



Foothills Minor Hockey Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
06 April, 2017 7:00 pm  
Ramada Meeting Room

**In attendance:** Jennifer Woods, Pavel Savin, Kellie Beal, Dave Wegener, Chris Alexander, Dave Skitch, Sarah Radmanovich, James Bakken, Jacki Swanson, Miles Kiemele, Terri Bass, Lana Bakken, Brianne Fredell, Trent Williamson

**Absent:** Tom Kowal, Kevin MacIntyre, Jesse Byers, Chad Barton

#### **Call to Order/Additions to the agenda**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. There were no additions to the agenda.

#### **Minutes Approval**

A motion to approve the minutes from the March meeting was made by Kellie Beal, seconded by Trent Williamson. The motion passed unanimously.

**Operations Manager Report.** The Operations Manager report was previously submitted by Pavel Savin. The Town of High River will have new rules in place for all user groups. They would like us to run our operations similarly to Okotoks; we cannot be compared to Okotoks, as they are a much larger operation. We have not yet submitted ice requirements for next year but need to let the Town know what we will require for ice for both FMHA and the Bisons for conditioning and evaluations. Discussion about pushing back the timeline a week to prevent the confusion we always run into, especially with the Midgets, as AAA and AA tryouts are completed. Usually we start the week after labour day (Sept 4<sup>th</sup> this year, so we'll start the and finish on the 24<sup>th</sup>). CAHL deadline on October 1<sup>st</sup> is for the # of teams, October 10<sup>th</sup> is deadline for rosters. Pavel will let the town know what our requirements will be. Bisons will confirm on Monday, our ice committee needs to meet and confirm our upcoming needs. Should leave Midgets to the end. Brianne was not able to track down the upcoming new bylaw defining criteria for user groups. It should be posted Monday online.

**Treasurer's Report.** The Treasurer's report was previously submitted by Lana Bakken. She still needs to cross reference with Pavel for credit card fees – lots of the AA's paid by credit card, so they will owe us for those fees and normal fees will be about the same. Some income will still be coming back from the AA's because Lana has not billed them yet. As for unpaid registration, only one family is still ignoring Lana, none remain from prior years. 3 families used Kidsport, 3 families used the bursary, some donations came in to the bursary account. Level directors need to remind teams to submit their spreadsheets of team accounts to Lana. Regarding the signs we are having made at Schultz – our choices are plexiglass with etching on the reverse, or a Coroplast sign with a plexiglass cover. Lana has not seen a sample. The plexiglass sign would have to be completely replaced if it gets damaged, where the Coroplast sign would only require that the plexiglass cover be replaced if it is defaced, making it potentially less expensive in the long run. We will go ahead with the Coroplast signs. We will also have an FMHA sign made for the bulletin board. Terri will talk to Chris at the recplex about our signage.

**Atom Provincial Committee Report.** Trent Williamson provided the Provincial Committee report. Provincials went well, we had no major issues, and the reffing was fantastic – even other teams commented on the quality and consistency of our reffing. Only one 5 min major was issued, and there were no issues in the stands. The concession in High River could have been much better. We have received some feedback from businesses in High River being very busy. The concession in Blackie was very busy and had to restock for Sunday morning. The store in Blackie ran out of money, chips and pop. Jennifer Foster and Gord Lane from HA were in attendance for the whole weekend. Still waiting on some final bills, but looking at about \$9000 profit. The Provincial committee met and the dispersal will be \$1000 to the food bank, \$1000 to food for thought, \$2500 into Provincial account to carry forward. \$500 to build a storage locker (Cyril Rushnie and the shop kids will build it) and the remaining \$4000 to be put towards player development – clinics and professionals to teach them.



