



CENTRAL ALBERTA HOCKEY LEAGUE

MEETING MINUTES

March 2nd, 2015

Strathmore Civic Centre, Strathmore, AB

President: Doug Durbano
Vice-President: Rhonda McCoomb
Vice-President: Brian Monkman
VP Female Division - vacant
Governor-in-Chief: Keri Drennan

Secretary: Terry Siverson
Vice-President: Trevor McFarlane
Treasurer: Shannon Chilvers (absent)
Web Administrator: Jodi Christensen (absent)
Past-President: James Parks

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:38 PM.

ABSENT ASSOCIATIONS: None

Motion to approve minutes from February 2nd, 2015 by Cremona, seconded by Okotoks.
Carried.

Doug welcomed all the Guest who are making applications to join the CAHL tonight and the Member Executive Representative's. The CAHL Executive introduced themselves to all the new people in the meeting tonight.

Application to become full members

See new business below tonight's presentations and motions

CAHL concerns for the Member Association Executive

There was significant discussion around this in an open discussion

- CAHL Director communication effectiveness
 - Messages do not seem to be getting back to teams or association executive members in a timely manner or maybe not at all.
The general consensus with the League Executive and volunteers is that something has to be done here and an improvement must happen.
Please review how your communications processes work and ensure they are working effectively. The League Executive will be following up with all member presidents with information requests about this.
- Member Association management of team behavior and fan control issues.
 - The Local Minor Hockey Presidents and their Executive members must get control of the rinks and people's behavior off the ice.
 - We have had the messages not getting home, people are out of control, the RCMP are investigating issues in multiple locations. The Local Minor Hockey Presidents and their Executive members must get control of the rinks and people's behavior off the ice.
 - The CAHL was created for hockey games to be planned and managed not to deal with people in the stands

- Failure of Team members or Parents to follow communication protocols
 - This season has been a terrible year for people/teams and members not following the chain of command for communication in our league.
The general consensus is that something has to give and the people/members not following the protocols are going to receive some very negative feedback. Feedback from the members present was that the CAHL should ignore the requests and return them all to the CAHL member Directors for action.
- Potential homework to submit some documentation from your Association
 - There will be an email request coming out detailing some information the CAHL Executive will require over the next couple of weeks. There will be a deadline identified so please respond quickly as you can but make sure you meet the deadline.

An excellent open discussion was held and some suggestions presented at tonight's meeting on these issues:

- The CAHL Volunteers should let the CAHL directors know each and every time someone contacts them so it can be dealt with until it stops.
- The CAHL Executive contact information should be removed from the website. Everyone who should be contacting them should already have the information.
- There is currently no fine to penalize people who do not follow the communication processes of the CAHL. Maybe this should be considered.
- If issues in the stands permit the CAHL should throw the association out of the league.
- There should be a suspension of some sort for these wildly ridiculous behaving parents or fans.
- Every LMHA should have a director for each team to help manage these issues around communication.
- Send emails back to Directors to deal with. Following up is hard there are times there are complaints and Directors come back to the League and deny they did anything or the complaint is not true. It causes issues to move all in a big circle and never get resolved.
- Is the League being asked to be an arbitration board on these issues? That can't happen there is just not enough time to deal with them. It takes two groups to argue and cause issues, both associations must discipline their members who are out of control.
- It is a privilege to play the games and it is a privilege to watch the games, why doesn't the league just clear the arenas? Maybe the local associations should manage the rinks.
- Reinforce all communication through the CAHL Director.
- Indus is going ahead with a plan to manage their parents in the stands by appointing one person to calm and manage the parents' home and away
- Has someone verified all the new applications for memberships that they have the documentation and process in place to deal with the membership and teams? Yes it is coming, it is already partially in place, the CAHL Members will see more of this coming to each member.
- The main issue is that the associations must deal with the people in their rink and not expect the CAHL to do so.
- There are no tolerance signs posted but they do not seem to have much impact. People have to stop yelling at the Ref's and other fans, older Ref's deal with it or ignore it. Younger Ref's just quit. We need to stop this trend of abuse.

