reebok can be viewed as a perk for WMHA players. It is also a positive for Reebok if players are introduced to their brand at the beginning of their hockey "careers".

We will need to have different sizes available for each piece of equipment so that players can try the equipment on prior to placing an order.

WMHA used to accommodate families facing financial difficulties through the Rick Desjardins fund, but that fund was depleted a while back. These families can be helped, in part, by the availability of loaned hockey equipment. Jason will follow up with Reebok to find out whether WMHA qualifies for the community support program that the company is initiating.

The Reebok hockey equipment fitting/ordering session should take place in August. The dates/times for these sessions need to be promoted at registration time.



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NEHL Proposed Policy Addition:

Add the following to "Section 2 – Games":

6. NEHL will provide a "no body checking" league schedule for the PeeWee, Bantam, and Midget divisions. All member associations will be responsible for identifying their "no body checking" teams to the league.

Rationale:

The main reason kids play any sport is for fun. Hitting and the risk of serious injuries remove the motivation. House league minor hockey will be a better game to watch and play without body checking. When players are given the opportunity to concentrate on skating, shooting, passing and teamwork, the quality of the game improves. These kids are not being prepared for the OHL, but they are hopefully considering a life long pursuit of physical activity through a Men's League where body checking is not allowed anyway.

Proposed by executive. Carried.

WMHA Complaint Policy – New:

This policy is being introduced because WMHA has never had a formal method for dealing with complaints. This policy would eliminate the string of emails

currently being used to deal with complaints. A form is included.

Proposed by executive. Carried.

WMHA Fundraising and Sponsorship Policy – Changes:

Statement A (addition): WMHA will seek sponsorship and fundraising opportunities for the organization in order to facilitate attainment of an objective of the Executive.

Statement F (addition): Sponsorship of House League team(s) must be submitted directly to WMHA.

Rationale for addition of statement F: Sponsorship of a house league team is deemed association money. It cannot be used only by a specific house league team.

The new sections "House League teams are permitted fundraising" and "Rep teams are permitted fundraising and sponsorship" were added to separate out the information that was provided based on the type of team.

A change with respect to Rep players is that individual sponsor names will no longer be displayed on a Rep player's jersey (since each set of Rep jerseys now has one common sponsor). The individual sponsor names will now appear on a team banner and team website instead.

Proposed by executive. Carried.



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It was suggested that Rep team revenues (i.e. from the Rep tournament) should stay with the Rep teams since the Rep teams pay for everything themselves. More discussion needed on this.

Blair is to check whether King Sportswear will still provide us with team banners and at what cost. The letter to sponsors needs to be modified to reflect the updated Rep Player Sponsorship Policy; that is, sponsor names will be displayed on a team banner and team website. Sponsorship cheques are required by October 31st.

Note that the fundraising limit of \$1500 for Rep teams has been removed from the policy. Fundraising ideas still need to be approved by the executive.

WMHA Coaches Rules → WMHA House League Coaches Policy Guidelines – Changes:

The title of the document has been changed as noted above (i.e. old name → new name). Items #14 and #15 deal with fundraising and Rep team issues so they have been removed. Important items in this document have now been highlighted in bold. The time duration in item #12 with respect to the reporting of game scores should be changed to 24 hours from 7 days. The number of officials to be carded with any team should be changed to 5 from 4 in item #7. Add item #18 – See Parents' Pledge with respect to the WMHA Code of Conduct.

Proposed by executive. Carried.

WMHA House League Coaching Application:

- Add that the cost of a police check will be reimbursed by WMHA.
- Indicate that police checks are good for 3 years.
- Add that the cost of courses/clinics is covered by WMHA.
- Indicate that if an applicant has not taken a required course(s), WMHA will ensure that the applicant, if selected, gets to take the course(s).
- All forms should have the WMHA mail box address removed. The address of the responsible person will be included instead.
- The deadline date for coaching applications will be posted on the website and the Ben Moxam sign. This year's deadline is August 21st. A deadline date is not needed on the form as it will change from year to year.
- No vote is required for the above changes.