**AGM** – The AGM will be held May 24<sup>th</sup> at the golf course. The proposed speaker, Shawnee Harlee, is unable to come. Jacki Swanson will investigate having Chris Cook from Nanton. Lana to drop off deposit. We will have beef on a bun, and a cash bar. We will rent a signboard to announce the AGM, as it will likely be more effective and less expensive than an announcement in the paper. We likely need to update our bylaw announcing the AGM to reflect current social media use. Attendees will RVSP online. We will look into also using High River Online, and Terri will check on having an announcement on the screens at the recplex.

Nominations for volunteer of the year to be posted on FB and the website. Sarah will accept nominations for Volunteer of the Year at her email. Board nominations will be done through the website again. Nominations for board positions and volunteer of the year will close May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Bylaw review** – carried forward to May meeting.

**Newsletter** – Similar to last year. We will publish the Provincial committee legacy, etc. Registration will open June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**2017/2018 - FMHA Committees** – Brianne proposes that we have some potential committees moving forward, to utilize the skills of more individuals from our association. Committees would make recommendations to the board, have a board member to oversee them. We are not good at asking for help from outside the board, and need to utilize the skills of our membership better. Change will have to happen over time.

Motion by Terri Bass to contract somebody to update website, second by Kellie Beal. We don't know yet what it will cost. A contractor would look at the site and then make a presentation to the board. Motion passed unanimously. Terri Bass and Brianne Fredell will get recommendations.

We will make a call out to our membership for photos on the website.

**Recruitment pamphlet**- Changes and additions – dates – registration will open June 1<sup>st</sup>, can update if there are further changes from Hockey Alberta.

**Fee Structure** – It is hard to set a budget without March ice bills. Motion by Terri to keep fees the same, Brianne seconded the motion. Discussion about whether House fees should be lower. They have the same number of practices as other teams, and though their game time is shorter, they play more games than CAHL teams. Other associations in our house league have same fees as their travel teams. We can adjust house fees later if we determine this is needed. Motion passed unanimously.

**Payment Options** – will remain the same.

**Early Bird Prize Draw** – same as last year. Motion by Kellie Beal to hold the Early Bird Registration Draw. Players registered by the July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline, excluding AA registration, and who have paid the initial deposit of \$200, will be entered in a draw to win a free registration. Motion seconded by Jacki Swanson, passed unanimously.

**Fee Discount** – Motion by Terri Bass – Families with 3 or more players in the association are eligible for a 15% off FMHA total fees, excludes AA fees. Seconded by Miles Kiemele, motion passed unanimously.

### **Directors Reports**

Initiation. – The initiation report was previously provided by Kellie Beal. Hockey Alberta regional meeting in May, there will be a session regarding the half ice guidelines. Miles will go.

Novice. The Novice report was previously provided by Brianne Fredell, no changes have occurred.

Atom. The Atom report was previously provided by Terri, Bass and no changes have occurred.

Peewee The Peewee report was previously provided by Chris Alexander, no changes have occurred.

Bantam. No Bantam report has been provided and Jesse Byers is not present tonight.



Midget. The Midget report was previously provided by Kevin MacIntyre and he is not present tonight. Gosselins have asked for team nominations again. Miles and Chad are handling these.

Female. The Female report was previously provided by Tom Kowal.

CAHL. The CAHL report was previously provided by Jacki Swanson. We'll publish funfacts from CAHL report in our newsletter. In two years, Hockey Alberta will implement province wide tiering. Spud league will cease to exist.

Referee Liaison Report. The Referee Liaison report was previously provided by Dave Skitch. FMHA will provide \$50 for ref wind up.

AA – The AA report was previously provided by Dave Wegener and no changes have occurred.

Coach Coordinator – no report has been provided and Chad is not present tonight.

Clinic - Miles Kiemele indicates the checking clinics went well.

Equipment – James Bakken indicates that some of the equipment has been returned, some teams didn't show up at the drop off day. New Timbits colours are teal, purple, green, grey. Will order white socks to go with them.

