



**Stettler Minor Hockey Association
Annual General Meeting
Stettler Recreation Center
June 19, 2024 @ 6:30pm**

Meeting Called to Order: 6:34pm

1. Roll Call of Delegates:

Reid Smith, Jerilyne Raab, Kelsie Miller, Brett Muhlbach, Joel Shepherd, Kari Wilson, Janelle Greiner, Martyne Nixon, Brook Watson, Tersha Stevens, Dave Deaver, Candace Reinbold, Kyle Switzer, Matt Fryer, Christy Comte, Rayna Davis, Joey Boxma, Regan Finlay

2. 2024 SMHA Annual General Meeting Agenda:

Jerilyne Raab motioned to adopt the 2024 SMHA AGM agenda. Martyne Nixon seconded. All in Favor.

3. Review of 2023 SMHA AGM meeting minutes:

Brook Watson motioned to approve the 2023 SMHA AGM minutes. Martyne Nixon seconded. All in Favor.

4. Report of the President - See report attached.

5. Report of the VP Operation - See report attached.

6. Report of the VP Development - See report attached.

7. Report of the VP Marketing & Communication - See report attached.

8. Report of the Treasurer - See report attached.

Tersha Stevens motioned to adopt the 2024 Treasurer Report. Martyne Nixon seconded. All in favor.

Brook Watson motioned to approve all Executive reports as read. Kari Wilson seconded. All in favor.



9. Review of Director / Division Reports:

- 9.1 **U7 Division** – See report attached.
- 9.2 **U9 Division** – No report submitted.
- 9.3 **U11 Division** – See report attached.
- 9.4 **U13 Division** – No report submitted.
- 9.5 **U15 Division** – See report attached.
- 9.6 **U18 Division** – See report attached.
- 9.7 **Female Division** – See report attached.
- 9.8 **Equipment Director** – See report attached.
- 9.9 **Ref / Ice Allocator** – See report attached.
- 9.10 **Registrar** - See report attached.
- 9.11 **Fundraising Director** - See report attached.

Kari Wilson motioned to approve all Director / Division Reports as read. Janelle Greiner seconded. All in favor.

10. Resolutions:

10.1 Addition of Exceptional Player Policy: This new policy was read and reviewed; it can be viewed on the SMHA website.

Dave Deaver motioned to adopt the new Exceptional Player Policy. Martyne Nixon seconded. All in favor.

10.2 Addition of Mouthguard Policy: This new policy was read and reviewed; it can be viewed on the SMHA website.

Brook Watson made a motion to adopt the new Mouthguard policy. Martyne Nixon seconded. All in favor.

10.3 Amendment to Refund Policy: This amendment to the current Refund policy was read and reviewed; it can be viewed on the SMHA website.

Jerilyne Raab motioned to adopt the amended Refund policy. Janelle Greiner seconded. All in favor.



11.0 Elections:

11.1 VP Development: Brook Watson nominated Brett Muhlbach for VP of Development. All in favor.

11.2 Secretary:

Two applicants; Kelsie Miller & Brook Watson. Both applicants were asked to leave the room while the decision was put to a vote. Kelsie Miller received majority votes.

12.0 New Business

12.1 Registration: Discussed projected #'s for the upcoming season. Registration will open July 01, 2024 and close August 01, 2024. It looks like we may need more female players in a couple of divisions.

11.2 Ice: CAS has approached SMHA looking to book some pre-season ice. Also discussed the ice restraints due to the upcoming curling bonspiel.

11.3 RMFHL AGM: Brief review of the AGM, discussed the possibility of increasing roster sizes from 17 players & 2 goalies to 18 players & 2 goalies, as well as there can be 20 affiliates rostered to a team. Discussed Irvine joining the league, as well as the

11.4 Checking Clinic: There is a checking clinic booked in August for U15 & U18 players, there was discussion about the possibility of allowing U13 players to register for this session as well. Reid and Brett will find out the maximum numbers of players for the session, and will discuss opening up to U13.

Action Item: Reid & Brett will discuss with Chance (Cross-Ice) what his preference is for maximum skaters for his checking clinics. They will discuss the possibility of opening registration to U13 players as well.

