



## LACOMBE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

### Minutes

Gary Moe Auto Group Sportsplex Community Room  
LACOMBE, ALBERTA  
October 15, 2025

**Call to Order. 7:29pm**

**Attendees:** Alyssa Dinter, Curtis Goulet, Alison Stangeland, Stacy Christensen, Joanne Day, Robbin Nikiforuk, Amy Richter, Stephen Cox, Jeremy Dreise, Teri Lynn Amundson, Angela Wymann Richter, Erin Fuller, Ashley McFadden, Heather Agnew, Tara Worobetz, Nicole Fauria, Ryan Fauria, Mike Luymes, Jordi Stewart, Priscilla Blokland

#### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1.1 Approval of LMH Operating Committee Meeting from September 17, 2025. **Motion to approve by Jordi Stewart, seconded by Nicole Fauria. All in favour. Motion 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 Ryan Fauria, seconded by Erin Fuller. All in favour. Motion carried.**

#### 4. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

4.1 President – Priscilla Blokland

- **Pathways - doing things right**
  - Smooth evaluations
  - Welcome Back Breakfast
  - Come Try Hockey
  - LMHA Meet & Greet
  - Pictures
  - Manager/Coaches/Team/Parent Liaison/Treasurer Training and meetings
  - Positive Feedback from new families
  - 358 registrants between CAS, CAW and Rockets which is a significant increase.

- **Battle of Alberta Food Drive = SUCCESS**
  - 330.5 lbs of food & \$600 Cash

- **Rocket Launchers - 36 Skaters**
  - Manager lined up - more updates in next Operating Committee meeting
  - Teams asked to assist as part of Rockets Give Back to get program going
    - U18B to lead October 18th Skate
    - U18A to lead October 25th Skate
  - U15's - still looking for them to fill the need

- **Apparel**
  - Orders are keeping 2 ½ employees working full time to fulfill!

- **Partnership with Reds**
  - I made a video with them....

- **Looking forward and working smarter not harder**
  - Shared Drive to include Manager, Treasurer, Evaluation Folders where all information is easily and readily accessible. Can be updated with minimal effort and docs are always on hand to be printed as the need arises (handbooks, budget samples, budget guidelines, coaches applications, coach interview questions, etc).

- **Baseline Concussion Testing-New Bus @ Ops**
  - Jeremy & Heather Dreise

- **Future Generals Skaters**
  - Participating again this year and will have 3 skaters per game from either U7 or U93
- **Used Equipment Sale**
  - \$1,113.83.

**4.2 Vice-President – Curtis Goulet**

- Minimal feedback from Evaluations. Zero player placement complaints to myself of G&C.
  - Please bring feedback forward if it is brought to your attention.
  - Thank you to Alison for sorting out Team Genius software issues and providing support
  - Want to do a high level review of paid evaluators to ensure we have people outside of the community who know hockey but don't know our children.
- Several Evaluation areas of improvement identified for next season
- CAHL Tiering starts this upcoming weekend.
  - Directors - remind your Managers to keep track of shots, penalties, missing players or any other info that impacted the final score. It can be frustrating and have lopsided games - bear with it and have players put their best effort forward. We need this information from Directors for CAHL re-tiering.
- CAHL Re-Tiering Meetings held November 10-12.
- CAHL Regular Season begins November 21st for U11-U18.
- CAHL Members not supporting Hockey Alberta's Alberta One Standardization in regards to NBC. LMHA U15 NBC has joined Red Deer Minor Hockey's U15 City League.
  - RDMH U15 City League games start Sunday.
  - Not a CAHL governing issue but a CAHL membership issue as the membership votes. Large part of CAHL U15 would be "T3W" but came to a vote. Was clear in the vote that T3W doesn't have provincials.
- Question: For evaluations, has there been feedback on how we're evaluating defence (e.g. position specific - better backward skating or positioning) - appears that current ways of evaluating are focusing on forwards?
  - Had unofficial convos on how to improve - when they play scrimmage, are getting evaluated on the position they're playing -if they are playing defense vs forward its focused on position. The skills aren't tailored towards it. In games - if reviewing the handbook players get evaluated on defensive play and positioning but not offensive play. Outcome: Look at enhancing handbook language and defining expectations but don't want to drag evaluations longer than needed.

