

Foothills Minor Hockey

Meeting Minutes

September 1, 2016

7:00pm Fortis Building

Members present: Jennifer Woods, Trent Williamson, Lana Bakken, Sarah Radmanovich, Pavel Savin, Kellie Beale, Brianne Fredell, Terri Bass, Chris Alexander, Dave Skitch, Dave Wegener, Miles Kiemele, Jamie Bakken, Chad Barton, Jacki Swanson,

Members absent: Kevin MacIntyre, Cassie Gordon, Jesse Byers, Tom Kowal

I. Call to order at 7:02pm

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Motion: by Chad Barton to accept the minutes from last meeting. Second by Trent Williamson.

Vote: in favor: 13, opposed: none. Motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report:

- About \$180,000 in the bank right now. Have not had any ice or reffing bills to pay, yet. Some registration fees are being paid over time, so still some money to come in.
- Atomic sponsorship: Home jerseys were retired last year. McDonalds sponsors one new set every year of the sponsorship now, so we will alternate retiring home/away. Had a bill for silk screening, and socks. 57 pairs @\$15 were ordered but not originally part of the renewal so there is an extra cost.
- Audit is done
- Money from PW provincials is in a separate account. Lana will set up a sub account to pay the referee scholarships.

IV. Operations Manager Report

Submitted report:

Hours since Jul 5 – 117, total 142

Current registration numbers:

Initiation – 38

Novice – 45

Atom – 40

Peewee – 39 (17 were trying out)

Bantam – 44 (19 were trying out)

Midget – 33 (13 were trying out)

Total: 239

The Ice Committee decided to reserve the following weekends for tournaments:

Nov 12, 2016 – Initiation

Dec 2 – 4, 2016 (ice will not be available in High River on Dec 4)

Jan 6 – 8, 2017

Jan 20 – 22, 2017

Mar 10 – 12, 2017 – AA if we are awarded to host one

Ice in Blackie – the Ice Committee decided to give Tuesday 21:30 – 22:30 ice back but to keep ice on Sunday 8:00 – 9:30. A Sunday slot will be used to schedule house league games. Both slots had been used by Okotoks last year. I've informed Blackie about our decision

The Town of High River requested ice on Sunday, Dec 4. The Ice Committee agreed to accommodate such request. This is a tournament weekend but we still have ice on Sat and Sun in Blackie and on Sat in High River

All AA teams will attend tryout tournament in September so unused ice has been released back to the Town

The AA Committee requested to practice twice in Blackie on Thursdays. They wanted to reduce their practices to 60 minutes from 75 minutes. That would allow us to utilize a full 60 minute slot on Thursday (instead of 45 minute slot we had last year). But they won't practice on Fridays. The Ice Committee agreed to change their practices. In summary, AA teams (Peewee and Bantam) will practise on Tuesday in High River and Blackie (both practices are 75 minutes) and twice in Blackie on Thursdays (both practices are 60 minutes).

As AA practice has been moved from Friday we decided to try to give 15 minutes back to the Jr B Flyers. Lana or I will contact the Flyers

Most likely I will not be available during AA tryouts. Who will be available to cover for me to ensure that players are properly registered and submitted required forms prior to going on the ice?

The decision has been made to use ePACT again this season to collect and maintain player medical information.

Discussion:

- Sarah, Jen, Lana will cover Pavel while he is away.
- E pact – Terri's team (Novice) didn't get the notification – it gets sent to manager/coach/trainer but action is required on their part, they need to be looking for it in their email.
- **Action:** Kellie will add a reminder to the managers' checklist.
- **Action:** Pavel will send updated email lists to Terri and Brianne
- Medical release notes (for injured players returning to play)

Action: Sarah, Jen, and Jacki will form a working group to determine the conditions for requirement of a medical release.

- Email – Use of personal or hockey email. Doesn't matter, which is used, but the preferred email should be posted on the website before teams are formed.

Action: Sarah will collect the preferred email for internal and external email and update the document on Google Drive. Cassie will update any changes for external email on the website.

- What extra ice can be used for clinics? Tentative practice schedule is made up, but won't be finalized yet because we need to finalize the number of teams. There may be a spot on Thursdays in Blackie, and some small ice times.