- There seems to be a trend that people from Pond Hockey are more vocal or act like they have the right to abuse and be stupid in the stands.
- Would it help if the League made the issues public about team issues and show everyone. Maybe we should post these issues on the website for all members to review.
- A hockey association in British Columbia banned all the parents from the games one weekend. Why don't we do that here? A lengthy discussion ensued.
- When conflict or issues happen especially the he said/she said it should be referred back to the local associations for resolution and a response to the CAHL. If that does not resolve the issue perhaps then the CAHL could get involved.
- Why doesn't the CAHL just ignore the emails and calls? The calls are harder to ignore than emails but if the first email does not get a response usually there is a second one threatening to go to the media (newspaper or TV). Then what does a volunteer do?
- The CAHL Volunteers also get significant numbers of requests from complaints of bad behavior from the Team Managers to the Governors and then to the Executive when these should be going back to the Association Presidents to manage.
- Maybe more public presentation of the issues should be done at the meetings?
- Local accountability seems to have been lost and the CAHL volunteers are running around like "chickens with our heads cut off". This will be changing and you are hearing it tonight. Some of the league volunteers are putting in time and travel to 15 or more games. This is likely 5,000 km's for some of our Executive.
- Maybe the associations that requests the supervision pay the travel to the situation. That is not the point, the CAHL Executive do not want to go to games to supervise, this has to stop.
- Maybe the league needs to add a volunteer to the team level that is responsible for the parents and fans? Would it help? Maybe the associations should do this?
- Maybe local associations need to kick out some people and make this message clear. Bigger fines should help.
- Does everyone have a code of conduct? So when a parent gets unruly the paper comes back out and they are asked why are they doing this stuff.
- Why don't the League make each member submit their action plan and code of conduct so you can be sure it is place and being followed? That is coming likely in your homework.
- Does CAHL have a rule that all contact should be through the CAHL Directors? There is already

All Members of the CAHL should expect an email with a request to share back with us on what you are going to do. There will be some document requests and process details required as well for our records. A deadline will be attached so we can look at the information before the next meeting.

All members must be aware that if this does not become managed the CAHL is going to deal with you on this and there will be consequences. Expect some further discussion in April and some guidance on this next season as we are not going to do this again.

Doug thanked all Presidents and Vice-Presidents for taking the time to join us and they were allowed to leave the meeting if they chose to at 09:15 pm.

Hockey Alberta Report: Zone 6 - Danny, Povaschuk -

Danny report tonight included:

- Parent and fan behavior issue is a hot topic, effort is required by all to make this a more pleasant situation. For more discussion in the future.
- Provincials, thank you to everyone for the effort and helping work through the play downs so cooperatively. Good luck to everyone who
- The revised "AA" for next season. Process is in progress and the final decisions will be made at the next Hockey Alberta Committee Meeting March 15th. More information will be formally released shortly hopefully by April 1st. Danny answered some specific questions for members. The program does not have to go to the Hockey Alberta AGM for an approval vote. Danny shared some data about the process and some of the decisions made so far on the new 'AA' process.
- A question was asked regarding the age categories in Hockey changing again. Danny clarified that although a member of Hockey Canada brought that forward the remaining members discouraged it and it was not presented and will not be proceeding.
- Affiliation - we could be returning to where we were in the past before the last change. More details to follow.

There was no report from Hockey Alberta Zone 5 at this meeting.

Referee Report: Dave Coles - (no report - Dave was unable to attend)

Dave's zone meeting has been on the same night as this meeting so he has been unable to attend our meetings.

In the 2015 -2016 season the CAHL Executive committee is reviewing the potential of implementing a Discipline Director Role / Committee format for Suspensions and game related issues.

This will free up some of the Vice Presidents time and allow them more review time for their divisions.

Brian Monkman will be appointed and James Parks will be completing some prep work on this proposal. It is possible the CAHL Executive will be implementing a pilot project for this in the upcoming season. More details and announcements to follow.

Treasurer's Report: Shannon Chilvers -as of March 2, 2015

Current Account Balance:	\$ 79,019.58
Total Expenses to date:	\$ 42,184.28
Total Revenue to date:	\$ 81,319.08
Term Account (T-Bill):	\$ 33,495.71

Additional Notes of interest:

- The following members have outstanding invoices for Player fees and need to contact Shannon immediately:
Banff, Canmore, Hanna, Hussar, Nanton, Rockyford
- Governors and Lead Governors expense request forms are available on the website and we are asking they be submitted to Shannon by April 10, 2015 so they can be paid to you at the April 14th meeting.
- Score books and game report books are available let Shannon know.

- Mini banners are available as shown at the meeting. They are \$10.00 per team and let Shannon know if you are interested.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report by Okotoks, seconded by Indus. Carried.

Old Business:

- CAHL Marketing and Advertising Coordinator Role. Interest has been expressed from a person in Cremona. Doug has been busy and has not had time to meet with her. Will meet with her as soon as possible for further discussions.
- Goal line Website has been purchased for next season at the contract price that we have been given.

There are some issues that will be corrected over the off season and some updating that needs to be done. Let Jodi know of any other suggestions or issues you may have with the website.