**4.3 Treasurer – Joanne Day**

- Total outstanding \$31,600 this includes CAS, CAW, LMHA, Development. LMHA outstanding is around \$5K.
- CAW paid out to date
- CAS try out fee paid out
- \$24,950 collected in tournament entry fees so far. This will be paid to tournament accounts in the coming weeks.
- Postal Strike again :( Most cheques are at the concession to pick up.
- Coach Clinics- These are paid out once course is completed, the receipt does not always give information on date, time, location, course name, ect.
- Team Accounts- Change of signers has started to be complete. There are currently 300 in queue for changing so will take time (longer than 5 day window). If teams need expenses to be signed for larger expenses, email Priscilla and Joanne for signatures. Teams can still deposit to accounts. Reminder teams are not eligible to have Full access, view only. Servus- Lacombe has been a struggle to work with, hoping to have easier communication going forward.

- Team Donations - have been getting a few e-transfers from company or parent in general that want to give money towards pants shells for U18B and e-transfer doesn't give info for receipt. Still needing info from the teams.
- Thanks to Stacy and Joanne for team banking and budget improvements
- Evaluation costs: LMHA only, doesn't include CAS or CAW
  - Team Genius - \$1680 (U11-U18) = \$10/player
  - Cross Ice Development - \$10,762.50 (U11-U18) = \$61.15/player
  - Evaluation reffing - \$1446.90 (U9-U18) = \$6.80/player
  - Misc (snacks, water) - \$227 (U9-U18) = \$1.08/player
  - Feedback & Discussion:
    - Cross Ice Development is quite expensive - is it worth it for \$61/player. In watching evaluations this year, did see people from Lacombe who we think would do it as a volunteer.
    - It does appear that we are paying the "going rate" in Central Alberta of \$100/session and other local MHA's are also using outside evaluators. On the positive, the evaluations did come out less than budgeted for this year even with inclusion of U11.
    - It was acknowledged that parent and player peace of mind when there are external evaluators and that we are hearing less negative feedback on evaluation process and less pre-conceived notion that kids are already on a team.
    - If we continue with Cross Ice, need to ensure we are not using local evaluators. Overall, really happy with the evaluators who came in.
    - May consider bringing an unpaid evaluator in next year to see how it might impact scores.

#### **4.4 Game & Conduct – Nicole Fauria**

- Attended most teams first meetings to quickly review G&C. Thanks to the Executive who stepped in on the ones I couldn't make it to.
- Working on sorting out CRC/VSC for coaches and CRC's for Managers and Treasurers. Slowly getting through the information and double checking, hoping I'm not missing anyone. Concern right now is those who have to wait for their in the mail for a variety of reasons and the Postal Strike. May need backup plan if we don't get CRC in by Nov 15.
- Parent Liaison meeting went well. Not too many attendants but the information was good and I think it will be a good place to grow
- Working on updating our Resource Manual to something that is more clear and to the point as well as determining what/how/why we choose different severity levels for discipline as well as implementing Hockey AB's investigation forms to ensure we are covering all the steps we need

#### **4.5 Secretary – Alyssa Dinter**

- Sanctions
  - Working on game sanctions as they come in - thank you to teams for submitting in a timely manner!
  - Reminder: Tournaments require a travel permit!
  - Some issues with the Hockey Alberta permitting system - some Managers are not receiving their game sanction permits, including e-gamesheet. HA is aware and investigating
- Central Alberta U7 Game Scheduling
  - Occurred October 8 - went well, majority of central AB communities attended.
  - Has been co-led by Sylvan and Lacombe the past two years and will transition back to Sylvan Lake next year
  - Need to promote the change in format (not the wild west and speed dating anymore) to encourage a few communities to attend) - will likely require influence and support from each association's President
- Volunteer Training
  - Overall, seems to have gone well
  - Will split Manager training out more next year - U7/U9; U11-U13; U15-U18