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By-Law 3 – Standing Committees → NOHA Tournament of Champions:

There was a motion to delete the “NOHA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS (REP PLAY DOWNS)” section from By-Law 3 -- Standing Committees. It appears that it will never be possible to hold an NOHA Tournament of Champions since the Friendship Tournament always occurs at the same time as this event is required to be held. It was suggested that this section not be deleted in case a situation arises where WMHA is forced to hold an NOHA Tournament of Champions. The Rep Tournament Chairperson would be responsible for this tournament. The content included in the “REP TOURNAMENT” section of By-Law 3 -- Standing Committees should be included in the “NOHA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS (REP PLAY DOWNS)” section, with appropriate modifications.

Proposed by executive. Carried.

By-Law 3 – Standing Committees → Fundraising:

The 1st two items should be deleted. The Publicity Chairperson should be changed to the Marketing and Promotion Chairperson. It was decided that any more changes/additions to this section should be discussed at a future meeting.

By-Law 3 – Standing Committees → Rep Tournament:

Three new items will be added at the beginning of this section. The fourth point should be changed to reflect that the Rep Convenor supports the Rep Tournament Chairperson. All references to the Publicity Chairperson should be changed to the Marketing and Promotion Chairperson.

Proposed by executive. Carried.

By-Law 3 – Standing Committees → House League Tournament:

Same changes proposed as for Rep Tournament above.

Proposed by executive. Carried.



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Miscellaneous:

On the registration form, "1st year registrant" should be changed to "1st time hockey registrant".

In By-Law #2, item (d) indicates that a petty cash of \$50 is kept by the treasurer. This is not something done by the treasurer, so the item should be deleted. There are 4 other items in By-Law #2 that can be deleted as they are covered elsewhere.

There should be a size specified as to the reserve WMHA maintains. The maximum allowed for a non-profit organization is 10% of annual income.

Should we maintain a "special promotion" account for something like the hockey experience fund suggested by Mark at the last executive meeting? It was agreed that a special account is not required. Money for a special cause can just be tracked on paper.

Motion: Rep teams will keep the money from their tryouts; however Rep Tournament profits will go to the association as a whole. Proposed by executive. Carried.

New STOP stickers, which are optional, can be put on the backs of helmets. This has been approved by the CSA.

Phil recommended that the Technical Director be responsible for reinforcing the duties of a trainer. A process should be initiated whereby the Technical Director receives a medical form within 24 hours of an injury to a WMHA player, coach, or official. Scott will look into this.

The Parents' Pledge will not be filled in at registration time. A meeting will be held upstairs this year where parents will be required to sign the Parents' Pledge.

Diane will send out an FAQ for people to review before she hands it out at registration time.

Steve Atkins indicated that there have been many hits on news items on the website since the AGM. He is investigating a real-time tournament scoring system. Steve suggested that the NOHA should provide this for all of their associations like the OMHA does for their associations.

Blair indicated to Jason R. that we could use some small goalie chest protectors. Jason R. will copy Blair on his communications with Reebok. Diane mentioned that the Bantam house league goalies could really use some goalie equipment on a loan basis. The Rep jerseys are generally too large for the divisions in which they were worn last season, so it was suggested that we replace the Novice jerseys and move the other jerseys up a division (ie. Minor Atom jerseys become Major Atom jerseys).

Jason H. will meet with Liisa with respect to the transfer of scheduling duties. He is in the process of investigating some scheduling software with Steve.



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Scott indicated that we need to set a date for house league pictures and clothing sales. Phil responded that we need to know our ice times first. It was suggested that we get prices from John Robbie for the house league pictures. Should the Rep team pictures be done at the same time? Apparently the Rep teams like to arrange their own pictures due to their game/tournament schedules. The photographer should be made aware that we would like the pictures back by the 1st weekend in December. There was a suggestion of October 17th for both the house league pictures and clothing sales. November 7th would be the second option.

Jason R. will make an FAQ for first-time parents. Diane would like this to be available at registration time as she gets many questions from first-time hockey parents.

Yves receives many requests for advertising of community events on our website and the Ben Moxam board. Should WMHA advertise community news items that are sent to us? Everyone said yes as it's good for WMHA's image in the community. Steve Atkins will handle these requests and filter them.

Next meeting: August 17th, 7:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 10:04pm