



**Board of Directors Meeting**  
Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 6:30pm  
**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE:** Trevor McEachnie, Brendon Caron, Jesse Wunderlich, Curt Jensen, Brad Callihoo, Chris Collard, Gord Sitter, Matt Stang, Jenna Skerratt, Whitney Chanter, Noelle Crombie, Kevin Bathurst

**Regrets:** Nik Vischschraper

**Guests:** Omaha Representatives Dave GM OMAHA & Tim Giandomenico, Chair

**Call to Order** – Chair at 6:06pm

1. **Call for Conflict of Interest** – None declared
2. **Approval of Agenda** - Chair  
Motion to approve the Agenda by Jesse, seconded by Jenna – motion carried
3. **Approval of Minutes** - Chair  
Motion to approve the January 8<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting Minutes by Trevor, seconded by Jesse – motion carried
4. **Approval of the Financial Statements** - Chair  
Motion to approve the January 31<sup>st</sup> 2024 Financial Statements and receive the Treasurer’s report by Whitney, seconded by Jesse – motioned carried
5. **Action Items from Previous Meeting**  
5.1 Summary of Standing Committees – Noelle Crombie

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**Attachments:**

-Minutes January 8<sup>th</sup> BOD Meeting (for approval)  
-YTD Financial Statements and Report– as of Jan 31<sup>st</sup> 2025 (for review and approval)  
-ED Report (for review)  
-Outsourcing Game Day Volunteers Policy (for approval)  
-Concussion Management (for review)

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**OMAHA Meeting** ???  
**AGM** ???

Officers of the board met to determine the standing committees as follows: Finance committee, HR Committee, Events committee, Conduct and Appeals committee. Recruitment will occur on an ongoing basis by all Directors

5.2 Policy on Outsourcing Game Day Volunteers – Kevin Bathurst

**Motion** to approve the Game Day Volunteer Guidelines by Whitney, seconded by Brendon – motion carried

5.3 Policy Updates – all Directors to submit their updates for their roles to Jenna **PAST DUE**

**6. Executive Director’s Report** – Kevin Bathurst

**7. Strategic Plan Updates**

- 7.1 Communication/Education Improvement – Brad Callihoo  
Positive feedback from association continues.
- 7.2 Referee Stream Development – Nik Vischschraper
- 7.3 Improve Recreation Hockey Experience – Jesse Wunderlich  
City Championships are booked and teams have been notified of schedule
- 7.4 Community Partnerships/Business Development – Whitney Chanter  
Ball Hockey has done some advertising within our newsletter  
Golf Tournament is rolling – we have signed up for Event Caddy  
**ACTION:** What are 10 things we need in training tools to raise funds at the tournament  
What are we raising money towards? Jerseys for all players - Matt advised there are jersey programs we can sign up for  
**ACTION:** Branding for rec, rep and girls – jersey purchases need 8 weeks minimum.  
Matt, Kevin to get quotes for jerseys by the next meeting  
Class A license is approved – Winner will be pulled at the Golf Tournament  
Co-Op is the U9 Sponsor for next year – look at jersey colours opposite to Timbits

**8. Director’s New Business**

8.1 OMAHA Pilot Project – Tim Giandomenico, OMAHA Chair

Fear the North summary – pooling of teams in certain areas to develop players

90 applicants to form 3 teams with 20 players on each roster – the players that didn’t make it went into house. 9 players from Revelstoke made the tier 2 Salmon Arm. The philosophy is that players should play at their level. OMAHA decided not to have open borders and drafted a six-zone plan.

What did the vote needed to pass? Majority vote 50% plus 1. Two associations were against the vote – Winfield and South Okanagan. OMAHA has a lot of work to do to roll this out both internally and externally.

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How will ice allocation be managed? How is OMAHA going to support the ice allocation? Agreements will be in place where associations will support teams. Associations can swap hosts if the majority of players are from the same town. I.e. Winfield is set to host Tier 3 and Vernon is Tier 2 – if most of the Tier 3 players are Vernon and Tier 2 is Winfield then the host cities can swap.

