



Stettler Minor Hockey Association

Executive Board Meeting – SRC

Tuesday, October 07, 2025

6:00pm

Reid Smith	Joel Shepherd	Kelsie Miller	Melissa Bergstrom
Nicole Doan	Chelsey Rowledge	Martyne Nixon	Todd Schlender
Ashley Rock	Melissa Lyle	Jerilyne Raab	Halle Vanderlee
Matt Fryer	Melissa Muise	Ruby MacDonell	

1. Meeting Called to Order: 6:08pm

2. Additions / Deletions to the Agenda:

2.1 Mouthguard Policy

2.2 Social Media Policy

2.3 Simon Thieleman Goaltender Association

Melissa Bergstrom motioned to approve the October 07, 2025, meeting agenda. Melissa Muise seconded the motion. All in favor.

3. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes: Reviewed the August 27, 2025 meeting minutes and action items.

3.1 Outstanding Action Item: *Criminal Record Checks need to be done by all coaches, board members, and managers*

Nicole Doan motioned to approve the August 27, 2025 meeting minutes and action items. Ruby MacDonell seconded the motion. All in favor.



4. New Business

4.1 Exhibition Game Request – There is an online form to submit your request and a google doc was created to track these requests to ensure teams aren't exceeding their allowed exhibition games.

4.2 Tiering Groups – Discussed where SMHA placed each team for tiering, this may result in some movement after tiering starts.

4.3 U7 / U9 Start-up – First few weeks have been going well. Lots of kids & Coaches.

4.4 Regular Season Schedule – Regular season schedule has been released, it has been sent out via email and can also be found on the SMHA website.

4.5 Female Division Concerns – Discussed the possibility of player movement, moving weaker player(s) from U13 down to U11, and the stronger U11 player(s) up to U13. It was decided the U13 player will stay where she is, and we will proceed with affiliating stronger U11 players onto the U13 team, where they can play up to 10 regular season games.

~ RMFHL will be switching from hardcopy game sheets to electronic games sheets this season. We discussed that SMHA will be responsible for providing these to the female teams for their games and will need to ensure there is one available for each arena. Before purchasing, it was decided the female teams would start by trying a game sheet using a laptop and an iPad to see which one is easier to navigate, and possibly using old iPads or laptops that people have at home that are not being used. Also discussed who will be in charge of ensuring these devices are well charged prior to games, and where they will be stored; possibly the manager.

~ U15F would like the opportunity to host a tournament in Forestburg, as they are not eligible to host a home-tournament at this division. Ice, Hotels, and Refs will need to be taken into consideration for this type of event, Melissa will get more information before a decision is made.

Action Item: *Melissa will get more information regarding hosting a U15F tournament in Forestburg.*

4.6 Registration Process – Due to SMHA numbers, it would be beneficial to do a staggered start for next season. This would allow for players in our association to have first chance to register before allowing any import players the opportunity, and



once full, would allow for a waitlist of players. There was discussion about opening registration the beginning of June, but this will be confirmed at a later date.

4.7 Injured Player Policy – We are working on a policy regarding injured players, during evaluations, as this seems to come up yearly. It was discussed that an injured player, that is unable to be on the ice for an evaluation, is automatically placed onto the lower team. Nicole will work on an Injured Player Policy that we can have in place to be voted in at the next AGM.

Action Item: *Nicole is working on creating an Injured Player Policy, and will bring this back to the board for approval. This policy will be voted in at the next AGM.*

4.8 Evaluation Policy – Discussed the U7 / U9 policy regarding house league play. current evaluation policy

4.9 Third Party Evaluators for 2026/2027 season – 2025 Evaluations have been completed and there was, both, positive and negative feedback regarding how it went. We discussed the number of hours and the stress this places on our volunteers and have decided that things will look differently for the 2026/2027 season, as we will be utilizing a 3rd party Evaluation team, with the possibility of also incorporating in the Team Genius platform.

Ruby MacDonell motioned to use 3rd party Evaluators (Outside of Stettler) for the 2026/2027 season. Matt Fryer seconded the motion. All in favor.