Evaluation Committee – nothing to report

Ice Committee – nothing to report

House – The minutes for the House Committee meeting were provided by Kellie Beal. We will have a float in the Little Britches Parade, we'll get players to walk, this will be a good opportunity to thank sponsors. Tammy Beach asked if hockey players would carry the 150 banner. Waiting to hear from Nanton about how things went at their AGM.

Sponsorship Committee – Brianne Fredell ordered thank you cards to be sent to our sponsors, signed by board members at tonight's meeting.

**Coach mentorship program** The breakdown of the 16.25 hours submitted by Sean is as follows: 5 hours to the initial coach sessions, 5 ½ hours dedicated to Bantam 2, 5 ¾ hours with Atom 1. Bantam 2 had Sean come out for 1 practice, 6 practice plans. Atom 1- 23 practice plans. Allocation was to be done by Chad and Miles. Time spent with the Bantam 2 and Atom 1 coaches was at their request. The contract is not actually for coach mentorship per se. Sean's certification seems more suited to coaching a higher level of hockey. Our own clinics arranged by Chad and Miles were very well attended by lower division coaches. Motion by Jacki Swanson to not renew Sean's contract for next year, based on the success of our own clinics. Motion seconded by Dave Wegener, motion passed unanimously.

**Discipline** - (redacted)

**Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn at 9:06 pm by Terri Bass.

The next meeting will be held May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Ramada meeting room.



## **Reports**

### **Operations Manager**

#### **Hours**

Hours since Feb 28<sup>th</sup> – 34, total 557

#### **Ice schedules**

In preparation for the Town of High River open house (regarding ice scheduling), I met with Jamie Steer from Okotoks to find out their best practices and how they manage ice. Details of that meeting had been sent to the executives.

#### **End of the season**

As per Hockey Alberta rules and regulations, 'Return to Home Association' transfers had been initiated for Foothills players who played last season for other associations (Bantam AAA, Midget AAA, female teams, etc).

Pending approval at the Hockey Alberta AGM, all carded team staff will be required to take the RIS – Coach course for the next season. This means that those who took the Speak Out course before will need to take the RIS – Coach course now.

#### **Registration**

We won't be able to open new registration on May 1 due to some changes in the HCR system introduced this year. I expect 2-3 weeks delay.

### **Treasurer**

I'm working on billing the Bisons for what they owe us for bank charges and all their player/bench staff fees for the year.

I'm waiting on March Ice bills.

Balance sheet and income statement are attached.

Here is the breakdown of the coach mentorship for the 2nd installment (per Sean Selmser):

- Bantam 2 @ 3.5 hrs

>6 practice plans @ 30 min each and a 30 min meeting

- Atom 1 practice plans sent for the dates Dec. 5, 8, 15, Jan. 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 31, Feb. 1, & 15 @ 30 min each/2 is 2.75 hrs

This is a total of 6.25 hrs and added to the previous submission of 10 hrs in November and should satisfy the 15 hours for 2016/17.

### **Directors**

#### **Initiation**

Nothing really to report aside from year ended, I asked the HC/Mgrs if they wanted me to bring anything forward in my final report and heard nothing back. Initiation and Novice will both get to participate in the Super Sport Program thru Source for Sports again for the 2017/18 season.

#### **Novice**

Nothing new to report since last meeting.



## **Atom**

I am pleased to report that overall the 3 teams at this level finished very successful seasons.

Atom 1 - made it to the finals but were defeated in 2 games

Atom 2 - made it to the finals and won the banner

Atom 3 - won the "cup" in their division

## **Peewee**

Peewee 1 provincial's results:

Pool B – second place finish behind Indus Hurricanes

13 of 14 skaters attended, 2 of 2 goalies attended

## **Midget**

I spoke with the manager of the Midget team and wanted to see if there was any feelings towards the oversize roster. She informed me that she heard no rumblings against it. It seemed to work out well with injuries, illness, holidays and spring ball.

