

**NORTHERN ALBERTA FEMALE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (NAFHA)**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**September 11, 2023**  
**Zoom meeting, 7:00 PM**

**Teams Represented with at least one member in attendance:**

- Division 1 – Dirty Dawgs, NAIT Oaks, Reapers, Saints, Stealth, Fort Fury
  - Division 2 – Blackhawks, Dark Angels, Fort Royals, Hellions, Khaos, Tune Squad, Westlock Bandits
  - Division 3 – Bon Accord Raiders, Chiefs, Fort Bang, Fur Traders, Gladiators, Hurricanes, Ice Hawks, Stomp
  - Division 4 – Avalanche, Boomerangs, Capitals, Energizers, Flash Bang Boom, Hot Shots, Ice Cubes, Scared Hitless
- Missing: Warriors

Meeting called to order at 7:15 PM.

**Introduction of Executive:** President - MJ, Treasurer - Jadie, Communications- Angela, VP Div 1 - Laurie, VP Div 2 - Kori, League Governor- Mike, Referee Assignor - Deb, League Scheduler - Sarah; Missing were VP Div 3- Tina and VP Div 4 - Monique.

**Approval of Agenda** – moved by Kelsey (Hellions), seconded by Angela (Fort Bang). Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes of 2022 Spring Meeting** – Minutes were not available. Moved by Angela (Fort Bang) that the minutes would be sent out to VPs for distribution to their teams by September 13, 2023, seconded by MJ (President).

**President's Report**

- New team – moved by Jelaney (Stealth) to accept the Shotgunners into NAFHA, Division 2, seconded by Jan (Boomerangs). Motion carried. Shawna Gallagher, the Shotgunners Team Rep, reported they have sixteen (16) players on their roster, as well as a list of subs. Karolane (Scared Hitless) is available to sub as a goalie, if needed. Shotgunners' ice is at the Downtown Community Arena.
- MJ confirmed that teams using City of Edmonton ice are Dirty Dawgs, Hellions, Blackhawks, Gladiators, Stomp, Energizers and Ice Cubes.
- MJ welcomed Sarah Lobreau as the NAFHA Ice Scheduler. Sarah works at the U of A in Campus & Community Recreation and is a part-time Kinesiology student.
- Reseeding teams for moving between divisions – Jelaney (Wild) moved to reseed teams at the Christmas break in December, seconded by Heather (Fur Traders). The vote was unanimous for anyone against reseeding. Motion carried.
- First schedule may be released on or around September 20, 2023.
- League start date is October 10, 2023 and ends March 22, 2024.
- Black out dates are Oct 31 Halloween; Nov 11 Remembrance Day; Nov 19 Grey Cup; Feb 11 Super Bowl; Feb 14 Valentine's Day; Feb 16-19 Family Day weekend.
- NHL Heritage Classic will not be a black out date. Teams were reminded to submit tournament and other black out dates asap to their VPs.
- Once the schedule is released, team reps and VPs need to check that all of the 14 ice slots submitted to NAFHA are being used.

## **Treasurer's Report**

- Any player who skates with NAFHA must be insured. The fee is \$22 per player.
- Team reps must submit rosters to NAFHA by December 1 for CARHA insurance and NAFHA billing purposes.
- NAFHA League Fee is \$575.
- NAFHA City ice will be billed at \$445 per slot.
- Referee fees are to be paid \$60 each when there are two refs and \$90 when there is one ref. Refs are to be paid BEFORE the game. Refs accept cash or e-transfer.
- For teams that worked the June 2022 casino, Casino Credits of \$1,609 are applicable for the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 seasons. Teams must be in good standing with NAFHA to receive casino funds. They must have attended meetings and supplied names of two people to work a casino.
- Jadie has arranged that NAFHA is now able to accept payments via e-transfer.
- NAFHA Fee Schedule will be sent to VPs to be sent out to teams.
- NAFHA received a donation of \$9,400 from a member who had intended to start a minor hockey league for girls. NAFHA welcomes suggestions of sponsorship/donations. Teams are to contact their VPs with ideas which will be forwarded to Jadie.

## **NAFHA Website**

- Jadie explained that in 2022-2023, the CARHA website was in collaboration with SportNinja. From technical and non-technical feedback, Jadie defined the programs as kluge - inelegant but sufficient.
- The NAFHA website is moving to RAMP InterActive and will hopefully be live at the end of September. The goal is to point CARHA to RAMP InterActive.
- Jadie is working on a link to provide electronic versions of game sheets. It is hoped that game sheets will be able to be populated with names of skaters.
- MJ explained that game sheets are to be submitted to VPs to track penalties and keep stats consistent versus allowing teams to enter their scoring live.

## **Casino Report**

- NAFHA is confirmed to work a Quarter 2 Casino, that is April, May, or June, 2024. Date to be finalized by AGLC in November, 2023.

## **Referee Report**

- Anyone wanting to attend a referee clinic should go to North Zone Hockey Officials website.
- Deb will provide an update to VPs after referee meeting to be held on September 12, 2023.
- Please have correct money split for refs before the game.
- Contact Deb for feedback on issues with referees.
- The league is researching for parking subsidy to be paid by teams for refs working the Downtown Community Arena.
- Deb confirmed with Fort Fury, Fort Bang and Royals that they need referees assigned by NAFHA.
- A list of available Timekeepers would be helpful.

## New Business

- CARHA requires that NAFHA Rules and Regulations be updated. This is to be voted on at the NAFHA spring meeting.
- Teams requesting to move up or down a division are asked to send an email to their VP stating the reasons why.
- Team rosters are to be submitted to VPs by September 30, 2023. Follow the example on the sheet for data entry.
- Additions and deletions to rosters are to be highlighted on a team's roster sheet for resubmission to CARHA.
- Last minute additions may need time to be processed by CARHA.
- MJ to check with CARHA if players are covered by insurance in practice skates.
- Discussion ensued regarding the implementation of a rule that a player can score three (3) goals only per game. Players in Divisions 1, 2, and 3 were not interested. Angela (Communications) reminded teams that subs are allowed to play one division up only and one division down only. More sportsmanship is required.
- Jan (Boomerangs) moved that players in Division 4 are allowed to score three (3) goals only per game, seconded by Shantel (Capitals). Motion carried.
- Mike (League Governor) stated that referees have rules to keep players and games under control. The largest discrepancy in player ability is in the lower tiers. Referees will make appropriate calls, teams can call on their own players to be more sportsmanlike and referees will sit out players for repeated infractions. Referees aim to be consistent. A referee's main concern is safety of all players.
- The plan is for NAFHA teams to play 28 games each.
- If ice plants fail, it is a team's responsibility to find alternate ice locations. Locations suggested are Enoch, the City of Edmonton, and a new arena in Nisku. Remember to contact Deb for referee assignments when ice locations are changed.
- A discussion was held to implement Blue Line Icing. Divisions 1 and 2 were not interested. Teams vote via chat (Move and second not recorded by Laurie). The votes were 29-no, 2-yes, 1-abstain. Motion defeated.
- Deb (Referee Assignor) moved that length of periods be 20-20-15 minutes, seconded by Kelsey (Hellions). Motion carried.
- Jelaney (Stealth) moved that length of periods be 18-18-18 minutes, seconded by Angela (Fort Bang). Motion defeated.

## Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Kelsey (Hellions) at 9:17 PM.