- There are training presentations in the Google Drive to build on for next year
- Operating Committee Bios
  - Executive and Directors have gone out
  - Remaining Operating Committee bios hopefully going out in the next few weeks - please send a picture and write-up for inclusion
- Website
  - See something to update? Please let me know - would like to work on it over the next few months if there are outdated pages that need some refreshing

#### 4.6 Past President – Amy Richter

- No updates

#### 4.7 Administration- Alison Stangeland

- Rosters are 98% complete and updated for HCR and League sites
- Coach Certifications are being checked and teams will be contacted if anything is needed
- Affiliations - patience, if needed please email your Director. Will have a Directors meeting towards end of tiering for Affiliations.
- # of leagues - CAHL U11-U18, CAHL U9, RMFHL, AEHL, U11AA, U7, and U15 RDC, 7 leagues up from 4 leagues two years ago which is a lot to manage - it means 7 different ice schedules, deadlines - all is separate and it is a big growth and increased complexity.
- Practice Schedule - was done before the beginning of the season to save some time in advance and there are multiple places it needs to be updated if changed. Seeking support for future years to bring up concerns in advance. Overall, it is smoothed out and going well - if there are specific coach scheduling requests - look at bringing it up earlier in the season and seeing how it could be incorporated into coach interviews (may need to conduct them earlier).
- Ice schedule - Open Ice will be offered and assigned
- Regular Season Ice - anticipating all Rockets games to be in Lacombe this year.
- Development - added to RAMP - helps with monitoring family schedules and that parents don't forget they signed up for it.
- Equipment - room, socks, jerseys etc. No pucks in the freezer.
- Socks - have ordered more intermediate - junior socks were too small this year.
- Jerseys - have been tough with smaller/bigger kids and tough to accommodate.
- Pictures - almost done last date in November. Will do ref pictures and kids who missed to come for individual pictures.
- Sponsor bars - trying to get into All Sports as name bars go in. about 2 weeks out right now

### 5. DIRECTOR REPORTS

#### 5.1. Intro to Hockey (U5, U7 and Rocket Launchers) – Brendan Futrell

- Executive is providing support and looking to find a Manager for Rocket Launchers as it is a large group this year. Hoping to have teams sponsor practices through Rockets Give Back and will leverage Coach mentors or a paid position to help run one or two sessions. Hoping to get some parents to step up and join
- U7 - 3 teams up and going.

#### 5.2. U9 – Tara Worobetz

- Evaluations went smoothly thanks to on-ice coach help, evaluators, Jeremy, Alison, Alyssa, Curtis & all the kids & families
- 3 U9 teams: A - 11 players; B - 12 players; C - 11 players
- Feb tournament planning underway.

#### 5.3. U11 – Stephen Cox

- **Teams** - 2 teams formed in U11. 1-Tier 2 team with 14 players and 1 Goalie. 1-Tier 5 team with 14 Players and 2 Goalies. No negative feedback from evaluations and the head coaching position was filled for the Tier 5 team.
- **Tournaments** - The A team has 3 teams that have confirmed attendance to our tournament. The B team has 1 team confirmed and the other 2 teams will be sent acceptance letters tonight. Still sorting through applications to find the best fit to fill the remaining 2 spots.

#### 5.4. U13 – Jordi Stewart

- 3 large teams 16-17 players each. 2 Goalies on A and C and 1 on B and a quick note about ensuring our communication between all teams is consistent when possible. Overall I just

really want to make sure we don't feed into the stigma of the letter behind U11-U18. Just something to keep in mind if you hear your kiddos chatting about it. :)

- All 9 teams for U13 tournament chosen, letters sent out, 8 out of 9 teams paid (as of Wed afternoon)
- Governor stuff- Tiering starting this coming weekend, which you all know. Be patient with your governors as this is incredibly intense and time consuming and know that they are doing their best behind the scenes with the ice time and data given.

