



# LACOMBE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

## Minutes

Gary Moe Auto Group Sportsplex Community Room  
LACOMBE, ALBERTA  
February 25, 2025

### Call to Order.

#### Attendance

Amy Richter, Dave Saretsky, Alison Stangeland, Alyssa Dinter, Mike Labonte, Dylan Little, Kurtis Baehl, Angela Wymann-Richter, Joanne Day, Priscilla Blokland, Tara Worobetz, Sarah Ritten, Jeremy Dreise

### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1.1 Approval of LMH Operating Committee Meeting from February 5, 2025. [Motion to approve by Dylan Little, seconded by Mike Labonte. Carried](#)

### 2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- 2.1 Additions to Unfinished Business.

### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 3.1 Additions to New Business  
3.2 Approval of Agenda [motion to approve by Dave Saretsky, seconded by Joanne Day. Carried.](#)

### 4. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

#### 4.1 President –Amy Richter

- Committee meetings (Awards, Discipline, CAW)
- Lacombe Generals Skaters, Security next year
- Thank you to volunteers for filling all of your roles and contributing to the association

#### 4.2 Vice-President – Dave Saretsky

- Messages from CAHL sent to division Directors. There were some major violations within the league during playoffs with affiliates and overage players.
- CAHL sent a survey regarding opening the moratorium for new entries - Drayton Valley applied to join the league again.
- Looking at evaluation software - reviewed information from TeamLinkt; Skill Shark offers similar services to Team Genius but is more expensive by roughly 50%. Recommend staying with Team Genius as pricing is competitive and have invested time in volunteer training.
- Number of Game and Conduct and discipline issues over last 6 weeks - many being serious in nature. Thank you to Dylan for stepping into Interim Game & Conduct role.
- Feedback provided on poor U9 Game Scheduling by CAHL
  - **Action:** Kurtis to provide a formal complaint to Dave regarding U9 game scheduling and Dave to bring forward to CAHL.

#### 4.3 Administration- Alison Stangeland

- Playoff Games - very busy last weekend but almost all games booked, just working on female teams.
- Planning open ice for remainder of year
- Spring ID Skates anticipated for Females and AA
- Coach Survey planning
  - **Action:** Send to Coach Mentors and Development first before Executive prior to sending to association.
- Awards night - surveys out to Coaches
- Equipment return set for last week of hockey and first week of April
- Planning registration for next year

#### 4.4 Secretary (Interim) – Alyssa Dinter

- Website updates - minutes, sponsorship page, Manager Handbook and LMHA Handbook posted - including update with recent Operating Committee motions and new policies.
- Bylaws - updating 2011 to reconcile with 2011, 2018, 2020 and 2024 AGM updates. Goal is for Executive to review March 3 and send one week in advance. Anticipating 20+ special resolutions.

- 4.5 Treasurer – Mike Labonte
  - Chasing down final late payments
- 4.6 Game & Conduct (Interim) – Dylan Little
  - Lot of incidents in last 6 weeks. Adhere to our incident resolution process. Wait 24 hours unless player safety
  - Consider statute of limitations for complaints
  - **Action:** Dave & Dylan to share themes/key items from Game & Conduct investigations to reinforce for Coaches meeting next year with Coach Development and Coach Mentors to support planning
- 4.7 Past President – Lori

## 5. DIRECTOR REPORTS

- 5.1. Intro to Hockey (U5, U7 and Rocket Launchers) – Alyssa Dinter
  - 5.1.1. Generals playoff skaters is successful.
  - 5.1.2. Tournament went well - wrapping finances to share back with teams. No surplus registration fees and projecting ~\$815 team fundraising return
  - 5.1.3. Teams are planning year-end wrap-ups
  - 5.1.4. U5/Rocket Launchers wrap-up mini tournament in Sylvan March 21
  - 5.1.5. Discussing future options with Alison for U5 & Rocket Launchers - bring to a future meeting. Potential options include merging U5 and RL together (like Sylvan) and moving to another day; ceasing Rocket Launchers
- 5.2. U9 – Kurtis Baehl
  - 5.2.1. Tournament went well; teams starting to play full ice games. Kudos to refs for full ice games; Coaches working on off sides and full game things. Biggest complaint is game travel. full ice only for exhibition, not league games
- 5.3. U11 – Brandon Maier
  - 5.3.1. U11A lost a heartbreaker to New Sarepta in a shootout after triple OT to be eliminated. U11B lost 8-4 and 6-3 to Wetaskiwin. Both are working on exhibition games to close things out
- 5.4. U13 – Erin Fuller
  - 5.4.1. U13A getting ready to host Provincials. U13B in tier final. U13C in semifinals.
- 5.5. U15 – Angela Wymann-Richter
  - 5.5.1. U15A playing in finals vs Ponoka
  - 5.5.2. U15B play one game this weekend then finals vs Blackfalds next weekends
- 5.6. U18 – Joanne Day
  - 5.6.1. Out of finals
- 5.7. Female Director - Kevin Henderson/Ashley Klessens; CAW Governor Robbin Nikiforuk
  - 5.7.1. U11 is out and U15 is going to finals
  - 5.7.2. Robbin Nikiforuk putting in affiliation recommendation and signed by all 3 association Presidents
  - 5.7.3. For next year, potentially U18 (have 11 potential players), U15, and U13/U11 numbers are up in the air.

