



Attendees: Connie Stang – EFHL
Duncan MacDougall
Brad NEZ
Christy Rake
Curtis Ferguson LEDUC
Ray Vigneau – Hockey Edmonton
Kumail Moledina – U9 EFHL
Mikaul DMHA
Sharlene Cook – Discipline
Andy Connelly – SEERA
Carmen Linman
Michelle Malbeuf - Discipline

Chris March – EFHL
Barbara Riczu
Charlene SMHA
Collin Kuca SPMHA
Gene SHC
John – BAHA U18 Director
Linda - NSH
Jenn – SGMHA
Carlos Vieira – NEZ
Elton Davidge
Pam – FSMH

Ask that only the delegate or alternate delegate vote in favour of any motions.

Call to Order

Chris March, called the meeting to order at 7:05pm and Connie Stang, Secretary, recorded the minutes.

Adoption of Agenda

Colin Kuca moved acceptance of the agenda as presented. Seconded by Andy Connelly.
Carried unanimously.

Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting (as circulated)

Colin Kuca moved acceptance of the previous minutes. Seconded by Elton Davidge.
Carried unanimously.

League Correspondence

Hockey Alberta has determined that EFHL Associations will be responsible for Hosting U18 NBC Tier 1 Provincials in 2025, Hockey Calgary Association will be responsible for U15 NBC Tier 1 Provincials, this is to ensure associations have enough time to acquire ice and host the even properly. Interested EFHL associations should declare their interest and we can provide this information to Hockey Alberta for approval. Carry Forward.

New Business

1. Playoff Recap
 - Overall, the playoffs went really smoothly.
 - No major issues this year, some miscommunications with a few of the teams
 - Committed to cleaning up some of the documentation posted on the website for next year
 - Ensuring full rules and regulations are posted – no more cheat sheets
2. Female Operations Committee Update

- i. Voted to accept Camrose Minor Hockey Female teams into EFHL for 2024-2025 season, Hockey Alberta needs to approve the move from the RMFHL and the Camrose teams will participate in the Female only league
 - Female and non-body checking teams do not fall under the moratorium but associations do. Camrose would not become a full member of the EFHL and would not have any voting rights. They would be classified as an Associate Member
 - A couple of the associations wanted to ensure that none of the Camrose female teams are permitted to participate in co-ed divisions or cross pool play. Concern was that the female committee shouldn't have the ability to bring female teams in if they will be playing anyone more than the female teams
 - Conversation for the Operations committee to have as there is a potential impact for associations to vote in favor of the moratorium. Discussion needed if they want them to play co-ed hockey
- ii. Addition of three-person referees for all U15 and U18 tiers
 - Number of benefits to the female refereeing in the greater capital region
 - Provide the more standardized officials for the tiers they will be providing. At U18 tiers 1 and 2, and at U15 tiers 1, 2, and 3
- iii. Expansion of Interleague play with Calgary to include A+B tiers in U15 and U18
 - Supportive of continuing, went really well
 - Open discussions with Calgary in order to expand to the B categories of play
 - Look at having an event either in Edmonton or Calgary before Christmas and one other so that it's broken up a bit more
 - Trying to schedule/work with the ice allocators to have back-to-back games to create more of a festival environment.

Comment: (Duncan MacDougall) If the Female Committee is going to interlock with Calgary, it would be nice if they communicated their requirements with Hockey Edmonton so they know what's going on. We had a real fiasco at Grand Trunk during the weekend they were up here. There was a U18 tier 1 game scheduled at 1:00pm that got moved and it was a big problem. So hopefully they can communicate a little better with Hockey Edmonton as to what their requirements are going to be, well in advance.

Response: (Chris March) I'm sure it will improve for next year. I know they had moved some games around, but that seems more like a scheduling issue with Hockey Edmonton ice and the Hockey Edmonton teams that maybe a mistake or an error was made.

Comment: (Ray Vigneau) I remember a game having to be rescheduled because Calgary wanted to leave earlier, but perhaps Carmen Linman remembers the details. I didn't know that it caused that much confusion but we can make sure we get that set up earlier and communicate to everybody.

3. Operations Committee Update

- i. Board vote to increase U15 Tier 1 BC to 24 games and 1.75 hour ice slots with a flood between the second and third period. (50% majority required pass)
- ii. Board vote to increase U13 Tier 1 to 24 games and 1.75 hour ice slots with a flood between the second and third period. (50% majority required pass)

- a) Motion put forward by John – BAHA, seconded by Collin Kuca to increase U13 Tier 1 to 24 games and 1.75 hour ice slots with a flood between the second and third period.

Roll Call Vote:

Beamont – in favor

Confederation – against

Devon – in favor

EGHA – not in attendance

Female Hockey Alliance -

Enoch – not in attendance

Fort Sask – against

Hawks Athletic Club –

KC Rep – not in attendance

KC Sabres – not in attendance

Leduc – against

Millwoods – not in attendance

NEZ – against

North Seera – in favor

Seera – in favor

NWZ – not in attendance

Sherwood Park – against

SPS Fuzion – against

Spruce Grove – in favor

Stony Plain – in favor

St. Albert – in favor

Strathcona – against

Sturgeon – in favor

SWZ – in favor

SWAT – in favor

Whitemud West – in favor

Referee – in favor

Carried – pass for U13: 314 for / 207 against

- b) Motion put forward by Collin Kuca, seconded by John - BAHA, to increase U15 Tier 1 BC to 24 games and 1.75 hour ice slots with a flood between the second and third period.

