

**LACOMBE MINOR HOCKEY
SPRING GENERAL MEETING
MARCH 22, 2007 – 7:00PM
ARENA UPPER LOBBY**

PRESIDENT Michael Kartusch x
VICE - PRESIDENT Troy Rider x
PAST PRESIDENT Shelley Bolze x
TREASURER Debbie Barron x
REGISTRAR Tracey Tetreau x
SECRETARY Susan Sargeant x
BOOKKEEPER Lori McCrea x
EQUIPMENT MANAGER Chad Kanngiesser x
Kevin Frank x
TOURNAMENT CHAIR Lori McCrea x
ICE CONVENER Tom Fisher x
CONCESSION CONVENER Sherri Straub x
SPONSORSHIP Lori Hellofs a
FUNDRAISING Sherri Straub x
Greg Braat a

COACH MENTOR Barry Mackenzie x
GAME AND CONDUCT Ken Fordyce x
CASINO Sandi Gouchie
REF IN CHIEF Darryl Krakowka
LOWER ASSIGNER Sheila Beierback a
UPPER ASSIGNER Darryl Krakowka
INITIATION Mark Beierback x
NOVICE Darin Gill x
ATOM Gord McLennan x
PEEWEE Sheldon Kuhn a
Deb Salmon a
BANTAM Allan McKinstry x
MIDGET Tim Timmons a
FEMALE Greg Braat a

x - present a - absent
e - left early l - came late

Michael called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm. Others in attendance were: Joanne Bilodeau, Cam Sissons, Fern Penstone, Tom Penstone, Anita Swier, Edwin Woodrow, Nicole Burt, Michelle Underwood, Sam Atsinger, Linda Willetts, Sherri Krall, Lisa Otto, Lin Luymes, G. Bilodeau, Kim Bilodeau, C. Leggett, S. Leggett, Allan Brown, Monica Shields, Bobb Epp, Brian Klippert, Bret Kennedy, Debbie Sissons, Lynda Mah, and Leon Heck.

1. **WELCOME AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Michael welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. **Al McKinstry moved to accept the minutes from the fall general meeting as presented. Mark Beierbach seconded. Carried.**
2. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Michael Kartusch**
 - **Awards Night** This will be held at 7:00 pm on April 11, 2007 at the Lacombe Junior High School. This is for all teams Atom and up, including Female. Trophies are ordered. Please plan on attending.
 - **Rebels Game** Once again Lacombe Minor hockey will be hosting the Red Deer Rebels for a fundraiser game. The game to be held on Friday September 14. The Rebels are interested in coming back and a motion was made at the last executive meeting to approve this. There will be a signup sheet for anyone interested in helping. We will have a couple of planning meetings, hopefully with Dwight Baird heading it up. Duties will hopefully be delegated. This will be a good fundraiser with help from many volunteers to make it a success.
 - **Online Coach Evaluations** In the past this was done with a paper copy handed out and returned. There were only 60 returned last year. This can now be done online. It is fully functioning. Reports can be summarized fairly easily. These are used to help our coaches to become better coaches. All confidentiality is followed. The reports are

to be reviewed by the Coach Mentor and the President. If there is an issue a meeting will be set up with the President, Director, and Coach Mentor to discuss.

- **LA Hockey Camp** This will run from August 20 to the 24. It will be similar as in the past. It will run a full day. The younger groups are getting filled up. Please register soon. There link to the LA Hockey Camp will be posted on the Lacombe Minor Hockey Website. There will be a power skating clinic running from August 13 – 17, for 1 – 1 1/2 hours. Links will be on the web. Click on and download. Registration is online.
- **Team Pictures** In the past LMH has paid for all team and individual pictures. This season it was subsidized partly by LMHA. Team pictures are a constant battle with confusion and frustration. LMH paid \$8 in the past for photos. This is not a viable option now as the cost of photos has increased. A Memorymate is costing about \$15/person. Mick has researched prices and most are comparable in price to this. LMH would like to put the responsibility on the teams to get their own photos done. Discussion followed on photographers, organization of photo sessions, sponsor photos.

Shelly Bolze moved that Lacombe Minor Hockey organize and find a photographer to take all team pictures and that Lacombe Minor Hockey pay for one sponsor picture per team. Each member is responsible to purchase their own picture if wanting it. Seconded by Kevin Frank.