How are registration fees determined? Registration fees in Salmon Arm were based on the registration fees of the host association. Looking at having a unified fee where everyone pays the same as ice costs vary depending on the community. The positive outlook is that this model is not based on money but the players skill.

Timeline and communications from us – how do we handle the communication about the changes? FAQs in the newsletter – question and answer Open house night with OMAHA reps.

**ACTION:** Set an open house date in late March

How are we going to manage our registration so that we don't exceed the cap? Gord explained that with other associations hosting a rep team it should alleviate ice in Vernon. We need to ensure that our local players are still able to play in their home arenas.

Jesse's concern is the day we host 19 kids from other associations and are sending 14 kids and our registration is capped we will need to strategize.

The assumption is that if our kids are developing, then the players will be moving to other associations and freeing up ice here.

Brendon explained how this model is positive - allows bubble players to play where they belong and hopefully help with attitudes of players that don't make their desired team. This also provides more parity in the recreation levels as players are playing like players.

How will the AP Program work? The Coach will list their AP players – it will vary by location, depending on the player's availability as well as attitude. The AP policy will need to be formulated by OMAHA.

Each zone will form a committee, and they will choose a coach and the evaluators for that team.

Will this expedite our try outs date? Triple AAA, double AA, then it follows – don't require a tiering weekend anymore. August onwards - this is a concern from the perspective that this should not push back the start date for recreation players.

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OMAHA is piloting this for BC Hockey and has applied but has not received approval. This is a fluid situation and can be tweaked this year. This is not committed to for more than one year. If this is not successful, will it be terminated?

Players can make a tier 2 team but not want to travel, can play down if their local association is hosting.

What are the Service Agreements for the players? What level of service is provided with each team– OMAHA does not have an answer yet, they are working through this.

Travel – Can the teams share the practices at different associations. Ie. Vernon and Winfield swap ice times?

Are we going to fly under the same flag for a team name? Currently it's under the host but this can be looked at.

Will you release parameters on what is success? What is success? BC Hockey wants surveys from associations, players, parents, coaches

Communication to members in March – set up an Open House for all members

8.2.1 Policy Manual Updates – Jenna Skerratt

**ACTION:** All board members are to get their reviews in of their section

8.3 Concussion Management – Kevin Bathurst

Local concussion management programs – some are \$120; Impact has offered it at \$35 a player for baseline testing. Hit check program is game based, similar to reactionary games which targets our athletes. Kamloops uses this for their teams. What do we want our reach to be? We would incorporate the baseline test into the registration fees. The treatment is at the cost of the player. Impact will offer the treatment, but the player isn't required to go there – they have the freedom to choose their treatment provider. We can also look to offset the costs for the first year with funds raised from the golf tournament

Some of the programs can be covered by extended benefits.

**ACTION:** Bring Dylan from Impact in to do an info night on the program

8.4 End of Year Awards Banquet – Kevin Bathurst

The events committee will manage this banquet; everything has to be done in house. U7-U9 is all included; awards have expanded in the rec divisions

8.5 First Shift Program – Kevin Bathurst

We will go ahead and make the application to host the event next year. We may not be accepted but we will submit it.

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8.6 Website Refresh – Kevin Bathurst

**Motion** to approve \$5,000 budget on website refresh by Jesse, seconded by Curt – motion carried.

**Action:** Kevin to contact team snap and advise them to start our website. We will utilize team snap due to the integration. There will be a calendar on the website; timeline is 4-8 weeks. This needs to be up by May to work through all of the issues before June registration.

8.7 Clinics – Brendon Caron

Fin and Kirk McClean coming in March to do a coaching and training clinic. There will be 40 spots in each clinic.

**ADJOURN at 8:00pm**

APPROVED

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