

DMHA Monthly Meeting

February 27, 2024

In attendance: Kyle Marek, Glenn Goddard, Crystal Peters, Sharlee Anderson, Jackie Smith, Leslie Raniseth, Erin McKay, Randi Babb, Courtney Cox, Alana Sherba, Michelle Page, Melissa Chako, Allison Young-Magyar, Alison Cole, Jeff Cole, Cathy Robinson, Ashley Russell, Vicki Joseph. Jon Andre, Nikki Pivert, Deter Russell, Jeff Resch,

Called to order: 7:03 p.m.

Adoption of agenda: Adopted by Cathy, 2nd by Deter.

Adoption of meeting minutes: Adopted by Deter, 2nd by Glenn.

President's report: Everything is going well, just and FYI there is a U 15 goalie looking for a home this upcoming year.

Treasurer's report: Read by Leslie and the report adopted by Leslie and 2nd by Glenn.

Registrar Report/Hockey Alberta Update: Nothing new to report.

CAHL report: Playoffs this year are a 2 games series- best of, if these do not work in the future let Cathy know and a letter can be sent with the issues raised. Of note, make sure you are aware of the affiliation rules you as a team can use and to use the proper protocol for such actions. There is an upcoming CAHL meeting this coming week.

Ag Society report: There are tickets for the upcoming fundraiser of Yuk Yuks that are available from Leanne if you wish to buy or sell a booklet. There is also an upcoming Casino fundraiser on May 30th and 31st if you able to help reach out to Crystal Peters. The Ice Plant design is a slow process and the fundraising efforts mentioned above are for this. **The AG society needs a secretary by the next meeting (March 12th), if this role is not fulfilled the doors will be locked until one is found. If you know someone or would like to volunteer your time, please reach out.**

Arena Manager report: Just a gentle reminder for everyone to get caught up on your kitchen tabs if you have one.

Referee report: Going pretty good with playoffs it might become a little tighter to find refs but looking good so far.

Merchandise report: The order for the lapel pins were placed and should be here by March 18th.

Media report: Keep sending in pictures.

Coaches update: Not present.

Provincial Committee update: There have been some concerns, Courtney addressed the meeting with a letter to all, see attached.

Sponsorship deadline has been moved to February 28th, if you can not get it in by then, sponsorships will still be accepted but might not make it in the program for recognition.

Team reports:

1. **LTP/U7:** Had a good month, did an away tournament and they had a blast.
2. **U9:** White: They had an awesome month; all players were able to make the games and are starting to make plays and passing!! Black: Kids are doing good had an away tournament, did a weekend with the pilot program for full ice to use for a learning opportunity for the kids and the younger refs. Had the preparation practice this last Monday and it went well, a big learning opportunity.
3. **U11:** Kids are doing well, had a weekend off but getting back into it this weekend.
4. **U13:** They are playing for the banner this weekend against a tough opponent, come out and cheer them on!
5. **U15:** The boys have moved on to the next round of playoffs and the kids are excited for the next series.
6. **U18:** They are starting their first play off series.

Old Business:

1. Year end awards: Cheryl received a quote for a large plaque to display all awards for the year. Glenn made a motion for \$300.00 to be used to purchase the display plaque, 2nd by Cathy and all were in favor.

New Business:

1. **Logo use:** The use of the logo for year end gifts for U9 was approved, Erin brought up if we should have a blanket policy for the use of the logo and when approval is needed, looking to come up with a policy for use.
2. **U18 Jersey request:** Jackie to investigate cost on purchasing replacement jersey's for graduating players.
3. **Year End Banquet:** With the planning of provincials, Jackie is looking to start planning for the year end banquet with the Delburne Hall being booked for April 12th. A request for 1 team rep from each team to have a meeting soon, will be sent out to team managers.
4. **Soap Box derby sponsor:** There is a letter for sponsorship for a DMHA themed soap box car for a \$100.00 sponsor. A motion was made by Glenn for the approval of the sponsorship with lots of picture to be taken, 2nd by Nikki and all were in favor.

Next Meeting: March 12, 2024, at 6:00pm.

Adjourned: 8:01 p.m.

