

**ANCASTER MINOR HOCKEY LEAGUE  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

AGENDA

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010 @ 8:00 PM  
New Merritt Hall, Ancaster Fairgrounds*

**1. Welcome and call to order – Jack DiSalvia, VP**

Jack DiSalvia welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 8:15pm with 25 members signing the registry.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Motion: Moved by Jack DiSalvia and seconded by Scott Ferguson to approve the agenda. Carried unanimously.

**3. Review and Approval of 2009 AGM Minutes**

A copy of the minutes of the 2009 AGM was circulated to members for their review.

Motion: Moved by Jack DiSalvia and seconded by Jodi Rainford to approve the 2009 minutes of the AGM. Carried unanimously.

**4. Reports from Previous Year**

**a. Special Events – Wayne Urban**

- The Bulldog night on January 2, 2010 was a disappointment. It was difficult to sell tickets at the Houseleague and Rep levels. Participation of CHIPS and IP was good. Need to consider whether it is worthwhile next year.
- Awards Day went very well with positive comments received from membership. We will have the same format in 2011.
- The Dinner / Dance, after a year off in 2009/10, is being re-considered – likely in late October 2010. The Board has received some interest from members interested in volunteering to coordinate.

**b. Coach and Player Development – Gord McGuire**

- Coaches' Meeting – August 25, 2009
- June Coaching Refresher clinics: Because of changes to the OMHA certification process whereby certifications expired in August, re-certifications were moved back to June. This proved problematic – move them back to early fall in 2010.
- OHMA Checking Clinic – September 13, 2010
- Fall Speak-Out and Trainer Clinics
- Goalie Clinics: Well attended by both Houseleague and Rep players – this should be continued in 2010/11

- AMHL Website: A secure coaches' area was set up in 2009/10
- Manual of Operations: A complete updating of the Manual of Operations was performed in 2009/10. Policies were reviewed and amended as required. Also added in materials related to coach selection, Select and AE2 programs, etc.
- Standard Player Rating System: This system was introduced in late October 2010. Was originally intended to be done twice during the year but, due to logistical concerns, was only done once. The overall ratings spreadsheet is still being compiled – good feedback received.
- Parent Feedback Survey: This was new to the Rep program in 2009/10 (has been done in Houseleague for a number of years). Overall good results in terms of satisfaction with coaching and level of development of players.
- Rep Coach Survey: Results comparable with prior years. One interesting finding was that the coaches generally believe that our biggest weakness across the organization is in scoring (90% of respondents identified this as a concern). The Board needs to consider how to generate improvement in this area going forward. There was also a strong indication from coaches that allocating resources to goaltender development is a high priority (consistent with the good results we have had in our goalie clinics).
- Coach Selection and Tryouts: Total coaching applicants was down from 25 to 16 for the 2010/11 season. Included in our coaching staffs are 3 non-parent groups. Over 300 players tried out for Rep teams this year (that does not include Midgets whose tryouts have been moved to September). There were new policies adopted in the Manual of Operations regarding player movement, attendance at tryouts, coach selection, etc. – all seemed to work well.
- Future Directions: There were a number of challenges noted:
  - Decline in attendance of the past 5 years (from 1,000 to 900)
  - Depth of players in some divisions is low – makes it difficult to provide both a Major and Minor AE team at all levels. Further, even years (ie: 1996, 1998, etc.) are stronger than odds...need to figure out how to break this cycle.
  - Second ice pad will be a real benefit – need to determine how to best capitalize on this.
  - The Select program was very successful in 2009/10 – need to continue / expand this going forward.

**c. Houseleague – Jodi Rainford**

- Teams: There were 34 teams in 2009/10 (6 Novice, 7 Atom, 8 PeeWee, 6 Bantam, 4 Midget, 3 Juvenile)
- Super Saturday: Results of playoffs indicated very balanced teams – majority of Super Saturday games were decided by shootout. Also changed format this year to play the semi-finals on Super Saturday. This was very exciting for both parents and players.
- Year-end Survey: Continued very strong level of satisfaction – over 90% total for all questions posed. Bantam response to desire to play for coach again was 78% - this is indicative of a particular coaching situation that has been rectified.

