



Foothills Minor Hockey Association
Board of Directors Meeting
February 7, 2019
COOP boardroom

In attendance: Chris Alexander, Brad Parker, Jeff Willoughby, Miles Kiemele, Adam Rommens, Duncan McLeish, Chad Niemans, Kellie Beal

Late: n/a

Absent: Rachelle Jackson, John MacKenzie, Jennifer Woods, Brianne Fredell, Kevin MacIntyre, Tyler Hutton

The meeting was called to order by Brad Parker at 7:05.

Motion to approve the minutes of the January meeting by Duncan McLeish, seconded by Adam Rommens, voted, all in favour motion carried.

Additions to the agenda –

From Brianne:

- When do practices end for Initiation? (and Novice) As well all FMHA teams. We did discuss that they ended when they were eliminated out of playoffs. March 4th or 11th week? ***Leave it up to the teams to notify Kellie 14 days in advance of when they want to quit and have their ice slot cancelled for the year. Level directors to notify managers of policy. Be cautious of cancelling ice in Blackie as we are in competition for this ice.***
- Small nets on small ice discussion – ***Large nets are not completely removed from the ice when the small nets are put on the ice when ITH players are practicing. The large nets are parked against the boards during practice and get in the way. The Rec staff are unwilling to put them outside (through the door where the Zamboni comes in) during the practice and there is no room to put between the boards and the arena wall. Consider leaving the large nets in place and putting the small nets inside them and blocking the space at the bottom edge between the outside of the small nets and the inside of the large nets for next year.***

From Chris:

- John Mackenzie is going to be recovering from surgery for the remainder of the season, Chris Alexander will be filling the role of Novice level director – teams have been notified.

From Jennifer:

- Travel Charges for referees - we have seen significant increase in travel costs for referees this year. Kellie, Dave and I met with the ORA to discuss. Though not able to pin down all the increases, two major factors were increase in travel costs by province (up by \$20 game) and decrease in number of foothills based referees. They were sending a lot of okotoks referees to Blackie which cost \$63 a game in travel alone. There had also been challenges with having a new scheduler and knowing where everyone lives, etc. and that Blackies public skate and shinney is in the middle of afternoon not allowing for back to back games so having to pay travel twice Instead of just once. Solutions - ORA will schedule more two man games with just foothills refs when possible, will no longer have supervisor for Novice games, we spoke to BLACKIE Ag society and next year they will move



shinny and public skate up so we have back to back games in the afternoon. There will also be more focus on making sure we are utilizing foothills refs for foothills games. With all that though they believe we should end up close to what we paid in travel last year as costs are down significantly for the remainder of the season.

From Kellie

- March practice ice/exhibition schedule
- Rockies Hockey League request for and parent feedback (see attached).
 - ***In general the parent feedback was that it was not a good experience. Travel was nearly as much as regular league hockey, the league was poorly organized. Need to consider whether or not we actually continue in this league. Table for 2019/2020 planning discussions in the summer.***

Operations manager report:

- Nothing to report

Treasurer's report:

Treasurer Reports are attached, one outstanding family in FMHA, 7 in Bisons, most have either a payment plan to be paid in full as of Feb 15 or I've worked with the LD to collect, a couple are no longer responding, all have been sent off to Jeff & Jim (Bisons Treasurer). Next season I'd like to see the Bisons take over collection of their payments vs us doing it - may need to work it out with Rachelle/Operations Managers to see how that would work or we move over credit card payments that are set up for automatic payments and they collect the remaining. This would take a lot of time off the FMHA Treasurer hands.

Still waiting on CAHL bills and need to charge out fees to Bisons, Blackie ice bills are slow to receive but coming in in decent time.

Need to bill Blackie Minor Hockey for the nets still.

CAHL Report:

See Attached

Old Business:

Nothing to report

New Business:

Nothing to report

Director Reports:

Novice (John Mackenzie):

* Coach TJ Harkness stepped down as head coach of Novice 1, Adam Rommens to take over as head coach.



Initiation (Brianne Fredell):

Initiation seems to be going well and things are wrapping up soon.

Tournaments

- Initiation 1 - no away tournament this year
- Initiation 2 - Just went to Claresholm this past weekend
- Initiation 3 - Going to Cochrane March 2 & 3rd weekend

Initiation feedback from ITH meeting- Claresholm and Vulcan would like to start games a bit later in the season. (They still allow 4 year olds) overall initiation feedback from all associations from initiations was positive. Refer to the ITH meeting minutes.

Atom (Adam Rommens)

Tournament looked to be a huge success. 20 teams over 3 days. It would be great if we can continue hosting these tournaments in the future. Cayley Payne (Atom 1 Manager) Deserves a huge thank you for tackling this for 2 years in a row, it brings tons of revenue into the community.

Future Atom Discussion:

I would like to start discussions about moving our Atom 2 team into the okotoks "A" house league next year. From what I have seen in the past they are roughly tier 4,5 caliber teams. For next year I suggest we only put our 1 top team into Atom CAHL, and have the rest play in the Okotoks "A" or "B" house leagues. ***Adam is going to do a survey monkey survey with the parents to see if there is any interest in Okotoks house league.***

Peewee (Tyler Hutton):

Nothing received

Bantam (Tyler Hutton):

Nothing received

Midget (Duncan McLeish):

The only thing I have to report is that I had three discipline meetings this month. All of them went well with out any any extra suspensions being added.

AA Report (Jeff Wiloughby):

At the request of SCAHL the Foothills AA committee put together and submitted a proposal of potential options on how to resolve the existing low player population and dropping registration issue within the current Foothills draw zone. The following response was received from SCAHL:

"Thank you for the response. We have reviewed your discussion points and have the following suggestion. I would like Foothills Bisons to set up a meeting with the Okotoks Oilers Athletic Association and SCAHL in order to start a discussion around how the organizations could potentially work together to come to a working resolution. I would like this meeting to take place no later than Feb 14. Should you have any concerns feel free to contact me at any time."



OOAA has been contacted. OOAA has a meeting on Wednesday February 6th and out of that meeting will propose a meeting time with Foothills and SCAHL prior to the stated deadline.

Committee Reports:

Intro to Hockey (Jennifer Woods) - the ITH committee met on January 30. All five associations were in attendance. Very positive meeting - everyone had very favourable feedback about the ½ ice and the development advantages. The ORA attended to speak on reffing challenges and possible changes for next season. Next season will most likely see a Tier A and Tier B. Will meet again in April to start organizing for next season.

Discipline update/discussion:

In Camera

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Kellie at 8:39, seconded by Chad. Next meeting is March 7/19 @ 7pm at COOP.