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 6.1. CAHL Governor - Jordie Stewart / Angela Wymann-Richter
  - 6.1.1. Nothing to report
- 6.2. Referee in Chief – Jody Blokland
  - 6.2.1. Nothing to report
- 6.3. Referee Assignor - Priscilla Blokland
  - 6.3.1. Referee awards information provided. Anticipated to be about \$225 annually for engraving that will need to be build into ongoing costs. Seeking \$100 from LMHA to purchase ref bag for rookie of the year. Pentagon Farms has sponsored the award with a \$500 donation.
  - 6.3.2. Discussion on referee awards.
  - 6.3.3. **Motion:** Create 4 LMHA Referee Awards (Official of the Year, Rookie of the Year, Rising Star, Officials Mentorship). 9 in favour, 1 opposed, 2 abstain. Motion carried.
  - 6.3.4. For fun - 401 Games Assigned (September 2024 - February 2025). 1199 Slots (Ref/Lines/Mentor). 87 Officials on the roster - only 7 are inactive
- 6.4. Fundraising Convenor – Tara Worobetz
  - 6.4.1. No updates
  - 6.4.2. Received feedback to consider timing of the Cash Raffle draw next year (before Christmas, mid-late January or early February - looking to avoid right after Christmas).

- 6.5. Sponsorship Chair – Corey Rintoul/Jerilee Wilson
  - 6.5.1. Feedback to consider following up on incentives for sponsors to promote/entice new sponsors
  - 6.5.2. **Action:** Alyssa to add logos to team pages to comply with Sponsorship letter.
- 6.6. Safety Officer - Sarah Ritten
  - 6.6.1. New email - [lmhasafetyofficer@gmamil.com](mailto:lmhasafetyofficer@gmamil.com) - please remind teams to email Sarah if needed.
  - 6.6.2. **Action-**Sarah to look at creating/updating safety documents - particularly around concussion protocol and return to play.
  - 6.6.3. Discussion on requirements for CAS and & CAW to follow LMHA policies, including safety processes and driving. If there was an incident - who would be liable from a legal perspective?
  - 6.6.4. **Action-** Sarah to research bylaws and approaches with other associations, particularly ones who have hubs, and formulate the question(s) that we can ask from HA or HC to further explore liability considerations should a group opt out.
- 6.7. Social Media Coordinator - Melanie Callihoo
  - 6.7.1. Nothing to report
- 6.8. Development Director- Jeremy Dreise
  - 6.8.1. Formulating ideas for next year - accepting feedback and watching practices
  - 6.8.2. Team Development - each team has access to \$150 through funding from development skates/camps at beginning of year.
  - 6.8.3. Not doing transition to full ice and body checking at end of this year - will do it as part of next season's preparation activities (e.g. August) to ensure it is closer to the start of the next season and fresh in minds.
  - 6.8.4. **Action-** Division directors for U9, U13, U15 to let teams know of the change in approach.
- 6.9. Coach Mentor – Rick Maclise / Joe Bouvier / Casey Calihoo / Jon Sydenham, Jeremy Dreise
  - 6.9.1. Goalie sessions going well - thanks to Casey for leading
  - 6.9.2. Looking at adding some equipment for next year based on sessions this year (lessons learned)
  - 6.9.3. Planning year-end Coaches night - want to explore what worked well, what could be improved.
- 6.10. AEHL and Central Alberta Selects Representative – Brent Talsma
  - 6.10.1. U18AA hosting play downs - starting Thursday/Friday primarily-instead of playoffs its play down.
  - 6.10.2. U15AA #1 in the south of 22 teams in Olds
  - 6.10.3. U13AA still playing games this weekend then tournament
  - 6.10.4. U11AA do playdowns like CAHL
  - 6.10.5. Still finding details on U13AAA in Sylvan and RD
- 6.11. CAS Treasurer - Shelley Vickery
- 6.12. Tournament Coordinator - Alyssa Dinter
  - 6.12.1. Lessons learned conducted, recommended Tournament Policy Updates
  - 6.12.2. Tournament Planning Handbook updated with lessons learned
  - 6.12.3. LMHA Executive to consider tournaments for next year - e.g. U9 full ice, CAW/Female tournament, adding extra ice for skills/coach competition; if U11AA will be part of U11 tournament
- 6.13. Special Events Coordinator- Prissilla Blokland
  - 6.13.1. Awards night planning underway - please connect with families in U11 if anybody wants second tickets to see if there's interest.
- 6.14. Rockets Give Back Coordinator - Tamara Cox
  - 6.14.1. No update - not much buy-in for Rockets Give Back this year.

