**LACOMBE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

**OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Minutes**

**Gary Moe Auto Group Sportsplex Community Room**

LACOMBE, ALBERTA

**December 5, 2023**

**Call to Order 19:05.**

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
   1. Approval of LMH Operating Committee Meeting from November 7th, 2023. motion to approve by Erin, seconded by Priscilla, all in favor and approved.
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 Jerilee, seconded by Stacey, all in favor and approved.
4. **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**
   1. President –Amy Richter
      1. Development Sessions -power skating, contact play (going well)
      2. *Dryland sessions on Wednesdays?*
         1. *There is an open slot of Wednesdays at 7 pm for strength and conditioning.*
         2. *Send directors email to identify*
      3. Volunteer opportunities -Alumni Game (Dec 22 6:30pm) New Time
         1. time moved up, U18 game to follow
         2. U18 asked to run the bar as a fundraiser.
      4. Santa Parade - lots of fun but bitterly cold
      5. Rockets Give Back launched - please send in coordinator names for each LMHA teams
      6. Meals to go -
   2. Vice-President – Dave Seretzky
      1. December CAHL meeting has been postponed until January
      2. Reminder to teams with players with growing PIMS, as PIM thresholds are reached suspensions will be issued
      3. Monday’s HA Coaches Shooting Clinic was a major success, 15 LMH and CAS coaches from U7-U18 attended and initial feedback was really good
         1. We will look at scheduling 1 or 2 more of these clinics depending on what the coaches would like help with
   3. Administration- Alison Stangeland/Kim Somerville Keehn
      1. Ice regular season is all out U11 & up, just working to fill TBA games and open ice with teams.
      2. U15AA playoff weekend will be hosted in Lacombe
      3. No provincials this year - last weekend of ice will be March 22-24, option to host a tournament still open
         1. Consider :
            1. an Intro to full ice, 2nd year U9 and Intro to hit hockey, second year U13.
            2. U15B and U18B for year end tournament.
      4. Equipment - working at getting quotes on jerseys for next season for Rockets & CAS
         1. Need U18 Rockets, U11 (some larger sizes) and U13, U9 in reversible.
      5. Upper Equipment Room - jersey sale @ Alumni Night? Can anyone spend an evening with me sorting this out? We also have the old U9 goalie gear
      6. Website - I have been slowly working at cleaning up the website, if you would like your page updated please let me know and I will send you your login
      7. Refferal
      8. Awards night - April 4/5th
      9. AGM - May 30th
         1. Alison to look at booking both
   4. Secretary – Dylan Little
      1. All old minutes have been saved to the secretary email address in google dating back to 2005.
      2. need to still add in the 2004 and older
   5. Treasurer – Stacy Christensen
      1. Balance outstanding $15K (CAS & LMHA).
      2. Casino Account- $64,720.91 General Account- $350,869.78 Savings Account- $29,413.37
      3. All development has been paid with the exception of one participant. Will follow up
      4. Reminder that the team is responsible to pay ice/ refs from other associations if the game is canceled.
      5. HAMG- We have been awarded $17K this will be used as per the budget submitted. Development (coach, goalie, player), 4 - man official system, Come try hockey, female hockey day. Any event that is hosted with this money will require pictures posted to social media and/or website.Will send the tags and account to mention
      6. Aiming to have the below completed by January 1
      7. Sync Quickbooks and the banking account.
      8. Online Payments - 2 options. I would like to pay the following- Officials, Admin, Bookkeeper, Ref Assignor.
      9. EFT (Etransfers)
      10. PAD (Direct Deposit) - Stacey Christensen brings forth a motion to move towards Direct deposit as primary source of payments. The secondary option will be ETF. This will cover all expenses including refs, honorariums and other approved payments. seconded by Erin, All in favor and approved.
   6. Game & Conduct – Donna Miller
      1. nothing to report
   7. Past President – Lori
5. **DIRECTOR REPORTS**
   1. **Intro to Hockey (U5, U7 and Rocket Launchers) – Alyssa Dinter**
      1. U5
         1. Continuing to go well - looking at booking a game with Bentley in new year
      2. U7 Tournament
