

St. Marys Minor Hockey Association Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday August 16, 2022 – 7pm – PRC 1/3rd Hall

In attendance: Lori Martin, Paul Williams, Bernie Sterkenburg, Rich Ballantyne, Mark Brintnell, Katharine Found, Mike Johnson, Reg Clinton, Joe Wilhelm, Julie Pickering, Dan Rudorfer, John Cubberley, Tyler Dingman, Kelly Craigmile, Ryan Harris, Kristene McCurdy, Sarah Jeffrey,

Regrets: Brandon Boyd, Brayden Lord, Amy Crummer

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by SMMHA President, Mark Brintnell.

Minutes from the June 7th, 2022 Meeting:

- Motion to approve the June 7th, 2022 minutes as presented was made by Mike J. and seconded by Joe W.
Carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Rich Ballantyne

- Account balances as of August 16, 2022:
 - o Operating Account (chequing): \$156,526.27
 - o Etransfer/Registration Account (Savings): \$215,049.71
 - o Lottery Account (Trust): \$496.77
- Registration collection is down \$15-18,000 (approximately) at this point due to reduced registration numbers
- QuickBooks online subscription has been purchased (annual cost year 1 - \$485; annual cost in subsequent years - \$528). This program will allow for monthly statements to be generated and distributed as well as provide greater transparency to the financial operations of SMMHA. Treasurer, President and 1st Vice President all have access to QuickBooks account from any computer, given there is internet access.
- Motion to allow any one of the president, 1st vice president or treasurer to sign on cheques and e-transfers up to an including \$1000, was made by Rich B. and seconded by Dan R.
 - o Discussion on motion: Any amounts greater than \$1000 will still require any 2 of the above to sign.
 - o Concern raised that \$1000 will not be sufficient to cover the cost of tournament entry fees.
 - o Rich B. made a friendly amendment to the above motion to change the dollar amount from \$1000 to \$2000

Carried.

- Annual budget will be drafted and sent out for review and discussion at the September meeting.

Registrar's Report: OMHA – Jocelyne Gall (report read by Katharine Found) OWHA – Donna Levy (update provided by Reg Clinton)

- OMHA current registrations: 303 players
- Currently 9 players on a waitlist – half of those players have been approved off the waitlist but the families have not completed the registration process.
- As of midnight August 14th, approximately 100 players had not paid their registration fee – deadline was 11:59pm on August 15th. Jocelyne will work to reconcile all payments that came in, during the final 24 hours.
- OWHA current registrations: 116 players registered; currently 6 players on the waitlist.
- Current player registrations for each age group were provided. U18 has 21 players registered. Question raised: will 21 players be too many to roster on 1 team? Reg C. stated that SMMHA can always apply for permission from OWHA to roster additional players.
 - o Follow up after the meeting: OWHA allows centers the ability to roster up to 25 players, but only ice 17 at a time.

OMHA: Mike Johnson

- The SMMHA motion to OMHA to increase the number of competitive categories has been received for discussion at the committee level. There is unlikely to be a change for the 2022/23 season.
- U16 A team has been verbally approved for entry into the Tri-County League for the 2022/23 season, still waiting for written approval from the OMHA to officially recategorize the team.
- Bob Davis and Mike Johnson are OMHA certified Coach Evaluators, there is a large number of coaches who will need to acquire certification to maintain their qualifications.
- St. Marys is hosting a D1 Clinic in the PRC on Sept 24th, course capacity is 40 participants, registration is done individually through the Hockey Canada Registry
- OMHA has announced that they have reversed the decision from 2020 and the D1 “Trained” qualification will again no longer have an expiry date
- OMHA has notified SMMHA that we are to be re-categorized “A” for the 2023/24 season, we have until Dec 31st 2022 to file an appeal of the re-categorization, a full presentation of the details of “A” re-categorization will be presented to the members at the September general meeting. Concerns raised over the lack of collaborative communication from OMHA – Mark B. has expressed those concerns to OMHA without response at this point. Mike J. was asked to clarify the position we would have to take on NRP (Non-Resident Players) with respect to tryouts, as historically we have not accepted an NRP if that meant it would prevent a SMMHA player from playing rep hockey.

Shamrock Report: Brandon Boyd (written report read by Katharine Found)

- Tentative team ice slots have been submitted to the league to begin scheduling. Teams are encouraged to provide their tournament dates to Brandon B. ASAP. League aims to have scheduling done by early September.
- Shamrock executive is working on 2-3 proposals to share with the shamrock reps with how to deal with 2nd entry teams. Likelihood is that our 2nd entry teams will have some games against other centers 1st entry teams.
- Tournament style format will remain with the league for at least one more season.

LMLL: Joe Robson (written report read by Mike Johnson)

- Much of the same information as previously presented during the OMHA report
- Team fees have increased from \$70 to \$75 for the season
- There is still no news on the structure for U8 and U9 hockey within the LMLL

OWHA: Reg Clinton

- At this point it appears that 6 teams will be rostered this year in St. Marys.
- There has been no talk on how to handle U8 and U9 players – WOGHL has expressed no interest in separating the two ages and intends to keep them together.

