



**Devon Minor Hockey Association
Meeting Minutes**

Date: October 3, 2017
Called to Order: 6:30 pm
Minutes Taken By: Crystal Reimer

In attendance: Jonathan Morton, Kathy Morton, Wayne Wolfe, Crystal Reimer, Steven Kuchirka, Rachelle Morgado, Melissa Price, Travis Shaw, Brad Whelen, Jennifer Hinse, Chris Simonson, Darcy Skinner, Steve Benson, Crystal Bernard, Cole Matwichuk, Drew Hiltz, Shan Tebb, Diana Rushfeldt, Teshia Rupp

Item 1: Motion to approve the October 3, 2017 Agenda

Motion made to approve October 3, 2017 agenda by Drew Hiltz
Seconded by Wayne Wolfe
All in favour

Item 2: Review & Approve the September 6, 2017 Minutes

Motion made to approve September 6, 2017 amended minutes made by Drew Hiltz
Seconded by Steve Benson
All in favour

Item 3: New Business Arising from Minutes

3.1 Evolution – displayed apparel and jerseys

- \$107 per jerseys (fully supplicated, semi supplicated GSW jerseys & socks 45 days to receive
- Bauer needs 95 days to fulfill a jerseys order. DMHA estimates that the association will need new jerseys in the next two years.

Online ordering system – Evolution processes:

1. Evolution sends out a welcome message to the respective DMHA team manager's, with instructions within the email.
2. The manager then registers the team on to the site, which allows team members to become users that can customize numbers and names on their chosen apparel. DMHA needs to confirm for Evolution what apparel should be available for the users to choose on the website store. DMHA is in favour of all apparel brands i.e. CCM, Bauer etc. however, the DMHA logo must follow the DMHA standards. Evolution also needs confirmation on what wording that can be allowed (i.e. "Hockey" on the Bauer shirts; Hockey Mom) Evolution will place weekly orders.
3. Teams that place a group order on hockey socks get a cheaper price than individual orders.

4. DMHA would like confirmation from Evolution if the Pittsburgh colored hockey socks will still be available in a few years since the NHL hockey team has changed their team colors.
5. Suggestion – to add home and away hockey sock orders to the registrations process for parents to provide an opportunity for DMHA to organize a large group purchase at the start of the next hockey season.

3.2 Oil Kings – no show

Item 4.1 President Report

Jonathan

- a. Action log reviewed and updated
- b. Circulated Hockey Alberta financial statements
 - Hockey Alberta feel they are in good shape, big changes within the initiation program this year, novice changes are coming next year. Hockey Alberta's direction is based on the best practices for children's hockey development.
 - Hockey Edmonton has a great initiation program guide. DMHA is using this initiation program guide and comparing practices within Hockey Edmonton to help guide the development of our initiation program. All the initiation program information is online.
 - New officials were voted onto the Hockey Alberta board
 - Confirm the nomination funding request, for the benevolent fund. Tabled for next meeting
 - Overall evaluations went well – The higher levels (midget and bantam) commented that they would prefer more coach's picks for next season.

Item 4.2 Vice President

Steven Kuchirka –

- a. Collecting criminal records checks (CRC) and vulnerable sector checks (VSC) from all team officials, an email went out to reminding team volunteers, Note: CRC and VSC have to be done in the city your current address is in.

Item 4.3: Past President

Chris Higdon – Absent

Item 4.4: Treasurer

Tournament profit sharing info

2014 -15 – 20% profit for the association

2015-2016 - 50% profit for the association

2016-2017 - 50% profit for the association

Fees

- Quickstart - \$4,200 for evaluations with the checking clinic (under budget).
- Equipment purchases \$1,200

Item 4.5: Secretary

Crystal Reimer –

- a. Mouth guard promotion has been posted onto the website.