Discussion followed on retakes for this season, late sponsor pictures. LMH wants to get out of organizing photos and put the onus on the members and parents. More discussion on session dates. It was suggested that one night be set aside for all teams to show up to get pictures done. **0 opposed. Carried.**

- **Cash Lottery** The draw will take place on March 8th. This is a fundraiser with all people to sell or buy the tickets themselves. A lot of discussion followed.
 - Sherri voiced her opinion that it was a stressful job trying to get the sold tickets back in, as some people didn't care and felt they did not need to sell them.
 - Something needs to be put in place to deal with members that are not selling or handing in tickets. There is a lot less work for the organizer if directors, managers and team reps take on some responsibility. More discussion followed.
 - All members should be responsible. Everyone must pay or they cannot play

Shelley Bolze moved that LMH continue with the Cash Lottery, 1 package per family. Money is to be handed in with tickets with the deadline being January 10. If the complete book and money is not handed in on January 10, the family will be suspended from all LMH functions until fees are paid in cash. Brian Klippert seconded the motion. More discussion on outstanding fees. If fees are outstanding, players cannot play on any team. These players will have to pay in cash next season. **0 opposed. Carried.**

- **Concession Future** LMH will be losing both Carol and Vanessa in the concession. We have made good money this season and don't want to lose it Replacements are needed. It will be a challenge to find someone to do the ordering, scheduling and everyday operations. The first step will be to advertise. Discussion included mandatory parent hours, having just volunteers working, leasing out the concession. It was decided that LMH will advertise to see if anything pans out.
 - **Made in Alberta Development Model** This will be the first year of implementation. This model is to allow elite players to develop. Information on this was up on the website. Discussion on draw zones, divisions, making the best team you can to play. Mick said we will have to wait and see what happens. Will pass along information as he gets it.
- 3. NEW BUSINESS** In the past no board members coached teams. This season some board members have been coaching teams. A few people voiced some concerns over this. Key points were:
- One person said it could be viewed as a conflict of interest to have a board member coaching a team. President or executive members shouldn't be on the bench. This person felt that they had no one to go to if there was an issue on the team being coached by a board member.
 - This concept helps to protect board members in event of a conflict.
 - More people have to put names forth for executive positions so others wouldn't feel the need to do "double duty"
 - Making people make a choice to be on the board or be involved with his/her child's team.
 - Once person held positions on various boards. He used 4H as an example. They dealt with issues as a council. If there was a conflict with an individual on the board, that person would step back and the rest of the council would deal with the issue.
 - More people need to get involved, so the same people are not doing everything.
 - People will eventually step up if there is an opening.
 - Ken Fordyce asked how many executive members were involved in coaching this season. The answer being two. Ken could not conceive of a problem not being solved with only 2 members involved.
 - Shelley said LMH should check with Hockey Alberta on this issue.
 - Why not take the person that volunteers and wants the job of coaching.
 - There will be no hockey until all positions are filled. This will compel more people to get involved.

Linda Willetts moved that any person may hold a position on the board as well as coach a team. There will be a provision put in place to have a committee formed to deal with grievances involving said member. Kevin Frank seconded. More discussion. More communication within the association is key to offsetting and dealing with conflicts before they go too far.
Vote 26 in favour 11 opposed 1 abstained Carried.

4. ELECTIONS (1st Round)

President: Barry Mackenzie nominated Michael Kartusch (name stands with the provision that the Vice President will step into this position next season)
Vice President: Troy Rider volunteered to stay on (name stands)
Secretary: Susan Sargeant volunteered to stay on (name stands)
Treasurer: Debbie Barron volunteered to stay on (name stands)
Registrar: Tracey Tetreau nominated Lin Luymes (name stands)
Concession: no nomination at this time
Referee in Chief: Darryl is not returning, no nomination at this time
Upper Assigner: Darryl is not returning, no nomination at this time
Lower Assigner: Darryl is not returning, no nomination at this time
Ice Convener: no nomination at this time
Equipment Manager: Kevin Frank volunteered to stay on (name stands)
Coach Mentor: Barry Mackenzie volunteered to help
Directors: Initiation: Mark Beierbach volunteered to stay on (name stands)
Novice: Edwin Woodrow nominated Darin Gill (name stands)
Atom: Kevin Frank nominated Bruce Willetts (name stands)
Peewee: Gord MacLennan volunteered to take this position (name stands)
Bantam: Lisa Otto volunteered to take this position (name stands)
Midget: Tom Fisher nominated Larry Riep (Larry absent)
Female: Greg Braat declined to stay on, no nomination at this time
Fundraising: Sherri declined to stay on, no nomination at this time
Sponsorship: no nomination at this time
Tournament Chair: Barry Mackenzie nominated Debbie Salmon (name stands)
Game and Conduct: Ken Fordyce declined to stay on, no nomination at this time

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER – Debbie Barron Presented the budget.

