**LACOMBE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

 **OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Minutes**

**Gary Moe Auto Group Sportsplex Community Room**

LACOMBE, ALBERTA

**August 13, 2025**

**Call to Order. 7:05pm**

**Attendees**: Alison Stangeland, Ryan Fauria, Nicole Fauria, Tara Worobetz, Heather Agnew, Kevin Henderson, Stephen Cox, Alasdair Agnew, Jeremy Dreise, Jordi Stewart, Joanne Day, Jody Blokland, Brendan Futrell, Stacy Christensen, Brent Talsma, Curtis Goulet, Alyssa Dinter, Priscilla Blokland

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
	1. Approval of LMH Operating Committee Meeting from July 16, 2025. Motion to approve by Heather Agnew, seconded by Jordi Stewart. No opposed. All in favour. Motion carried.
2. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**
	1. Additions to Unfinished Business.
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
	1. Additions to New Business
	2. Approval of Agenda motion to approve by Ryan Fauria, seconded by Jordi Stewart. No opposed. All in favour. Motion carried.
4. **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**
	1. President – Priscilla Blokland
		* ***“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” – Helen Keller***
		* ***“Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.'' - Maya Angelou***
		* Attended AEHL/AFHL with Alison, Brent & Hudson Kelly. Discussion focused on external threats to AA program as well a MHA’s (primarily non sanctioned leagues & academy’s). Focus for CAS will be to continue building a reputable program and recruit. Player Movement was a hot topic as players are appealing when denied movement and the cost for secondary appeal is too significant based on risk assessment ($500/instance)
		* Working with PMHA & BMHA for player placement
		* PMHA has NO goalies for U13 but players to yield 2 teams. Only 1 goalie for U18 so there will be players cut.
		* BMHA has an abundance of goalies U15 & U18; looking for placement
		* Mr Mike’s Bottles - offered their bottles to us; pickup schedule required and decision on where funds should be appropriated. See New Business.
		* Used Equipment Sale - Aug 14th & 18th; determined there are enough volunteers - Ops Committee members welcome to come and hang out
		* Phone calls, emails, meetings, texts & repeat right now!
	2. Vice-President – Curtis Goulet
		* Evaluation preparation and communications, especially U15NBC
		* Directors Orientation conducted for first time in advance of this meeting
		* Planning and preparing for the season and development activities with Development Director
		* Working on creation of LMHA “brand” or playing philosophy/coach handbook that will try to roll out this season and work on it to be ready for next season.
		* Waiting for first CAHL meeting
		* Like Priscilla - lots of emails, texts
	3. Treasurer – Joanne Day
		* Total Registration Fees ( includes CAS, LMHA, CAW, DEV) $331,650.32
		* Total collected $242,617.53, Outstanding $89,032.79
		* We will have a meeting/training with all treasurers on Oct 9 at 8PM.
			+ Emails will be sent out before meeting with treasurer information & expense/income tracking sheets
			+ 
	4. Game & Conduct – Nicole Fauria
		* Volunteer Pledge forms to review and sign for all Executive, Operating Committee as well as any team level volunteers to review and sign. All volunteers present completed the pledge forms.
		* CRC forms ready to go for anyone team level handling money, will need to reach out to me for a signed copy to take into the Police
		* CRC and VSC for coaches and anyone with direct contact with players will need to reach out and also get a signed version to take to the Police.
		* Taking a Conflict management course to gain some more tools to help as the season progresses.
		* LMHA Volunteer Code of Conduct:

*1.* I will not expect special rights or privileges because I am a volunteer.

 2. I will, as a representative of the organization, publicly support them, even if I may not agree with all LMH policies or decisions. If I do not agree with them, I will work with the organization to have them addressed.

 3. I will base my decisions and actions on what is best for the majority of hockey players while respecting the rights of the individual.

 4. I will listen to and respond to any concerns brought to my attention in a timely manner.

 5. I accept that as a representative of LMH, my actions either positive or negative, reflect on the organization.

 6. I will not any disclose any Information or data entrusted to me for use in my position that may cause embarrassment to the Association or betrays a trust of confidence