Governor in Chief Report:

- Game sheets - please bring all the sheets from your tier in a clearly marked envelope at the next meeting.
- Carryover suspensions - as we start to finish up it is important that we have good documentation so we can be sure these get served in the following season. Make sure they are sent to your lead governors so they can compile them and get them in so we can send them to Hockey Alberta.
- Banners are here to be picked up. They were picked up and signed for tonight. It is the fun part of the job, if you can't make the game to present the banner, make arrangements for someone closer to do it for you.
- Governor Banner handouts - if you are not near the location where the Games are being played, talk to the Lead Governor and the Executive there should be an easy solution instead of a whole bunch of travel to get these banners presented.

Governor Reports:

Novice Lead - Craig Parascak

- Since the last CAHL meeting there has been 4 novice players that have exceeded their 50 minutes in penalties and have served their 1 game suspension.
- Had six requests to date for CAHL representatives to attend playoff games.
 - Novice T1 - first round of playoffs are completed and the remaining rounds are being scheduled. A couple of issues are in progress but overall everything is going well.
 - Novice T2 - there are a few complaints about teams and fans in this division. Playoffs are in progress.
 - Novice T3 - First round in progress and almost complete.
 - Novice T4 Blue - one player close to 50 minutes in penalties, first round in progress and no issues
 - Novice T4 Red - playoffs in progress and the only suspension is served.
 - Novice T5 - playoffs round one is done, second round ready to go for the weekend. Issues in this tier with player and coach suspensions.
 - Novice T6 - all going well should be done this weekend.

Craig took a moment to thank all of the Governor Volunteers for their hard work this season in making everything successful.

Atom - Ashlee Brusse

- T1 rolling along and is going smoothly
- T2 going good
- T3 red going well only issue being a coach that was suspended for 9 games right before the playoffs.
- T3 yellow and blue well into playoffs and moving forward. Series will be on schedule and in progress.
- T4 red/blue well into playoffs getting ready for the next round of games.
- T5 Blue going well with only 1 recent suspension
- T5 red going well no suspensions
- T6 no suspension going well

Ashlee took a moment to thank all of the Teams and Governor Volunteers for their hard work this season in making everything successful.

Pee Wee - Allison Arsenault

- Only 1 carryover suspension for next year in this group.
- Pee Wee T1 Going well not much for issues, looks like it will done next weekend.
- Pee Wee T2 Red/Blue in progress nicely no issue at present
- Pee Wee T2 Blue -All games have been verified and all FPP's are updated. No PIM issues at all
- Pee Wee T3 -All is good and all FPP's he has received are updated. Will send one more reminder out before the deadline.
- Pee Wee T4 Red / Blue -All games have been scheduled for the first round and are in progress nicely. Only one player nearing the PIM suspension point.
- Pee Wee T5 - First round of playoffs all completed. A total of 11 suspensions have been addressed so far, one player beyond 100 minutes in penalties and two are greater than 75 PIM's. One incident being addressed by Trevor at present.
- Pee Wee T6 - in progress all games scheduled.

Coffee Break - in the interest of meeting length the break was not taken.

Bantam - Ryan Robertson

- Website is up to date with everything progressing well for all divisions.
- Penalty minutes - They are ridiculous. Medicine Hat finished the season with over 500 PIM's.
- There are 9 teams way over 400 minutes in penalties.
- There have been 7 in total of the 9.2 penalties we have to stop doing this to the Ref's.
- There is a concern about the way the regulations allow games to be scheduled with one the first weekend and two on the second of round 1.

Midget - Shelli Javorsky

- The Midget Governors are doing a great job. Everything is up to date on the website.
- Overall concerns about penalties has not been too bad except for a few issues
- There are potentially some carryover suspensions with players reaching 100 PIM's in the last game of playoffs.

New Business:

- **Application to join the CAHL** - (Available presentations have been added to the end of the Minutes)

- Bow Island and Foremost Minor Hockey Association Motion by Kneehill Seconded Taber
- Innisfail Minor Hockey Association Motion by Indus Seconded Cremona
- Lomond Minor Hockey Association Motion by Duchess Seconded Hanna
- Picture Butte Minor Hockey Association Motion by Lethbridge Seconded Claresholm
- Vauxhaull Minor Hockey Association Motion by Fort Macleod Seconded Okotoks
- Warner Minor Hockey Association Motion by Okotoks Seconded Claresholm
(Lethbridge kindly made the presentation for Warner as they were unable to attend tonight)

Doug reminded the meeting of the process of becoming a member and all the Directors with Orange cards that they are the ones to vote and approve or disapprove of these motions. Complete your homework and come prepared to make that decision in April.

