

**LACOMBE MINOR HOCKEY
OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 2008 – 7:00 PM
ARENA UPPER LOBBY**

PRESIDENT Troy Rider x
VICE PRESIDENT Gord McLennan x
PAST PRESIDENT Michael Katusch a
TREASURER Sherri Straub xl
REGISTRAR Lin Luymes xl
SECRETARY Susan Sargeant x
BOOKKEEPER Lori McCrea xe
EQUIPMENT MANAGER Sheldon Kuhn a
Kevin Frank a
TOURNAMENT CHAIR Deb Salmon a
ICE CONVENER Tom/ Diane Fisher x
CONCESSION CONVENER OPEN
SPONSORSHIP Shawn Leggett a
FUNDRAISING OPEN

COACH MENTOR Barry Mackenzie a
GAME AND CONDUCT Chad Kanngiesser a
REFEREE IN CHIEF Rick Plante a
LOWER ASSIGNER Linda Willetts a
UPPER ASSIGNER Rick Plante a
INITIATION Mark Beierbach a
NOVICE Darin Gill a
ATOM Bruce Willetts a
Debbie Barron a
PEEWEE Gord McLennan a
BANTAM Lisa Otto xl
MIDGET Larry Riep a
FEMALE Sandi Gouchie x

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

Troy called the meeting to order at 7:13 pm. Others in attendance were: Shawna Kachnic and DeeDee Penner.

1. **WELCOME AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Troy welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. The minutes from the last meeting could not be approved as there were not enough voting members when the meeting started.
2. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Troy Rider**
 - **Returning Ice** – Returning ice, available ice and referee scheduling is very critical this time of year. Lack of ice is a concern as well. Provincial competition is still ongoing as well as league play and makeup games. Tom is handling the ice quite well and doing an excellent job.
 - Ensure that you contact The Fishers with all ice time changes. Don't forget to contact the Referee Assignor and confirm your referees for all games.
 - Some teams are not using the 7:00 am morning practice ice to their full advantage. Troy will talk to the town about non-use of morning ice and LMH could return all morning ice to the town without consequence starting March 1st.
 - **Enmax Rebels Pond Hockey** This event was quite successful. All four Atom teams had some players on the ice and had fun. It was a very good evening with hotdogs and pop and juice handed out. There were lots of people in attendance. LMH was complimented by the Enmax people that this event was one of the best run that they have been to.
 - **Provincial Playdowns** There are quite a few teams in contention for Provincials. Brought up at the last meeting, each team vying for a spot at Provincials will put up a \$100 fee whether they make it to Provincials or not. LMH has received a bill from Hockey Alberta for \$1000 which we will pay. Each team will then be billed and must pay for their \$100 fee. There were 10 teams to try for Provincials and there may still be 6 teams still vying.

- The Pee wee A team were off to compete in the Alberta Winter Games. They played 5 games and won 3. They were picked up and dropped off in Lacombe. They were fed and housed. They won the Bronze. People wanting to see pictures can go to their gallery on their Website.
- **LMHA AWARDS NIGHT** Troy will try to coordinate the night for the 1st or 2nd week in April. Maybe the 8th. Troy will check with Shawn to see if the LJHS gym is available then. Typically the evening takes about 1-1 1/2 hours. Trophies need to be ordered and names engraved. Troy is looking for help with this. If interested in helping please contact Troy.
- **COACHES EVALUATIONS** Directors, Managers and Team reps are asked to encourage all parents to complete the online forms for Coach Evaluations. These evaluations are reviewed and are used to help pick coaches.
- **TEAM PICTURES** Team pictures are all complete now. They should be out soon to all teams. One more evening will be set up as some teams who originally didn't want them now want them.
 - There was good quality with all pictures Troy has seen, but some people are questioning price, setup, off-ice pics, how to get more. Discussion on pictures. Troy said the plan for next year is for LMHA to get right out of picture involvement. An operating committee should be set up to take care of this.
 - Sandi said we are paying so we should be able to set things up as we want them, not the photographer telling us how to run things. Troy said plans were underway when he came in as President so he had to go with it for this season. The plan is to make it a less painful event.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER – Sherri Straub – absent Lori McCrea reported that LMHA was pretty much on target. Hoping to break even in the concession.

REGISTRAR – Lin Luymes – absent Nothing to report

ICE CONVENOR – Tom Fisher – Tom had booked 37 extra games in 4 weeks. For the most part we got everybody through. Things will be evaluated in March, maybe get rid of morning ice. All available ice will be posted and teams will pick playoff games from there. Troy will contact Calvin about morning ice.

EQUIPMENT MANAGER – Sheldon Kuhn - absent Nothing to report

COACH MENTOR – Barry Mackenzie – absent Nothing to report

SPONSORSHIP – Shawn Leggett – absent Troy reported that Shawn is working on changing the sponsorship program. Trying to set up a system of Gold/ Silver/ Bronze sponsorship. He is getting closer and has sent out packages for potential sponsors. Please get all your team results to the Globe and Sunny94 is a great outlet to get the awareness of hockey out to everyone. We want our hockey program to continue to grow and thrive. Sandi asked about a sponsorship board. Discussion followed on main sponsors, jerseys, cresting.