Item 4.6: Coach Director

Travis Shaw –

- a. Coaches certifications and training information and follow up started
- b. Head coaches selections:

Initiation	Kyle Wigelsworth and Larry Rushfeldt
Novice 1	Blair Sanders
Novice 2	Allen Davis and Mark Sloan
Novice 3	Duane McNirney
Atom 1	Jon Morton
Atom 2	Mitch Way
Atom 3	Murray Buchan
Atom 4	Tyler Campbell
Peewee 1	Darcy Freemark
Peewee 2	Paula Bentham
Peewee 3	Brent Coutu
Bantam 1	Mark Tinis
Bantam 2	Mike Vanthoff
Midget 1	Victor Wearden
Midget 2	Brad Ardron

- 88 coaches year to date (head coaches and assistant). Working on ensuring that the coaching certifications are up to date.
- An email will be sent to remind all team officials to get new CRCs and VSC to – Travis Shaw or Steven Kurchirka. The documents will be reviewed and returned or destroyed after the results are approved.
- Precision Goalie Institute (PGI) has proposed a program for DMHA to review in order to offer our association goalies more development. Suggested ice times would be Wednesday and/or Thursday morning.
- The program can be offered in one 90 minute session or two 60 minute session every two weeks
- Groups should be divided atom – peewee and bantam – midget
- Base rate \$90 per hour \$30 for extra helpers. PGI follows the long-term hockey development program. Questions were asked if the program was sustainable. Association parents have expressed interest in a program that run once a month, parents may not be interested in the weekly program PGI is offering (midget and bantam goalies may also not be interested due to their age and level)
 - Atom has 8 goalies
 - Peewee 3
 - Bantam 3
 - Midget 4

Jonathan feels it’s a good idea to invest in our association goalies. A member suggested sending an email to the associations goalie parents asking how many may possibly interested in this program during the morning ice times. The price is comparable with other goalie camps.

A member also suggested seeing if Norther Alberta Extreme Hockey academy had any resources that could help develop our association goalies.

Item 4.7: Registrar

Rachelle Morgado – adding coaches to Hockey Canada Registration –

Waiting and following up with parents and coaches to complete respect and sport courses.

Item 4.8: Ref in Chief

Cole Matwichuk –

- a. Ref clinic is full
 - No underage ref, clinic is full.
 - Turned down 12 people from outside towns.
 - Feels that the 8 senior refs have a big volunteer commitment to fill in order to shadow 14 new refs.
 - DMHA has received good comments on our ref's capabilities and Cole suggested that DMHA add a ref incentive to help encourage our refs to continue working towards good comments on their referring abilities.
 - How are we going to compensate the ref shadows
 - Steven Kurchirka suggested our senior ref's fulfill 5 shadow commitments and they can receive a new ref jersey program.

Item 4.9: Level Director

Steve Benson –

- a. Team manager & sponsorship web pages updates are completed as of September 18, 2017
- b. Sponsorship letter update website completed as of September 18, 2017
- c. Initiation program change, training for IP update – see Initiation level coordinator report
 - Initiation tournament is now a 1 day jamboree
- d. Novice level coordinator – still outstanding send. An email must be sent to the novice parents requesting a volunteer(s) in order to continue to allow kids access to the ice. If no volunteer is in place soon, the novice kids will not be granted access to their ice times.
- e. Re-schedule photo and apparel night to October 17/18 due to a double booking
- f. Montreal Canadians Alumni Hockey game in our community – the cost is \$25 K; unfortunately our community cannot support the registration fee.
- g. Rachele Morgado motion the purchase of mini nets from United Cycle since Canadian Tire was sold out for the initiation program (costing \$189 x 4) Crystal Reimer second
- h. Independent Grocers - requested that the novice level receive their sponsorship. Novice 3 will receive it since novice 1 obtained a sponsor and novice 2 was drawn for Chrysler.
- i. Chrysler 4 team sponsor - requested their sponsorship be allocated to the peewee, novice, and atom levels.
 - Peewee 1 parent initiated the discussions for Chrysler and will receive a portion of the sponsorship.
 - Novice 2 was drawn for Devon Chrysler
 - Atom 3 was also drawn for Devon Chrysler
 - Bantam 1 was also drawn for Devon Chrysler
- j. Tournament instructions were reviewed and approved by the board via emails
- k. Tournament Cost – bantam and midget inquired on the possibility to increase their entry fee this year.
 - The executive based the current year's tournament entry fees on past data (i.e. profits per team, and other association's entry fees).
 - A member suggested that our tournament coordinators/volunteers schedule home team games in the evening spots which may help create bigger crowds in the stands in hopes to raise more money.

