

**St. Marys Minor Hockey Association Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**Tuesday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 7pm – PRC Endzone**

**In attendance:** Rich Ballantyne, Katharine Found, Mark Brintnell, Chris Boyd, Mike Johnson, Joe Wilhelm, Julie Pickering, Darryl Hern Jocelyne Gall, Jessica Chateauvert, Donna Levy, Tyler Dingman, Sarah Jeffrey, Bob Davis, Jared Stokes, Rick Harburn, Adriane Harlton, Cassandra Smith, Joe Robson, Rachael Torrance, Jake Watt, Jim Craigmile, Bob Wheeler

**Regrets:** Reg Clinton, Dan Rudorfer, Brayden Lord, Nathan Brown, Paul Williams

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

Mark B. requested all individuals in attendance to sign the attendance form that was being circulated and indicate which team the individual is representing

**Minutes from the February 7, 2023 Meeting:**

- Motion to approve the February 7, 2023 minutes as presented was made by Chris B. and seconded by Rachael T. Carried.

**REPORTS:**

**Treasurer's Report: Rich Ballantyne**

- Profit loss statements and Account Balances reports were circulated to membership for review
- Account balances as of March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023:
  - o Operating Account (chequing): \$244,139.40
  - o Etransfer/Registration Account (Savings): \$57,250.61
  - o Lottery Account (Trust): \$29,746.12
- \$1077 was deposited into the account by OMHA due to a \$3/player refund being issued due to not contributing dues to Hockey Canada in the 2022-2023 season. This money will be used to cover the cost of ice rentals, therefore being utilized equally across all participants.
- March and April ice rentals and referee costs still to be paid. Ice rental costs are approximately \$50,000 per month.
- 

**Registrar's Report: OMHA – Jocelyne Gall      OWHA – Donna Levy**

- OMHA registration online via Spordle is available for use. Jocelyne will work with executive to get all required information inputted into the system.
- OWHA registration online via RAMP will not be ready for our planned registration opening in March/early April. Jocelyne will work with Rachael T. to create a form online that can be used as a temporary registration sign up, until RAMP is ready.

- Once open, registration process will be promoted on the website and social media pages as well as through all current teams. Registration will be open for 3-4 weeks

#### **OMHA: Mike Johnson**

- OMHA has clarified for the 2023-2024 season, the “A” loop will be running under the umbrella of Shamrock. The centers that will be participating in this loop include: St. Marys, Mount Brydges, Strathroy, Norfolk, South Oxford, New Hamburg, Dorchester.
- OMHA announced that a “Small C” category will be introduced, which is for 2<sup>nd</sup> entry rep teams from A centers to participate in tournaments. More information is to come on this from a meeting tomorrow evening.
- South Oxford is a newly formed center, from the amalgamation of Tillsonburg and Ingersol. This amalgamation just took place, and came together fairly quickly. Many associations in the area are now actively discussing the possibility of amalgamation. SMMHA was contacted by South Huron MH to have preliminary, friendly discussions about the possibility of a future merger. These discussions will take place informally at this point, and the board and membership will continue to be kept up to date with all new and relevant information relating to amalgamation.
- OMHA expects that Shamrock will restructure their divisions to create a more competitive friendly league structure by running a seeding loop during the first part of the season and then sort teams accordingly based on skill and success rate.
- **Question: if teams are re-seeded mid-season, can an “A” team drop down to “B”?** Specifically in the Tri-County League. Mike does not think so but he will confirm or ask Dan R. to confirm.

#### **Shamrock Report: Brandon Boyd**

- Next round of OMHA/Shamrock playoffs are being scheduled currently. Thank you to Mark B. for the constant efforts required for scheduling. No games over March break, unless both teams are in agreement to play. Shamrock play off games, parents will resume scorekeeping. OMHA playoffs will have score keepers provided by SMMHA Board members.
- OMHA playoff series include tiebreak game format: up to 3-10 minute overtime periods, followed by shoot out if necessary
- U11-U15 All Star Game: March 26<sup>th</sup> in Wallaceburg. All coaches were emailed to submit their nominations, which are due March 17<sup>th</sup>. There is a fee of \$20/player, given no gate fees are being collected.
- Deadline for advising Shamrock if we plan to run a U21 team next season is April 1<sup>st</sup>. Currently there appears to be interest from 5 centers.

#### **LMLL: Joe Robson**

- Playoffs are set to end April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- A U9 committee is being created is plan for the 2023-2024 season as all U9 teams will now play out of LMLL. Joe has expressed a desire to be on this committee
- **Question: will U9 be combined birth years? Or separate? Equally skilled teams, or tiered skilled teams?** At this time it is unknown – this will all be determined by the committee. No timeline given.