The only concern that came out of the midget team was that next season when the AA team is doing tryouts it would be nice if it was selected prior to our season starting so we don't have all the last minute non tryout players from the FMHA show up to one practice and take spots from players who attended the whole process.

Looking at potential numbers for next season we may be looking at a similar situation with an oversize roster. Things to start looking at for next season.

Also has there been any discussions regarding the Elliott Gosselin Memorial as the midget team is discussing potential candidates.

## **Female - nothing to report**

## **CAHL**

- Carryover suspensions are now on the website.
- too many minute suspensions are not carried over to next season anymore.
- 11229 games played this year! We need to acknowledge our fmha governors this year! They were a huge part in the success of these games.
- penalty minutes 130770+
- website traffic 1179664
- page views 7132120
- goaline was exceptional to work with
- all noms passed
- there will be a few new associations next year. Some are dependant on getting all their HA requirements done.
- Terry remains president
- Ryan remains a vp
- Mike remains secretary
- Shannon remains treasurer

## **Referee Liaison Report**



Officiating went well this year. Most games were worked with 3 officials. The level of officiating for the different divisions is good. There are 39 local officials and about 130 total officials that are members of ORA. Our local officials seem to be progressing well. Think we have a good core of local officials. There were approximately 500 supervision completed this year for all ORA officials. Believe it is beneficial for local officials to be part of ORA. There is more opportunity for officials to work higher levels of hockey if they want to pursue officiating further.

Have sent email to Lana with year-end amounts to pay officials for \$3 a game travel expense and \$100 for first year officials.

If we were going to give each official \$75 (like last couple of years) *it would have cost \$2925.* With this payment format: \$100 for qualifying first year officials (paid out to 7 officials) and \$3 per game for HR and Blackie the cost was \$2320. Travel expense was not paid to officials if amount was less than \$10. There were 2 officials that worked less than 4 games that did not receive the travel amount. Cheques will be completed and then will be available to officials. Initiation game fee was \$20 and that included the \$3 travel fee. There was one new official that I forgot to include – Doug Hood. I think this format is better than giving \$75 to each official as there are some officials that work just a few games. Believe it is good that FMHA supports it officials and encourages new officials with the \$100 to cover costs associated with initial start-up purchases.

PWAA- Think the playoff tournament went well ( great job done by committee and volunteers) and officiating was top notch for the tournament.

Atom A provincial tournament- Great job by Trent, Atom A committee and volunteers. I heard many positive comments regarding the quality of officiating for the tournament.

High Level tournaments are very beneficial for local community, FMHA and participating teams. It is also very beneficial for officials as each game is supervised. Usually officials will work multiple games and can work on officiating skills getting feedback after each game. This also gives officials experience working high pressure games.

ORA wind-up is April 22nd. ORA (sponsors) provide gifts for officials that attend the wind-up. (Example: Golf shirt, gift cards, skate sharpening cards, etc.) FMHA normally provides some sort of gift card(s). Would like to suggest FMHA provide \$50 to go towards ORA wind-up, for gift cards.

ORA have set up referee scholarship this year. I have not heard if any of our local referees have applied for a scholarship. If there has been, I will suggest that FMHA (PWA provincial money) pays for any local officials. (Discussion)

FYI-I may have forgotten to mention something in report and may need to bring up at meeting.

## AA

Our PW AA playoff tournament went very well, not a lot of attention drawn to our host Bison team as far as raffle tables and such, just a lot of very good games played, along with great officiating. Our PW team and everyone associated did an awesome job hosting. Between this tournament and our Atom Provincial tournament, can only speculate just how much our local businesses were of benefit.

Our Bison Prospect Camp went very well, lots of interest in both PW and Bantam groups.

Year end banquet is this Saturday at the Highwood Golf Course.

Coach surveys were sent out to all three teams with a fairly good response from the parents. With the season complete, new coach applications and interviews to follow will be starting soon.