- The members agreed that we will keep the entry fees that were decided at the June meeting and look at increasing the price next year (note: consider the value that we give the other teams for the ice).
 - A suggestion was made to create a paid position tournament director for next year.
- I. Name bar price confirmation required.

Item 4.10: Fundraising Director

Chelsey Long – absent

Item 4.11: Governor

Drew Hiltz – had to leave before his report

Item 4.12: Ice Coordinator

Kathy Morton –

- Morning ice for DMHA teams - we don't have enough in the evening since Calmar's ice machine is broken. Morning ice trial run for October
- Thorsby could possibly give a Wednesday ice time
- Maybe more ice options coming up but nothing yet.
- DMHA can only assign bantam and midget to the late evening ice
- Tuesday night practice will start at 6:15. Novice receives 1 hour and 5 min.
- League preseason starting

Item 4.13: Referee Assignor

Brandy Fisher – absent

Item 4.14: Equipment Manager

Crystal Bernard –

- a. Update on divider purchase grant from the town refund transferred to Steven Benson
- b. Distribution to the 14 DMHA team's jersey, pucks, first aid kits, pylons, helmet kits (Atom 2 needs to confirm the jersey they have for their team.
- c. Where will the dividers be stored- Devon Arena
- d. Older jerseys – what should be done with them - Throw the old jersey away. Try selling the newer ones and then throw away the jerseys that do not get sold.
 - 6 Youth extra small only, 4 xxl, lots of xxxl – Jersey look good. Don't need new jersey this year. Recommend that when it is time to purchase new jersey's that the association buys more small jersey and less xxl.
 - Parents asked how much the player name bars for the jersey cost
- e. New puck bags and jersey bags will be order through Evolution
 - More pucks, jersey bags go to Evolution. Evolution will direct bill DMHA – pick up the pinnies
 - Blue puck are on order and should be at Evolution soon

Item 4.15: Website Coordinator –

Chris Simonson –

- a. Concussion information – working with Devon Physical Therapy

- b. Contact information on website has been updated. Please inform members to review their junk box if they are expecting an email from DMHA executive member.
 - Add Evolution on to our website advertising.

Item 4.16: Evaluations Coordinator

Darcy Skinner – evaluation are done, and a big thank you to all the volunteers –

- QuickStart commented that the evaluations went well.
- A meeting will take place with the evaluations committee and QuickStart to review and assess received feedback and discuss lessons learned and take aways for next year. The committee is hearing more positive feedback then negative at this time.
- Suggestion to possibly approach the midget and bantam evaluation process differently than peewee - novice next year. An additional suggestion to start the midget and bantam evaluation process later was also received.
- Create a more structured volunteers schedule e.g. sign-up sheet.
 - Assign coaches to their non-age group.

Item 4.17: Level Coordinator – IP

Di Rushfeldt – Initiation program administrator

- 36 kids are currently registered within the initiation program
- DMHA has created an Initiation Program “mentors committee” Darcy Skinner, Travis Shaw, Steven Benson
- DMHA is implementing the new Hockey Alberta Initiation program standards with Larry Rushfeldt and Kyle Wigelsworth currently as the head instructors. More parent volunteer instructors have expressed interest and will be forward the training information.
- The Hockey Alberta Initiation program has been presented to the parents last week – a few rumbles but mostly positive.
- Parents have expressed some questions and concerns adapting to the new initiation program

Program Information:

- Every 10 kids need an instructor
- The Hockey Alberta initiation program focus on skill development by continually moving players into groups of similar skill levels this provides an opportunity for ideal skill development conditions.
- Hockey Canada has amended the maximum of nineteen player’s regulation to recognize the fact that initiation programs should be playing by different rules adapting the game to their size and skill level.
- The Hockey Alberta Initiation Program guide explains two player grouping examples that should be used as a continuum:
 1. Program Design – players are instructed as one large group. Instructors are responsible for all the players in the program, rather than only a pre-selected number. Instructor may be responsible for station work involving their areas of expertise. During the session the instructors would instruct all the players as they moved though his/her station.
 2. Team Design - an instructor or group of instructors is assigned a number of players (a "team") in the early part of the season. The instructional group would then be responsible for conducting the Initiation Program curriculum to their group of players. The player groups would, for the most part, be intact for the season. Ice schedules may

have a number of these "player groups" on the ice at the same time but when attending to the curriculum, the players are instructed by the same instructor.

A concerned initiation parent, requested clarification and the opportunity to voice her thoughts and opinions of the Initiation Program. This parent expressed the opinion that "the initiation kids should have a team", in order to build relationships with team mates and coaches. The parent also voice concerns around 4 year old kids and 7 year old kids playing on the same ice surface and feels it's unfair and unsafe. The parent understands the mentoring initiative and is in favour of the program; however, she would like the player grouping to be at a closer age span and in a team form. The parent stated "kids can ask for help easier when they have the connection with a single coach, rather than 10 different coaches".

Moving forward:

- DMHA is sure that as the season progresses the instructors and the kids will get more familiar with the each other and create a fun and comfortable experience for both the kids and instructors.
- DMHA recognizes that the initiation teams were split into a 4/5 team 6/7 team right away last year; however, DMHA is asking the initiation parents to give the program a chance as it has currently been designed with a Program Design and Team Design continuum. The Team Design phase will be introduced in December.
- DMHA will address all safety concerns in regards with 4 year old kids sharing the ice with 7 year old kids.
- DMHA needs to confirm "Initiation player affiliation" with novice 3. Is there a rule to allow initiation child to affiliate?
- Many sports have reduced the playing field and introduced the program design of grouping players and are seeing great development results. More communication on the program feedback is strongly encouraged and welcome.

Hockey Alberta states:

Local Minor Hockey Associations must commit to the Initiation Program and be prepared to support it. The commitment involves creating an implementation plan and maintaining that plan as the way of operating Initiation hockey in your community. The structure for an Initiation Program is different from other divisions or programs, because it does not focus on playing "standard" games. As a result, there will be critics who will challenge the Local Minor Hockey Association and advocate a more traditional approach.

It is important to remind all "doubters" that the Initiation Program has been designed by subject matter experts who specialize in child development; therefore, the format will be different than that utilized for older players and adults. An effective Initiation Program must be designed with the best interest of the players and should not be used as a form of adult entertainment. (Hockey Alberta, 2017)

Item 4.18: Level Coordinator – Novice

Vacant – Absent

Item 4.19: Level Coordinator – Atom

Rob Melnychuk and Shawn Bartoshewski - Absent

Item 4.20: Level Coordinator – Peewee

Tina Genge and Danine Regenwetter –

Item 4.21: Level Coordinator – Bantam

Wayne Wolf – Tournament update

- 8 teams
- 14 games
- 3 - 20 periods
- Working with Kathy to try and get more ice during tournament
- Request to shuffle public skate
- Two hour ice slots

Item 4.22: Level Coordinator – Midget

Shan Tebb – Tournament update

- 8 teams
- 14 games
- 3 - 20 periods
- Working with Kathy to try and get more ice during tournament
- Request to shuffle public skate
- Two hour ice slots

Item 4.23: Regional AA Representative

Darcy Skinner – done

Item 5.1: Closing Discussion

Item 5.2: Date of the Next Meeting

November 8, 2017 6:30 pm

Meeting Adjourned:

10 pm