#### **Tri-County League: Dan Rudorfer**

- No report

#### **OWHA: Reg Clinton (read by Katharine Found)**

- Will work with the registrar to create a tryout package.

#### **WOGL: Tyler Dingman**

- New year end tournament for U9C and U9HL being hosted by St.Marys March 31-April 2. 20 teams have registered. All teams will play a 3 game round robin, followed by a tiered finals. Volunteers to work score sheet and time clock would be appreciated – Sign Up will go out soon. Talk to Tyler D. or Katharine F. if you can help.

#### **Player Development: Mike Johnson**

- Spring Player Development sessions: registration is now open. A 5 week program that will bridge the gap between the end of the current season and the start of tryouts for next season. This will also operate as the Hockey Canada-mandated prep skate. Partnered with Total Package Hockey (TPH) for players and Matt Hackett and Elite Canadian Goaltending for goalies. Local helpers will be required on ice as well. Registration closes March 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Spring try outs will take place May 8-14, 2023 for all U11-U16, 1<sup>st</sup> rep teams.

#### **Tournament Committee: Rich Ballantyne, Sarah Jeffrey**

- Rock Cup Tournament financial summary was presented. Overall the tournament ran well with excellent results, both athletically and financially.

Registration	\$ 31,400.00
Sponsor	\$ -
	\$ 31,400.00
Icetime - PRC	\$ 10,674.72
Icetime - Embro	\$ 1,542.00
Referees	\$ 7,062.00
Awards	\$ 1,798.45
Gamesheet	\$ 551.45
OMHA	\$ 340.00
	\$ 21,968.62
Profit	\$ 9,431.38

- NBC Tournament: registration is open and filling up quickly. Volunteers will be needed throughout the weekend.
- Mark B. thanks Rich, Sarah and Amanda B. for all of their hard work organizing and running the tournaments so far.

#### **Deferred Reports:**

**Awards Committee: Brandon Boyd (read by Katharine Found)**

- Formal graduating player awards banquet is being organized, where all major awards will be presented.

**Old Business:****Director Recruitment for 2023-2024**

- Brandon will be reaching out to all directors whose term is expiring this year to inquire about their intent to be re-nominated.
- If you are looking to step down from your current position, or are looking to become involved in a new position, please contact Brandon as soon as possible.

**New Business:****Try Hockey Program:**

- Mike J. requires volunteers to help organize and implement a Try Hockey event for boys and girls – to be run mid to late April.

**Coaches for 2023-2024:**

- Applications for all “A” teams have now closed and coaches committee will be conducting interviews. All coaches for A teams are to be in place by April 20<sup>th</sup>

**Question: If an age group does not require a tryout from a player number perspective, will we still be running a try out?** Yes, to identify and ensure that all players that are trying out are suitable for that team, from a competitive standpoint, but more importantly from a safety stand point.

**Question: Will coaches be picking their entire team following the spring tryouts?** Yes

**2023-2024 Registration Rates:**

- Rich B. motions to set registration rates for the 2023-2024 season as follows:
  - o U5 - \$225
  - o U7 - \$350
  - o U9, U11, U13 - \$775
  - o U15, U18 - \$800
- Motion was seconded by Tyler D.
- **Discussion:** based on these rates, SMMHA forecasts a budget deficit of \$50,000, which will continue to consume the surplus funds accumulated over the course of the pandemic shortened seasons. Registration rates are set to be able to cover the cost of the base hockey program of 1- 1hr practice; 1- 1hr game per week and approximately 15 home games that require referees. Additional ice time provided to rep teams (1.5 hrs per week of shared ice with another team) is covered by rep fees. Additional factors that are included in the base registration rate include insurance, dues to OMHA/OWHA, equipment and jersey replacements and coach certification.

- **Question: why is the U15 and U18 rates more?** These age groups utilize longer ice times for games (1.5 hrs) and additional referees are required (3-4).
- **Question: what will be the rep fees and try out fees?** Unknown at this time, but will be based on inflationary costs of ice rental.
- **Question: is there a need to go back to a more formal fundraising program, given the cost of hockey registration?** This is a discussion that should take place, as there may be an appetite from members to initiate this type of program to offset registration rates.
- **Question: are OMHA and OWHA registrations the same, despite U15 and U18 girls playing shorter games and requiring fewer referees?** Yes, at this time they will be the same
- **Motion was repeated and vote was called. Carried.**

**Motion to Adjourn:**

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chris B. at 7:56pm. Seconded by Jake W.

**Next Meeting:**

The next association meeting will be held on Tuesday April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00pm at the PRC Endzone.