13.0 Adjournment: 8:17pm

Kari motioned to adjourn the meeting. Brook seconded. All in favour.



SMHA President Report
June 2024 AGM
Submitted By Reid Smith

We started our 23/24 season off the last week of August with some development opportunities. Utilizing Cross Ice Development for our Checking, Power skating and skill development. For the goal tenders we were able to bring back Stable in the Net. Sessions at the beginning and throughout the year were well attended with a lot of good feedback.

Early challenges at the start of the year found us doubting if we would be able to house a U11 female team. With a lot of discussion, we eventually did, with some help from 4 of our second year U9 girls, that were moved up to complete the team. This team was young and small on numbers but had a very successful year. From small numbers to large numbers we seen our U18 female group have an evaluation to limit their roster to 19. Year to year player numbers fluctuate, which will bring with it recurring discussions on the merits of oversized teams. Consistent numbers were seen as the previous years with U7 and U9 being around mid-forties, as well as three U11 and U13 teams, and two U15 and U18 teams.

Team evaluations and tiering processes have shown to be a stressful time for all, the number of moving parts and people it takes to pull these off can make it unpredictable; however I do believe through learning and experience there will be fewer hiccups. This will allow for a more streamlined process moving forward and hopefully less stress. This year once again brought its share of off-ice challenges as well, endless hours of in person meetings, phone calls, e-mails and texts. I want to give a HUGE thanks to board members, coaches, refs and parents that volunteered their time to resolve these issues.

Our regular season play seen most teams competitive within their divisions. With the few that felt mis-tiered, stepping up to play teams that are competitive and seeing losses is always more beneficial to player development than playing down and seeing wins come easy. Even if it is hard on morale. Playoffs came quick and ended quick for a lot of our teams the exception being some deep runs for the U18 teams. A big congratulations to U11 tier1 and U18 tier 1 for bringing home League Banners. We were fortunate this year to have a strong and determined U18 group who were given the opportunity to host provincials this year. They hosted a very successful event, which brought a lot of praise from local and outside spectators, making this association very proud. Although it was not the ending our tier1 team wanted, losing in the semi's, the level of play was fun to watch.



Our senior officiating group had a very strong group of young, up and coming refs this year. We acknowledged our young refs throughout the year with monthly awards. As always, a big thanks to our senior refs to lead the way with their skill and mentorship.

Not enough thanks are ever given to all our board members, coaches, managers, refs, volunteers, and sponsors that make a season run. From getting 300+ kids registered, organized on teams, to practice schedules and regular season play, not to mention fundraisers and tournaments. Let it be known everyone involved thanks you for your time and commitment.

DEVELOPMENT: a specified state of growth or advancement. A new and refined product or idea. The process in which someone or something grows or changes to become more advanced.



SMHA VP Operations Report
June 2024 AGM
Submitted by: Joel Shepherd

Team Evaluations:

Evaluations from U11-U18 went quite smoothly. I would like to take this opportunity to again thank all the volunteers we had to ensure this process was as streamlined as possible. Every effort is made to bring in volunteers with hockey knowledge and no ties to the team or players being evaluated. This process relies heavily on individuals who have moved on from minor hockey and individuals who are entering minor hockey with younger players. Individuals with players in U11-U18 are limited in which age groups they can evaluate to eliminate potential conflicts. Overall, there were tough decisions to be made and everyone went on to have successful seasons. We are continuing to improve to make tryouts as smooth as possible as it is a challenging process for young players and parents who want to get on the ice with their teams.

Season:

Even though we had volunteers for the CAHL governor positions, nobody from SMHA was required to act as a governor for the league this year.

Most teams coaching positions were filled easily this year. Although we struggled on a couple teams to initially fill out all the coaching positions, volunteers stepped up and completed the required training so everyone could get on the ice.

All in all, most things within CAHL went smoothly. As CAHL has expanded to be a fairly large league, travel continues to be a challenge during the tiering process while maintaining competitive balance. I am actively engaged with CAHL to limit travel for our T2-T6 teams.

Communications with CAHL started off poorly at the start of the season and throughout as they had trouble updating their contact list and it reverting to old contacts, but it has been updated and we look forward to a smooth tiering process for next season. We had a couple teams tiered questionable and they had more challenging seasons as a result.