 7. I will respect LMH parents, players, coaches, officials and fellow volunteers.

* 1. Secretary – Alyssa Dinter
		+ Prepared and posted the Summer Newsletter
		+ Working on Manager and LMHA Handbook updates as well as Team Budget and Fundraising Policy
		+ Bylaws - submitted administrative update in March to Government of Alberta and been following up. Have learned the individual assigned is on extended leave and have a new case manager. Hoping to complete this soon. Requested a quote from Gish Law to support a broad review and update of Bylaws.
	2. Past President – Amy Richter
		+ Nothing to report
	3. Administration- Alison Stangeland
		+ Team #’s for the season
			- U18 - 2 teams - accepting 3 registrations
			- U15 - 3 teams , One NBC - only open for NBC registration
			- U13 - 3 teams - waitlisting
			- U11 - 2 teams - waitlisting
			- U9 - 3 teams - waitlisting until enough for fourth team
			- U7 - 3 teams - open for registration
			- Rocket Launchers - 22!
			- Hub Teams - U11CAW, U11AA, U13AA, U15AA, & U18AA
		+ ●Ice - All AA ice out with league, just waiting on one practice slot confirmation from Blackfalds
		+ ●CAS & Rockets jerseys/socks are in!
		+ Been able to keep all Rockets practice in Lacombe
		+ Preorder for apparel and bags. CAW store just finishing up and will be out soon. AA will be out in September
		+ Pictures-targetting before Thanksgiving on ice with Fast Photo
		+ AA meeting for tryouts - ready to go with them
		+ Development-applied for all the permits