         1. All spots full, planning going great
      3. U7
         1. Met with Head Coaches & Managers - will play each other if we have empty game spots we can’t fill. Majority are full now. Will look at next steps to gather feedback from other communities in new year
      4. Rocket Launchers
         1. Going well - minimal interest in switching into teams - one more reminder going mid December. One player trialed U9 (staying with RL), one player trialing U7 today
      5. On Ice Helper Process Change Feedback Received (Parents and Coaches)
         1. Hard for some players (i.e. goalies) who don’t have protective equipment and needing to find time to complete RIS Activity Leader
         2. Players under 12 need full equipment no matter what - this makes it VERY hard for them to help the kids (they are typically the ones helping U5/U7 to stand up and pass some pucks) - have at least one on ice helper who will not be returning
         3. Frustration that there seems to be no logical rationale on the connection between completing RIS Activity Leader and wearing full equipment (they do not seem to be related to each other at all, yet if you complete RIS Activity Leader you don’t need full equipment)
   2. **Novice U9 – Brandon Maier**
      1. Teams are running reasonably well, starting to attend tournaments.
      2. Home tournament is nearly full, finding two full C pools is difficult. Less C team applications than other tiers. Looking to expand the A or B pools to fill ice instead as we have enough C teams that our two Lacombe teams won’t need to play each other.
      3. some teams would like to see us to back to the 2 day tournament format.
   3. **Atom U11 – Brett Miller**
      1. All is going well, quiet for emails etc.
      2. Recap from last meeting our late registration a goaltender skated with all three teams and was placed on Team 2
      3. Tournament committee has had two meetings to date. HDAP and Team 1 I believe are doing ok with entries for the tournament but Team 2 and 3 are having trouble finding teams to this point.
      4. Update from Team 3 today and with an inquiry this morning looks like they will fill their division for the tournament but no update from Team 2 as of yet.
   4. **Pee Wee U13 – Erin Fuller**
      1. 13A - Competitive in their Tier, placed 2nd in home Tournament
      2. U13B - Will have to work for wins. Placed 1st in home tournament
      3. U13C - having a very successful start to the season. 3rd in home tournament
      4. Tournament received good feedback, and was told by Airdrie that they will need to step up their tournament game. Teams were able to fill all the volunteer slots. Recommend a separate email for tournaments and an online application like a google form for next season.
   5. **Bantam U15 – Angela Wymann-Richter**
      1. U15A - team seems to be doing well. Have heard very little from them.
         1. Currently sit in the middle of their Tier 2 Yellow. They have 3 wins and 1 loss. All games are pretty close.
      2. U15B - team is struggling.
         1. Currently, sit at the bottom of Tier 3. They have lost all of their league games (closest was a 5-2 loss, worst one was 13-2).
         2. The discussion about moving to NBC came up again. After meeting with the HC and Parent Liaison, the feeling was they are where they want to be. They believe they can compete in Tier 3 however, some players and parents are showing a great deal of negativity which is impacting the team.
         3. I continue to offer my support but this team needs to be watched as things are not great.
   6. **Midget U18 – Joanne Day**
      1. Both teams are doing well in their tiers.
      2. U18A is attending a Tournament in Phoenix in February:
      3. Fundraiser Pub night this friday: Ugly’s @ 7pm
   7. **Female Director - Kevin Henderson & Ami Rintoul**
      1. We've been tossing around the idea of hosting an outdoor event with an all female shiny game on the Lacombe ODR. This is a chance to have the girls that play in the 3 communities get together for an afternoon of hockey, food, socializing, and gauge the interest in starting the all female program back up. targeting JAn 27/28th.
      2. I've applied to Hockey Alberta for a $1,000 grant to hopefully get us started. If there is interest I will start looking for sponsors.
      3. Other potential ideas for the event:

* Invite past players from the area who have played high level so they could maybe share a couple stories about what female hockey did for them.
* Invite the RDP Queens
* Swag bags

1. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
   1. **CAHL Governor - Tamara Cox / Angela Wymann-Richter**
   2. **Referee in Chief – Jarritt Alexander**
      1. Nothing to report.
   3. **Referee Assignor - Jody Blokland**
      1. Need to work with Nicole on insurance coverage for officials who are reffing while on Injured reserve for their team.
   4. **Fundraising Convenor – Tara Worobetz**
      1. Some minor questions from AGLC for the prior year fundraising.
      2. working on Casino paperwork. We need 8 volunteers for the paperwork.
      3. Tara makes a motion that anyone who works a casino shift can be exempt from the 2024-25 season for LMHA fundraising (IE Raffle) for one child per shift worked. This is transferable. seconded by Casey, all in favor, approved.
   5. **Sponsorship Chair – Betty Anne Schafer/ Jerilee Wilson**
      1. Continued work on Sponsorship letter and how we are going to offer a Platinum plus apparel offer with so many different options in apparel (track outfit, shorts/t-shirts, etc).
      2. Jerilee makes a motion to Update the sponsor letter to offer a $500 discount on a three year commitment if paid in full (all three years) within 30 days of receipt of the sent invoice. seconded by Priscilla, all in favor. approved.
      3. Sponsorship money is almost all in. Waiting on a few businesses still.
      4. Working on getting all sponsors on LMHA website (just realized this hasn’t been done for the past few years)
      5. Nicole did a great job getting all the gold and platinum onto the Facebook page!
   6. **Safety Officer - Nicole Fauria**
      1. A few season ending injuries for a couple of players in the last month.
      2. Will be sending out an email next week to remind everyone about restocking before the new year.
   7. **Social Media coordinator - Nicole Fauria**
      1. Tournament posting went really well.
      2. Continuing to get info out as efficiently as I can. If you have something to post, please try to send as much information as possible in the body of the email, it helps me get it out faster without having to do a bunch of digging and research.
      3. U9 and U7 tournaments, please send as many updates as possible and I’ll try to get as much info out during the weekend. I’ll be there for U11.
   8. **Development Coordinator- Vacant**
   9. **Coach Mentor – Rick Maclise/ Joe Bouvier / Casey Calihoo**
      1. Joe - Have had many off record conversations with coaches. Conversations ranging from Bench Management to skill and skating development. I was asked to support a team with a player who has ADHD. I told the manager to have the coach connect with me and I will support them.
      2. U9 Goalies will be invited to the Friday goalie development sessions starting in January. We will likely have them attend the U15/U18 sessions as we typically only get a couple goalies from these groups.
   10. **South Central League Representative – Troy Rider**
   11. **Central Alberta Selects Representative – Troy Rider**
   12. **Tournament Coordinator - Vacant**
   13. **Events Coordinator- Vacant**
   14. **Rockets Give Back coordinator - Vacant**
2. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**
   1. Look at the affiliation process. Consider that all players will be affiliated before tiering based on evaluations and Grid the players accordingly. This eliminates ambiguity.
   2. develop a new “tournament email address” that can be posted to the HA website. We can then create a google form for teams to fill out that will be uploaded into excel.
   3. For December meeting, review incentive and sign up for Casino in March (spring break)
   4. Need to look at a policy for players injured and or missed evaluations due to Elite stream cuts. Need something more concrete to solidify where players land after evaluations. What qualifies as a qualified skate?... practice with each team. Look at the policy from Olds.
   5. Sponsorship letter update with a small discount for platinum sponsors who sign up for 3 years.
3. **NEW BUSINESS.**

8.1 Affiliate players practice: to allow for affiliate players to get comfortable with their affiliated teams, Dylan proposes that “The affiliate player is allowed to practice with the affiliate team, the week before a “call-up” game and up to an additional 5 practices throughout the season, on invitation from the affiliate team head coach. Coaches seeking to have affiliate players attend practice more than this would need executive approval.” This was seconded by Jerilee, 10 votes for, none opposed, 1 abstain, approved.

8.2

**Adjourn. Next meeting date.**