CONCESSION - Talked to Carol. She had to work extra shifts this week as there were extra games this week and a curling bonspiel as well.

GAME AND CONDUCT – Chad Kanngiesser – absent Nothing to report

TOURNAMENT CHAIR – Deb Salmon – absent Troy reported that the Initiation/ Novice tournament was two weeks ago and was quite successful. It was 3 full days with a lot of games. It brought in \$18000 before expenses.

FUNDRAISING – Lin Luymes – absent Troy reported that there are several opportunities to raise funds for the association as well as individual teams. There is coffee to sell which is strictly for sports associations. The Peewee A's sold calendars as a pilot project this year. And it went quite well. Contact Troy if wanting info on these. Troy has not heard a lot of good feedback from the Cash Lottery but it can bring in about \$12000. Lin will find out when we are due for another Casino.

Discussion followed on Income statement. Sandi asked why the concession revenue was down. Troy said a raise in wages may be a factor. Lori said it was hard to tell how the concession did until the final numbers come in. There is still quite a bit of inventory and we still have a month to sell it down.

Other discussion on raising concession prices, more fundraising opportunities. LMH could sell t-shirts, waterbottles, pins. Also talk of mandatory parent hours in the concession.

4. DIRECTORS REPORTS

FEMALE – Sandi Gouchie Sandi reported that the Midgets are in Provincial Playoffs and are hoping to attend at the end of March. They will be finishing 1st or 2nd place in league.

The Bantams lost out to Red Deer in Provincial Playoffs. The best they can finish in league is 4th place. They will be doing a Round robin format for playoffs and have 1 league game left.

ATOM – Bruce Willetts/ Debbie Barron – absent Shawna reported that the C2 team was not in playoffs but are improving every game.

INITIATION – Mark Beierbach - absent

NOVICE – Darin Gill - absent

PEEWEE – Gord McLennan All is good

BANTAM - Lisa Otto – absent

Sherri Straub and Lin Luymes arrived late as they were watching a Playoff game. Discussion followed on cards. Lin had done all the carding for all teams. Cards are needed at all Provincial games and there is no excuse for not having all signature pages.

- Sherri and Lin reported on the status of the Cash Lottery. All cheques are collected and so far there are no NSF cheques.
- Sherri also spoke on new fundraising ideas. They are looking into selling Sobey's Grocery cards. If everyone sold \$1000 in cards, with 250 families LMH could bring in \$25000. It would take a lot of planning. Sherri would talk to Chad at Sobey's about the volume of cards needed and if they are available. It is not clear how the bookkeeping would be handled. There are still aspects to work out. Sherri and Lin are to get more information.

- Troy did a recap of fundraising discussion for Sherri and Lin as they missed it earlier.
- Sherri asked about a kickback from the Web sponsorship. Sandi was displeased with this sponsorship as she felt she didn't get what was originally discussed and what she paid for. Troy said Mick is handling the feedback and is dealing with this directly. Get all concerns to Mick.
- Casino - Sandi said LMH was put back in the rotation and will be contacted when the slot comes available. They will send out the paperwork about 3 months prior to. The time maybe spring or fall.

Sherri Straub moved to accept the minutes from the last meeting as presented. Gord MacLennan seconded. Carried.

Discussion followed on ice return policy. More discussion on morning ice. Tom reported that there are 32hours of unused ice to date.

BANTAM - Lisa Otto showed up to give a Bantam report. All is going good. The AA team is done Provincial Playoffs. Other teams to get their playoffs done. We are caught up with league playoffs.

- 5. NEW BUSINESS** New business discussion was energizing and promoting our Female hockey program. LMH has lost one team already this season because of low numbers.
- Tom, Sandi and others have formed a committee to look into ways of doing this. Tom and Sandi spoke on how to go about promotion.
 - They would be asking the association for funds to help with print advertising and pamphlet distribution, payment of media promotion, food and drink for Bring a Buddy activities. They are looking for support to help develop the program.
 - Key discussion points were: growing players up from the bottom, starting activities for young players, trying to get a program for 4-5 year olds.
 - DeeDee said one third of the Bantam team were from out of town and with rezoning LMH is in danger of losing this team as well.
 - More discussion on Bring a Buddy, a College Queens on-ice workshop, having equal opportunities for the females.

Lin Luymes moved that Lacombe Minor Hockey gives up to \$1000 for the promotion of the Female Hockey Program. Gord McLennan seconded. Carried.

LMH will take care of the ice times. Maybe food could be donated from an outside source. Heather from the Globe could do a feature story. Troy will make mention of the program at Awards Night.

- 6. NEXT MEETING** The next meeting is tentatively set for March 17th or 18th at 7:00pm in the Arena upper lobby. Troy will get a posting out to the paper and the Web.

Discussion followed on revisiting the boundary issues with realigning hockey boundaries with school boundaries. Hockey Alberta will only commit to this if both associations are supportive of the change. More discussion on sharing or working under a bigger association, getting every player a chance to play at an appropriate caliber.

7. ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 pm.