



Okotoks Minor Hockey

Association

OMHA Hockey Mission Statement:

To promote RESPECT, SPORTSMANSHIP, and SKILL DEVELOPMENT through a collective obligation with parents, players, coaches and volunteers. We are committed to creating a positive hockey experience in an enjoyable and safe environment.

Vision

Okotoks Minor Hockey wants to be the leader in fostering an environment where anyone can enjoy the game of hockey in a SAFE, FUN, and SPORTSMANLIKE manner.

AGENDA –December 11, 2023

Called to Order: At 7:31 pm

Welcome

Attendance

Geoff Stewart

Jenn Zaffino

Lindsay Graw

Jenny Sekulich

Troy Tangedal

Rebecca Streit

Jennifer Dustow

Amy Snyder

Michelle Barratt

Jeremy Gough

Amanda Germain

Jamie Steer

Dhara Rogers

Geoff Rollins

Brenda Honish

Orinda McCann

Raeanne Tangedal

Kat Johnstone

Joe Stevenson

Jennifer Gauthier

Blair Scott

Daron Dumanski

Nadine Neufeld

Jamie Whalley

Candice Wyma

Crystal Crawford

Motion to accept the minutes from November 20, 2023 as presented was made by and seconded by Daron Dumanski and Orinda McCann All in favor. Carried.

Reports

President – Geoff

Asks Dhara to put a proposal together for the new full ice U9 Feb 1 roll out

Referee- Brenda Honish

Issues with scorekeeper and timekeeper volunteers, push back regarding the rules with stop time, drop clock etc. need to remind the teams.

U18 issues with not knowing how to run the clock or fill out the sheet. Need to review this with these teams. Can we do a blurb explaining how to properly fill out the game sheet and clock.

Question if we need referees at U9, answer is yes

***Need to know if they need to schedule referees by the end of the Christmas break**



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Game schedules need to come to ORA before the Wednesday of the week of the games. Because games are being cancelled.

VP Player Development- Geoff Rollins

Development Update (Goalie/D Clinics)- first session went very well and there was a ton of interest. There will be 2 sessions in January

New Skill development coach Dave Liffiton coming on board Dman will work with teams individually on power skating and defenceman clinic. Will invite the coaches so they see the drills and they will be given the drills so they can use the drills in practice.

Workshop/Q&A on Trauma and Abuse (Theo Fleury/Todd Holt) will make a special presentation on Wednesday December 13th 6:30pm at Centennial Center. Open to anyone OMHA/OOAA/Bisons/ Jr A Oilers and any one else that wants to come.

Operations- Jamie

Practice schedule from January 2nd-February 2nd is finished. Getting reviewed by the town and will be out tomorrow.

RHL lost the tournament weekends so there is a lot of rescheduling of games.

Got back RMFHL schedule this week.

Lots of game changes to work thru

Lots of emails with complaints on referees and suspensions. The referee write up is what the suspension is used to issue the report. There are no appeals unless the player listed is wrong, there is no video used.

Hockey Alberta minimum suspension guidelines are followed it is set in stone what the suspension will be. They will not be over turned.

U11 and U13 House playoffs will finish the weekend before the intro to Hockey tournament weekend.

Administrator- Lindsay

Registration occurred for the 2 Monday night goalie clinics. Need to revise how the registration process will be set up in the new year. registrations will be one session at a time.

January 15th and 29th

U9, U11 group 1

U13,U15,U18 group 2



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RAMP email will be sent out with the start date of the goalie registration opening time and the number of goalies per clinic.

Goaliepalozza- feedback is that it would be good to bring this back. Helps new goalie parents learn about how to put on the equipment and allows players to try the position.

Equipment – Kat

Socks arrived everything going smooth

Geoff asked for pricing for the goalie gear goal is to have it all in by next September

Health and Safety- Orinda

Safety up and running and things are going well. Ton of injuries this year. Head check is being used more than any other season

Some U18 teams are not wearing the neck guards during practice. Geoff will send out a message

Female Jr – Crystal

U7 – Had a feature game against Wheatland in the female tournament. U7 Female team is almost big enough to split into 2 teams. And are the best dressed team ever, from Shackets last year to puffy purple jackets with name bars this year. Not to mention the moms that match!!

