



RMFHL Annual General Meeting (AGM)

August 22, 2022 7:00pm

Via Zoom

- 1) Call to Order: 7:05pm by Kathy Watters, second Chelsey Fisher**
- 2) Welcome/Introduction –Darcy Williams**
 - a) Introduction of the board members
 - b) Review of agenda
- 3) Executive Position Ratification – Eldon Banack**
 - a) President, VP and South VP Operations were up for nomination (2-year terms, commencing 2022)
 - i) Acclaim Darcy Williams as President – Carried
 - (1) Motion Kathy Watters
 - (2) Second Lorne Bremner
 - ii) Acclaim North Vice President Kathy Watters
 - (1) Motion Lorne Brenmer
 - (2) Second Erin Ellerby
 - iii) Acclaim South VP Operations Mark Nesar

- (1) Motion Kathy Watters
- (2) Second Chelsey Fisher
- b) South VP - still vacant, anyone in meeting interested in the position
 - i) Keep open until we can find someone to fill

4) Financials review – Chelsey Fisher

- a) Summary of 2021-2022 Season
- b) Review of account Financials – changes, notable
 - i) Financials to be shared (not viewable during meeting)

5) Registering new associations/Expansion

- a) 3 new associations wanting to join the league for 2022-2023
 - i) Siksika – Kai Waterchief Representative - One Team U11, possibly U13 in years to come
 - (1) Raise hands for motion acceptance – Passed with quorum
 - ii) Cranbrook – Randi Morrison Representative – (Todd Kostiuk) – One team U13
 - (1) Raise hands for motion acceptance – Passed with quorum
 - iii) Elk Valley (Sparwood and Elkford) – Jason Lui Representative – One team U15 (Looking forward to potential expansion with success)
 - (1) Raise hands for motion acceptance – Passed with quorum

6) 2022-2023 Season Discussion

a) Registration Number

- i) Still early for many associations – likely not even started
- ii) Once you have a decent idea, please reach out to Eldon and let him know (the earlier the better)
- iii) Tiering in U11 – Tiering or equal teams
 - (1) Discussion –
 - (a) Dallas – this motion brought up by Red Deer - Created equal teams for years, but complaints that other associations tier. Focus on this being an environment not

focused on winning. Want to look at getting on an agreement across association in the league. Mostly impacts associations with more than one team.

- (b) Darcy – we are only permitted 2 tiers per division, per Hockey Alberta. But we can apply for 3 options – perhaps we look at that option
- (c) Concern that tiering is needed to keep growing and show development – girls coming across from boys, or losing stronger girls to boys
- (d) Further discussion required.

b) Scheduling / Ice Submission

i) Improvements this upcoming season

- (1) Blackout weekend at conclusion of tiering, to give the schedulers time to come up with a schedule for first half total
- (2) League schedulers will schedule all initial league games
- (3) Return of two additional blackout weekends for tournaments
- (4) More focus on travel and game times especially for younger age groups

ii) Ice Submissions

- (1) All associations must submit by the deadline – a document will be sent to schedulers to make the process clearer
 - (a) No submission will mean loss of home game balance and/or financial penalties
 - (b) No financial penalties were levied in the 2021-2022 season
- (2) Please keep in constant communication with schedulers and your association ice allocators
- (3) Universal form being created so everyone is on the same page/has the standard requirements across the board for the requirements of ice scheduling
 - (a) What are blackout weekends – teams/associations can request up to any two weekends as they see fit and can find tournaments, in addition to the one league blackout weekend (weekend after last tiering).

iii) Schedule options for tiering

- (1) Option 1: Same as previous years, three weekends of tiering (6 games), then a blackout weekend. U11/U15 start thanksgiving, U13/U18 start a week later – 13 weekend total

in season. When you start removing potential blackout weekends, leaves us with 12 weekends for league play

(2) Standard Holiday Break for both options

(3) Option 2: Pushing back start 1 week for all, will lose a weekend (12 total)

c) Season Setup

i) Tiering

(1) Option 1: Same as previous years, three weekends of tiering (6 games), then a blackout weekend. U11/U15 start thanksgiving, U13/U18 start a week later – 13 weekend total in season. When you start removing potential blackout weekends, leaves us with 12 weekend for league play

(2) Standard Holiday Break for both options

(3) Option 2: Pushing back start 1 week for all, will lose a weekend (12 total)

(4) Discussion – only a handful spoke up preference for Option 2

(5) Darcy will update final decision following meeting with HS on further schedule issues

(6) Since COVID shouldn't be an issue, there will be no repeat games during tiering.

(a) Can either do a blanket "set 6 games" through tiering, or we can reschedule weekly. While the latter is less desirable, it is much more beneficial in terms of setting matches between teams across the tiering, so that there is no redundancy with teams played.

(b) If teams are more upfront with their team strength etc, to the league, this may assist with scheduling the right line ups.

