



Presidents Report

Christie Cameron

May 20, 2020 - AGM

When I was preparing to write this, I looked back at Cliff's report from the last AGM - which is on the website - which is a great location to find out all kinds of information about AMHA! Special thanks to Donna, Cindy and Carol for working hard to streamline and update the website!

Cliff remarked at how much the 18-19 season was the season of many changes. Well, the change has continued into this season. The EC saw quite a bit of change this year. I think the changes have been positive, continuing with rebranding with new jerseys, evaluations, and goalie development. All of these were initiatives championed by Cliff Gunther. The EC is also something that saw some change this year. I wanted to take a minute to thank Cliff for all he has done for AMHA. He worked so hard to make things better for our children. And I know this, because when Cliff had to step down and I volunteered to help more by stepping into the role - it was a lot! Ed Jessome was appointed to the EC and quickly became committed. I would also like to thank Ed and Evan for being steadfast in your commitment to the association and Ryan Stone for answering my hockey questions, like what is icing. I greatly appreciate your time and support. We were able to hire two additional support staff, Donna Fuller and Carol Luterbach, as Program Administrators. Their help through the evaluation process, team creation and throughout the season has been invaluable, thank you both. And thank you Cindy for helping me learn and understand how a hockey association runs, and being flexible with all this on-going change. Your dedication to AMHA and experience are among our greatest assets - which we need since we spent a lot of our cash assets!

To our board members, thank you very much. This organization is one of the largest MHA in Alberta - and is driven by our dedicated volunteers. Thank you for your time and thank you for being here for our children, to make our player's experiences better.

Another change this year is to our bylaws and policies. The updating of the policies has been a two year undertaking. Most of the updated policies can now be **EASILY** found on the website, **ALL 56** of them. Well nearly all of them. There are still a few coming! If anyone's favorite thing is reading policies, please let us know and you can review the last few to get us over the finish line! And we've already gone into details regarding the bylaw revisions. These were streamlined to be clearer and stronger. Hopefully this will be the last time to repeal and replace the bylaws for a long time!

I feel that the spending that we incurred this year was another change. That the EC choose to open the wallet and spend some of the members money, investing in our children and

association. I hope that this loosening of the purse strings showed our membership that the EC is invested in our athletes, our children. We have planned a lot for this year too, and have built much of this into the registration fees. Speaking of this year....

The unprecedented global pandemic is something that none of us have had to deal with before. It was such an abrupt end to the season, with a few teams still banner bound. I am sorry to our athletes, ones that were done and looking forward to team parties, to the teams that were still competing, to our graduating midgets who won't get high school graduations. I am sorry that we all are missing our hockey families. I'd like to thank those team managers, jersey parents, coaches - all who took care of equipment until a safe plan was made for returns, thank you. And right now, we are forging ahead with plans that the season will be a go, in the normal way. We are keeping an open mind to be adaptable should there be restrictions. We are hoping that this will get back to normal soon, and that we will have a hockey season and we can be together again.

Thank you all for attending this zoom meeting, this might be record attendance to an AGM. This pleases me a lot - it means there are many of us who are interested in the association and making things better. I would encourage you to volunteer, to help, to bring fresh ideas. Our association isn't perfect, I doubt any of them are, but with this show of engaged members tonight, I know that we have great potential. I often say, "you see something, you say something". I would encourage us all to do just that -if your athlete sees something wrong, let them know that this is a safe place for them to say something. If they tell you, or you see something wrong, please say something. If you want to take an active role in making things better, there is no need for you to wait to be called, let us know you want to be part of the positive change, from helping with marketing, being on a committee or being on the board. We are all in this together, let's work together to make things better.