U9 – Improving quick, and starting to play A and B teams now.

U11 Cahl – Moved from Tier 4 to Tier 3, 2-2-0

U11B Gold – 2-3-0

U11B Green – 3-1-1

U13B Gold – 3-0-1

U13B Green – 1-2-0

Quite a few tournaments this side of Christmas for the teams, so they will catch up on games in the new year. Scheduling has been up and down, lots of out-of-town league game trips, uneven home and away games etc. This should be leveled out in the new year.

Tournament went great. The profit was little below the red line this year, due to the U7 division not working out, Raffle table, 50/50, silent auction down 16% from previous year, Ice fees up 20%, Refs up 10%. And we haven't raised our entry fees for years. Having a \$1600 entry fee is far below the province average of around \$2000+ for a tournament entry this year.



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Female Sr- Jennifer Dustow

The first half of the season is almost complete in RMFHL, only this past weekend and one more weekend remaining.

U15 T1 - Currently in 3rd place, is a 500 team with 3 wins and 3 losses, games are close and this team can win or loose to an opponent on any given day. One game left Dec 9th

U15 T2 Gold - Currently 5th place, with 1 win and 4 losses. Most games are within one or two goals, with 2 games left in the first half of the season.

U15 T2 Green - Currently in 2nd place, with 4 wins and 1 loss, games have been close with teams with the exception of Kainai who is quite a bit weaker than the teams in T2. Unfortunately, there is no T3 teams in the league for them to play. 2 games left in the first half of the season.

U18 T1 - Currently 3rd place, with 3 wins, 2 losses and a tie. Games are all close with opponents. 2 games left in the first half of the season.

U18 T2 Gold - Currently in 3rd place, 4 wins, 1 loss, 1 tie. Games are competitive with most within one or two goals. (Two Okotoks T2 teams play on Dec 17th)

U18 T2 Green - Currently in 7th place, 0 wins, 5 losses, 1 tie. This team has struggled with a new goalie (player taking on the position). I had hoped that this would improve the teams win/loss record but they continue to struggle, and conflicting schedules make it hard to find an affiliate goalie for them to use. They have had close games with Cochrane, tying them and losing to them by 2. (This game will likely need to be replayed as Cochrane used an EG male against the league rules, we are still waiting on word on that, and you can imagine how that went over with this particular team also having goalie issues of their own) Game with Lethbridge was a 3 goal loss, but Olds, Wheatland and Prairie Thunder had a 10+ goal spread. I keep holding out hope that this team will get into a groove but can feel the mounting frustration as they are focused on not having an experienced goalie and it's become hard on the players and the coaching staff.

Unfortunately, there are issues at U18 for goalies this year for both male and female and not just isolated to Okotoks. I think we as an association need to look at ways to entice players to play this position as teams can't operate without a goalie. In addition to supplying gear at the younger levels we should consider reducing the fee to play for that position and maybe we can look at ways to do this so the association doesn't carry the cost.

U9- Dhara Rogers

Discuss starting the Feb 1 full ice initiative

U11 House- Jennifer Gauthier all good



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U11 Travel- Michelle Barratt all good

U13 House- – Candice all good

U13 Travel – Jamie getting ready for the tournament. 40 teams coming to this season. 1 team from Elk Valley and two from Fort McMurray

U15 – Jenn Z all good

T3 moved to T2

U18- Michelle B

Hockey Alberta announced Daron Dumanski as an assistant coach for AB Cup

Hockey Alberta announced Joe Tsai from U15AAA as an assistant coach for Prospect Cup

U15AA heading to Alberta Winter Games

U13AA Raiders heading Alberta Winter Games

Meeting Adjourned: 8:24pm

Motion to adjourn Jennifer Gauthier

2nd by Jamie Whalley