**Action:** Send email to remind to submit coaching applications before evaluations, Directors to reinforce

1. **DIRECTOR REPORTS**
	1. Intro to Hockey (U5, U7 and Rocket Launchers) – Brendan Futrell
		* Looking for a few coaches for U7 and Rocket Launchers
	2. U9 – Tara Worobetz
		* 35 players currently and waitlisting - would need to get to 40 players would be enough for 4 teams and would result in Friday afternoon practices
	3. U11 – Stephen Cox
		* Will send out an introduction email and info regarding evaluations following the meeting
		* Have 15 players registered for August development
		* 1 goalie just went to RD so numbers decrease by 1
	4. U13 – Jordi Stewart
		* Timebox cheat sheet done and still under review. Feel free to send information to Jordi
		* U13 registration numbers regularly changing - working with Alison
	5. U15 – Ryan Fauria
		* Email has been sent out about evaluations for players and goalies.
		* Been some contact from NBC players to get better gauge on what will happen this season. Working with Curtis who drafted a great email. The emaill has also been sent to PMHA to share the information.
	6. U18 – Joanne Day
		* Sitting nicely for 2 teams
	7. CAW Governor & Female Director/- Robbin Nikiforuk & Kevin Henderson
		* Will have 1 U11 team - upcoming group skate on August 14 with an overage player - still looking for more players.
		* Group discussion on CAW draw zones - do we need to expand to other communities? Not sure based on where other local female teams are.
		* For LMHA development skates - CAW can attend space permitting. Requested to confirm with the CAW Treasurer if there’s budget to host their own development session. CAW skates will start slightly earlier than others.
		* Confirmed that we are working with Hotline for removing/adding sponsorship and name bars
		* Apparel Order - if the team is looking for something Red’s doesn’t carry, can request to see if they can get it.
		* Parades - interest in a parade - recommended to reach out to Erin.
2. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
	1. Referee in Chief – Mike Luymes
		* Jody Blokland reported for Mike.
		* Clinics are up on Hockey Alberta website - Lacombe hosting Sept 7th & Oct 4th for levels 1 & 2
		* 2 officials in Lacombe going for level 3 & 1 official for exemption status
		* Looking to do a welcome back get together and an LMHA officials clinic again. Will work with Alison for ice.
	2. Referee Assignor - Jody Blokland
		* First time slots for officials have come in for AA and will be assigned
		* Email will be sent with google form this weekend to all officials on roster looking for feedback on whether they are returning, what level they have officiated to and where they want to be etc
		* Ref rates have increased this year. Big change is U11AA has its own rate. Every game U13 and down regardless of status has gone up $6/game and U15+ has increased to $8/game. Mileage went from $0.40 to $0.50/km.
		* **Action:** Jody to send information to Alison on how to register and find the information to register.
	3. Fundraising Convenor – Tara Worobetz
		* **Action:** AGLC List of Elected Executives Form - Executive members to share information with Tara.
		* Raffle licence application submitted to AGLC. Date for draw: Wednesday, January 14, 2026. Tickets should be ready for distribution to teams by week of Oct 13th (at latest).
			+ Strand 360 has offered to print raffle tickets for free if they can advertise on the back of each ticket. No concerns from group. Normal cost can be $400-800.
		* Bottle pick-up: Western Dairy Producers and Mr. Mike’s.
			+ Tara has been picking up from Western Dairy Producers monthly
			+ Mr Mikes - will working with LMBA to coordinate and benefit both organizations from community generosity. Exec discussed and recommended this be an LMHA overall fundraiser (e.g. go to equipment or legacy fund). However, before decision is made, looking for more details (e.g. frequency of pickup) and will consider administrative effort (e.g. splitting across 17 teams vs association level). Tabled.
	4. Sponsorship Chair – Teri Lynn Amundson/Tamara Cox
		* Have invoiced and received payment from some already. Have about $5,000 in, have contacted everybody from last year and some new ones
	5. Safety Officer - Alasdair Agnew
		* Will go through the bags and get set for the year.
		* Will go over the re-stocking budget. Reminder of the new restock fees for this year
		* Safety meeting scheduled for October 14
	6. Social Media Coordinator - Melanie Callihoo
		* Been quick to add items to Social
	7. Development Director- Jeremy Dreise
		* Prepped and Ready for the Development Skates
		* Evaluations are ready and should be good to go.
		* Working on developing some new LMHA Mandates and Rockets Hockey Principles to share in the coming months
		* Looking into courses and coach nights to improve camaraderie
		* Directors - If you have coaches who want to come out for Development skates, they are welcome and its a great opportunity to meet the kids.
		* Trying to support more consistent experiences and practices across all divisions - it’ll be a start to a coaching handbook but will be getting input from our community
		* Coaches doing a power skating night
	8. Coach Mentor – Jeremy Dreise (Lead) / Joe Bouvier / Casey Calihoo / Jon Sydenham / Tyler Guppy
		* Have leads on new goalie coach development lead
		* May need to revisit September 23 Coaches meeting date - potentially a week later. Hoping for every team to have a representative, would like HC attendance mandatory.
	9. Central Alberta Selects Governor – Brent Talsma
		* Trying to reach out to Logan Hill on ref assigning. CAS doesn’t want to do pilot program if they won’t be using our officials - want to support our local officials and be cognizant of high rates/driving/mileage for people coming from long distances and the assigning fee was high.
		* Numbers for tryouts are 40-60 per division so good numbers
		* Planning another association meeting and coach meeting shortly
	10. Tournament Coordinator - Alyssa Dinter
		* Tournament Dates
			+ U13: November 14-16
			+ U11: January 2-4
			+ U9: Feb 6-8 (full ice)
			+ U7: January 17
		* Upcoming Activities
			+ Reviewing tournament rates
			+ Preparing for tournaments (game sanctions, setting up registration, updating templates)
		* Key Changes for 2025-26
			+ No player contributions (see updated Tournament Policy on website)
			+ U11 - ice time increased 1.75 to 2 hours per game
			+ U9- full ice
			+ Medals - tournaments to source their own (not organized by LMHA)
			+ Refs - separating ref room snacks and adjusting ref meal honouraria ($15 meal added to ref payment who ref 2+ games/day - more flexibility)
	11. Special Events Coordinator- Erin Fuller
		* No update
		* First to plan is Welcome Back Breakfast
	12. Rockets Give Back Coordinator - Heather Agnew
		* lacombehockeygives@gmail.com email is up and running
		* Suggestion to look at opportunities for the older kids coming to help younger kids
		* Battle of Alberta evaluations with Oilers vs Flames will be a go. Can do cash donations or food bank donations - more details coming and will work with Priscilla, Curtis and Mel.
3. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
	1. Tabled to 2025/26 season
		* Ref Course Reimbursement
		* Referee Awards
		* Bylaw/Paid Position/Administrative Fee Review
		* Safety Updates - Concussion Protocol/Return to Play and Liability Considerations (TBC for 25/26 if required)
	2. Jonathan Anstey Recognition
4. **NEW BUSINESS**
	1. Honourarium for Ref Assignor and Bookkeeper (Joanne)
		* An assigning fee vs honorarium is new from HA. Assigning fee just includes game, doesn’t include cell phone, time, etc which is why there is an honorarium for LMHA.

| Position | Current | Proposed |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Office Admin | $2,200/month (12 months) | No Change |
| Bookkeeper | $300/month (12 months) | $400/month (12 months) |
| Referee Assignor | $500/month (7 months) | $700/month (7 months) |
| Totals:  | $33,500 | $36,100 |