Player & coach suspensions were up in count this season, which is a concern within CAHL.

Whether this is mostly a reflection of the individuals, or the process will need to be kept watch. There were also multiple occurrences of poor behavior toward league volunteers throughout the season. While not from SMHA representatives, this is just a reminder to maintain our high standards when representing our community.

This was my first year as VP Operations for Stettler and while everything went well, I look forward to feedback from all SMHA to continue to improve within our association and with CAHL.



SMHA VP Development Report
June 2024 AGM
Submitted by: Brett Muhlbach

I came into this position in late Aug, beginning of September, so a lot of my job was already taken care of in regards to tryouts and early season Cross Ice session and goalie sessions.

We brought in Ashley Grantham to help with the U9 division, hosted a couple of goalie clinics in December and February. We also hosted a small area games session which was good, but possibly not the right time of year as right after Christmas brought different challenges, so I am hoping to look at getting another similar clinic at a different time of the year.

So far for the upcoming season we have a checking clinic booked for August for the U15 & U18 players and are trying to line up a goalie clinic for the start of September, as well as a couple for later in the season as well. There has been some discussion about doing a coaching clinic as well, so hopefully we can get something figured out on that end as well.

SMHA VP of Marketing & Communications Report
June 2024 AGM
Submitted by Kari Wilson

The 2023/2024 hockey season has come to an end, and it has been a great season. Thank you for all the help and guidance as I learnt this new role. A special thanks to Jerilyn for answering all my questions and helping me along the way! SMHA continued to use RAMP website/email as the main source of communication as well as the SMHA Facebook page to share information. Volunteer hours were completed by almost all SMHA families with only one family needing their volunteer cheques cashed. We also have many families that have hours completed or started their hours for the next season by working at the provincials. I would like to thank all the SMHA executives, board members, directors, volunteers, coaches, and parents for their countless hours and support this season. It takes a great deal of work and support and make a season successful.



SMHA Treasurer Report
 June 2024 AGM
 Submitted by

STETTNER & DISTRICT MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
 For The Year Ended April 30, 2024

	2024	2023
REVENUE		
Casino (net)	\$ -	\$ 24,247
Donations	3,310	1,093
Fees	227,454	234,438
Fundraising (net)	15,406	20,784
Interest income	94	29
Jersey sponsorship	23,167	23,915
	<u>269,431</u>	<u>304,506</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Coaches and clinics	17,644	23,784
Directors and meetings	640	846
Equipment and uniforms	11,013	7,813
Ice fees	137,079	124,298
Insurance	9,068	8,050
League fees	3,163	3,075
Locker storage	1,641	1,625
Office	5,594	6,627
Player registrations	8,457	10,003
Professional fees	1,103	1,050
Referees	40,530	27,386
Trophies and banners	498	513
Website	1,286	1,391
	<u>237,716</u>	<u>216,461</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR	<u>\$ 31,715</u>	<u>\$ 88,045</u>



**SMHA U11 Division Report
June 2024 AGM
Submitted by Teela Lynn**

U11 consisted of 3 teams this year with about 14 players, including goalies on each team.

U11A team was in tier 1 and had a hard regular season winning one game. They faced high penalty minutes due to the ill configuration of their tiering. Due to the less-than-ideal tiering that many tier 1 teams faced, playoffs were separated out into two pools and the U11 A's won their pool banner. They did have a lot of travel in their pool which wasn't ideal.

U11B also had a successful season in tier 4 finishing close to the top of their tier but lost out in the second round of playoffs.

U11C were in tier 6 and finished near the top of their tier. They took home their tier's banner.

All 3 teams attended an away tournament, and we had our home tournament in January. Every team had a 4-team pool, and the tournament went well and was very profitable.

Thank you to all the great coaches, parents, and volunteers for making my job easier and contributing to a great hockey season

**SMHA U15 Division Report
June 2024 AGM
Submitted By Sarah Payne**

The 2023/2024 hockey season has come to an end, and it has been a great season. U15 hockey had 2 teams this season, U15A Tier 2, while U15B ended up placed in Tier 3 BC. As there are no longer profits from home tournaments to help with fees, both teams did some fundraising and were able to attend 2 tournaments this season. There were some struggles with the tiering process but, overall, both teams had some success within their season. We would like to continue to see commitment to goalie development. Thank you to all the board members, volunteers, coaches and managers who helped make the season a success.