Action Item: *Reid will look into the logistics of using the Team Genius.*

4.10 Request for Release Post Evaluation – There were a few requests for player release following evaluations and team selection, which ended up causing a bit of distress to a couple of teams. There was discussion around whether there should be repercussions for these types of situations, and what they should look like. If SMHA will have repercussion, they will need to put a policy in place in this regard.

4.11 How Coaches are Chosen – We discussed the current process for choosing coaches, and how we could improve this process. For the upcoming season, we will look at pre-approving coaches prior to evaluations, having the intake for coach applications the same time as registration.



We also discussed the importance of the mid-season and year-end coach reviews, the information collected is important for keeping coaches accountable, as well as the board accountable for who is being put on the benches. It was brought up that many families are not comfortable submitting these reviews because they are concerned it will impact their own child, as these reviews are going to board members who also hold coaching positions. The executive board will discuss choosing other board members to accept the mid-season and year-end coach reviews, review them, and compile the information to bring to the executive board for discussion.

Action Item: *The executive board will discuss choosing other board members to accept the mid-season and year-end coach reviews, review them, and compile the information to bring to the executive board for discussion.*

4.12 Coach / Manager Meeting – We will look at setting this up for the tiering break, November 14-16th, specific date TBD.

Action Item: *Choose date, during tiering break, for coach / manager meeting and communicate this to all coaches and managers.*

4.13 Mouthguard Policy – Mouthguards are not mandatory but are highly recommended by SMHA to be worn. In the event of an injury / concussion, where a mouthguard was not worn, there would be no player refund.

4.14 Social Media Policy – Although we have a social media policy, we do not have an actual consent form for photos to be taken and posted of our SMHA players. This will be created and added to the registration form for upcoming season.

Action Item: *Martyne will send Nicole the consent form that footballs uses as a template to create one for SMHA, and this will be added to the registration form.*

Action Item: *Directors will ask each team manager to find out if there are any players on their teams that are NOT to be photographed, and then bring this information to Chelsey.*



- 4.15 Simon Thieleman Goaltender Association** – Simon has expressed interest in working with the SMHA goaltenders. Reid will get more information regarding costs and scheduling.

Action Item: Reid will contact Simon Thieleman Goaltender Association to get more information on costs and scheduling.

- 5. HA & League Info** – Reminder to pay attention to the CAHL and RMFHL websites for up to date information and critical dates.

- 6. Executive Reports:** No reports

- 7. Division Report:** No reports

- 8. Director Reports**

8.1 Registrar: No report.

8.2 Equipment Director: Need more first aid kits.

Executive Board made a motion for Deidre to spend up to \$600 on purchasing more first aid kits. All in favor.

8.3 Ref / Ice Allocator: Report attached.

8.4 Fundraising / Sponsorship: Currently doing our annual bacon fundraiser which is doing well. Last day for orders is October 23, 2025 with a pick-up date of November 07, 2025.

8.5 Tournament Liaison: Our tournament raffle table is in need of a few new items that can be used for all tournaments, specifically picture frames, tablecloths, and banners.

Ruby MacDonell motioned to spend up to \$600 on 2 SMHA banners, 3 tablecloths, and 12 picture frames for our tournament raffle tables. Mel Bergstrom seconded this motion. All in favor.

- 9. Next Meeting:** Tuesday November 04, 2025

- 10. Meeting Adjourned:** 8:40pm



Ice Allocator Report

Directors, there is some important stuff in here, so please take the time to review and let me know if you have any questions. Covers off info on tiering, regular season starts and home and away tournament planning.

Chelsey and Ruby, this can fill in some details on the manager and director guides being developed. Ruby, there is also some home tourney info.

RMFHL:

- Tiering ice has been sent in for RMFHL and Tiering starts this week for the girls. First two weeks of tiering is scheduled, 3rd weekend will follow.
- Tiering break for the Female teams is Halloween weekend, and regular season starts November 7.
- Ice submissions and blackout dates for Regular Season are due October 17 and November 21. I would like blackout dates by ONE DAY BEFORE (Oct 16 and Nov 20) so that I can compile. The sooner the better, or a short list are always helpful. Reminders will be sent to the director.