## Active Committees House

House Committee Meeting – Held Tuesday, March 7/17 @ Boston Pizza Lounge



In attendance – Kellie, Sarah, Terri, Miles, Brianne

Missing – Jennifer, Lana

#### Agenda:

##### 1. Structure for the House Teams

- Do we want to look at changing structure i.e. change to one practice per week with a reduced fee? Leave as is?
  - Decision made to poll the initiation teams and the house novice & atom teams to get feedback, ensuring that we propose this as a means that is just for informational purposes at this time with a decision to be made prior to next season taking feedback into place
  - Option to go either surveymonkey or just an email to the specific teams (**afterthought – would we get more honest responds if it was anonymous rather than going email route? Will some people not want to give true answer if their name is attached?**)
  - Takeaways – Kellie will draft up question and send to house committee to review prior to sending out. Need to make a decision in regards to aftermath, email responses ok rather than another meeting
  - We need to ensure too next year that games are as evenly distributed between the High River and Blackie arenas and not so heavily out at Blackie. Feedback from Kellie for the Atom House was 21 games for league, plus the 2 provincial games and 4 during the home tournament). The 1.5hr ice slot is ok however should be reviewed again prior to start of next season.
- Do we want to make motion to the board that next year in Novice, factoring in any changes CAHL proposes for the travel, etc. that we only have one travel team at the Novice level and have 2 house teams? Proposal would be that the Novice 2 team partake in the House "A" grouping and the Novice 3 team continue in the House "B" grouping
  - Takeaways – we will make this motion at the April board meeting

##### 2. Getting the Information out there in regards to the House League

- How do we make this program successful and gain membership to it? How do we deter the stigma that house is not "competitive"
  - We need to approach our surrounding associations and see if they would have interest in a regional based "league" (i.e. Nanton, High Country, Vulcan?) – Kellie received feedback from Okotoks Atom House Director that he'd like to approach Chestermere and Airdrie, potential here to really build. Biggest thing at this point would be should this interest happen – who spearheads it?
  - Helps that our Atom House team won the league championship and the gold medal at our home tournament to show the competitiveness of the division. Would like to see/suggest that they do playoffs also at the Novice level with OMHA if possible (we really don't utilize a lot of ice come Feb in our association at this level so that would give more opportunities for it potentially)
  - We want to look at doing a magnet advertising sign to advertise for registration versus in the paper. This would also help for those that are new and do not know to check our website/facebook following.
  - Plan an Open House – main focus here would be to potentially grab some of the rec league players/new players that have an interest but not 100% sure. Have the equipment on display that's required, maybe we get that Canadian Tire First Shift program and can advertise it also. Basically be a question/answer period, have some nets set up for kids to try out. Would like to do prior to AGM however with the bylaws may have to be after ...
  - We would also like to put a float in the Little Britches Parade this year – showcase our teams that won league/banners and our initiation groups. Miles has offered his flatdeck that we can decorate and throw bales on for players/families to ride. It would also give us an opportunity to thank our sponsors, have their logos present (idea of Midget players walking with a banner/sponsorship signs) We even have potential for a bright orange truck to pull the float. Board members and parents can hand out flyers (with suckers attached or something) talking about the AGM and our Open House
  - Media Flyers out to the schools also advertising our regular teams and the house league to gain memberships





- Takeaways – Kellie will reach out to the other associations to gain feedback
  - Terri & Brianne will spearhead the Open House and Parade
  - Brianne to create the flyers for the schools/parade
  - Terri to bring to Rec Board interest in absorbing the Rec Hockey Groups
- 3. Miscellaneous Discussions
  - Need to look at options for the house league should other associations not be interested but if out of bounds players wanted to play strictly house – would Hockey Alberta allow this without us having to take the numbers of these associations, perhaps these teams in order to do so cannot participate in Provincials?
  - Affiliations within House need to be House to House only
  - Potential discounts for families with 3 or more children – can we review and offer?

**Sponsorship** - Thank you cards will be sent out

**Pay It Forward** - nothing to report