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SMHA U18 Division Report
June 2024 AGM
Submitted by Dan Hunt

U18 A finished 1st in the tier, bringing home a banner for Tier 1. And came in Top 4 in provincials. SMHA and the community did an amazing job hosting the provincials for Tier 1. Overall, an incredible year for the U18 A team. U18 B finished regular season in first place in their tier but ultimately fell short of the banner. Parents feedback is that they still had a great year and grew as a team. The new coaching staff seemed to have brought the team together, as a whole. Thank you to the parents, managers, and coaches for making my job so easy!



SMHA Female Division Report
June 2024 AGM
Submitted by Meghan Thomson

Overview

This report covers the key activities and events for the female divisions of the Stettler Minor Hockey Association (SMHA) for the 2023/2024 season.

Registration and Recruitment

* August 2023: Registration was promising but we need more players, especially in U11 and U15. We started a campaign to attract more female players.

Events and Initiatives

- * Pre-Season Development: We combined the female weekend with pre-season development skates to help all players improve their skills.
- * Global Girls Game:** Held in February 2024, it was a great success with high participation and positive feedback. The U15 team won against, the Red Deer Sutter Fund Chiefs.

Tournaments

* U11 and U13 Tournaments: These went well despite hotel challenges. We managed to adjust schedules to ensure all teams could participate.

Challenges and Improvements

- * Recruitment: We need to keep focusing on attracting more players, especially for U11.
- * Logistics: Managing accommodations for tournaments was tough but we made it work. Early planning will help in the future.
- * Policy Changes: We're discussing new policies to allow exceptional players to try out for higher age divisions.

Conclusion

This season saw a lot of growth and development. With successful events and strong performances, the future looks bright. We need to keep pushing for more players, support our tournaments better, and enhance coaching standards.

Recommendations

1. Recruitment: Keep reaching out to bring in more female players.
2. Development Programs: Continue and expand skill development clinics.
3. Logistics Planning: Plan early for tournaments to ensure smooth operations.
4. Policy Review: Look at new policies to provide more opportunities for our players.



SMHA Equipment Director Report
June 2024 AGM
Submitted by Deidre Northrop

At the beginning of the year managers were handed out jersey sets and sized for goalie jerseys. I asked managers to take the entire set even if they didn't need it and return them as a set, which seemed to go well. We found there is not enough smaller sized goalie jerseys and an over abundance of 3-4xl.

TBS online apparel store went well again this year, they requested parents pick up any late orders which was confusing for parents so next year we need to clarify that in an email for late orders or just have two deadlines.

We started an optional grad jersey order this year and every graduate did purchase. The original shipment came in with the incorrect colour that was ordered but they corrected it free of charge and sent new ones. Everyone seemed to be happy with them.

All jerseys have been returned and sorted through. I would like to see an inventory sheet that the manager signs out with jerseys/sizes and re-signs upon return. There were some jersey swaps etc. at the start of the year and this left me tracking them down at the end of the year. Two U18 players still have jerseys but I have spoken with the managers who were not aware, they contacted the players and they should be returned to me asap.



SMHA Ice Allocator Report
June 2024 AGM
Submitted by Martyne Nixon

All in all, the 2023-24 season was successful. There was good communication between the ice allocator, ref allocator, and newly created tournament director position, as well as the executive, division directors and team managers.

We continue to look at ways to improve the timeliness of ref scheduling. There are some league constraints during tiering, early regular season, and playoffs that prevent schedules from becoming available to our referees, and to a greater extent, our members, as well. Please know that your concerns have been heard.

Looking ahead to the 2024-25 season, home tournaments have been booked for and dates will be announced at a later time, once registration details are confirmed. The month of January and February will see our teams with extensive travel, due to home tournament scheduling and the AB Boston Pizza Cup hosted by the Erskine Curling Club. I would encourage our teams to try to secure away tourneys during the month of January.

I thank you for allowing me to serve as your ice allocator during the 2023-24 season.



