

MINUTES for St. Marys Minor Hockey Association Meeting
Tues., January 7, 2020 - Endzone Room in PRC

Opening and Call to Order: 7:05pm by Kristene McCurdy

Attendance: Chris Boyd, Kristene McCurdy, Mark Brintnell, Erica Kiestra, Bernie Sterkenburg, Teri Fluttert, Kerry Wright, Dale Switzer, Julie Pickering, Lori Martin, Donna Levy, Rich Ballantyne, Jen Switzer, Pete Frehner, Tara Porter, Dan Rudorfer, Paul Williams, John Hodkinson, Rachel Torrance, Marty Thomson, Bob Davis, Mike Johnson

Regrets: Cindy Johnston, Mike Morning, Ryan Harris, Brandon Boyd, Judy Greig

Minutes from Dec. 3, 2019 Meeting:

- Motion to approve minutes made by Chris B., seconded by Paul W. Carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report - Bernie Sterkenburg

- Operating Account Balance to date is \$263,894.88 as of Jan. 6. All bills and deposits had been made, but more coming in for January (LL Tournament registrations and sponsors, ice rental, etc.).
- Lottery Account Balance is \$30,108.36 (of which \$1116.57 belongs to SMMHA). Still some cheques to be cashed - Bernie to confirm with Brandon.
- Registration Account for when online registrations are active is \$377.41.

Constitution Report - Paul Williams

- No report until February (motion article was presented to Executive and will be posted soon on the website for review).

Shamrock Report - John Hodkinson

- Novice Rep Championship Games will be held in Lambeth on March 27-29, 2020. Cost is \$500 per team and has been approved by Executive.
- SMMHA will be hosting the All Star Games again on April 4th, 2020 (2-6pm). Divisions will be Atom to Bantam BB and AE teams.
- There will be a Shamrock meeting next Tuesday in Strathroy - the league is looking for input and discussion on the possibility of creating an "A" loop for next year. John is not available to attend, but Pete volunteered to go in his place.
- Reminder to all coaches, managers, and scorekeepers to be diligent about gamesheets. Coaches should be checking gamesheets before leaving any arena (home or away) for any errors and to upload games immediately.
- Any questions about suspensions should be directed to Pete or John.

Registrar's Report - Jen Switzer and Donna Levy

- Still need a person to fill the OMHA Registrar vacancy.
- Donna brought forth the following motion - "Motion to increase the registration rates by 3% for the 2020-2021 season". Motion was seconded by Dan R. Discussion followed about rationale for increase, which was endorsed by the Executive at last week's meeting. The 3% increase reflects the same increase in ice rental by the PRC. Percentage equates to a \$20 increase for Minor Novice and up, and a \$10 increase for Initiation players. A vote was held on the motion and the motion was carried. Note that the 3% increase will only apply to Registration fees, not Rep fees.
- No dates have been set yet for Registration - will be sometime in early February.
- Still many outstanding Rowan's Law forms - 12 players (mostly IP players) and 54 coaches and staff. Jen has decided to be at the arena during practices to try and get these forms from parents and staff.
- Just a reminder that we will need new copies signed of each Rowan's Law at the next registration.

Coaches Committee Report - Mark Brintnell

- Nothing to report.

OMHA Report - Pete Frehner

- OMHA scheduling meeting took place last night and 9 of 12 contracts are completed. Coaches are reminded to take contracts with them to games and provide copies of contracts to referees/timekeepers. Check the contracts for period lengths, # of games, timeouts, etc. (no curfews for OMHA games).
- If you need to cancel due to weather conditions, please contact Pete immediately.
- Reminder about gamesheets as well - bench staff need to sign where they are rostered (eg. Head Coach should sign as Head Coach). If you need to use the opponent's trainer, please have the timekeeper make a note on the gamesheet.
- Kristene will be responsible for scheduling timekeepers (directors cover this for OMHA and OWHA playoffs), but please have a backup ready in case of cancellations.

OMHA Clinics - Erica Kiestra

- Nothing to report.

Ice Convenor Report - Chris Boyd

- All OMHA playoff games have been entered (except for the remaining 3 contracts).
- Coaches are reminded to check their ice times/calendar frequently as practices can be moved around to accommodate for games. There may also be extra ice time that can be used - please let Chris know asap if you can use the time or if you need to cancel (there has been a lot of "burned" ice time this year).

