

ANCASTER MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

Executive Meeting

Thursday February 12, 2009 @ 7:00 pm

Attendees: D. Morrow, B. Walters, J. Rainford, K. Viersen, D. Brown, J. Hulsman, G. McGuire, W. Urban, M. Legris, P. Stephenson, J. DiSalvia

1.0 Welcome

D. Morrow, called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. D. Morrow welcomed G. McGuire to the executive, as Director of Player and Coach Development and M. Legris, as Vice President, having resigned his position as Secretary – which minute duties he will continue to the AGM.

2.0 Items for Approval and Requiring Voting:

- a. Agenda. Motion by J. Rainford, seconded by W. Urban, to approve the Agenda as amended. Carried unanimously.
- b. Minutes of previous meeting. Minutes of Jan. 8, 2009 meeting. Motion by W. Urban, seconded by J. Rainford to approve the previous meetings minutes as amended. Carried unanimously.

c.

3.0 Items for Discussion

- a) Referees and Timekeepers. J. Rainford discussed issues in refereeing in 2008-09 season including, scheduling, coach feedback that games could be called tighter, and from the beginning of the game to ensure consistency and minimize escalation of playing intensity, and a rep game complaint on an aggressive hit.

D. Brown discussed with the members difficulties experienced with Arbiter (used for scheduling referees), referees declining to accept games, the need to watch age of referees for divisions and involvement with family members who might be players or bench staff, the difficulty to supervise in Ancaster as he is not the designated referee instructor for Ancaster, and incomplete game sheets which are issues for referees when incomplete by timekeepers. D. Brown mentioned to the board his enjoyment with refereeing, observation this year that it has been more up to date, notwithstanding his 20th year in refereeing he remains very concerned when games are missed by referees, the need to encourage younger referees in calling plays notwithstanding the authority position of older adults who they look up to and who are generally bench staff, and the importance of AMHL to have Convenors at the rinks, particularly for rep games when referees come off the ice (as is done in other centres).

The board also discussed the number of referees required for house league and rep games in various divisions, including the forthcoming increases in referee compensation. B. Walters noted the AMHL budget for 2009-10 would not include reimbursement of re-certification fees for referees since they are being paid to referee AMHL games.

- b) Hammill House. D. Morrow advised the board of an upcoming meeting with L. Ferguson on Monday Feb. 23 to discuss this matter and AMHL not signing on to Hammill House until this board approves. Current estimate is that the value to AMHL is or its cost should be approx. \$5 per player.

- c) Rep goalie clinic and coaching. The board discussed a voluntary offer by S. McKeekin to put on a 90 minute goalie clinic (for goalie coaches and parents) on either a Saturday or Sunday morning during the month of March. AMHL would be required to obtain and pay for the necessary 2 hours of ice time for this clinic.
- d) Player refund request. B. Walters reported that a family was offered to have the player cut from the rep team continue to play house league hockey with AMHL this year. There has been no reply from the family on this offer and with the continued appeal; the family has continued to be treated as a member of the AMHL and beyond our refund deadlines.
- e) Budget for 2009-10. B. Walters discussed a meeting which was held with D. Morrow and K. Viersen on budgetary constraints/reductions including Awards Day, but which monetary reductions could be replaced from fund raising efforts. Other fund raising efforts discussed included, Bulldogs Day, Dinner & Dance Appreciation Event, partnership with Oak Gables Golf course for summer 2009, and other events in order to defer rising costs and retain the registration fee the same in 2009-2010.

B. Walters also discussed equipment costs (i.e. jerseys for rep and house league teams), reducing ice costs by minimizing private ice time and maximizing Plan G ice with the city (i.e., return to 2 6am ice times for AMHL each week), mandatory OMHA insurance cost per player, bank and credit card registration fees, reviewing the midget/juvenile practice ice hours at the start and end of each season, recertification costs for coaches and trainers, picture expenses, clinic expenses (i.e. meals), Convenor registration fees, and police checks, etc.

- f) Director of Player and Coach Development, Vice-President and remaining vacancies. See comments in Welcome above.

In camera discussion by the board.