SMHA Registrar Report
June 2024 AGM
Submitted by Nicole Doan

Registration was done through HRC 3.0 again this year with all payments accepted via credit card or e-transfer. We decided to take registration for registration fees, development fees, and tryout fees as one lump sum, which made it easier for the treasurer. Coaches needed criminal record and vulnerable sector checks completed prior to coaching, which took some time to get done and imputed into HCR. They are valid for three years.

A total of 298 players (down 11 players from last season) were registered with SMHA this season.

SMHA submitted a total of 10 teams to CAHL:

3 U11 Teams - 39 players (up 3 players)

3 U13 Teams - 43 players (up 1 player)

2 U15 Teams - 37 players (up 3 players)

2 U18 Teams - 35 players (up 1 player)

SMHA submitted a total of 4 teams to RMFHL:

1 U11 Team - 11 players (down 7 players)

1 U13 Team - 17 players (up 3 players)

1 U15 Team - 13 players (down 7 players)

1 U18 Team - 19 players (up 1 player)

There were house league teams for U7 and U9 this season:

4 U7 teams - 36 players (up 2 players)

5 U9 teams - 48 players (down 10 players, but four girls moved up to U11F)

A big thank-you to our board members, coaches, managers, and volunteers. This organization is successful because of your commitment to providing quality programming for our players.



SMHA Tournament Liaison Report
 June 2024 AGM
 Submitted by Alison Norman

This was a new position this year. Some of my responsibilities included:

- Booking home tournaments. Working with the ice allocator, and the Town of Stettler to book home tournaments for the U7.

through U13 divisions. No tournaments were hosted by the U15 to U18 teams for lack of ice and ice officials.

- Booking hotel blocks for home tournaments
- Guiding directors with home tournament process
- Being a contact for directors with any questions or concerns related to home tournaments

Tournaments and hotel blocks were booked in Aug 2023. See chart below.

Division	Tentative Dates	Days of the Week	Sheets of Ice	Game Time Slots (hours)	Director	Ramada	Canalta	Super 8
U7	Feb 9-11, 2024	Sat only	1	1.5	Brooke Watson	*Called July 20, waiting for response	Motel=16 Rooms Hotel=20 Rooms Release Date January 12th	18 Rooms Release Date Feb 2
U9	Feb 9-11, 2024	Sat & Sun (Fri if needed)	1	1.5	Mel Bergstrom	*Shared with U7	*Shared with U7	*Shared with U7
U11	Jan 5-7, 2024	Fri evening, Sat & Sun	2	1.5	Teela Uffelman	*Called July 20, waiting for response	Motel=16 Rooms Hotel=18 Rooms Release Date Dec 1th	18 Rooms Release Date December 29
U13	Nov 11-12, 2023	Fri evening, Sat & Sun	2	1.75	Keri Snowden	*Called July 20, waiting for response	Motel=16 Rooms Hotel=20 Rooms Release Date Oct 6th	18 Rooms Release Date November 3

Female						Rooms Blocked		
Division	Tentative Dates	Days of the Week	Sheets of Ice	Game Time Slots	Director	Ramada	Canalta	Super 8
U11	Jan 26-27, 2024	Sat & Sun (Fri if available)	1	1.5	Meghan Thompson	*Called July 20, waiting for response	Motel=16 Rooms Hotel=18 Rooms Release Date December 22	18 Rooms Release Date January 19
U13	Jan 13-14, 2024	Sat & Sun (Fri if available)	1	1.75	Christine Erichsen/Jen Nibourg	*Called July 20, waiting for response	Motel=16 Rooms Hotel=18 Rooms Release Date December 8	18 Rooms Release Date January 5



Booking enough hotel rooms can be tricky as city teams book ice to host tournaments in the small towns near Stettler and stay at hotels in Stettler. This is done very early by other associations, and they book a lot of weekends. Hotel blocks have already been booked for the 2024-2025 year by other hockey associations. I have sent an email to our hotels to start the booking process for the 2024-2025 season. I am curious if it would be helpful to host our tournaments the same weekend each year? I've attached the email that I sent out to division directors Sept 25, 2023, to get them started with tournament planning. It also included the tournament chart above. I think next year I will send the package to the group at the beginning of the year, then to each director 2 weeks prior to their tournament. I would be open to feedback from directors to hear what was helpful or what was missing from this role this year.

