**MMHA March Meeting**

**March 13, 2023**

**Present:** Cherish, Mike M., Chris, Andrew, Jamie, Jesse, Kristi, Kristjan, Mike B., Tim, Summer

**Guest:** Murray Gray

**Regrets:**

1. **Call to Order:** 6:31 pm
2. **Adopt Agenda:** Chris adopt agenda as presented. Mike Bratton Seconded.
3. **Secretary Report: Cherish Easton:** Nothing to report
4. **Development Report: Jesse McMullen:**
5. Goaltending camp – Three hours is a long time. Could we split this in half? Jesse will discuss. But we received very positive feedback on the goalie camps.
6. An email will go out to the coaches to see if Casey and/or Bud attended any practices as per the agreement. Quick conversations with a handful of coaches make it sound like Bud came to one practice, but none in January, and no coach received a practice plan.
7. The board needs to explore other options for camps for next year. Jesse will start to look at some alternatives.
8. Submitted the Adam Herold scholarship
9. **Treasurers Report: Randi Thorn:** Randi would like to discuss when MMHA is done paying for practice times. If a team is “done” with playoffs and all games, and continues to want practice slots, is MMHA paying for that time? The board says yes. We agreed in previous years that if a coach would like to continue practicing, that is great, and also if a coach is done, and wants no more practices, the board supports that decision.
10. **Old Business - Tabled to AGM**
11. **Discuss tournament fines U15/U18**
12. **Discuss out of town practices**

1. **New Business**
2. **Murray Gray Officials Discussion**

Murray let us know that he will be finishing his Ref in Chief position at the end of this (2022/23) season. He has served 8 years and the board thanks him for all of his work and effort put in to our officials. He is still interested in coaching U15 and up. Mike Sidoryk is also interested in mentoring the younger group.

Murray received a parent letter regarding abuse to young officials. Primarily from the stands, not coaches.

Moosomin has no officials between the ages of 15-23, and this needs to change. It takes time to build confidences, and only five seconds to cancel all that confidence. Many young officials are questioning their abilities, and this is a system-wide problem. Mike B. and Cherish spoke with many of the officials who did not continue to officiate this year, and almost all of them quit because of a bad experience.

The language that is spoken to officials would never be tolerated if spoken to a player, so why is it deemed “okay” when directed at an official.

Have our officials not been given the proper training to give bench minors or remove coaches from a game? AA Bantam has ZERO tolerance this year. Certain tones can even be issued a bench minor. We should be encouraging this more with our official group. We should be empowering our officials, but is making the 14 year old the “adult” putting too much on them?

As a board we can hold our coaches to a higher standard. If a BM penalty is issued to a coach, we could discuss the situation and coach at a board meeting.

In the interim, to relieve some of our officials issue, can we recruit some adults to officiate games. We can also look at creating a cue card that officials could carry in their pocket. Once they shake hands with the coaches, prior to a game, they could read the cue card out to give a heads up to the coaches on tone and that they can be issued a bench minor for behavior to officials.

1. **Randi Thorn Letter**

Discussed along with Murray Gray’s discussion.

1. **Registration 2023/24**

Can we have a code or a password for out-of-town kids that have previously played with MMHA. Once we can house a team in an age group, the remaining would be placed on a waitlist, or would need to go back and register with their home community. If Moosomin did get enough kids on the waitlist, and had a coach, we could look at more than one team in an age group. Table this until the next meeting.

1. **Edge2Edge Follow up**

Discussed in Development report

1. **Fines to Scholarship**

Tim made a motion that all fines collected within MMHA, for the year, will go into the scholarship fund. Kristjan Seconded. All in favor. Carried.

1. **Jersey Sponsorship Update**

We could look at a jersey sponsorship, but it would need to be a 2 year commitment, as that is the max time a kid would be in a division. A financial summary can go out to all membership. Other communities have started to collect gate fees in their registration fees for the year. Moosomin still has significantly lower fees than other communities.

Tabled for future meeting to discuss if needed.

1. **Ideas/best practice for excess money/business donations (Tournaments)**

Summer has drafted a letter that could help eliminate businesses from being over contacted regarding all MMHA tournaments. She could let teams know which companies would like to be contacted, and which businesses are done. In the letter, it should be added 3-5 top priorities that need capital. Any excess from sponsoring tournaments, the business could pick one of those items for their funds to go towards.

1. **Mike Schwean Schedule concerns**

Mike has had some issues with teams communicating amongst themselves to switch ice times, and not going through him. This is causing double-bookings. Cherish will send a letter to management to remind them that all schedule changes must go through Mike.

Randi would also like a discussion tabled regarding the Senior Rangers blocking so much time, waiting for playoff games, when minor hockey needs to wait for those blocks to come available to block their games.

1. **Female Hockey update**

Randi is completing the financials, but it seems successful for a start-up year. The board does need to come up with a female plan for the long-term.

1. **Next meeting –** AGM April 4, 6 pm
2. **Meeting Adjourned –** Mike B. adjourned the meeting at 7:36 pm. Tim Seconded.