## 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 7.1. Affiliation Process, Injured Players, Elite Stream Cuts (Alison, Joanne, Brent)
  - 7.1.1. tabled
- 7.2. Refund Policy (U18) (Alison, Joanne)
  - 7.2.1. tabled
- 7.3. Registration Deadlines (Alison)
  - 7.3.1. tabled
- 7.4. Admin Fees Review (Casey, Erin, Stacy)
  - 7.4.1. tabled

- 7.5. Special Events - Awards Night, Graduating Gifts, Volunteer Appreciation (Priscilla, Alison)
  - 7.5.1. Yeti tumblers with engraving - preference for tumbler
  - 7.5.2. **Motion:** Spend up to \$75 per graduating player per year for graduating gifts. Motion by Priscilla, seconded by Jeremy. All in favour. Carried.
- 7.6. Referee Awards (Priscilla)
  - 7.6.1. Tabled
- 7.7. Rocket Launchers Program (Alyssa)
  - 7.7.1. Tabled
- 7.8. Driving Policy Review (Joanne, Sarah)
  - 7.8.1. Tabled
- 7.9. Tournament Policy Update (Alyssa)
  - 7.9.1. Tabled
- 7.10. Tournament Photo Backdrop (Alyssa)
  - 7.10.1. **Motion:** Select option 3 as mock-up (hockey arena with lights and CAS/CAW/LMHA logos across the top. All in favour.
  - 7.10.2. **Action:** Alison to email Alyssa logos and Alyssa to finish final design.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

- 8.1. LMHA Branding (Amy)
  - 8.1.1. Tabled - looking at extra apparel, third jerseys, use of logo and approved colours.
  - 8.1.2. **Action** - Alison to remind Managers in an upcoming email that use of any logos remember any use of logo needs to be approved. Alison to add to managers.
- 8.2. Ref Course Reimbursement (Priscilla)
  - 8.2.1. Had \$3,500 motioned previously; however requiring an additional \$500 to meet the requirements of courses submitted.
  - 8.2.2. **Motion:** Allocate an additional \$500 to reimburse referees for those who have met their requirements and submitted for reimbursement. Made by Joanne, seconded by Priscilla. All in favour. Carried.
  - 8.2.3. Future considerations to adjust criteria for number of games to ref and amount that is reimbursed (e.g. increasing to 7 games from 5, decreasing reimbursement from \$100 to \$75) - tabled.
- 8.3. Med Kit Restocks (Sarah)
  - 8.3.1. Previous motion to allocate \$500 to refill med kits for 2023/24- Passed. Previous motion to charge teams \$25 per team/ year to cover the cost of restocking supplies- Passed.
  - 8.3.2. Recommend revisiting and making a long-term motion for consistency. Do we need to revisit, or is this our long-standing approach? (Sarah)
  - 8.3.3. **Motion:** Teams will be charged a mandatory restock fee of \$25 (U7/U9) and \$50 for U11+ to be collected with the jersey cleaning deposit. Teams are required to replace items they need throughout the year. Made by Priscilla, seconded by Dylan. All in favour. Carried.
- 8.4. Volunteer Roles
  - 8.4.1. **Motion:** If a member of the Executive or Operating Committee resigns for personal reasons and remains in good standing with the Association, they may receive approval from the Executive to fulfill a volunteer role in current and/or future years. If an Executive or Operating Committee member is removed and is not in good standing, they are unable to fulfill a volunteer role in current and/or future years for one year. Made by Dylan, seconded by Mike. All in favour. Carried.
- 8.5. Statute of Limitations for Complaints
  - 8.5.1. Discussion on creating a statute of limitations for complaints.
  - 8.5.2. Agreement that needs to remain a minimum of 24 hours unless player safety is concerned. Discussion that maybe 21 days to submit a written complaint from the first incident occurring to enable time for resolution at the team level.
  - 8.5.3. Tabled for a future meeting.
  - 8.5.4. To be discussed at upcoming Coach meeting.
- 8.6. LMHA Development Excess Funds
  - 8.6.1. Tabled
- 8.7. U11 3:3 Tournament
  - 8.7.1. No concerns for U11 to run a 3:3 weekend of March 15-16 with open ice. U11B to organize.

**Adjourn 9:20pm. Next meeting date March 12, 2025 7-9pm**