V. Old business

- a) **AA/AAA female proposal** – We may be able to offer Monday night in Blackie, no other news
- b) **Managers Handbook** –
 - Kellie has the managers' presentation ready. The manager's meeting date is set for Sept 29. Level directors should plan to attend.
 - Kellie is creating the new handbook. Changes to chain of communication document for the handbook to make it easier to understand. This also needs to go in the fall newsletter
 - **Action:** Chad will book the curling rink Sept 29, 7-8pm
- c) **Gosselin Player awards** (Report submitted)
- d) **Early Bird draw** (Report submitted)

VI. New business – photos – Jane to do again, recommend for Bisons as well

VII. Executive Reports

- *Jennifer has attempted to contact R Gosselin twice regarding the player scholarships, but has not heard back from him.*
- *Jen had an email request from a board member asking for access to all documents signed on behalf of FMHA. All documents are available on Dropbox outside of Discipline Documents which require confidentiality and are held at the executive level. Jennifer offered to meet with the board member but received no response.*
- *Some families had difficulty registering at the Bantam level. Registration was not capped, though a limit was set in the system to alert us that we had reached certain numbers (38 – the maximum number of players for 2 teams). When the limit was reached, the decision was made to open more spots and the players were able to register. Concern from members that this system will result in missed registrations due to families thinking that registration is full. A message will be put on the website that if a parent has difficulty registering or receives the "level is full" error, they are to contact Operations Manager.*
- *(In camera discussion)*

VIII. Level Directors

e) Initiation

Submitted report:

- Met with counterparts for OMHA and HCMHA (both new).
 - Discussed issues from last year:
 - Too many coaches on ice in Okotoks
 - 3 Goal superstar rule
 - 5 goal spread (taking back to associations, then we will all hopefully be on board)
 - Okotoks 10-11 teams (12 last year)
 - High Country 2 teams (same last year but smaller)
 - Foothills 3 teams at this point.
 - Dressing rooms in Okotoks have to be shared
 - Willing to give going there another chance because of the new director
 - Talked about no score clock aside from time until January
 - All associations involved have “guilty moments” – need to work together.
 - OMHA meet Tuesday, HCMHA meet same as us, will follow up after.
- Not near as many requests this year for kids/nights.
- Lots of potential coaches and managers.

Discussion: Kevin is trying to get new jerseys for Initiation from Tim Hortons

- f) **Novice** (See attached Novice director report) – positive response from parents to the letter

g) Atom

Submitted report:

Brianne and I basically mirrored the information between both Novice and Atom that was emailed to the parent group so the same documents she posted with her report were sent to the Atom group (of course referring to Atom).

I have 40 players registered with now only 7 confirmed for House League and 1 player whose parents want him evaluated but are fine if he ends up on that team.

I posted both letters (Novice & Atom), as well as the letter from Hockey Alberta regarding their focus to reduce the number of games played and the distance teams will be traveling on our Bulletin Board at the rink.

- h) **Peewee** – nothing to report.

- i) **Bantam** - no issues, nothing to report

- 3 more players were cut from AAA to AA. Predict that 8-10 players will stay with Bisons

j) Midget

Submitted report:

Cochrane Minor Hockey runs and operates the midget house league. Here is what is projected for teams this season:

*Cochrane x 4
Okotoks x 3
Airdrie x 2-3
Canmore x 1-2
Foothills x 1*

16 games regular season 4 game playoffs
 Schedule is released in 3 stages, 1st till end of CAHL tiering, 2nd till Christmas and 3rd to end of season
 They contact ref association (Okotoks) and schedule all officials
 2hr ice slot with a flood
 1 game per weekend, try and rotate them one weekend away then one at home, will work around home tournaments
 Any 3 penalties in a game and the player is removed no matter what the penalty is
 No contact
 No fighting automatic suspension, they follow HA rules for discipline
 17 player roster plus 2 goalies
 Season starts Oct. 3

They are excited at this idea of a potential team from our association whether it be this year or next.

My concern is registration cost for this league, all associations only have their teams practice once a week, we offer two practices but our midget is \$950 I think and everywhere else for house league midget is around \$650.

Vulcan President says he has 9 skaters and 1 goalie looking to play in FMHA, they are aware of a potential house league, I have told them though they will be involved in our evaluations so they end up on the right teams and not just put them on Team 2, he will not sign releases for these boys to go to Lomond due to there president.

k) Discussion:

- l) We need the Vulcan players (9 skaters and a goalie) to form 2 teams, otherwise we have too many players for one team in FMHA. Need to communicate with parents regarding the House league.
- m) **Motion** to accept Vulcan players to our midget teams by Terri Bass, second by Jackie Swanson. Vote: In favor: 12, Opposed:1. Motion carried.
Action: Jacki will send a letter to the Midget parents regarding the House League, similar to what was sent to the Novice and Atom parents.

n) Other Directors

- **AA**

- o) **Submitted Report:**

All three of our Bison teams have excellent head coaches and assistant coaches in place, a good step forward in comparison to past years.