- The sub-committee working on the documents for the CAHL has proposed a team managers manual and an off ice officials manual for the CAHL. This has been reviewed by the executive and governors. This is not a NOM for this year but will be finalized and used in the 2015-2016 season. More details to follow.
- Clarifications of the home ice for the Red/Blue Splits. The coin was tossed and the Red teams will have home ice advantage for the playoffs.

- **Notice of Motions for Secondment Approval vote and discussion**

- **NOM # 19 – Drumheller** - To make changes to the playoff method where red / blue tier splits that crossover at the end of the season. This changes to allow more teams into the playoffs
 - Motion by Cochrane Seconded Okotoks
- **NOM # 20 – CAHL Executive** – To update Policy # 16 around financial surplus for the CAHL and the late invoice policy
 - Motion by Lethbridge Seconded Vulcan
- **NOM # 21 – CAHL Executive** - To update Regulation 3 f) to allow tournament requests into the Regular season scheduling

After a lengthy discussion, regarding one or two tournament being allowed, the intent to change the presented motion were withdrawn and the motion was made with the original NOM.

- Motion by Okotoks Seconded Indus
- **NOM # 22 – CAHL Executive** - To update the CAHL Novice affiliation procedures to match Hockey Alberta Regulations
 - Motion by Strathmore Seconded Didsbury

- **NOM # 23 – Canmore** - To change the tiering process by expanding the tiers and declarations process
 - Motion by Drumheller Seconded Kneehill

Note: The CAHL Executive thanks Canmore for the work they put into this and Canmore has offered to respond to emails explaining this further and to answer any questions members have from tonight until the meeting in April.

- **NOM # 24 – CAHL Executive** – Game Regulation 3f - To limit the number of game changes allowed during the regular season
 - Motion by Airdrie Seconded Duchess
- Official coin toss for the Split tiers to see who will be the home team of the Red/Blue splits final round and which Governor would oversee the final round. Heads was assigned to the Red and tails was assigned to the blue. Doug tossed the coin and the winners will be the Red side in all divisions with Crossover final round series.
- Elections of Executive Member's will happen at the April meeting. The following positions are up for election:
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary

It is best if anyone who is interest in any of these roles have been a League Volunteer, CAHL Director or previous Board Member.

- Banners were given out to all Governors tonight they signed for them to maintain a link to where they were all at.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made at ~ 10:53 pm by Lethbridge, seconded by Claresholm.

Next meeting is April 14th, 2015 - 07:30 pm at the Strathmore Civic Center

Attachments from the Applications to become new CAHL members that were made available to send out with the minutes.

Lomond Minor Hockey Association

Box 55, Lomond, Alberta T0L 1G0

March 2, 2015

Central Alberta Hockey League
P.O. Box 143
Bassano, Alberta T0J 0B0

Attention: Doug Durbano

Dear Sir,

My name is Craig Stokes I am the Vice President of Lomond Minor Hockey Association. We are located in Lomond, a Village in the County of Vulcan. We are 60 km east of Vulcan, one hour North of Lethbridge and two hours south east of Calgary.

We have decided to approach CAHL to apply for positioning into your association for our possible Midget team for next 2015 – 2016 year.

Lomond has a very nice newly up graded facility with new ice surface and boards being built in 2003. We had a new elevator put in four years ago for access to upstairs viewing area. We have upgraded our Zamboni facility with new exhaust ventilation system, our kitchen has been basically completely upgraded and up to code. Our ice plant was completely upgraded basically from top to bottom. The big dressing rooms have been upgraded and our little ones are in the process of being upgraded and resized as well. We have 2 curling sheets, dining room, dance hall, bar and curling rink lounge upstairs. Our caretakers are excellent and hard workers for our facility.

The Village runs the concession of at the arena and is open for every game. Also in Lomond we have a convenience store, restaurant, hardware, bar, UFA card lock, Library, Carwash, but unfortunately no accommodation's, our closest is Vulcan or Brooks.

As for our referee situation we have one senior ref in Lomond, three in Vulcan, five in Brooks, three in Picture Butte, and six in Taber, we have always been able to bring in refs as needed.

We have decided to come to CAHL for better controlled competition levels. We have had our local Midgets play in Picture Butte and Play teams that are beating Tier 2 teams in Playoffs and we are clearly only a Tier 4 team. The very low amounts of teams in Spud League are also a factor. There are five teams including our team in Spud this year.