Lambton Middlesex LL Report - Don Gibson (absent, no report sent)

OWHA/Lower Lakes Report - Mike Morning (regrets)

- Mike sent a report stating that he would like to discuss Spring Tryouts for girls divisions Peewee to Midget. Provincials are April 3-5th, so tryouts could start anytime after April 7th. He feels it is important to help secure teams, coaches, and girls to play at our centre.
- Mike would also like to host a Girls Try Hockey day as it was a good success this year and also helps our girls program.
- Both of these items were discussed briefly and it was determined that Mike should figure out some dates and discuss them with Chris (who will be meeting with arena staff next week to discuss ice rentals and dates).
- Mike also sent a report to update everyone about the Lincolns' "Girls Rock the Rink" event last Friday night. It was a huge success - they had former SMMHA player April Clark and St. Marys resident Emily Woodhouse at the game to drop the puck and to sign pictures. There were 4 out of our 5 girls team in attendance (Bantam girls were away at a tournament). The Peewee girls sang the national anthem at the beginning of the game. The Junior IP group played a mini game in between the first and second periods of the game. Thanks to Brent Kittmer and his group for arranging this.

WOGHL Report - Reg Clinton (regrets)

- Nothing to report.

Equipment Report - Lori Martin

- Nothing to report.

Sponsorship Report - Ryan Harris (regrets)

- Ryan sent a report on sponsors for the recent LL Tournament - a total of \$1350 was secured in sponsors for the tournament. Ryan is in the process of collecting all the cheques.
- All team sponsor cheques have been received except for the Cement Plant. Ryan has been in contact with Brent R. about this but hasn't heard if the cheque has been delivered to Bernie yet (Bernie confirmed that he has not yet received the cheque).

Volunteer Bond Report - Judy Greig (regrets)

- Judy sent a report reviewing the Volunteer Bond Program. In her report, she outlined several pros and cons of the current bond program (see attached program review). She also made several suggestions for eliminating the bond program next season, as many of the cons outweigh the pros of the program. Her suggestions are as follows:
 - AE and LL tournaments will have paid, trained clock and ipad positions. Teams in the tournament would need to equally cover the registration table (as well as pay half of the tournament registration fee).
 - NBC tournament could have paid, trained staff and student volunteers to sell pizza and help at the registration table.

- Approx. \$1000 expense per tournament to cover the paid clock and ipad positions x 3 tournaments = \$3000

- Approx. \$2000 was profit from past fundraisers such as Wing Night and other events.

- **Instead of having bond shifts and collecting postdated cheques to cover \$5000, add approximately \$20 to each registration**

- As Judy was looking for input and other suggestions, discussion about the Bond Program followed. Most members are in favour of eliminating the bond, but not all are sure if charging an additional \$20 is the best solution. We will defer to Judy to consider other suggestions. There are some other issues to consider (such as who will be the trained timekeepers, etc.) so members suggest that we wait until the fall to ask for an additional fee or not.

Skill Development Committee Report - M Brintnell, D. Murrell, R. Clinton, S. Richardson, M. Johnson

- Nothing to report.

Initiation Program Report - Tara Porter

- Nothing to report, except for a few concerns regarding photos (need to schedule IP players differently to reduce wait times and confusion) and pre-IP players did not receive their photos before Christmas break.

Tournament Committee Report - R. Ballantyne, D. Switzer, E. Kiestra

- LL Tournament was successful - no concerns or issues. There were 19 teams in 4 divisions, with a total of 37 games. Still waiting for some invoices before a balance sheet can be submitted.

- Rich will be meeting with Brandon this week to discuss the NBC Tournament and get started on registration, etc.

Webmaster Report - Rachel Torrance

- Nothing to report.

Lottery License Report - P. Frehner, B. Boyd, B. Sterkenburg

- Bernie has the statement ready to renew the license again for next year.

Fundraising Event Committee Report - T. Fluttert, D. Rudorfer, B. Boyd, R. Harris

- Teri reported that the Committee made a profit of \$600.00 from the Rock the Valley ticket sales. The main event will take place on Sunday, January 12th at River Valley.

Photos Report - Tammy McCurdy (absent, no report sent)

Awards Night Report - Kerry Wright

- Kerry will be sending an email to the coaches soon asking for nominations for awards. The Awards Night is tentatively booked for the end of April, so Kerry will ask coaches to speak to their nominations and directors will vote at the March meeting.

- There was some discussion about suggestions for next year - to re-introduce some awards, etc. If you have any ideas, please let Kerry know.

- A suggestion was also made to postpone listing the nominees on the website until all teams are finished playing (to eliminate conflict among players, etc.).

Gate Coordinator's Report - Cindy Johnston (regrets)

- Cindy sent a report stating that it has been a quiet month with lots of blackout weekends. She has noted a big drop in the game attendance due to the lack of weekend games in general this season, as well the arena was closed for Christmas and New Years.

Community Liaison Report - Kristene McCurdy

- Kristene announced that the St. Marys Museum is hosting its 24th Annual Heritage Fair on Friday, February 21st (7 to 9pm) at the PRC. The theme is "Through the Decades" and organizations are encouraged to display artifacts, memorabilia and photos related to a specific decade.

- Currently, no one has volunteered to look after so Kristene will begin to pull together some trophies and photos to create a display.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Motion to Dismiss:

A motion to dismiss at 8:40pm made by Paul W. Seconded by Pete F.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Tues., February 4th at 7pm in the Endzone.