- g) Rep Coach Selection Process. Deadline to receive applications is midnight on Feb. 28 and the form can be filled out on line. Currently an estimated 20 to 30 applications have been received and a draft interview form is being developed. A survey for rep player parents to complete is also being prepared. It was noted that this year, the OMHA deadline is August 31 for both rep and house league bench staff certification.
- h) Executive contact list. The board was provided with a hard copy of an updated contact list for board executive members.
- i) Manual of Ops update. M. Legris advised the board of the need to update the Manual of Ops for recent approved changes for team banners (new s. 14), revised registration refund policy (amended s. 3.8) and suggestion to update the AMHL Conduct and Discipline process.
- j) Complaint and Appeal forms – drafts of these proposed new forms were circulated to board members for review and consideration.
- k) Privacy policy. M. Legris reminded the board of the need to adopt and approve a privacy policy for the AMHL. A new draft will be developed and circulated to board members for review and consideration.

- l) Rep player issue. It was reported that since January 2009, the player has missed ½ his house league games while playing AE rep games. Motion by J. Rainford, seconded by D. Morrow, that for every house league game the rep player misses from now until the end of the 2008-09 season he will be suspended from the next rep game. Voting in favour, D. Morrow, B. Walters, J. Rainford, and W. Urban. Voting against, M. Legris, G. McGuire, J. Hulsman, P. Stephenson and J. DiSalvia. Motion defeated.

Motion by Paul Stephenson, seconded by J. DiSalvia, that for every house league game Marco Aref missed from now until the end of the 2008-09 season he will be suspended from the next rep game., unless it is justifiably excused by this board. Voting in favour, M. Legris, D. Morrow, J. Rainford, P. Stephenson, G. McGuire and W. Urban. Voting against, B. Walters and J. Hulsman. Motion carried by majority voting.

4.0 Reports

- a) Jr. & Sr. House League Report. J. Rainford reported that Juvenile playoffs are starting, there was a Midget player suspended for 12 games or 50 days (whichever first occurs). Discussion of the incident which resulted in no apparent injury however kicking was involved. The board discussed that coaches and parents need to be respectful of others and this involves use of horns, caution tape in the stand (board identified as a safety issue), drums, sirens, team colours and sections of the spectator stands. The board also discussed that room #5 at Spring Valley would be off limits and no players or coaches are to go beyond the referee room.
- b) Registrar & Ice Scheduling report. Awards Day for House League is booked for Saturday March 28 and during the month of March, AMHL has the ability to turn back ice to the city on 7 days notice. Currently ice cost is \$106/hr. to AMHL from the City of Hamilton. April ice time is still to be scheduled for rep tryouts.
- c) Initiation Program. No report.
- d) Sponsorship. J. DiSalvia reported the last sponsor for 2008-09 has paid and next year AMHL should look at additional sponsorship via, Awards Day, Golf Day, T-shirts, Tournaments, etc.
- e) Secretary. No report.
- f) Treasurer. B. Walters reviewed the balance sheet and income statement and noted a saving on reducing Wentworth private ice time, allocation of Trillium grant money for clinics, the bank account balance projected for the end of April 2009 and work with K. Viersen to turn back unneeded ice time.
- g) Rep. Convenor. P. Stephenson discussed a third jersey issue with a Pee wee AA team, a further issue encountered when the team attended a tournament out of area during the month of January (as was the case in 2008 for this team, and which is against OMHA guidelines to enter tournament play in the months of January and February) and ultimate defeat in OMHA playoffs due to a game loss (even though appealed due to challenges to the opposing team bench staff qualification) the evening this team returned from the tournament in Florida.
- h) Coach & Player Development. See item 3 c) above.

- i) Special events. W. Urban reported Bulldogs Day plans are going well, a permit is being obtained to sell 50/50 tickets; the need to promote the event with SHL and rep divisions and 3 hours of ice time at Copps Coliseum is available that day for AMHL teams.

An email has been sent for volunteers on Awards Days - March 28 for House league and April 4 for rep teams. A food drive is being organized that day and a team party at Silver City cinemas for the team raising the most food (by weight) as well as both being set up to promote the partnering with Oak Gables for the golf season. It was also reported that a dinner dance fund raiser for April 18 is well underway with discussion continuing on the numbers (max. capacity 300 attendees), meal, drinks, ticket costs, silent auction and assistance to coaches.

5.0 New Business. No new business.

6.0 Next meeting – Thursday February 26, 2009 at 7 PM. AMHL Offices @ Morgan Firestone Arena.

7.0 Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by D. Morrow, seconded B. Walters. Carried unanimously.