Roll Call Vote:

Beamont – in favor

Confederation – not in attendance

Devon – in favor

EGHA – not in attendance

Female Hockey Alliance -

Enoch – not in attendance

Fort Sask – in favor

Hawks Athletic Club – not in attendance

KC Rep – not in attendance
KC Sabres – not in attendance
Leduc – in favor
Millwoods – not in attendance
NEZ – in favor
North Seera – in favor
Seera – in favor
NWZ – not in attendance
Sherwood Park – in favor
SPS Fuzion – in favor
Spruce Grove – in favor
Stony Plain – in favor
St. Albert – in favor
Strathcona – in favor
Sturgeon – in favor
SWZ – in favor
SWAT – in favor
Whitemud West – in favor
Referee – in favor

Carried – passed unanimously for U15

- Any conversation to reduce tier 1 games? Rejected
 - Elton Davidge - Sherwood park is adding a U18 female, do not have capacity without something given. Stress coming back to group with if we are going to increase, finding ice somewhere for the ice allocators
 - Charlene – SMHA – ice increase will be a challenge for us.
 - Carmen Linmen – suggests possibly sharing practices
 - Chris March – two teams in each category of play. Find ice or pick up ice elsewhere?
 - Carmen Linmen – sent out spreadsheet to allocators today with all info on teams and increase in ice requirements. Hockey Alberta is the biggest hit, 4 or 5 areas that don't have any impact; Sherwood Park and St. Albert were the next biggest hit. Allocators have all that information. Remember that an extra 4 games is only 2 home games per team.
- iii. Increase officials to three-person system at all U15 levels of play, addition of U15 Tier 2 and 3 NBC.
- Comment (Duncan MacDougall): Hockey Edmonton went through this about 20 – 25 years ago, when they first brought 3-person officiating into the U15 level (went with all 6 tiers at the time). It became evident that in the bottom groups, tiers 5 and 6 (now 1 and 2 NBC), there wasn't a lot to do for the linesmen other than drop the puck and all the odd offside. They ended up not getting very involved in the hockey game, which sometimes led to boredom and attendance. After a couple of years, we went back to the 2-man system at that level. Reason this happens, is when officials start U9 and U11, they work 1 – 4 years, the next progression is not to U13 or U15 hockey, they work as a linesmen,

then come back to U9 and U11 and work as a referee. If you are putting a 3-person official out there, that official will need to have some experience.

- iv. Consider various enhancements to U9 for 2024-2025 related to implementation of full ice games during league play when permitted.
- v. Waiting on U11 HADP announcement from Hockey Alberta.
- vi. Discussed a U16 Divisions of play but not enough interest from large associations to facilitate a division of play

Reports

a) Committee and Executive

- i. President - nothing to report
- ii. Treasurer – All fees have been paid. The balance sheet and income statement will be available at the AGM.
- iii. League Commissioner/Hockey Alberta Minor – report circulated – update: there is a meeting next week and if I get some information I will communicate that to all EFHL contacts. I am under the understanding that Hockey Alberta will communicate to all the associations as well.
- iv. Referee – all that's happen since my last report was playoffs and my comments on playoffs mirror Chris March's. I thought it went rather smoothly; I didn't have any issues that were sent to me to deal with regarding playoff games. Considering the number of games, that's remarkable. Chris March: I would just second that comment. Kudos to the officials and the teams; everything was really well run. All ran smoothly, some serious injuries and the behavior of teams/officials/arena staff was incredible. Made me proud of how far this league has come.
- v. Scheduling – because schedulers meeting had to be rescheduled, will have a full report by the AGM. Things have gone fairly well. Regarding the issue at Grand Trunk, the system did send out changes to the referees as well so not sure where things went sideways with the girls team
- vi. Discipline – Working on the carryover suspensions and to send to Hockey Alberta (due Friday). Will send to Hockey Alberta and share with EFHL as well. Some issues with game sheets and write ups not competed in RAMP, much better by end of season. Michelle and I wanted to express the league is a leader and sets a bar for the other leagues. Thank you again for having us this year.

Highlights minor discipline – making changes to 7.1 converting back to an indefinite suspension. Increase in 11.4 total of 217, 42 were rescinded (discrimination and mal-treatment). 67 ineligible players. HA moving forward with using RAMP for game sheets next year.

b) Division Directors

- i. U9 – full ice pilot – do you have any sense where that might be heading?
- ii. U11 – nothing to report
- iii. U13 – nothing to report
- iv. U15 – nothing to report
- v. U18 – nothing to report
- vi. U21 – nothing to report
- vii. Female – nothing to report

Action Items

Next Meeting

EFHL AGM – May 15, 2024

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 8:11pm by Collin Kuca and seconded by Andy Connelly. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Stang, Secretary