- Schedules: There were concerns regarding access to game and practice schedules. This was a result of a technology issue on the website – has been rectified for 2010/11.
- Midget Division: In 2009/10 practices were removed for Midget as the perception was that the players were not showing up (only wanted to play games). Result was complaints that, although they still don't want to practice, they do want more icetime (67% response in survey). As such, we are looking into creating an interlocking schedule with Dundas in 2001/11 to increase the number of games.
- Goalie Clinics: As noted in Rep, the goalie clinics continue to be well attended and received.
- Stats: The use of LeagueLineup worked well in 2009/10 and will be continued next year.
- Convenors: It was noted that we are looking for Houseleague Convenors for 2010/11 – request was made to identify interested parties in the membership.

**d. Sponsorship – Jack DiSalvia**

- Team Sponsorship: Of the 45 Houseleague teams, all sold \$500 sponsorship and only one was not collected (this is an increase from \$450 in prior years). Tim Hortons sponsored 18 teams through the Tim Bits program (IP to Novice ages). Total monies collected of \$21,675.

**e. Treasurer – Bryan Walters**

- April 30, 2009 Financial Statements: The financial statements for 2009 have been reviewed by Brownlow and Associates.

Motion: Moved by Bryan Walters and seconded by Mark Davies to approve the financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2009. Carried unanimously.

- 2009/10 Results: The financial statements for April 30, 2010 have not yet been reviewed by our auditor. The draft figures were presented to the membership and explanations for changes year to year between 2009 and 2010 were provided. It was noted that a surplus of approximately \$16,000 was realized in 2010. This is because the City of Hamilton has indicated that there will be significant ice cost increases in 2011 and 2012 – this cost is being spread over 3 years commencing in 2010 in order to smooth the impact on members.
- 2010/11 Budget: The budgeted financial statements for 2011 were presented to the membership and explanations for changes year to year between 2010 and 2011 were provided. It was noted that a surplus of approximately \$9,000 is planned for 2011. This is because we recently received notification from the City of Hamilton that ice costs will be reduced in 2010/11, however, this notification came after registration was opened for the season. Rather than try to manage a refund of \$10-20 per player, the Board concluded that the fees would remain the same in 2010/11 and fees would be adjusted next year.
- A question was posed regarding the increases budgeted for Rep fees in 2010/11 (ie: 2009/10 budget of \$100,705; 2010/11 budget of \$125,200). It was explained that this is due to increased ice and jersey costs. A further discussion ensued regarding the increased cost of jerseys and it was explained that it was a consensus of the membership that the 2010/11 jerseys were not acceptable quality. As such, in the tendering process, the Board selected a vendor that can provide jerseys similar to what we have had in prior years. This resulted in an increased cost per jersey from \$67 to \$85.

Motion: Moved by Bryan Walters and seconded by Rodi Rainford to re-appoint Brownlow and Associates as auditors for the year ended April 30, 2011. Carried unanimously.

Motion: Moved by Bryan Walters and seconded by Tony Valaitis to approve the budget for the year ended April 30, 2011. Carried unanimously.

**f. OHMA Representative – Paul Stevenson**

- **Select Program:** The introduction of the Select Program in 2009/10 was very successful. A lot of players demonstrated interest and those involved had a very positive experience. There was some discussion amongst the membership that there was insufficient support for the program (coach mentoring, etc.). The Board acknowledged that the Select Program was a pilot in 2009/10 and has now been formalized in the Manual of Operations.
- **Bantam AE2:** Due to an unusually large group of rep players at the 1996 age group, a second Bantam AE2 team was formed in 2009/10. This team was very successful and the players had a very positive experience. The Bantam AE2 team will be participating again in the 2010/11 season.
- **Rep Results:** Of the 15 teams representing Ancaster in the OMHA Rep program, 3 won championships. Of those, the Bantam AA team won the first OMHA Championship for an Ancaster team since we moved from A to AA a number of years ago.
- **Midget:** We had a full compliment of 3 teams at the Midget level in 2009/10. Some years this is a problem given that the players get other interests once they graduate to highschool. Tryouts in September will determine if we have 3 teams in 2010/11.
- **Residency:** The OMHA has indicated that they are examining relaxing the residency rules effective the 2011/12 season. If this is the case, it could impact upon our registration.

