



Attendees: Connie Stang – EFHL
Charlene – SMHA
Barb Smyth – KC Sabres
Brad – SWZ
Carmen – EFHL Scheduler
Duncan MacDougall – Referees
Jennifer - WM
Elton Davidge
Bryn Jones – Confederation
Curtis Ferguson – Leduc
Mike Watt – SGMHA
Natalie Williams
Pam – Fort Sask
Stephen Avivi – SWAT
Angela - SHC
Sheldon Hamel – WMHA
Aimee
Chris March – EFHL
April MacKinnon – EGHA
Brad Benwood – eGHA
Carlos Vieira – NEZ
Don Chanski – SAMHA
Rob – EFHL Female
Kayla Thomas
Amber – KC South
Codie Richard – WMW
Michelle Malbeuf
monte – MWAH
Dylan – NEZ
Sharlene Cook – Discipline
Tyler Hennessey – KCN
Kumail Moledina
Ray Vigneau – Hockey Edmonton

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 7:01pm and Connie Stang, Secretary, recorded the minutes.

Adoption of Agenda

Natalie Williams moved acceptance of the agenda as presented. Seconded by Tyler Hennessey.
Carried unanimously.

Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting (as circulated)

Elton Davidge moved acceptance of the previous minutes. Seconded by April MacKinnon.
Carried unanimously.

League Correspondence

Some of the associations are seeing in the form of overage player approvals and oversized team approvals from Hockey Alberta (specifically oversized teams at the U15 and U18 levels).

New Business

1. League Deadline for Scheduling
 - Will be given to the operations committees that will start meeting in October / November to give some thought to this.
 - We want to ensure we are providing deadlines that work for both the associations and the number of teams they need to submit, for their ice allocators so they can submit the required amount of ice time.
 - So all the pieces fall into place, we can provide a minimum 5 days scheduling for our officials and our teams – would like to see it consistent across the board.

- We need to look at any deadlines that weren't met. The reason for those delays was because of the number of teams and ice. There were issues they had to deal with and warrants a discussion at the operations committee meetings.
 - No additional feedback or comments were brought forward.
2. Coach and Manager Meeting Attendance
- Attendance was very high - approximately 700 attended the first meeting and approximately 200 attended the second meeting.
 - It was recorded and Chris March set up a YouTube channel
 - To assist, set up video tutorials on how teams submit for blackout dates, league game change requests and for game swap requests.
 - Kudos to Carmen for working in the spring and updating the forms.
3. Operations Committee Meetings
- Meetings are already set up for October and November – Chris March will send out reminders to those on the various operations committees.
 - Committees to start thinking about any issues that might come up this year, things that we can focus on for next year, and improvements that we want to tackle.
 - We had committed to any significant changes impacting the league for future years; we wanted to have approved by February 2024 so any significant changes to the league for next year.
 - We want to be in a position where it's going to the board for discussion and review so it can be taken back to each respective association and can be voted on in February 2024 so they are approved prior to season's end.
 - If you haven't submitted changes to your operations committee members, please send to Chris March to have added to the committee contact list as well as the invitations to the meetings.
4. Tiering Grid and Team Submissions
- Had one association apply for a deviation from the tiering grid, which was approved at the August operations committee meeting. However there are some other associations we determined during the tryout/evaluation process they didn't have skill level to enter teams based on the grid.
 - Referring to the EFHL tiering policy, when an association doesn't enter the appropriate number of teams in the grid, it essentially becomes an issue after the tiering round for the tiering committee. Prior to the tiering meeting, Chris March requests everyone gets a handle on what's in the tiering policy and everyone is aware of the different steps the tiering committee can take when
 - a) situations arise when teams haven't followed the grid, as is the expectation of Hockey Alberta and the league
 - b) created an uncompetitive environment in that division
 - Comments / questions:
 - i. **Steven Avivi:** associations that feel their team are not in right spot, tiering is a good spot to look at this. Highlight early, potential issue at bottom of U13, elected to move one up from tier 6 to tier 5. Byproduct of regional play. Coach shared, sometimes during tiering round, put on 2 division moves.
Chris March: this has already been brought to the operations committee's attention. Only way to deal during tiering rounds, maybe a team that's in a tier below that is blowing games out, swapping the two teams.
 - ii. **Don Chanski:** last year we allowed our affiliates to remain after tiering – is that the same this year?
Chris March: yes, affiliates can stay in place after tiering. HA granted teams that set their affiliates in place, they would remain in place for entire season and be eligible for playoffs.

Reports

a) Committee and Executive

- i. President – nothing to report
- ii. Treasurer - nothing to report
- iii. League Commissioner/Hockey Alberta Minor – report circulated
- iv. Referee – clinic program well underway. Overabundance of official problems, applies to most areas of EFHL, trouble covering some of the 3 man games, schedule problem, protocol – local RIC to contact , U13 piloting a 3-man official for games
 - When calling in officials from other regions, are you paying mileage – Duncan – if being sent out of town, yes there is travel compensation.
 - The requesting body should contact (with plenty of notice), and then some of the hurdles can be overcome. Mileage part of payment would all come from home team.
 - From a league basis, not even aware for some games officials were brought in from other areas. Maybe send out a notice to advise when you have to bring in officials from another, home team responsible to cover travel fees.
- v. Scheduling – thank everyone and area allocators, sorry some had to be reworked. All schedules have been posted except rec league (will be out tonight). Teams put into RAMP.
- vi. Discipline – suspensions already issued. Being aggressive this year, sending out suspension notifications. Remind everyone that they need the category directors contact information.
 - Last season with EGHA, when we had player suspension, we were getting some notices but not all – will that be ? Yes,
 - Possible to share out a report on penalty minutes you are seeing so we can nip issues before they get out of hand. Try to educate the players to reduce majors and suspensions – Sharlene can easily pull a report and send it.
 - Received email on Sunday with carry over suspensions, confirm season already started, would they have known that? Pulled report because had several requests, just what was pulled out of RAMP.
 - Are we reaching out to the players? Sitting them out? Players would have received the suspension notice and that it would be a carry over suspension.

b) Division Directors

- i. U9 – Kumail Moledina – boards – first 2 weekends and has been challenging – phone calls – home team is accountable for the boards.
- 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 – December 6, 2023, 7:00pm

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53pm by Bryn Jones and seconded by Stephen Avivi. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Stang, Secretary