Letter to DMHA

Written by Courtney Cox

I would like to start off by saying this year has been very exhausting, not just with provincial stuff but everything. I feel like the complaining and negativity has consumed lots of areas in this arena and I don't know why. It has been really shocking and disappointing in the reaction of the U15 Provincials has been receiving, not from everyone but from a lot. I understand that it can be hard to support something that you might not understand BUT I want to remind everyone that our personal team isn't receiving any of the money from this tournament. Its all going to help the Ice plant because its not a matter of if but when it goes down. And yes we thought this would be a great opportunity for these kids especially because this group of kids lost out on the their provincial chance when COVID hit.

As an association we were made aware of the u18s bid intention in April of last year at our AGM, a meeting all families are suppose to attend. Everyone was told that it would be a big commitment and that all teams and families would need to help volunteer and there were no objections. Again in September at the Welcome meeting we were reminded of the intention and commitment we would need to put forth and still no one had objections or concerns.

Fast forward to December the u18s had a meeting with our u15 team to let us know that they didn't receive the Bid but in turn we had. Our team didn't even know we had been put down as a choice and we had a couple days to decide if we would accept or not. Keep in mind the u18 committee had been mentally preparing for this for months and had already put in a bunch of time and effort, off plain excitement we decided to say yes. The chance of this experience for our players, rink and town would be worth the stressful hours that would probably be coming.

It has felt like we have received push back since we had the 1st meetings, even though most people have had knowledge this was coming since April. I genuinely wonder what everyone thought the volunteer work would look like when we were told twice that it would be a big commitment. In the past few weeks I've heard a few versions of, why does everyone else have jobs, what are the u15s doing. The point of giving the other teams within the association the jobs on the weekend of is so that we as the committee/team can be available for anything that could come up suddenly, and there are jobs that we still must do that weekend. When you hear something like this it can almost break you, I am so physically and emotionally drained from the last couple months just and because you can't see what is being done doesn't mean it's not happening. As a committee we decided that with so many being upset with their jobs we would do the rest to try and eliminate anymore negativity. That didn't work and maybe less are upset than it seems like but the unhappy energy can affect you easier.

Our team has been putting in countless hours with knocking on doors for sponsors/ donations, the program, swag bags, heart and hustles, sign ins, working with the HA

reps, zoom meetings to name a few. I'd like to remind everyone here that we keep none of the money also the only money we make is what we can find from sponsorship, this is way more work than a regular tournament. This is also why we asked everyone to try and find a sponsor because 100 people know more than 15 and maybe someone you know would like to be part of this amazing experience for these 13 and 14 year olds. If anyone would've asked questions we could've realized that it didn't come across how it was meant and we could've corrected any communication problems. 1 person asked me why we hadn't had meetings with the team reps and maybe that would've helped answer some questions and honestly it took so much time to get info from HA and then we've had to have what I like to refer to as scramble meetings that we talk about so much stuff and not much gets done it just seems disorganized and unnecessary to involve people in that. We were just asking the teams to do the jobs that we assigned.

I think sometimes we need to remember that we're all human and it's your peers that are trying to put this together and if you were in this position, you would just ask for everyone to give grace and to know we're all doing the best we can, we're all doing this for the 1st time. If everyone could just help with a little bit, then less would need to help out with a lot.

I wonder if we need to be reminded that small town Hockey (or any small town sport for that matter) is built on volunteer hours and camaraderie, where has our sense of Community gone? They say it takes a village to raise your kids well this place and these people are my village, but it feels like it's crumbling lately, why does everything have to be a competition or argument? Are we not here for our kids? I know I am; I have 4 kids in hockey I know what it means to put my time in and I also have so many years left I'm not here for myself because if I am I won't last all the years I have left. I volunteer for my children and to support the sport that they love. We owe it to our kids to aid in giving them the best experiences possible, I have found out that I love what they love because to see their happiness makes me happy, and if that means volunteering to manage a team, work the time box every other weekend, help organize provincials or help set up an end of the year banquet I will choose to do it every day.

One of my kids said to me the other day we here to remember moments in life not the time getting to them, and it really made me think. These days feel so long sometimes but the years are short and before we know it our kids will be gone do you want your memories to be of being unhappy to help or of the joy and happiness you helped give your kid.