We have a chance to draw in kids to Lomond but parents are reluctant because we belong to the Spud League. We have a very strong chance to bring a team back into Lomond if we change our direction which would be great for us. As of now we have no local teams just ice rental teams which is fantastic because we are central for most teams in CAHL south.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration, please feel free to contact myself for any additional information about our Association and Village.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Craig Stokes', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Craig Stokes
Vice President Lomond Minor Hockey
403-485-0288
crstokes@telusplanet.net



PICTURE BUTTE MINOR HOCKEY

Picture butte is located 20 minutes north of Lethbridge.

Our rink was built in 1980 with major renovations done in 2010, which included new boards, new concrete, new plant and pipes.

The rink has 4 dressing rooms, very nice spectator seating with overhead heat. A nice size lobby and a full service concession stand.

The association consists of 90 registered kids. We have 2 initiation teams, 1 novice team, 1 atom team, 1 peewee team and 1 midget team.

We have a very strong positive 10 person board and great parent support.

We have good access to referees including senior refs, from Lethbridge and also in Picture Butte. Our association actively recruits kids from within to try and build for the future.

Picture Butte has population of 1700. There is 4 restaurants a bakery/deli and one seasonal drive thru restaurant who also runs the concession. There is no lodging.

We want to insure that we have a place for our kids to play in case the spud league dissolves or not enough teams in a age division.



Innisfail Minor Hockey Association



Full Powerpoint Presentation from March 2nd Meeting

I.M.H.A. TEAMS

- Currently have 300 players registered in our association
- Teams ranging from Initiation to Midget
- Initiation teams currently play in-house
- Novice teams are split evenly and play in the West Country Hockey League
- Also have Atom and Midget female teams playing in the RMFHL
- These divisions would remain in their current position

I.M.H.A. TEAMS

- We would like to bring all of our male Atom, Pee Wee, Bantam and Midget teams to CAHL
- 3 Atom teams. Currently playing Tier 2, 4 and 5
- 3 Pee Wee teams. Currently playing Tier 1, 3 and 5
- 2 Bantam teams. Currently playing Tier 2 and 4
- 2 Midget teams. Currently playing Tier 1 and 4
- All of the above teams are playing in the NCMHL

Facilities



- Two full sized ice surfaces
- Blue Side seats 850
- Red Side seats 270
- Skate sharpening service
- Meeting facilities upstairs
- Concession
- Wheelchair Accessible

Blue Ice



Officials

- We have approximately 35 officials registered in Innisfail. Of those 35, 15 would be considered senior officials.
- We have three Level 3 officials in town
- IMHA also has access to officials from the surrounding communities (Spruce View, Caroline, Sylvan Lake, Red Deer)

Town Amenities

- With a population of approximately 8,000 people, Innisfail has plenty of services and amenities for visitors
- 4 new/recently renovated hotels (Best Western, Econo Lodge, Super 8 and Motel 6)
- Numerous restaurants (both fast food and dine-in)
- Other entertainment (Eagles Senior AAA hockey, aquatic centre, theater)
- City of Red Deer amenities 15 minutes away

Best Western Hotel



Why join CAHL?

- IMHA is looking for a league that can offer some stability/integrity from the executive. NCMHL seems to have a difficult time following rules and by-laws.
- Travel/Cost. We have seen a dramatic increase in the amount of travel our teams must make during league play. Looking at CAHL, having IMHA as a part of your league could possibly help both organizations. Another association to the north may help split some tiers into North/South divisions. Benefits both parties.

Why join CAHL cont'd

- Tiering/scheduling. IMHA has had many issues with the tiering process in NCMHL. We have heard that CAHL has a good process in place.
- Number of tiers. IMHA has had teams forced to play in the wrong tier with NCMHL being unwilling to expand to 5 tiers at certain levels. Many of our teams have had to play in a “split tier” league.
- Safety. IMHA has had teams issued “ultimatums” regarding playing games during poor weather/road conditions.

Summary

- IMHA would like to be part of a league that operates honestly and with integrity. We have heard good things about CAHL and know firsthand that your executive operates in this manner.
- Due to the increased travel costs IMHA members experienced this year, we feel that their money is better spent playing in an appropriate tier which we feel CAHL will provide. We hope the CAHL league shares this view. Accepting IMHA could benefit both organizations by cutting down on some travel costs.

Summary cont'd

- Several IMHA teams have played teams from the CAHL league this year (mostly at tournaments). The games have been well played and the calibre of play very equal. We feel IMHA would be a good fit.
- The executive of IMHA would like to thank the members of CAHL for taking the time to consider us joining your league. We look forward to hearing from you in the near future.