- Lori McCrea reported that LMH was pretty much on budget. Linda asked if we should have the actual before we pass the next budget. Lori said we would have to decide on the fees tonight.
- Registration was down last year. A 5% increase in fees and a 5% ice increase from the town. Tournament money is up this year.
- The concession and casino were both coming in as more. The concession made \$10,000, double of last year.
- New jerseys are needed for Bantam and Midget levels, costing \$2600 a set. Equipment managers did not spend all their money, will be cut back next season.
- Cash lottery only made \$11000. Didn't sell all the extra books.
- Can increase the Equipment budget back and leave a zero bottom line.
- To keep \$2000 as a cushion. Surplus overall is \$20,000 – saving it to deal with the Outdoor Rink.

Debbie Barron moved to accept the budget as amended. The amendment being \$2000 will be put back into the Equipment and sweater fund. Tracey

Tetreau seconded the motion. Discussion after the motion. Tom asked if Deb had any input in the budget. Mick replied that goes back to the documentation of the roles of the bookkeeper versus the treasurer. **0 opposed. 2 abstained** (Linda Willetts and Tom Penstone) **Carried.**

REGISTRAR – Tracey Tetreau Nothing to report.

EQUIPMENT MANAGER – Chad Kanngiesser/ Kevin Frank Chad reported that all equipment should be returned as soon as possible to the lockers. We had a puck problem this season. In dealing with this, the puck freezer will be moved upstairs to the equipment room.

COACH MENTOR – Barry Mackenzie Nothing to report.

SPONSORSHIP - Lori Hellofs absent

CONCESSION – Sherri Straub Report already covered earlier in the meeting.

GAME AND CONDUCT – Ken Fordyce Overall was a good year. He has three outstanding issues that will be dealt with before he steps down from his position.

REFEREE IN CHIEF – Darryl Krakowka absent

- Mick reported that Darryl is stepping down. The season started off interesting, went well mid season.
- We will be down two senior refs next year. We have a looming crisis as we are running out of refs. We have sent ours to help out other associations.
- Other associations have three times the ref budget as ours. If there are no refs will have to start cancelling games. Chad said we have younger refs that will do lines, but refuse to ref. Discussion.
- Linda said kids don't want to ref after taking flack from coaches. Chad said kids won't come back after being yelled at.
- Tom said looking at the refs in other towns, ours are exceptional. Coach mentors need to talk to coaches about their conduct.
- There was an incident of no refs showing up. One ref had already done a game but stayed on to ref the next game. He was tired but did a good job.
- Monica Shields had nothing but applause for our Lacombe refs. Monica asked if both parents and coaches are yelling. Chad answered yes.
- Fern surmised that the kids are seen as stripes, not kids. Shelley said it was up to the executive to look after the parents.

TOURNAMENT CHAIR – Lori McCrea All tournaments successful.

FUNDRAISING – Greg Braat absent Nothing to report

6. ELECTIONS (2nd Round)

Treasurer: Fern Penstone nominated Sherri Straub (name stands)

Concession: no nominations

Referee in Chief: no nominations

Upper Assigner: no nominations

Lower Assigner: no nominations

Ice convener: no nominations

Midget: no nominations

Female: Shelley Bolze nominated Michelle Underwood (name stands)

Fundraising: no nominations

Game and Conduct: no nominations

Sponsorship: Shaun Leggett volunteered to take this position

7. DIRECTOR REPORTS

INITIATION – Mark Beierbach Great year. No incidents.

NOVICE – Darin Gill Good year. Good coaches. No complaints.

ATOM – Gord McLennan A team - provincials were bumped in the Semi-final.
C team - had a good run this year

PEEWEE – Sheldon Kuhn/ Deb Salmon

A team - Still in playoffs. In tough.

B team - Done

C team – Had playoff tournament in Kneehill. Had a good run at Provincials. Received Governors Fairplay Award.

Michael looking for feedback on tournament style playoff format. Deb said they paid \$500 to play two games. Paid too much, but was over in one weekend. Discussion.

Deb Salmon moved that the \$500 that was paid by the Peewee team for the Playoff Tournament, be paid back to that team for this year. Sherri Straub seconded. 0 opposed 1 abstained (Sam Atsinger) Carried.

BANTAM – Allan McKinstry Had two small teams. Lost some players to AAA. Overall an OK season.

MIDGET – Tim Timmons absent

A team - Tom - Done playoffs. Had a better second half. Still to go to tourney in BC.

B team - Tom - Done. Lost 2nd round. Very happy.

C team - Linda - Did awesome. Played with more heart than anyone. Good team in the league, Provincials were a write off.

FEMALE - Greg Braat absent

Midget - They won Gold at Provincials. Had good season. In semi-finals now. Will play Olds or Red Deer Bantam for league.

Peewee - Had a good season. Still in playoffs. Waiting for Olds. Did exceptionally well.

Atom – Recruiting for next year. Had a few buddy days to create interest.

8. ELCTIONS (3rd Round)

Concession - no nominations

Referee in Chief - no nominations

Upper Assigner - no nominations

Lower Assigner - no nominations

Ice Convener - Tom Fisher volunteered to stay on.

Midget Director - no nominations

Fundraiser - no nominations

Game and Conduct -no nominations

Debbie Barron stepped down as Treasurer and Sherri Straub will take this position.

Debbie has volunteered to help with the Atom director position.

Fern Penstone moved to accept the executive positions as filled. Seconded by Monica Shields. 0 opposed 0 abstained Carried.

The Executive thus far for the 2007 – 2008 season is:

President: Michael Kartusch

Vice President: Troy Rider

Secretary: Susan Sargeant

Treasurer: Sherri Straub

Registrar: Lin Luymes

Concession: Vacant

Referee in Chief: Vacant

Upper Assigner: Vacant

Lower Assigner: Vacant

Ice Convener: Tom Fisher

Equipment Manager: Kevin Frank

Coach Mentor: Barry Mackenzie

Directors: Initiation: Mark Beierbach

Novice: Darin Gill

Atom: Bruce Willetts/ Debbie Barron

Peewee: Gord MacLennan

Bantam: Lisa Otto

Midget: Vacant

Female: Vacant

Fundraising: Vacant

Sponsorship: Shawn Leggett

Tournament Chair: Debbie Salmon

Game and Conduct: Vacant

9. NEW BUSINESS

Underage Policy - Underage players are allowed to try out for the top team of the next level, after submitting a tryout permission request in writing. That player has to make the top two thirds of the top team to stay up. Discussion. Gord said all the underage players were rated on the evaluations and were right there. Chad said that if underage players deserve to be there, they should be there.

Shaun Leggett moved that any underage player must make the top third of the top team to stay with that team and must be picked by the evaluators. Discussion on underage players and imports. Chad interjected that LMH should be trying to make the best team possible at all levels. Some think it is better to be in the top third of a bottom team than the bottom third of the top team. If a player has the merit to make the team, they should stay there, or what's the point of having an underage program.
Lori McCrea seconded the motion. 18 in favour 22 opposed 3 abstained.
The motion was defeated.

Tom Fisher moved that any underage player must make the top half of the top team to stay with that team and must be picked by the evaluators. Motion seconded by Edwin Woodrow. 19 in favour 19 opposed 4 abstained
The motion was defeated. The underage policy will remain the same.

Multiple teams per tier – The policy in the past was to have not more than one team per tier. This policy was put in place a few years ago. At that time there was hard feelings amongst the kids at school. As the players entered into Atom LMH felt that it would be better to tier from top to bottom to calm the animosity on the playground. No Atom teams would play against each other. Discussion followed on if this was an outdated policy now and might be changed.

Monica Shields moved that for the Atom and Pee wee divisions in LMH, if an age group has 4 teams, the top 2 teams are tiered; the remaining 2 teams are created as equal as possible and allowed to play in the same tier. Linda Willetts seconded. 34 in favour 6 opposed 3 abstained Carried.

Standardized team size - Team numbers were not equal on every team this season. Discussion on how many players should be on each team. All teams in any division should have the same number of players per team.

Deb Salmon moved that all teams in any division will have the same number of players per team within one. Barry Mackenzie seconded.
39 in favour 0 opposed 4 abstained Carried.

10. NEXT MEETING No date was set at this time

11. ADJOURNMENT Michael adjourned the meeting at 10:55 pm.