Hey guys,

I just wanted to reach out to everyone to send some information and to start an email chain in case anyone has any questions!

Here are a couple of things off the top of my head for home tournaments:

-Each team is able to host 3 other teams to attend their tournament

-Ice is at a rate of \$82.50/hour, but jumps to \$85/hour in 2024.

I've attached the following. Use/edit them if you wish.

-HA's officials pay schedule so you know what to pay your officials.

-SMHA's tournament financial report. This will need to be completed and sent in after your tournament and will help you with your budget.

**Remember that 10% of your tournament profit will be paid to SMHA

-Officials payment sign sheet

-A sample 2 division 4 team round robin format schedule.

-Tournament Application form

-Tournament Rules (This one is for the bigger guys, I might have one from U9-13 on my other computer if anyone wants just ask)

-Roster Template

Here is the ice we have booked for each division. Take this into consideration when making your tournament schedules. Reminder to include 15 min per flood. This is also what I have blocked for hotels. I am STILL trying to get a hold of someone from the Ramada. I will update this when I do. They are all booked under my name. We can change that if you want, just let me know. I kind of forgot about the Heartland Lodge, so let me know if you'd like me to try and block there as well.

If there's anything at all you need help with let me know, I will do my best to help!

Alison Norman

Tournament Liaison Director

403-740-6207



SMHA Director of Fundraising Report
June 2024 AGM
Submitted by Tersha Stevens

Ideas presented to board at beginning of year for fundraising including Kernels Popcorn, Nielson Beef, Kate's Press, Rafflebox 50/50, Summer skates, Bacon (team fund.ca) & cash calendar Rafflebox.

This year we decided to keep fundraising simple with our two main largest fundraising activities Bacon & Cash Calendar that have been very successful in past years. Our goal for the year was to raise \$15,000. We exceeded this goal with a total of **\$16,190.46**.

BACON: Team Fund.ca

Total Profit from Bacon: \$10,611.00

We reached out to our sales representative in September and started sales from early Sept-end of Sept. Pickup was scheduled on the Tuesday after the Thanksgiving weekend- October 10/23. We had 6 volunteers who earned 4-8 hours each to assist with sorting and distribution of bacon on this day.

Considerations : *The weather was still quite warm outside and we struggled to keep bacon cool until all was picked up. As always a few did not come to pick up until last minute. The rink was cool however not quite refrigerator temperature. I would suggest doing the pick-up at beginning of November to avoid warm temperatures and storage issues. Also, I would recommend a shorter pick-up window. Usually the bacon arrives between 11-1pm. I would decrease the pickup time once the bacon has been sorted from 2-5pm.*

CASH CALENDAR: Rafflebox.ca

Total profit \$5574.46

We started gathering prize items from community in November mainly by distributing written letters by email and some were also hand delivered. We received a fair amount of response and were able to fill in the dates with this along with \$2000 approved cash donation from SMHA (December minutes). Huge thanks to our sponsors including: County of Stettler (\$300 cash gift cards to Petro & Fords Farmstead), Leschert Accounting (2 large yeti thermos Oilers & Flames \$100 value), Shoppers Drug Mart (2 baskets \$70 value), Apple Drugs (popcorn machine \$60 value), Boston Pizza (\$400 worth of gift cards), Performance Physio (\$200 value 3 month pass), Stettler Ag Center (\$100 gift card), Canadian Tire (\$100 skate sharpening gift card), AB Prairie Railway (\$100 cash), Uptown Office Supply (\$250 gift card to AB Prairie Railway), Sweet Home (\$50 gift card), Stettler Recreation Center (\$140 family pass card) and SMHA \$2000 cash.

Considerations: *Rafflebox took \$885.54 off sales. This still remains the EASIEST way to fundraise and collect as well as share with large number of people. I also received feedback to have a LARGER CASH prize available & have the actual Calendar more visible on the Raffle page. Numerous people won more than once on the raffle draws, despite the "randomization" of this application. Suggestion to have one larger cash prize, cash calendar photo more visible & look into other options other than Rafflebox if there are any available.*