CAHL:

- Tiering ice has been sent in for CAHL and Tiering starts the weekend of October 17 for the boys. The tiering schedule has been activated by the league schedulers, so I expect that the tiering schedules for the first few weeks should be available soon.
- Tiering break for the Male teams is November 14-16 weekend, and regular season starts November 21.
- Ice submissions and blackout dates for Regular Season are due October 27. I would like blackout dates by THREE DAYS BEFORE (Oct 24) so that I can compile. The sooner the better, or a short list are always helpful. Reminders will be sent to the division directors.



Home Tournaments:

- **By month end, I would appreciate being made aware of any unused ice on tournament weekends so that I may schedule league games in these spots.** All users should be able to enjoy their tournaments and have a schedule that works well for all teams, however. I do not expect any extra ice throughout the U11 and U13 tournaments. There may be some ice unused by the Female tournament. There should also be some free days/times during the U7 and U9 tournament. Ruby and I will be in touch by month end.
- There are already some U7 and U9 reschedules in place on home tournament weekends, so I ask that U11 and U13 tournaments be wrapped up by 3:30 on Sunday. The Female Tournament will work around existing U7 and U9 ice times.
- I would like U13, U11 and Female directors to start thinking about what their tournament will look like and what the scheduling will be like. I am proposing a shortened game format for U13 Male, due to time constraints.
- U7 and U9 directors, I would like to know how your tournament is shaping up by month end. Does not need to be exact at this time.
 -
 - Will you be using Friday ice? Who will be assigned Blue Ice? Who will be assigned Red Ice? My thoughts were U7 on Blue and U9 on Red on Saturday. Then U9 would swap over to Blue for Sunday. Understand that there are more U9 teams this year, so schedule may be a little longer for this group.
 - Any idea on approximate start and end times on Saturday and Sunday? Imperials play at 7 p.m. on Blue on Saturday night.
 - Thoughts were U7 could have a bit of a later start on Saturday (11:00 or noon) to maximize raffle table sales.
 - This doesn't need to be perfect - it can simply be "We don't need ice on Friday, we don't need Red ice on Sunday, we don't need early morning ice on Blue on Sunday"



General Information:

- **Directors, head coaches and managers should be familiar with RMFHL and CAHL important dates so that tournaments aren't booked on weekends where tournaments are not allowed!!**
- The CAHL Game Regulation Manual and RMFHL Operating Regulations and Guidelines are an excellent source of information for Directors, Coaches and Managers, including the following topics:
 - game durations, flood and warm up schedules
 - postponements and associated game change procedures, along with advice in regard to when games can and cannot be rescheduled (for example, no games Friday after 8:00 pm, no U11-U13 games after 5:00 pm on Sundays, travel time considerations)
 - playoff formats
- SMHA Regular Season ice has been published for team information.
- There are some SRC closures and tournaments booked the following dates affecting some groups. Affected users may contact me to reschedule practices due to SRC closures.
 - Oct 13 - Thanksgiving Monday (SRC closed).
 - Nov 11 - Remembrance Day (SRC closed).
 - Oct 31 - Nov 2 - outside tournament, no U7 or U9 this weekend.
 - Nov 14 - 16 - U13 tournament, U7 and U9 have been rescheduled to Sunday.
 - Dec 5 - 7 - outside tournament, U7 and U9 have been rescheduled to Big Valley.
 - Jan 2 - 4 - U11 tournament, U7 and U9 have been rescheduled to Sunday.
- As always, ice is more limited through the back half of the season due to tourneys and figure skating events and could possibly be made a consideration when looking for away tournaments or blacking out weekends. You will otherwise likely be on the road.
 - Jan 2-4 - U11 tournament, ice is very limited this weekend.
 - Jan 16-18 - Pond Hockey tournament, ice is very limited this weekend.
 - Jan 30 - Feb 1 - U11/U13 Female tournament, ice is somewhat limited this weekend.
 - Feb 7 - 8 - U7/U9 tournament, ice is somewhat limited this weekend, **some can but most teams cannot attend away tourneys this weekend (please refer to league calendars)**