#### **5.5. U15 – Ryan Fauria**

- All Teams are formed, I attended all team meetings great that everyone has stepped up for all the positions with in the teams,
- Had the opportunity to get a few exhibition games for the teams before managers took over.
- VP Curtis has been working hard to get the NBC team in a place to play this year and Red Deer City League has accepted the U15 NBC team. Should be an Exciting seasons.

#### **5.6. U18 – Joanne Day**

- Having access to RAMP (b/c I am treasurer) was very handy as a Director.
- We have 2 full teams. Each have had successful exhibition games.
- Recommendations for U18 Evaluations going forward:
  - More development skates for U18 to ensure players not trying out for higher level teams come in sharp, I recommend 3 total
  - Eliminate skills portion of U18? - pro side is it gets us on the ice earlier & could have more scrimmages, cons are it not as relevant & more scrimmages
  - Exhibition game before determining final rosters went over well
  - ■Allowed us some extra time while U18AA was finalizing their roster. Otherwise we would want to push evaluations back a weekend which I don't recommend considering they are already late.
  - ■Allowed us to evaluate some late cuts.
  - ■Even though some kids got cut after the exhibition game, they seemed to appreciate the experience.
- Question: Are directors going to be informed or suspensions & discipline this year? If yes, what will the chain of communication look like?
  - Will include Director
- U18A would like to put a bid in for provincials
  - Alison will email Directors to seek team interest in hosting provincials. 3 teams get to bid.

#### **5.7. CAW Governor & Female Director/- Robbin Nikiforuk & Kevin Henderson**

- The U11 CAW
  - 15 players registered, further registrations will be waitlisted.
  - The team has played 2 exhibition games - they were stronger
- RMFHL - tiering games started Oct 11 and will be finished Oct 26th. First weekend of tiering were more challenging games than the exhibition games.
  - League is using electric game sheets this season, last season was an option.
  - Robbin will attend tiering meeting Oct 27th.
- Raffle - Lic received Oct 15th, tickets to be printed soon by Accu publishing (no charge).
  - Draw date is Jan 31st, 1 draw for \$600.
  - Surrounding associations include their female teams with their mainstream team fundraising, will look into this option for next season.
- Practices - Tuesdays in Ponoka changed to Fridays, Wednesdays still in Blackfalds.
- Sponsorship - Central City Asphalt - platinum 3yr + apparel
  - Abel Corporation - Platinum (team using for on ice development)
  - Lacombe Veterinary Centre - gold (helmet stickers)
  - E-motion Therapy - gold (logo patch)
- Female Hockey Day - Jan 31st in Blackfalds, 8 hrs of ice -jamboree style, invite 2 teams, alumni game and more details to work out.
  - Will have raffle table

- HA application opens Nov 3rd.
- Affiliation - Inviting all U9 players from the 3 associations to affiliate
- Next CAW meeting Nov 15 (Robbin to share with Priscilla)

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 6.1. Referee in Chief – Mike Luymes

- Everything going well; kids enjoyed evaluation scrimmages.
- Evaluation on how we can evaluate our refs (black and white games and generally). Will work with Alison for open ice
- Senior refs in program will start doing evaluations for younger refs. We have most senior refs to evaluate and some good refs doing higher hockey
- U9 penalty - go to coach, explain to coach to explain to kid. As long as kid gets it to tell coach - what was seen to start presenting to coach and how interpreted it. Miss a shift if enough people.

### 6.2. Referee Assignor - Jody Blokland

- Try to get U13 tournament refs done asap

### 6.3. Fundraising Convenor – Tara Worobetz

- All raffle tickets have been distributed to team managers
- Draw Jan 14/26
- Tickets back to me by Jan 11th at latest
- 230 players selling tickets (20 tickets @ \$10 each = \$200/player)
- Should be \$24,500 for LMHA after team kick-backs & prize pay outs
- Huge thank you to Stacy for doing a TON of printing for the ticket packages :)
- If players added to teams after, manager contact Tara to get the tickets. If player joins after Dec 1 don't need to participate. If there are injured - consider getting tickets to them in advance (don't wait for placement).