WOGHL: Tyler Dingman

- U9 hockey will be the same as last year with ½ ice for the first half of the year. Centers will be allowed to schedule their own games during this ½ ice season to ensure maximum utilization of ice.
- Game sheets will be recorded in RAMP but all scores will need to be reported to 1DB
- Teams will play 15 games, followed by playoffs
- There will be no re-categorization this year mid-season therefore care must be taken to accurately assess the true skill level of the players and place the teams appropriately at the beginning of the season.
- The league is looking for centers interested in hosting a U9 year end tournament – end of March, early April. Based on discussion, there is some interest from SMMHA – Tyler D and Rich B will discuss the feasibility. A tournament committee of volunteers would be needed to ensure this tournament's success.
- Preliminary loops have been sent out – Mooretown, Chatham and Windsor are no longer in our loop.
- At the last meeting – the idea of a scheduling meeting between all centers was voted down and therefore all teams will need to continue scheduling their own games. OWHA and WOGHL reps will start the scheduling process for any teams that do not currently have a head coach named.

Coaches Committee: Joe Wilhelm

- Coaching vacancies still at U11-B (boys) and U18-B (girls), as well as 2nd entry rep and local league teams.
- Motion to suspend St. Marys Minor Hockey Association bylaw article 18.5 for the 2022-2023 season was made by Joe W. Seconded by Mike J.
 - As per policies and procedures manual, the motion was presented to executive and distributed to membership in an acceptable manner.
 - Concerns raised that suspending a bylaw for the benefit of 1 person/1 team may set a precedent. There are 40 players currently registered that would start the season/try outs without a coach in place which does not send a confident message to families and players.
 - Question why the individual could not resign and be replaced on the coaches committee was answered detailing the significant contributions the individual has made to the committee, in such a short time, especially for the youngest age levels, which are typically harder to fill.
 - Suggestion to consider tabling the motion until next meeting, as there was concern expressed the position was not widely publicized and families may not be aware that they all do get a vote at general meetings. Reminded that Constitution and Policies and Procedures manuals are available online on the SMMHA website and it is clearly stated there that all members have voting rights.
 - Concern raised that this may be a decision that creates a negative public relations environment. Executive is prepared to support the direction of the board and coaches committee with respect to this matter.
 - Mark B. called the motion to a vote.

Carried

- Prior to the vote, Dan R. had made the motion to table this motion until the next meeting, to provide greater opportunity for promotion to all members voting rights. This motion was accidentally missed/misunderstood prior to the vote – discussion to rescind the above vote was made, however Dan R. chose to rescind his motion to table. The above motion stands and is carried.

Tournament Committee: Rich Ballantyne

- Tournament dates are set and listed on the website – working to get them on the OMHA website as well.
- Tournament previously known as AE will now be a OMHA rep tournament for B, C and D
- Tournament committee is in desperate need of several volunteers as currently it is just Rich B.

Sponsorship Committee: Ryan Harris

- Will be meeting soon with Lori M. to discuss jersey sponsorship needs and name bars
- Anonymous goalie clinic sponsor is willing to support that opportunity once again (\$4300 in 2021-2022)
- Letters will be going out to all potential sponsors shortly.

Ice Convenor: Mark Brintnell

- Making every effort to have all teams play all home games on the Rock Rink
- Only Rock rink will be in place for September 6th. The Blue Rink will have ice ready 1 week later, September 12th. This will result in a slower start to our warm up skates.
- Contract has been signed with the Stratford Refs Association – we will be invoiced on a monthly basis, including rates and mileage.

Old Business:

- **Vacant Position Recruitment:**
 - o Donna Levy has decided to resign from the role of OWHHA Registrar as of the end of the season. Recruitment for this position will start shortly – please let Brandon Boyd know of any interested, or potential candidates.
 - o Tournament committee is in desperate need for assistants to ensure all tournaments can be organized and executed effectively.
 - o 2 vacant director positions: 1 for 1 year term; 1 for 3 year term
 - Addendum from after the meeting: Dan R. volunteered for the role of 1 year term director at the AGM in 2022 – recorded in the minutes but not updated in other director documents. 3 year term directors – there are currently the correct amount of directors, therefore there are no current director vacancies.

New Business:**Updated Jersey Style: Equipment Manager – Lori Martin**

- Motion THAT St. Marys Minor Hockey Association replaces their jersey stock over the next three years with the goal of introducing a new standard jersey style for all players (eliminating the use of 2 different jersey styles between Rep and LL). As the new jersey sets are introduced, the new regular jersey replacement cycle will be five years moving forward. Seconded by Dan R.
 - o All jerseys will now be Athletic Knit at a cost of \$65/jersey when ordering 5 teams or more.
 - o Estimated cost per season:
 - 2022-2023 - \$21,074.50 (7 teams replaced: U18B, U16A, U18 girls, U9LL1, U9LL2, U9MD, U9B girls)
 - 2023-2024 - \$21,752.50 (7 teams replaced: U15B, U15C, U15LL, U11B girls, U11C girls, U11C, U11LL)
 - 2024-2025 - \$24,690.50 (8 teams replaced: U9C girls, U15B/C girls, U11B, U13B, U13C, U13LL, U13B girls, U13C girls)
 - o Jersey replacement schedule was based on jerseys that are set for replacement based on normal cycle, as well as ensuring older players who voted on the jerseys would actually get to wear the new style.
 - o Sponsor names will be screened on to the jerseys –sponsor bars are \$13/15 per jersey and sponsorship is fairly consistent.
 - o Name bars will not be considered at this point

- Executive and board should create a plan for all old jerseys to ensure they are not taking up unnecessary space, but that they don't end up in a landfill.

CARRIED.

Motion to Adjourn:

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tyler D. at 8:34pm. Seconded Mike J.

Next Meeting:

The next association meeting will be held on Tuesday September 13th, 2022 at 7:00pm at the PRC Endzone.