

St. Marys Minor Hockey Association Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday June 6th, 2023 – 7pm – PRC Community Hall

In attendance: Rich Ballantyne, Katharine Found, Mike Johnson, Lori Martin, Paul Williams, Sarah Jeffrey, Mark Brintnell, Joe Wilhelm, Amy Crummer, Bob Davis, Greg St Clair, Brayden Lord, Rick Harburn, Jim Craigmile, Julie Pickering

Regrets: Ryan Harris, Jessica Chateauvert,

The meeting was called to order at 7:050pm by SMMHA President, Mark Brintnell.

Attendance was taken for all of those in attendance.

Acknowledgement of the land and territory for which we meet on was made by Mark B. This land acknowledgement will be a shared responsibility that takes place at the beginning of all SMMHA meetings. All executive and board members will be encouraged to take a turn to make their own acknowledgement.

Minutes from the May 2, 2023 Meeting:

- Moved to adopt the minutes as circulated by Jocelyne Gall. Seconded by Mike Johnson.
Carried

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: presented by Mark Brintnell

- Profit loss statements and Account Balances reports were circulated to attendees for review
- Account balances as of June 5th, 2023:
 - o Operating Account (chequing): \$102,514.17
 - o Etransfer/Registration Account (Savings): \$179,636.64
 - o Lottery Account (Trust): \$29,746.12
- Financial statements will be circulated by email to all board members and meeting participants. They will not be posted on the website, however can be accessed by any member if requested.

Registrar's Report: Jocelyne Gall

- RAMP is still not ready to accept official registrations for OWHA players. Jocelyne is determining a way to ensure once RAMP is open, that only players who had previously registered through the temporary site are admitted immediately, where as all other new registrations will go onto a wait list until it is determined that there is space on the team for that player.

OMHA: Mike Johnson

- OMHA AGM takes place June 11 – Mike will be participating virtually. Several important topics will be voted on at the AGM including:
 - o Proposed new structure for NRP players, with the goal of phasing out the NRP program
 - o Proposed change to AP player rule to allow a player to sign as an AP, void the agreement and sign with a different team the same season.
 - o Proposed change to allow U18 rosters to be as many as 25 players
 - o Proposed change to allow team staff to be rostered to more than 2 teams
- Question: has there been any additional communication or decisions regarding “c” category hockey? What is it?
 - o “c” category will be similar to what was formally known as AE hockey. It is evolving from a OMHA Competition Committee level as a way to ensure competitive equality so 2nd entry rep teams do not play 1st entry rep teams. No additional updates at this time. Regional Directors still relatively confident that Shamrock will adopt this competitive category.
 - o SMMH will continue to advocate for adoption of this category, given it will directly impact our U13/U12 age category given the decision to not run a U12A team for the 2023-2024 season.
 - This recommendation was presented to all parents of U13 and U 12 players registered in the try out process, due to a concern of the competitive ability of the U12A team, which became clear mid-way through the try out process. The recommendation was voted on in a town-hall style meeting on May 15th with 33/35 votes in favour of folding U12A.

Player Movement Coordinator Report: Rick Harburn

- Continues to become familiar with the role and responsibilities involved.

Shamrock Report: Brandon Boyd

- Shamrock A Loop meeting discussed changes that may need to be made to the league policies, specific for this group. Brandon cited U15A in other A leagues play 3-15 minute periods. This will have to be discussed as it has implications for ice scheduling.
- Black out dates are to be submitted to Shamrock as soon as possible.

LMLL: Joe Robson

- No report was provided

OWHA: Reg Clinton

- No report was provided
- SMMHA is still searching for an individuals who will take over the OWHA rep position

WOGL: Tyler Dingman

- No report was provided

Policies and Procedures Committee: Paul Williams

- Paul reminded attendees that the Executive committee is the bylaw committee and the secretary is responsible for record keeping and maintenance of the constitution and policies and procedures document.
- Paul proposed the idea for discussion of moving the item regarding coaches committee members not being eligible to hold a head coaching position, from it's current position in the constitution, to a By-law in the Policy and Procedures Manual. This would make it less time consuming to seek changes/exemptions if necessary, as constitution changes require 10 days advanced notice to membership and 2/3rd majority vote at the meeting, where as By-Law changes only require a majority vote in favour.
 - o Discussion: Given the ever-shrinking pool of volunteers, this type of exemption may be more common
 - o Question: is this article in the constitution still needed? Overwhelming response that yes it is, to ensure fairness, transparency, objectivity and equality of the coaching selection
 - o There appears to be board support of this idea, therefore Paul will present it formally to the board at a future date.

Photo Coordinator Report:

- **Jen Switzer has agreed to take on the role of Photo Coordinator for 2023-2024.**

Ice Convenor Report: presented by Mark Brintnell

- The PRC has launched its ice allocation process. Mark B. will be attending an ice users meeting on June 20th to discuss needs, concerns and schedules. There are 3 more teams scheduled for SMMHA in 2023-2024, which increases ice usage by more than 6 hours per week.
- Councillor Jim Craigmile feels there will be sufficient ice available to meet all of the needs of SMMHA, however there were concerns expressed that the allocation of ice times, especially prime ice times vs. less convenient ice times, is not fairly distributed between all users and that ice allocation does not appear to be following the PRCs Ice Utilization Policy. SMMHA does receive a slightly discounted ice rental rate compared to out of town users.
- Stratford Referee Association has requested to not have simultaneous games going, as it makes it more difficult to staff refs.
- Brandon B. recommended that SMMHA request the PRC to move back to a more timely (ie. May) ice user meeting.
- The number of black out weekends throughout the season is another concern of SMMHA as it affects our U5/U7 and LL programs, as often these teams have only weekend ice times.
- Mark will attend the meeting and present our concerns and will report back to the board with outcomes and next steps.

Awards Committee Report: presented by Mark Brintnell

- A new tab was added to the website: Recognition and Awards. We will track and post all winners of major association awards, as well as team championships

Tournament Committee Report: presented by Mark Brintnell

- Dates for the 2023-2024 SMMHA OMHA tournaments have been presented to OMHA for scheduling. The Stonetown Classic Tournament will take place 1 weekend later than usual, to allow U9 teams to participate at full tice. The Rock Cup will move to an A tournament

Coaches Committee Report: Joe Wilhelm

- Applications are now being accepted for head coaching positions for all remaining teams. Hopeful to have all coaches in place by August to ensure a smooth start to the season.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:**Lottery Licence, on behalf of the St.Marys Lincolns: Brandon Boyd**

- Brandon B. motioned that SMMHA engage in a raffle lottery licence for a raffle draw with the St.Marys Lincolns for the 2023-2024 season. Seconded by Joe W.
 - o Discussion: due to OLG changes which restrict the types of lotteries and fundraising the St.Marys Lincolns can do, for the past 5 years, SMMHA has held the lottery licenced for the Lincolns to run their raffle. Raffle is used to help fund the team. No financial incentive to SMMHA, however there is a long standing history of the Lincolns having an excellent partnership with SMMHA – Rock the Rink night, Lincolns players coming out to SMMHA events, practices, etc.
 - o Motion Carried.

Motion to Adjourn:

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jocelyne Gall at 8:16pm. Seconded by Mike J.

Next Meeting:

There will be no association meeting in July.

Recommendation made to not hold an association meeting in August, as the start of the season will be less busy than normal, with the majority of tryouts now wrapped up.

Official next meeting date will be shared via email and on all SMMHA social media pages, as well as listed in the SMMHA calendar.