### 6.4. Sponsorship Chair – Teri Lynn Amundson/Tamara Cox

- Still looking for jersey sponsors for U13C and U15 NBC. If you have any leads, please reach out to Teri Lynn
- Would like to move that the U7 jersey sponsorship fee be reduced from \$1500 to \$1000. Rationale: There are fewer players/team and less exposure as limited games. \$750 is the Gold Sponsorship fee, so the fee should be greater than that.
- Discussion if gold sponsors could be jersey sponsors?
- **Action:** Stacy to run numbers for U7 jersey sponsors and also look at apparel option for sponsorship. U7 jerseys are now reversible so will have two bars per jersey. Look at how we could present to existing sponsors.

### 6.5. Safety Officer - Alasdair Agnew

- Nicole re-did the Safety Program...somehow got lost in a locked email account. Safety meeting was Oct 14th. Binders for teams who didn't attend last night are in the Hockey Office. Directors if you could reach out to your teams to make arrangements to get the binders and the info sheet by contacting me.

### 6.6. Social Media Coordinator - Melanie Callihoo

- Great job getting things up. If you want something on social she'll get it up

### 6.7. Development Director- Jeremy Dreise

- Have filled all the spots for Power Skating and Goalies with coaches
- Evaluations went well again this year and agree with Curtis that there are a few areas to work on going forward
- Working with Alison to push the skates that are available so that we can have them used.
- Filled all spots for PS and Goalies
- Most skates as long as we have 12-15 kids, we break even.
- News article on Power Skating instructor bios - can add to the drop down menu

### 6.8. Coach Mentor – Jeremy Dreise (Lead) / Joe Bouvier / Casey Calihoo / Jon Sydenham / Tyler Guppy

- Rocket Launchers - not needing practice plans (being provided by U7 Coaches)
- Hoping to have another coaches night in November. Lot you can learn from doing.
- Interest in a Mom Power Skating session
- Evaluate coach meeting at the beginning of the year = there was low turnout. If we were ahead of selecting candidates would it help?
- Directors - remind managers and coaches that the Coach Mentors are here to help

6.9. **Central Alberta Selects Governor – Brent Talsma**

- Not present

6.10. Tournament Coordinator - Alyssa Dinter

- Tournament Committees
  - Have all kicked off except U7 (October 16)
- Tournament Chairs
  - U13: Becca Plunkett
  - U11: Jessica Gallant
  - U9: Pam Fenrich
  - U7: Baille Biggelaar
- Tournament Acceptances
  - U13: All teams accepted - awaiting payment on 2 teams
  - U11: TBD; CAW Tier may change late October
  - U9: Acceptances underway
  - U7: Acceptances starting this week

6.11. Special Events Coordinator- Erin Fuller

- Pancake breakfast was well received. Its growing popularity each year marks the success in building our LMHA community. More supplies are noted for next season. Thank you to Moes for donating all the supplies.
- Team mangers have been emailed to supply Special Event reps if not already recorded.
- Santa Parade next Event. Was looking into a promotional item to hand out. With budget from Pancake breakfast I was hoping to get something like foam pucks or mini sticks.
  - **Action:** Stacy look at budget for promotion to coincide with special events budget
- Alumni Game meeting to be set - anticipating Sunday Dec 21 (TBD)
- Include CAS, CAW and Rockets in special events activities
- Alumni Game Date - Sunday Dec 21 TBD.
- Parade is Nov 27