We had our first Coach Mentorship meeting with Global Sport Academy this past Sunday evening with all of our coaching staff's as well as most of the Committee present. It was a good meeting, a very positive step towards the development and growth both for our coaches and the association with a fresh approach towards player, coach and as always "parent development" that Global will bring.

With conditioning/evaluations starting Aug.29th, number of registrations seem to be down. I'm estimating probably close to 10%. However its only conditioning and with the Bantam AAA cuts as well as our Midgets starting later, our numbers will surely fill out later this week as we head towards evaluations.

Much work has been done this offseason with preparation towards

conditioning/evaluations, bison signage, finding coaches, ordering new jerseys/bags, sponsorship etc....

A strong, committed group of people leading the way.

Discussion:

- next month AA board members will come to our meeting

- **Female**

Submitted Report:

- p) *I have not much to report. I reached out to all the female players registered and introduced myself. I told them if they had any issues they could let me know. So far so good*

- **CAHL**– September meeting cancelled. There have been lots of email bulletins. Need Governors before Oct 1.

- **Equipment** – smooth sailing!

- **Community Liaison**

- q) **Submitted Report:**

A thank you to everyone who came out to work the casino. Appreciate the various board members who stepped up, even though they shouldn't have had to. A member mentioned that we as a board should send something out regarding volunteers and the importance of our casino for the future of our association. She was very disappointed that more people didn't step forwards, as were the rest of us. This member volunteered, in addition to her 2 daughters and a friend. Another family volunteered several people as well.

Cassie will be doing more "Sports Boosters" in the near future for AM1140 and any suggestions for announcements are appreciated. Please email Cassie your requests.

Cassie also wanted to bring up the idea of having an Ice Breaker. We haven't done one since the flood. Could do a silent auction and raise money for FMHA, do a food bank drive and help out the depleted local food bank. Possibly host it at the golf course and sell tickets for it.

- **Coach –**

- Clinic will be held September 10 & 11. Coaches are coming from other communities as well. Would like Reminder about mandatory coaching meeting on Sept ember 11 to be sent out.
- Would like to propose FMHA set a budget for coach clinics. Spent \$2000 last year, \$3300 the year before.
- Some things for the Coach committee to think about –if coaches are asking to bring specific assistant coaches with them, do they have to apply with them? Are we comfortable with allowing head coaches to decide who their assistants are? As an association, should we be able to yay or nay assistant coaches?
- Reimbursement and qualifications of interested FMHA coaches, assistants. Should we ask that they come to the September meeting with proof of registration in a course held before end of October to be considered for a coach position.

- **Motion:** We will reimburse FMHA members that attend the coach's clinic, who request reimbursement by Chad Barton, Second by Terri Bass. Vote: all in favor, motion carried.

- **Referee** (Report submitted)

r) Active Committees

- Ice – see operations manager report
- Evaluations (Report submitted)
- House (Report submitted)
- Sponsorship - see attached pdf document
- Ft Mac (Report submitted) Liam Izyk playing in Ft Mac, committee needs to fundraise, estimate for costs
- Discipline – nothing to report.

Adjournment: Motion by Kellie, seconded by James. Meeting adjourned at 10:02

Submitted Reports

Referee – (Dave S)

Have had one 'local' request for an underage referee. Because that rule is in place for a number of reasons (maturity, handling stressful atmosphere and there is not a shortage of referees, ORA denied the request.

High River Referee clinic is scheduled for Oct 1st. Should be open for registration on August 25th.

ORA will be placing add in Western Wheel with the dates of upcoming referee clinics.

ORA Executive meeting is scheduled for Aug 27th which I will be attending.

Brady and Colton both went to the referee camp in Penticton. (As did Troy Kowal). In process of getting scholarship funds from Brad Parker and Tom Kowal to refund \$500 to both Brady and Colton.

FMHA should be receiving money from PW A provincial tournament for future referee scholarships. Lana to set-up a separate bank account for this money.

Will arrange to get referees for the evaluation games once the times are confirmed.