* + - Motion to increase Bookkeeper monthly honorarium to $400/month and Referee Assignor to $700/month made by Jeremy Dreise, seconded by Jordi Stewart. Abstaining was Jody, Alison, Stacy and Priscilla. All in favour. Motion carried
	1. Team Budget and Fundraising Policy (Joanne)
		+ In discussion, Committee wanted to keep budget changes to 90% approval and make adjustments to when budget and slush fund are due.
		+ **Motion** to approve the revised Team Budget and Fundraising Policy as presented to Operating Committee via email with one change that Team Budgets are due November 1 and Slush Funds are due by November 30 however teams can plan earlier submission made by Nicola Fauria, seconded by Jordi Stewart. All in favour. Motion carried.
	2. U15 NBC Bank Account (Joanne)
		+ **Motion** to add a new bank account for the U15 NBC Rockets Team “Lacombe U15 NBC A Rockets” made by Ryan Fauria, seconded by Heather Agnew. All in favour. Motion carried.
	3. 2024/25 LMHA Team Fund transfer to LMHA Savings (Joanne)
		+ **Action:** Look at making this a standing policy in the handbook at the next meeting
		+ **Motion** to move any remaining funds in LMHA team accounts to the LMHA saving account as of September 5, 2025 made by Jordi Stewart, seconded by Jeremy Dreise. All in favour. Motion carried.
	4. U7 Bank Accounts (Joanne)
		+ **Motion** made by Jordi Stewart and seconded by Ryan Fauria to change the U7 team bank accounts from the following to the following:
			- Lacombe U7 Red Rockets to Lacombe U7 1 Rockets
			- Lacombe U7 Blue Rockets to Lacombe U7 2 Rockets
			- Lacombe U7 Black Rockets yo Lacombe U7 3 Rockets
			- Lacombe U7 Silver Rockets to Lacombe U7 4 Rockets
			- All in favour. Motion carried.
	5. Key Deposit (Alison)
		+ **Motion** that any volunteer who receives a set of keys to LMHA rooms at the arena (e.g. equipment, office, equipment storage) is personally required to provide a $20 deposit per set that will be returned upon return of keys made and that there will be a tracking sheet/mechanism made by Ryan Fauria, seconded by Jordi Stewart. All in favour. Motion carried.
	6. Evaluation Budget (Curtis/Joanne)
		+ With the inclusion of U11 with paid evaluators, there needs to be an increase in the budget - the proposed increase is meant to leave a lot of buffer to prevent a motion in the future to increase again.
		+ **Motion** to increase the evaluator budget from $10K to $15k to account for the addition of the U11 division made by Jordi Stewart, seconded by Nicole Fauria. All in favour. Motion carried.
	7. Official Reimbursement and Guidelines (Priscilla)
		+ LMHA looking to create guidelines for officials with the association.
		+ **Motion** for the recommended number of officials for games in the following divisions:
			- U9 – one official, ideally two
			- U11-one ref, two lines
			- U13-one ref, two lines
			- U15-two refs, two lines
			- U15 NBC – one ref, two lines
			- U18- two refs, two lines
			- Motion made by Heather Agnew, seconded by Curtis Goulet. All in favour. Motion carried.
		+ Ref reimbursement
			- **Motion** to reimburse officials based on the following guidelines:
				* New Officials (first year) will be reimbursed $100 for courses when they have officiated 5 games
				* Second year and up will be reimbursed $100 for courses when they have officiated 10 games within the season
				* The other guidelines to be eligible for reimbursement include:

The Ref course has been completed and the receipt submitted to the LMHA Treasurer

Primarily ref with LMHA

No age limit for reimbursement

LMHA, CAS and CAW games are included in the number of officiated games to receive reimbursement

* + - * Lots of discussion at the table including seeking clarification that it is games within the season and to relook at how CAS and CAW games are captured and whether its within the LMHA catchment zone. Motion TABLED.
	1. Evaluation Overview (Curtis)
		+ Will review the Handbook after this season and our evaluation processes and look at potential changes and continuous improvement for the following year.
	2. Team Manager or Treasurer Changes (Priscilla)
		+ **Motion** In the event of a change in team positions related to team accounts within an LMHA (Lacombe Minor Hockey Association) or HUB team, the team shall hold a parent meeting within **72 hours** of the change. The purpose of this meeting is to formally approve the removal and addition of individuals associated with the team’s financial accounts. The minutes from this meeting must be documented and submitted to the bank to update authorized account holders made by Jordi Stewart, seconded by Nicole Fauria. All in favour. Motion carried.
	3. 2025-26 Tournament Rates (Alyssa)
		+ Rates are increasing due to referee changes, ice increase costs, and lessons learned from last year. This is a working copy of the proposed registration fees for this year - they are still being reviewed and validated and will be approved by Executive Committee. The goal is to have a break even budget

| **Division** | **2024-25 Rate** | **Proposed 2025-26 Rate** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| U7 | $700 | $725 |
| U9 | $900 | $1100 |
| U11 | $1750 | $2000 |
| U13 | $1850 | $2000 |

* 1. Time Box Cheat Sheet (Jordi)
		+ Shared in advance via email with Operating Committee. Please share feedback with Jordi Stewart and will be included in the Manager Handbook.

**Adjourn 8:52pm. Next meeting date September 17, 2025 7-9pm Gary Moe Sportsplex**