6.12. Rockets Give Back Coordinator - Heather Agnew

- This was sent out to all Managers & posted on Social Media
  - The Lacombe Rockets aren't just about hockey; we're about community too. And since Lacombe and the surrounding areas are always there to cheer us on, it's our turn to give back! We kicked things off during evaluations with an epic showdown: Oilers (Priscilla) vs. Flames (Curtis) in a food drive face-off. The competition was fierce, but in the end, Curtis and the Flames came up short...which meant Curtis had to don the blue and white of the Oilers at the Welcome Back Breakfast! A tough loss, but all for a great cause! Next up...it's time to warm things up with our Toque & Mitt Drive. Each team will battle it out to see who can collect the most gear and snag the bragging rights as the ultimate champs. And this is just the start; each month, we'll be rolling out a new way to give back. Team Managers are currently the go-to crew for updates, collections and rallying the troops. Have a fun idea for how the Rockets can give back to the community? Shoot me an email ([lacombehockeygive@gmail.com](mailto:lacombehockeygive@gmail.com)), I would love to hear it!
  - October Give back - Toques and Mitts - Giving back to FCSS - Poster next page
  - November Give back - Community supper servicing - Date 3rd Wed - 19th November (looking for 20 Rockets to serve (U13 up)
  - December Give back - Each team fills a stocking for Santa's Anonymous
  - January Give back -
  - February Give back -
  - March Give back - Looking at doing a coaches vs coaches - Food Drive
  - Looking for 2 more ideas :)

## 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.1. 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)

7.2. Jonathan Anstey Recognition

7.3. Official Reimbursement

7.4. Evaluation Review

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### 8.1. Team Budget & Fundraising Policy Amendment

- Team Budget & Fundraising Policy Update
  - Motion: To add the following to Section 2: Fundraising as a last bullet:
    - All team members are required to participate in designated fundraising activities (e.g., Tournament shifts, Team fundraisers, etc.). Failure to participate may result in the withholding of slush funds to offset the player's individual costs for the season.
- Motion to approve by Erin Fuller, seconded by Ryan Fauria. One abstention. 14 in favour. Motion carried.
- Discussion:
  - Consider adding to registration an acknowledgement that you will participate in volunteering and be involved in the team and/or association as well as the fact that slush funds are required as part of team setup.
  - Need to look at volunteering more generally (we don't currently have a volunteer bond)
  - We'll try this amendment and continue to monitor - can amend it in the future
  - Action - review volunteering separately in the future.

### 8.2. Rule of Two Amendments

#### Current Policy

Effective September 2025 As written directly from the Hockey Canada DRESSING ROOM POLICY "To best ensure safety for all participants, all minor hockey programs sanctioned by Hockey Canada and its Members are required to implement the "Rule of Two" for all dressing rooms. The "Rule of Two" requires two trained and screened adults to be present in the dressing room or immediately outside the dressing room with the door propped open to monitor the environment and ensure it is free of any discrimination, harassment, bullying, or other forms of maltreatment. The Rule of Two remains in place when showers are in use."

#### Revised Policy

##### Rule of Two

Hockey Canada Dressing Room Policy (current policy) PLUS clarifications noted below

##### Key Aspects of the Rule of Two:

- **Safety and Accountability**
  - The Rule of 2 is in place to prevent isolation and ensure no one is left alone with an individual in situations where privacy might be compromised, such as in dressing rooms.
- **Two Adults**
  - Two responsible adults such as a coach, manager, parent, or other screened volunteer must be present for any interaction with an individual athlete.
- **Gender Representation**
  - The fundamental requirement is the presence of two screened adults, the additional consideration for same-gender individuals is for specific scenarios to ensure inclusivity and comfort, especially when interacting in private settings
    - **Same-Gender Teams**
      - For a team of single gender identity, an adult of the same gender should be available to be present for all interactions
    - **Mixed-Gender Teams**
      - For a team of more than one gender identity, a screened adult of each gender is required to be available
      - For Example, the designated Female Coach for a mixed-gender team is required to be female identifying to allow a safe adult for female identifying athletes to interact with. Also, some arenas do not have separate dressing rooms for opposing teams and therefore require two safe female identifying adults to be able to enter an all female dressing room.

- Motion to accept amendment by Curtis Goulet, seconded by Heather Agnew. All in favour.  
Motion carried

**8.3. Baseline Concussion Testing**

- Looking at baseline concussion testing. A plan is under development for presentation at a future time that may include donations to a non profit (e.g. Maskwacis library or Food Bank)

8.4. Adjourn 933 pm

**Adjourn 9:33pm. Next meeting date November 19, 2025 7-9pm Gary Moe Sportsplex**