Active Committees

Ice – see Pavel's report

Evaluations –

Had evaluation meeting on August 18th Ramada:

IMPORTANT DATES



September 15th- 7pm -Pre Evaluation Meeting for Evaluators-7pm Ramada (Booked By Dave Skitch)

- Conditioning will begin September 12th 2016
- Evaluations will Start Saturday September 17th –to Saturday September 24th
- Initiation dates for Evaluations are Saturday September 17th and 24th
- October 1st2016- Number of teams for each division needs to be submitted into CAHL
- October 9th, 2016-All teams including names and registration numbers need to be submitted
- *Evaluations end on Saturday Sept 24th so this gives us a grace period between Oct 9th for the finalization of teams.
- August 29th-September 6th- AA Start- Dates to be confirmed

ACTIONS:

Pavel (Lana)- Confirm Ice and post all times with a *subject to change* disclaimer on the website ASAP

Chad- To organize the evaluation drills and all on ice coaches.

FMHA/Evaluation Committee Minutes/08/18/2016

Lana- Cancel meeting at the Ramada for Sept 1st, 2016. (As we are rebooked for Fortis)

All Board Members- Bring all recommendations to Dave Skitch for hockey and goalie evaluators that fit criteria.

Dave S- Organize Evaluators. Contact the past evaluators and take recommendations for new potential evaluators that fit the criteria.

Kellie (Sarah, Jamie etc)- Take the lead to organize pinnies for all levels of evaluations. Kellie contact James to get new pinnies

Terri- Draft a communication house email and send to **Brianne** for review and they (Directors) will send to all Novice and Atom players.

Terri- Send the House letter and CAHL communication release to Cassie to post onto the FMHA website

Pavel- Send Novice and Atom level email addresses to level directors (Brianne and Terri)

Brianne/Dave S- Send Evaluation Criteria to Cassie to post on the website

NOTE: For 1: Pavel will know by Sept 12th if he is available for data entry. Elaine Kowal agreed to do the data entry if Pavel was not available.

NOTE: For 2: Meet with ice committee on Aug 24th. Novice / Atom House are welcome to come out to conditioning camp along with other Novice & Atom players. House league players do NOT need to be evaluated as the house league teams go through a 'tiering' for the first few games and then will get placed in 'A' or 'B'. Will be 3 combined skill sessions (shared ice) and one -1 hour game each for Novice and Atom. Skill sessions on Sept 17, 18, 24 and games on 25th. Terri is going to arrange with Okotoks house league for exhibition game for both Novice and Atom.

1. Evaluation Subcommittee Nomination

- It was discussed to try to mitigate some potential uncertainty that not appointing directly affiliated association members to the subcommittee to evaluate the final numbers would be a great way to maintain transparency. The unanimous decision to accept Tom Kowal, Dave Wegner and Dave Skitch to the Sub Committee was welcomed.
- Data Entry-Elaine Kowal has graciously accepted and will be doing the data entry of the evaluation numbers. This has previously been a paid position. There wasn't much discussion around this however remaining consistency around payment seems reasonable.

2. House Committee Evaluations

- It was discussed that as we will still be evaluating house players. We will evaluate them separately. Dave S will be determining where to put them for ice time. Confirm their ice time and then confirm with Lana and Pavel for posting.

3. House Communications

- Terri- Will draft a communication email that she will send to Brianne for review and they (Directors) will send to all Novice and Atom players. This will clarify all questions anyone may have about house at that level and finalize house numbers going into the conditioning/evaluation week to come.
- Terri- Send the House letter and CAHL communication release to Cassie to post onto the FMHA website

Still need a few more evaluators.

Evaluation subcommittee will meet twice to verify the player data numbers. Once half way through process and at the end of evaluations. (Friday Sept 23rd).

Saturday – Sept 24th: Meet with evaluation/coach committee to determine teams and coaches. Still need to book a room for Sept 24th meeting.

Will arrange referees for the evaluation games.

House Committee – letters to Novice and Atom approved at evaluation meeting, emailed Aug 25/26, will give us solid house numbers

A bit of an issue hearing back from OMHA to verify teams can play, but ok now. Was going to executive Thursday night.

Suggested and approved by both OMHA and FMHA Presidents to draft an agreement (written) for going forward, for succession and ease. (working on this).

Ft Mac –

- will this need to be fundraising? Or will FMHA “foot the bill”?
- Kellie is reaching out for contacts
- Thinking a community focus is better, knowing the kind of donations they have received.
 - Buy coffee at a rink for an afternoon – would work with concession to arrange payment
 - Create a coffee sleeve
 - During “Minor hockey week” (Christmas time)
 - They may be down one rink (Beacon Hill)