**g. Initiation Program – Kaylan Comba**

- **Program Metrics:** There were 85 CHIP skaters (including some over-aged players), 35 Mite players, and 44 Type players.
- **Bulldog Day:** As noted previously, the Bulldog Day was well received by participants in the Initiation Program.
- **Registration:** In order to better promote the program, registration was opened on Super Saturday (earlier than last year). A flyer was also printed and distributed at local schools.

**h. Equipment – Joel Hulsman**

- **Jerseys:** The Rep jerseys were of poor quality this year – we tried a lighter jersey with sublimated cresting that did not hold up for the entire season. The 2010/11 jerseys will be a heavier jersey with sewn-on cresting (as in prior years)
- **Goalie Equipment:** All loaned goalie equipment has been returned and accounted for. Some old gear was sold during Super Saturday (raised approximately \$300).
- **Jersey Returns:** All but one Rep team has returned their jerseys – we are following up.

**i. Registrar and Ice Scheduling – Jack DiSalvia**

- **Metrics:** The AMHL had a total of 949 players registered for the 2009/10 season. Registration to date for 2010/11 is 557 and in line with numbers at this time last year.
- **Ice Scheduling:** There were a significant number of complaints regarding ice scheduling this past season, particularly from the Rep division. As part of the transition to a new ice

scheduler in 2009/10, our ice requests were not forwarded to the OMHA on a timely basis resulting in a number of dates being rescheduled. This issue has been rectified in 2010/11. There were also concerns regarding extensive assignment of Rep teams to Wentworth and Chedoke ice. In 2010/11, the majority of Rep games will be scheduled at Morgan Firestone and practice time by location will be equitably split between Rep and Houseleague teams.

- Position Tender: The tender for the Registrar and Ice Scheduling position will be posted to the league website in early June with a cut-off date for submissions in late June.

**j. Secretary – Mark Davies**

- Due Process: Due process was followed at all AMHL Board meetings.
- Minutes: Approved minutes of all meetings are available on the league website.

**k. Vice-President's Report – Jack DiSalvia**

- Grievance Committee: No instances of grievances occurred during 2009/10
- Disciplinary Committee: Two disciplinary actions were taken in 2009/10 resulting in member suspensions.
- Ancaster Minor Sports Association (Hammel House): Offices for all the major Ancaster minor sports associations were donated thru Hammel House. The AMHL will have an office in the house and will only have to cover our share of operating costs.
- Manual of Operations: Significant effort was put into the revisions of the Manual of Operations by Gord McGuire and the membership was asked to acknowledge this contribution. The Board is considering revisions to the By-Laws in 2010/11.

**l. President's Report – Dean Morrow**

- Initiation Program: Continues to be a success. We are pleased to welcome Kalan Comba to lead this area. The main summer focus will be to boost registration.
- Houseleague: Another good year with a very balanced and competitive league.
- Rep: Congratulations to all championship teams, in particular the Bantam AA's.
- Ice Costs: Good news that the City of Hamilton has reduced the ice cost increases – this is an important part of keeping hockey affordable in Ancaster.
- Hamill House: Great news that we will be getting new offices and a better voice with the City as a result.
- Twinning of Morgan Firestone: The ground breaking will occur on June 12 with completion for the 2011/12 season. Again, great news.

**5. New Business – Dean Morrow**

- Hall of Fame Award: This award is presented by the Board from time to time when an individual associated with the AMHL demonstrates exceptional contribution to minor hockey. This year the award was presented to Bryan Walters in recognition of his contribution to the Board and the AMHL over a number of years. Bryan will be retiring from active Board participation this year once a new Treasurer has been identified.

**6. Approval of Financial Report and Proposed Budget**

- See 4(e) above

**7. Approval of Auditor for the 2010/11 Year**

- See 4(e) above

**8. Election of New Board Members – Dean Morrow**

Our By-Laws provide for a 2-year term for all positions and designate which positions come open in both even and odd years. All positions for this year were acclaimed as follows:

- Vice-President: Jack DiSalvia
- Treasurer: Bryan Walters (interim)
- Director of Junior Houseleague: Jodi Rainford
- Director of Sponsorship and Publicity: Tony Valaitis
- Director of Equipment: Joel Hulsman
- Director of Player and Coach Development: John Alpaugh

**8. Adjournment**

Motion: Moved by Mark Davies and seconded by Wayne Urban to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously.