

METRO BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the
Metro Basketball Association Annual General Meeting
East Dartmouth Community Center, Dartmouth, June 24, 2013

Present:

Marcel Maessen (President)
Andrew Miller (Vice-President)
Otilie Hayes (Treasurer)
Bill MacEachern (Secretary)
Todd Mombourquette (Manager)
Jim Gannon (Fairview/CP)
Scott Borden (Fairview/CP)
Susan Koivu (Dartmouth Lakers)
Niels Keyser (Fall River)
Kim Kennedy (Steelers)
Mike Cairns (Steelers)
Angeline Gillis (Sackville)
Peter Gaskin (Osprey)
Brent MacDonald (Bedford)
Stephen Russell (ABA Celtics)
Steve Mullane (Bedford)
Shane Mailman (St.MB Slam)
Blair MacKinnon (St.MB Slam)
Julian Devin (St.MB Slam)
Richard MacLellan (St.MB Slam)
Dave Napier (Can. Martyrs)
Cameron Anderson (Shooting Stars)
Charles Hart (Cole Harbour)

In attendance:

Chris Lurette (MBA)
Brad Lawlor (BNS)

Regrets:

Terry Dixon (Comm. Y)
Kevin Nettle (Steelers)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM by M. Maessen, Chair.

2. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Secretary B. MacEachern called the roll and declared that a quorum was present. A total of 12 of 26 clubs were represented, with 61 of a possible 87 club votes available. Executive members who were not in attendance to represent their clubs held an additional 6 votes to bring the total number of votes available to be cast to 67. A polled majority would require 34 votes.

3. Opening Remarks from the Chair

The Chair welcomed all in attendance and outlined the procedures to be followed in the meeting. Reports will be presented or motions will be made and then discussion can be held on the matter. He stressed that while voting is done on a club basis, any person present is welcome to express their views on the items on the floor not just club representatives. He went on to remind everyone to stick to the topic at hand and that if discussion strays he will rule the speaker out of order and call for an end to the discussion.

4. Approval of the Agenda

13AGM01 Motion: That the agenda be approved as presented.

Moved by A. Miller; seconded by D. Napier.

Motion Carried.

5. Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting

13AGM02 Motion: That the minutes of the June 19, 2012 meeting be approved as presented.

Moved by A. Miller; seconded by A. Gillis.

Motion Carried.

6. President's Report

M. Maessen presented the President's Report. In the report he thanked the board members for their commitment to providing the youth in our area with the very best experience in the game of basketball possible. He also singled out Todd Mombourquette and Chris Lurette for the tremendous jobs they perform in making sure that the league operates as smoothly and efficiently as possible.

He went on to state the Executive oversees the operation of the largest basketball league in Nova Scotia. During this past season we held an Executive Workshop, regular board meetings and have received hundreds of emails. We have responded with some of the most progressive and innovative changes to our league that we have witnessed in the past several years. Motions will be introduced to provide new rules to ensure the continuing development of our youth in a positive and non-judgemental way; to ensure that players develop proper skills and techniques; to ensure that all players will play at the Bantam levels; to better thwart cheating; and to curb forfeits due to teams looking for games outside our league to the detriment of opposing teams. These proposals have been discussed and debated over many meetings throughout the year and are the results of ideas and recommendations from members, and from discussions with Basketball Nova Scotia. We have listened and have been proactive in coming forward with new ideas.

Mr. Maessen stated that future directions will see the development of a new web-based coaches' workshop to ensure that our philosophy of positive coaching gets through to our

volunteer coaches. We will continue to develop videos that will help explain certain systems that we encourage in our league. We hope to foster a collaborative working relationship with BNS to further mutual interests.

13AGM03 Motion: That the President's Report be accepted as presented.

Moved by A. Gillis; seconded by N. Keyser.

Motion Carried.

7. Financial Report

The Financial Report was presented by Treasurer O. Hayes. She stated that the budget prepared prior to the season was based on 310 teams being registered and in actuality there were only 294. If there had not been cancellations due to weather near the end of the season, we would have had a deficit for the year. The balance at the end of the fiscal year was \$47,925.98 and the balance available to start the 2013-2014 season was projected to be approximately \$33,345 slightly lower than last season. The goal is to maintain team costs at as close to the same level as possible however it is known that gym rental rates will be increasing for next season.

13AGM04 Motion: That the Financial Report be accepted as presented.

Moved by Brent MacDonald; seconded by R. MacLellan.

Motion Carried.

8. League Manager's Report

T. Mombourquette presented the League Manager's Report. In the report he provided statistics on the numbers of teams, coaches and players, the number of games played, suspensions and fines issued as well as the average cost per game with all applicable expenses factored in: \$225.51.

He went on to say that Spotters continue to be a major asset. Over 35% of the games played this year were either fully or partially viewed by a Spotter. In a short summary of comments from their reports, Mr. Mombourquette stated they felt that: The majority of kids were excellent with the best sportsmanship in mainstream minor sport today; The worst part of our games is the lack of interest shown by a growing number of officials which causes friction with coaches and spectators; While coaches for the most part are there for all the right reasons, a number are prone to something akin to "road rage" when faced with a no call on a perceived foul or disputed call; The scorekeepers deserved a 9 out of 10 for attentiveness and being able to maintain composure while taking abuse from spectators and coaches.

Mr. Mombourquette stated that complaints, both valid and not, continued to be sent to him by parents and coaches demanding answers rather than going through the proper channels within their club. This takes a lot of time and effort and the communications policies in place will be followed much more closely in the upcoming season.

A highlight of the season was having the MBA partner with the Education Committee of MABO to create a set of instructional videos outlining the no zone rule. These should be an excellent reference for coaches and parents alike in the future.

In reference to the report, B. MacEachern stated that there was a drop of over 200 players in the last year and that there is a trend of declining enrollment in the league. Over the past 5 years we have seen a greater than 10% decrease in the number of registered players. Mr. Mombourquette could not point to any one factor that could be leading to this. A general discussion ensued as to the possibilities and it was agreed that the situation should be monitored.

13AGM05 Motion: That the League Manager's Report be accepted as presented.

Moved by S. Mullane; seconded by S. Mailman.

Motion Carried.

9. Standing Committee Reports

9.1 Rules Committee

Committee Chair B. MacEachern introduced the report stating that it was circulated in advance of the meeting so that clubs would have time to conduct their own debates as to the merits of each proposal. A total of 10 proposals were forwarded to the committee for consideration and 5 topics were being brought forward to the membership for their consideration.

Many in attendance replied that they did indeed hold meetings to discuss the proposals. A request was made to have polled votes on each of the matters pertaining to the rule changes. Chairman M. Maessen responded that polled votes normally require the ascent of a majority for each individual motion, however in this case it was felt to be important that the votes be recorded so members of each club could see that their representatives voted in responsible manner.

Topic 1 dealt with the suggestion from Basketball Nova Scotia to move the hoops up to 10 feet in Mini and Junior Mini. Mr. MacEachern stated that the committee recommends the adoption of this measure for Mini only and as a result the change in the rule wording would require dropping the word "Mini" from Rule 11.4.

13AGM06 Motion: Move to amend Rule 11.4 of the Metro Basketball Association Rules of Play to read: "11.4 Basket Height – The height of the basket in Jr. Mini shall be 8.5 feet."
Moved by B. MacEachern; seconded by S. Borden.

Discussion on the motion included:

- Whether this would be beneficial as there are a lot of players who cannot reach the hoop as it is.

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- The possible adoption of a lighter weight ball.
- The probability that scores will go way down.
- The advantage for being able to use gyms which do not have adjustable rims.
- That the 8.5' hoop provided more fun and confidence for the players and that perhaps it should be maintained for Division 3 and lower. This proposal led to further discussion as to whether creating a difference in rules within the age class would cause more problems than it is worth in both player development and enjoyment as well as logistics of scheduling games in gyms with the proper height nets.

13AGM06A Amendment: Move to amend the motion as presented so that Mini Division 4 and lower would retain the 8.5 foot height.

Moved by S. Russell; seconded by S. Mailman.

Amendment Defeated.

The question was called for on the original motion and the following votes were cast:
For:

Bedford Eagles (6); Canadian Martyrs (7); Dartmouth Lakers (5); Fall River (4);
Halifax Osprey (6); Sackville (6); Cole Harbour (4); Steelers (7); Executive (5)

Opposed:

Celtics (5); Fairview (2); Shooting Stars (1); St. Margaret's Bay (8)

Motion Carried.

Mr. MacEachern then introduced Topic 2 as having a number of management issues dealing with de-emphasizing the win at all cost atmosphere which is sometimes exhibited in Junior Mini, as well as one amendment to the actual rules. He stated that the committee is recommending the adoption of the following measures:

- That the "Game" score would not be kept at the Jr. Mini age class.
- That scores would be kept on a shift by shift basis with the score being reset to 0 at the start of each shift.
- That player's scoring stats would not be recorded.
- That the running total score for the game be kept, on paper only, for the first 3 weeks to help better align teams in divisions.
- That there would be no playoffs in Jr. Mini.
- That the season be extended to 14 or 15 games.
- At the end of the season there would be a jamboree style event rather than playoffs where all players could receive an award.
- That one referee would be sufficient for play in Jr. Mini Division 2 and lower.
- That referees for this level would be recruited by the MBA and not be supplied by MABO.
- That the referee would be compensated at a rate specified by the MBA.

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- That savings incurred from having 1 referee and no playoffs would require a lower per team cost for Jr. Mini than other age classes.
- That extremely strong Jr. Mini teams would have the option of playing in the mini age class.

He went on to say that the only actual amendment to the rules would require striking the words “Junior Mini” from Rule 4.2.

13AGM07

Motion: Move to adopt the changes recommended by the Rules Committee for play in the Junior Mini age class and to amend Rule 4.2 of the Metro Basketball Association Rules of Play to read: “4.2 In Mini when a team is ahead by 40 points or more the scores shall be set to 0 for the remainder of the game.”

Moved by B. MacEachern; seconded by O. Hayes

Discussion on the motion included:

- Concerns over the wisdom to move to one referee.
- That this was basically a move to correct parent behavior and if we want to improve parent behavior we should do it directly. Though some felt that this motion would send a message for parents to calm down and let the kids play.
- These measures are in place in other areas of the province and work very well.
- That if we wish to curb parent behavior, we should develop a parents contract and enforce it.
- Concerns were stated about the natural competitiveness of the kids and that at the upper levels they will want to know the score and who is winning.

This last item led to a proposed amendment: That this proposal apply only to Division 4 and lower.

Moved by S. Russell.

The amendment did not receive a seconder and thus was not discussed further.

The vote on the motion was then held and the following votes were cast:

For:

Canadian Martyrs (7); Cole Harbour (4); Fall River (4); Sackville (6); Shooting Stars (1); Executive (5)

Opposed:

Celtics (5); Bedford Eagles (6); Dartmouth Lakers (5); Fairview (2); Halifax Osprey (6); St. Margaret's Bay (8); Steelers (7)

Motion Defeated.

Following the vote M. Cairns suggested that one way to take the emphasis from the win at all cost attitudes would be to eliminate one of the bones of contention for many players, parents and coaches, that being the posting of player scoring statistics on the website. There was general agreement that the stats were more often than not inaccurate and often a cause of concern as some players pay attention only to scoring to

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the detriment of other aspects of their game. Mr. Cairns then put forward the following motion:

- 13AGM08** Motion: Move that the individual player statistics posted on the website not be kept. Moved by M. Cairns; seconded by C. Hart.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

N. Keyser suggested that we revisit the original Topic 2 proposals but leave out the proposal for using only 1 referee.

- 13AGM09** Motion: Move that we adopt all proposals in Topic 2 suggested by the Rules Committee except for using 2 referees.
A brief discussion was followed by a vote on the matter with the following votes being cast:
For:
Canadian Martyrs (7); Cole Harbour (4); Fall River (4); Sackville (6); Shooting Stars (1); Executive (5)
Opposed:
Celtics (5); Bedford Eagles (6); Dartmouth Lakers (5); Fairview (2); Halifax Osprey (6); St. Margaret's Bay (8); Steelers (7)
Motion Defeated.

Mr. MacEachern introduced the third topic dealing with extending the equal play rules into the bantam age class. Under this proposal equal playing time would be required for the first 3 quarters of all games in Division 2 and lower and all players in Division 1 would be required to play at least once in each of the first 3 quarters.

- 13AGM10** Motion: Move that the Metro Basketball Association Rules of Play be amended to include Rules 10.4 to 10.7 which shall read as follows:
- 10.4 Equal Play - In all levels of Bantam with the exception of Division 1, no one player shall play more than a one shift difference than any other team mate over the duration of the first three quarters of the game. If players have not been used in accordance with "Equal Playing Time" by the end of the third quarter, the scorer shall record clearly on the score sheet that the game is a default against the violating team. The coach of the violating team will be issued an automatic one game suspension to be served in the next scheduled game. Subsequent violations may result in the coach being suspended from the league for the remainder of the season.
 - 10.5 Substitutions during a shift - If a player fouls out, becomes injured or is unable to play their shift, the player replacing this player will be charged with the full shift and the injured or unable to play player will also be charged for the full shift. The coach may if he or she so chooses to not substitute a player and play with only 4 for the remainder of the shift.

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- 10.6 Playing Time in Bantam Division 1 – In Bantam Division 1 all players available must play at least once in each of the first three quarters of the game.
- If all players have not played in each of the first three quarters, the scorer shall record clearly on the score sheet that the game is a default against the violating team. The coach of the violating team will be issued an automatic one game suspension to be served in the next scheduled game. Subsequent violations may result in the coach being suspended from the league for the remainder of the season.
 - Should a player be unable to continue play due to an injury or some other reason, the coach must inform the scorekeeper, the referee and the opposing coach of the situation as soon as possible. Failure to do so will result in the aforementioned default.
- 10.7 Fourth Quarter Exclusion – Rules 10.4, 10.5 and 10.6 do not apply in the fourth quarter of a game.

Moved by B. MacEachern; seconded by B. MacDonald.

Discussion on the motion included:

- Whether the equal play should be applied at Division 2 or Division 3 and lower.
- How the players currently in bantam will view it. They may think it is a step backwards and that they are being treated like babies.
- That this would improve the overall development of players at this level and ultimately through the higher levels as the players will be more sound fundamentally.
- The issue is really not about playing time so much as it is about bad coaching. As such it is a club issue and should be left to the clubs to manage as they see fit.
- There were concerns that the rules for Division 1 where each player must see some playing time in each quarter could be very difficult to monitor let alone enforce.
- These rules could remove the coach's ability to instill discipline in his or her team. If a problem player knows that they are going to play regardless of their actions, what incentive might they have to shape up.

13AGM10A Amendment: Move to amend the motion as presented so that: a) the equal play rules would apply to Bantam Division 3 and lower; and b) the requirement for all players to play in each quarter in Divisions 1 and 2 be eliminated.

Moved by S. Russell; seconded by S. Mailman.

Amendment Carried.

The Chair then asked that the amended motion be read once again prior to voting so that all can be sure they understand the motion as it now stands. Mr. MacEachern read back the following:

13AGM10 as Amended: Move that the Metro Basketball Association Rules of Play be amended to include Rules 10.4 to 10.6 which shall read as follows:

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- 10.4 Equal Play - In all levels of Bantam Division 3 and lower, no one player shall play more than a one shift difference than any other team mate over the duration of the first three quarters of the game. If players have not been used in accordance with "Equal Playing Time" by the end of the third quarter, the scorer shall record clearly on the score sheet that the game is a default against the violating team. The coach of the violating team will be issued an automatic one game suspension to be served in the next scheduled game. Subsequent violations may result in the coach being suspended from the league for the remainder of the season.
- 10.5 Substitutions during a shift - If a player fouls out, becomes injured or is unable to play their shift, the player replacing this player will be charged with the full shift and the injured or unable to play player will also be charged for the full shift. The coach may if he or she so chooses to not substitute a player and play with only 4 for the remainder of the shift.
- 10.6 Fourth Quarter Exclusion – Rules 10.4 and 10.5 do not apply in the fourth quarter of a game.

Moved by B. MacEachern; seconded by B. MacDonald.

After being assured that all understood the amended motion the Cahir called for the vote on the matter with the following votes being cast:

For:

Celtics (5); Bedford Eagles (6); Cole Harbour (4); Dartmouth Lakers (5); Fairview (2); Fall River (4); Halifax Osprey (6); Sackville (6); St. Margaret's Bay (8); Executive (5)

Opposed:

Canadian Martyrs (7); Shooting Stars (1); Steelers (7)

Motion Carried.

Mr. MacEachern then moved on to Topic 4 which dealt with the formalizing of old rules and policies under which we have operated for a long time which have never been included in the MBA Rules of Play. Committee members gathered these items so that each of the topics could be written into the Rules of Play so that there is no chance of ambiguity in the future. They include matters dealing with: Defining birthdates for the various age classes; Rosters, call-ups and playoff eligibility; Rescheduling procedures; and Specifying violations and disciplinary measures.

He went on to say that the committee recommends the adoption of these measures as they will consolidate rules that we already operate under. Mr. MacEachern apologized for the length of the motion and hoped that all had the opportunity to read it through. The motion proposed in the report sent out would however have one change. Rule 16.2 would be dropped as it was found to be redundant with an item in Rule 17.

13AGM11

Motion: Move that the Metro Basketball Association Rules of Play be amended to include Rules 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 which shall read as follows:

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13. Age Requirements

- 13.1. The term “current season” shall be defined as the normal period of operation for the MBA extending from September of one year until May of the following year.
- 13.2. To be eligible to play in Junior Mini, a player must not have reached the age of 10 prior to January 1st of the current season.
- 13.3. To be eligible to play in Mini, a player must not have reached the age of 12 prior to January 1st of the current season.
- 13.4. To be eligible to play in Bantam, a player must not have reached the age of 14 prior to October 1st of the current season.
- 13.5. To be eligible to play in Midget, a player must not have reached the age of 16 prior to October 1st of the current season.
- 13.6. To be eligible to play in Juvenile, a player must not have reached the age of 18 prior to October 1st of the current season.
- 13.7. Subject to Rule 13.8, players may play up in older age classes but shall not be permitted to play down in younger age classes.
- 13.8. In extenuating circumstances, the MBA Executive, by majority vote, may permit a player to play in a lower class.

14. Rosters

- 14.1. Team rosters must be finalized prior to a team playing in the third week of play. Changes will only be permitted to team rosters after the third week of play with the approval of the MBA Executive.
- 14.2. Any player may play up a division but no player shall play down a division. Players playing in age group higher than their eligibility, by choice or league placement, cannot be called down to their rightful age group to play for a team.
- 14.3. Subject to Rule 14.4 and 14.5, all persons present on the bench during a game must be listed on the team’s official roster. This includes coaches, assistant coaches, managers and other team or club officials.
- 14.4. During the regular season, should a coach be unavailable for a team’s game, and a person not listed on the team’s roster be required to fill in, the referees, scorekeeper and opposing coaches must be notified prior to the start of the game.
- 14.5. During playoffs, should a coach be unavailable for a team’s game, and a person not listed on the team’s roster be required to fill in, approval in writing must be granted by the League Manager.
- 14.6. Failure to abide by any clause in Rule 14 will result in suspensions being issued as stipulated in Rule 17.9.

15. Playoff Eligibility

- 15.1. In order to be eligible to participate in playoffs, all players must be on the team roster as submitted prior to the third week of the season.
- 15.2. In order to be eligible to participate in playoffs, all players must have played in a minimum of 3 games during the regular season.
- 15.3. No player may be called up from any team during playoffs.

16. Game Schedules and Defaults

All requests for changes to scheduled games must be submitted in writing to the person designated by the MBA a minimum of 1 month in advance of the date of the game. Failure to do so and being unavailable to play the game will result in a purposeful default.

17. Violations and Disciplinary Measures

- 17.1. The MBA Executive shall have the power to investigate and apply consequences, up to and including permanent suspension from the league, to any club, team, coach, player or associate, who in the opinion of the Executive are deemed to have acted in detriment to the league.
- 17.2. In relation to suspensions, correspondence shall be conducted between the MBA and the respective club representatives with the exception of investigations by the MBA Discipline Committee.
- 17.3. The term “automatic suspension” shall be defined as one where an MBA Executive member, a Club President, or a game official submits a report to the MBA on an infraction listed in Rule 17.9 by a player, team official, or team associate or spectator.
- 17.4. Automatic suspensions are not subject to appeal.
- 17.5. The term “game official” as it applies to Rule 17 shall include the referees, the scorekeeper, the timer and spotters who may be assigned to the game by the MBA to monitor compliance with the rules as set out by the MBA.
- 17.6. The term “remainder of the season” in relation to suspensions shall include all officially sanctioned games including playoffs and tournaments.
- 17.7. The MBA Discipline Committee shall review any matter which has been deemed by the MBA League Manager to be of a sufficiently serious nature to possibly warrant disciplinary measures beyond those specified in Rule 17.9.
- 17.8. Decisions of the MBA Disciplinary Committee may be appealed to an Appeals Committee provided the appeal is brought forward by the club representative and that a notice of intent to appeal is submitted to the MBA League Manager within 48 hours of the notice of the original decision having been sent.
- 17.9. The following infractions will result in automatic suspensions of the duration indicated:
- 17.9.1. Mercy Rules - Failure to show due respect for an opponent as required by Rule 4 shall result in the suspension of the Head Coach for 1 game.
- 17.9.1.1. A second infraction will result in the Head Coach being suspended for 3 games.
- 17.9.1.2. Any subsequent infraction will result in the Head Coach being suspended for 1 calendar year.
- 17.9.2. Rosters - Failure to abide by the conditions set out in Rule 14 will result in the suspension of the Head Coach for 1 game.
- 17.9.2.1. A second offence during the regular season will result in the Head Coach being suspended for the remainder of the season.

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- 17.9.2.2. A subsequent infraction by the same team after the suspension of the Head Coach will result in the team being suspended for the remainder of the season.
- 17.9.2.3. An offence occurring during the playoffs will result in the Head Coach being suspended for the remainder of the playoffs plus 5 games.
- 17.9.3. Use of an ineligible player - Failure to abide by Rule 9.7 will result in the suspension of the Head Coach for the remainder of the season.
- 17.9.4. Use of an overage player - Failure to abide by Rule 9.8 will result in the suspension of the Head Coach for 1 game.
- 17.9.5. Equal Play - Failure to abide by the applicable Rules 10.4, 10.7 or 11.1, will result in the suspension of the Head Coach for 1 game.
 - 17.9.5.1. A second infraction will result in the Head Coach being suspended for 2 games.
 - 17.9.5.2. A subsequent infraction will result in the Head Coach being suspended for the remainder of the season.
- 17.9.6. Fighting / Physical Contact - Any person who is reported as fighting or any action involving inappropriate physical contact shall be suspended for 1 game.
 - 17.9.6.1. If the person is identified as the instigator of the incident the suspension shall be for a term of 2 games.
 - 17.9.6.2. A second infraction will result in a suspension of 3 games.
 - 17.9.6.3. A second infraction and being identified as the instigator will result in a suspension for the remainder of the season and the matter shall be forwarded to the MBA Discipline Committee for further review.
 - 17.9.6.4. Any subsequent infraction will result in a suspension for the remainder of the season and the matter shall be forwarded to the MBA Discipline Committee for further review.
- 17.9.7. Physical Abuse of a Game or League Official - Any person who physically abuses a game or league official shall be suspended for the remainder of the season and the matter shall be forwarded to the MBA Discipline Committee for further review.
- 17.9.8. Verbal Abuse of a Game or League Official - Any person who verbally abuses a game or league official shall be suspended for 1 game.
 - 17.9.8.1. A second infraction will result in a suspension of 3 games.
- 17.9.9. Flagrant Technical Foul (Attempt to Injure) – A player who receives a flagrant technical foul for attempting to injure another player shall be suspended for 3 games.
 - 17.9.9.1. A second infraction will result in an indefinite suspension pending a review by the MBA Discipline Committee.
- 17.9.10. Profanity Directed Towards Another Player, Coach or Game Official - Any person who directs profanity towards another player, coach or game official shall be suspended for 1 game.
 - 17.9.10.1. A second infraction will result in a suspension of 3 games.

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- 17.9.11. Objectionable Behavior – Any person who behaves in a manner deemed to be objectionable based upon another’s race, religion, country of origin, disability or some other factor shall be suspended for 1 game.
 - 17.9.11.1. A second infraction will result in an indefinite suspension pending a review by the MBA Discipline Committee.
- 17.9.12. Game Ejection (Two Technical Fouls) – A player or coach who is ejected from a game shall be suspended for 1 game.
 - 17.9.12.1. A second infraction will result in a 3 game suspension with the matter being forwarded to the MBA Discipline Committee for review.
- 17.9.13. Repeated Illegal Tactics - Failure to show due respect for an opponent by repeatedly employing tactics such as illegal defensive strategies as prohibited by Rules 10.1-10.3 and 11.6-11.8 shall result in the suspension of the Head Coach for 1 game as well as default of the game of the infraction.
 - 17.9.13.1. A second infraction will result in the Head Coach being suspended for 3 games as well as default of the game.
 - 17.9.13.2. An infraction in the playoffs will result in the game being defaulted and the team being suspended from the remainder of the playoffs with the matter being forwarded to the MBA Discipline Committee for review.
- 17.9.14. Purposeful Defaults - Failure to abide by the conditions set out in Rule 16 will result in the following penalties:
 - 17.9.14.1. The team shall be fined \$200.00.
 - 17.9.14.2. The Head Coach and/or other team personnel will be suspended for a minimum of 2 games.
 - 17.9.14.3. Coaches and/or team personnel who are repeat offenders shall be suspended for a minimum of 5 games with the matter being referred to the MBA Discipline Committee.

Moved by B. MacEachern; seconded by R. MacLellan.

Motion Carried.

Topic 5 of the committee’s report dealt with the issues of recruitment and stacking of teams. Mr. MacEachern stated that this issue has been a pain for a long time and various attempts to deal with it have always come up short. Players move from team to team and organization to organization for a number of different reasons. The MBA does not have the time or manpower to investigate such activities. The committee felt that we could at least curb the practice of stacking teams which is often detrimental to our member MBA clubs. Such teams do not belong in a club based system and more often than not bear a common denominator: the players play with a provincial program and the provincial team’s coach or assistant will coach the team in question. Mr. MacEachern went on to say that by no means are all people associated provincial

programs trying to assemble stacked teams to play inside the MBA. If they wish to participate at a Division 1 level they need only get approval from the League Manager.

Based upon the committee's recommendations a motion was introduced.

13AGM12

Motion: Move that the Metro Basketball Association Rules of Play be amended to include Rule 18 which shall read as follows:

18. Personnel Committed to Provincial Programs

Any person who is associated as a coach, assistant coach, trainer, manager or other such position with a Basketball Nova Scotia Provincial team or program shall be limited to participating within the MBA at Division 2 or lower unless they have received approval from the League Manager.

Moved by B. MacEachern; seconded by B. MacDonald.

In discussion of the motion, A. Gillis stated that she had concerns as to how this would be implemented and the effect which it could have on programs which have the benefit of provincial level coaches participating within their club.

T. Mombourquette expressed the view that as League Manager he is aware of cases like these as they come up and knows the personnel involved with the provincial programs who are indeed there for the right reasons.

A further brief discussion was followed by a vote on the matter with the following votes being cast:

For:

Canadian Martyrs (7); Cole Harbour (4); Dartmouth Lakers (5); Fairview (2); Fall River (4); Shooting Stars (1); St. Margaret's Bay (8); Steelers (7); Executive (5)

Opposed:

Celtics (5); Bedford Eagles (6); Halifax Osprey (6); Sackville (6);

Motion Carried.

9.2 Constitution and By-Laws Committee

Committee Chair B. MacEachern presented the report stating that three proposed amendments to the MBA By-Laws were being brought recommended. These dealt with providing more flexibility in dealing with purposeful defaults and the resulting fines assessed to clubs, providing the Executive with the power to deal with those who fail to abide by the MBA's objectives, and repealing two by-laws which were felt to be more appropriately included in the MBA Rules of Play.

13AGM13

Motion: Move to amend By-law 7 of the Metro Basketball Association to read:

“Should a team not provide the MBA via the designated contact for such matters, with proper notice and not appear for a scheduled game such that the game is a forfeit, that team's club will be assessed penalties as determined by the MBA which may include fines and/or suspensions. Should a club be assessed a fine, this fee must be paid within the period stipulated by the MBA, after which if not paid, the Club's teams will be suspended until such time as the fine is paid.”

Moved by B. MacEachern; seconded by M. Cairns.

Motion Carried.

13AGM14 Motion: Move to amend the Metro Basketball Association By-laws to include By-law 9 which shall read:

“The MBA Executive shall have the power to investigate and by means of a majority vote, apply consequences, up to and including permanent suspension from the league, to any person, team or organization found to be in contravention of the Objectives of the MBA as stated in the Constitution of the Metro Basketball Association.”

Moved by B. MacEachern; seconded by K. Kennedy.

Motion Carried.

13AGM15 Motion: Move to repeal By-laws 4 and 5 of the Metro Basketball Association By-laws. Moved by B. MacEachern; seconded by A. Miller.

Motion Carried.

Chairman M. Maessen stated that the time allotted for the meeting was nearly at an end and there was one very important item which must be dealt with before we adjourn, the election of the new Executive. Therefore he was going to move Item 13 from the agenda up to this point so that it can be given due consideration.

13. Executive Election

The following slate of candidates was put forward to make up the MBA Executive:

President	-	Marcel Maessen
Vice-President	-	Andrew Miller
Treasurer	-	Ottilie Hayes
Secretary	-	Bill MacEachern
Past President	-	Niels Keyser
Directors	-	Kevin Nettle
	-	Angeline Gillis
	-	Richard MacLellan
	-	Brent MacDonald
	-	Steve Mullane

President M. Maessen stated that our constitution allows for as many as 15 Executive members and that we would welcome any others who would be interested in contributing. There were a few expressions of interest but all had just assumed new leadership roles within their clubs and felt that they should wait at least a year lest they over-commit themselves.

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Seeing that there were no other nominations and that there were no contested positions, the Chair asked for a motion to approve the Executive as presented.

13AGM16 Motion: That Executive be accepted as presented.

Moved by S. Russell; seconded by K. Kennedy.

Motion Carried.

Now that Item 13 was taken care of, Chairman Maessen stated that we would resume the agenda at the point where we left off at Item 9, Disciplinary Committee Report. He felt that the remaining items on the agenda could be completed fairly quickly however we could adjourn at any time that the members desired.

9. Standing Committee Reports (continued)

9.3 Disciplinary Committee

A report prepared by committee Chairman K. Nettle was circulated prior to the meeting. In it he outlined their activities stating that the vast majority of disciplinary issues were handled by the League Manager T. Mombourquette, with only three forwarded to the committee for action. The details of the cases were contained in the report.

13AGM17 Motion: That the Disciplinary Committee Report be accepted as presented.

Moved by N. Keyser; seconded by S. Koivu.

Motion Carried.

10. Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Effective Coaching

Committee Chair N. Keyser presented the report stating that the committee was formed after the issue of attracting, creating and retaining effective coaches was identified as one of the top objectives for future development within the MBA. The committee identified two initiatives which it will continue to develop. The first is the implementation of a mandatory coaching course for all MBA coaches which stresses the "FUNdamentals" of the game. It is hoped that this could be delivered as an on-line course. The second initiative they hope to pursue is the implementation of a Team of the Year Award in each division whose coach best demonstrates "effective" coaching.

13AGM18 Motion: That the report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Effective Coaching be accepted as presented.

Moved by A. Gillis; seconded by K. Kennedy.

Motion Carried.

11. Fee Structure for 2013-2014 Season

13AGM19 Motion: Move to give permission to the new Executive to set an appropriate fee structure for the upcoming season.

Moved by N. Keyser; seconded by S. Koivu.

Motion Carried.

12. BNS Financial Breakdown

B. MacEachern stated that as the result of a motion at last year's meeting the Executive were to give an analysis of Basketball Nova Scotia finances to the membership at this year's meeting. However, since the financial statements from BNS were just received in the past week, this was not possible. The statements were circulated for the information of the membership.

Chair M. Maessen stated that of a more pressing nature was the issue of Basketball Nova Scotia presenting us with a bill for Basketball Canada fees which they believe have been collected for the past two seasons. A resolution must be reached on this matter in the near future.

13AGM20 Motion: Move that the Executive be given permission to pursue a resolution with Basketball Nova Scotia dealing with the current financial matters.

Moved by A. Gillis; seconded by A. Miller.

Motion Carried.

13. Executive Election

Moved up on the agenda to between items 9.2 and 9.3.

14. Other Items as May Arise

No other items were suggested from the floor.

15. Adjournment

13AGM21 Motion: Move to adjourn.

Moved by A. Miller; seconded by S. Mailman.

Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:21 PM.