(c) Standardized feedback form? Yes we can put this together.

ii) Regular season

(1) 18 games for the season

(2) Holiday break isn't ideal this year, but teams can use for exhibition, make up games etc.

(3) Will try for more balanced games this year overall.

d) League Play

i) Cross Over games

- (1) Part of the one hockey model – it was not a smoothly in 2021/2022 as anticipated
- (2) Tournament Hub Style, looking for LMHA's to host – please reach out if interested
- (3) In conversation with Hockey Calgary about teams interested in exhibition games

ii) Playoffs

- (1) Current format is two games total points. First game blowouts impact second game. If tied after 2, 5 min over time/shootout – feedback has been its unfair particularly to goalies (individual skills versus team play)

(2) Agenda request:

- (a) Move away from shootouts
- (b) 4/4 for 4 min, 3/3 for 3 min etc
- (c) Requests best of three weekend (Ice availability)
- (d) Request two games total goals
- (e) Lower seeded team hosts first game

(i) Motions/Discussion

1. Two games - Total points, and go right to 3/3 overtime sudden goal.

Or Two Games – Total Goals, and go right to 3/3 overtime sudden goal.

a. Vote: Total Goals/Total Points (By show of hands)

- i. Total Goals: 10 in favor
- ii. Total Points: 8 in favour
- iii. Require 75% to change to total goals (currently total point in bylaws)

b. Vote: Remove shootout from overtime, go right to 3/3 overtime sudden goal overtime

- i. Motion by Darcy to change this, Passed with 75% quorum
- ii. Second: Greg Broks

2. Lower seeded team hosting first game, higher seeded team host second game, and (in final series) game three

a. Motion to change to this by Dallas Gaume, Passed with 75% quorum

e) Penalties

- i) Standards within the league for minutes allowed in all
 - (1) Teams in league exceeded the allowable team minutes.
 - (2) Request to “reset” after tiering
 - (3) Concerns from the board on the amount of penalties taken last year by many teams, generally overall.
 - (4) Is there a consideration to reset for individual players
 - (5) Option to reset minor penalties only, not majors
 - (6) Younger age groups (coming out of u9 in particular) still learning what penalties
 - (7) Safety is #1 concern. Our minutes were lower than CAHL as the girls game is intended to be cleaner
 - (8) When teams reach the designated team penalty minutes, clearer direction on enforcement required. Might be better to define
 - (9) Bringing back in accountability of coaches
 - (a) Motion to add 10 minutes to each age groups/player, no change to team caps – Gregg Broks
 - (b) Motion that coaches will be suspended at defined penalty minute caps for each age bracket. First strike: 1 game suspension for initial team cap, Second Strike: 2 suspensions at second cap which is +50 minutes to initial team cap, Third Strike: TBD
 - (10) League take away feedback, and provide options to association – have a special AGM or during pre-season tiering meeting prior to season start and vote at that point on resolution

f) Jerseys

- i) Have had associations request we consider jersey reverse, in line with other leagues: Darks at home, white as away
 - (1) Motion to wear darks at home, and lights away – Lorne Brenmer
 - (a) Not enough votes for passed motion

7) Managers Meeting

- a) We are going to reinstate managers meeting to address some frustrations from previous season and to orientate the new volunteers
- b) We are going to try to put some videos, and important dates FAQ onto the website to share as well.
 - i) What is the timing on the meeting and roll out? We are aiming to get it out as quickly as possible.
 - ii) The meeting will be virtual (Zoom) but the goal will be to have as many attend as possible.

8) Additional Questions

- a) Are we going to ask Hockey Alberta about 3 tiers?
 - i) We can but we will have to provide justification, but can ask what would be required. We can also ask about "C" provincials.

9) Motion to Call for AGM meeting adjournment at 9:41pm by Kathy Watters

Meeting Attendees/MHA's

Board Member - Chelsey Fisher
Board Member - Darcy Williams
Board Member - Kathy Koehli-Watters
Board Member – Mark Neskar

Airdrie – Jenna Wood
Camrose – Eldon Banack
Canmore – Sara Roberts
Cardston – Robbie Rabbit
Cochrane – Lorne Bremner
Cranbrook – Randi Morrison
Elk Valley – Jason Lui
Lacoka – Robbin Nikiforuk
Lethbridge – Angie Forsyth
Medicine Hat – Derek Harvey-Zenk
Okotoks – Crystal Crawford
Okotoks – Jennifer Dustow
Picture Butte – Jane Groenenboom
Prairie Thunder – Laura Lukye
Red Deer – Tracy Burghardt
Red Deer – Dallas Gaume
Siksika – Kai Waterchief
3 C's – Erin Ellerby
West Central – Gregg Broks

Additional Guests

Elk Valley – Tiffany Rybachuk

Elk Valley - - Sky Johnson

Cranbrook – Todd Kostiuk

Cranbrook – Desiree Janowicz

Airdrie – Christie Cameron

Airdrie – Scott Brockway

Okotoks - Jamie Steer

Blackfalds – Brad Harnack

Bentley – Chad Kimmel