



Belle River District Minor Hockey Association

Board Meeting Minutes April 17, 2018

Atlas Tube Center, Belle River, Ontario

In attendance: Jennifer Lafeber, Paul Gray, Frank Hamelin, Alex Dominato, Lisa VanSickle, Jamie Fick, Rob Bodchon, Dan Anger, John Marchand, Marco Levesque, Peter Thomson, Ken Poisson, Darren Crowley

Absent: Rich Burford, Rob Dembinski, Mark Bateman

Meeting Chair: Paul Gray

Recorder: Jennifer Lafeber

Meeting called to order by Paul Gray at 6:33 pm.

President's Welcome – Paul Gray

I would like to welcome all our Members present for this year's Annual General Meeting. On behalf of the association I thank you for investing your time and interest in making our association better. This year has been another successful year in Belle River and we should all be proud of all we have been able to achieve both on the ice and off.

As lakeshore grows we are continuing to see growth in our association, this year alone we are providing hockey to over 860 players. This of course is not possible without the help of over 150 coaches/volunteers. Our largest group of players comes from our House league. I would like to thank Frank Hamelin, Dave Ellis with the help of Jerry Lee and Peter Thomson. They did a great job in creating the drafts and helping foster fair competitive play for all our players. This upcoming season Players in Mites, Tykes and Novice will see changes in programming that has been mandated by Hockey Canada. In short this will see players in all these groups practicing and playing in half or cross ice. The town of Lakeshore has committed to purchasing full board dividers to help facilitate this programming.

We have again kept with tradition and launched our season with our Annual Kickoff party at the front of the Atlas Tube Centre this is always a great time for both players and families. Thank-you Lisa and the rest of the parent group for committing the time to make this a great opening event. Following the success of the inaugural Atlas Cup last season we have once again joined forces with Tecumseh Minor Hockey, Atlas Tube, and Royal Limousines and hosted our Second annual Atlas Cup and nonperishable food drive. During this weekend we saw teams from BRDMHA and TSMHA compete against each other in both house league and travel games. Points were tabulated and for the second year Belle River was successful in winning the cup.

I would again like to thank Peter Thomson, Rob Dembinski, Jason Menard, and a number of other volunteers that were able to coordinate and host a 6-week Canadian Tire First Shift Program for children in our community who never played hockey before. We have registered over 40 new players who came out and got fitted in new gear and joined in and had fun with this program. The feedback was amazing and new this year we continued with a "Second Shift program" where we had a number of players from the first shift continue on with the hopes they will become new members of the association next season. We have already applied to host this again next fall. Will know shortly if we were successful in getting selected to host it again.

This year we hosted our 17th Annual Dan Holland / Randy Merten Memorial Travel Hockey Tournament. It was a great success with many teams travelling from out of town to be here. We had well over 40 teams attend they were treated to first class hospitality and organization from Darren and his Crew.

Blue-Water league has chosen the BRDMHA and the Atlas Tube Center to host the 2017/2018 Blue-Water league Day of Champs again. All teams enjoying coming to our centrally located facility and rumor has it, it will be back in Belle River this upcoming season. Congratulations to all our teams who made it here. Thank you, Marco, and all who helped make this day great.

This past season we have been fortunate enough to have a couple teams make it onto OMHA Championships as well and I'm to say we have a Champion with our Midget Majors AA team coached by Paul Herz. This team this past weekend competed at the most prestigious championship tournament in the province in Toronto. They were fortunate enough to make it on to the Semifinals where they conceded to a very good London Jr. Knights Team. 2-1. Congratulation to the team and their coaches very a great season.

Over the past few seasons we have seen Facility Rental, and insurance increase at approximately 3 to 5 % per year. Although with Belle River Minor hockey's commitment to continue to make Hockey affordable to all. I'm proud announce that we are able to keep our Registration rates the same for our six-consecutive season in a row. This is not easy task for a not for profit organization. However, this is obviously not possible without the help of our sponsors, and finding ways to eliminate non-essential items from our budget, all while continuing to provide the best hockey in SW Ontario. This season the only increase we will have is a nominal increase in Travel fees with rates going up by \$50 to \$800.

In closing this upcoming season will be our 50th Anniversary season, how exciting! 50 years of Minor hockey in Belle River. We have many things planned to honor this 50th year. We would like to have you involved some way or another.

Director Reports

Equipment – Dan Anger:

-
- Travel jerseys are starting to trickle in. Wrapping up the odds and ends there with families not returning. Coaches have been great so far. Arrangements have been made with Parker and Source for timing. Some teams have requested the name bars be salvaged, to which Source has committed to the effort, with no guarantees of being successful.

- Now that the 50th logo has been published to the board, we can look at pucks, swag etc. Water bottles have already been ordered from last year, so we will get the standard Source bottle but could potentially order more for the occasion if necessary.
- Quote submitted for smaller nets. Have heard no response as to whether or not we are purchasing.
- Preparing jersey arrangements for travel tryouts. Still need to spend some time in the equipment room and ensure we have enough to support the process.

Report accepted by Lisa VanSickle and seconded by Alex Dominato

Director of Travel Scheduling – Mark Bateman:

- No Report

Registration – John Marchand:

- Total registration for the 2017/2018 season was 851 players.
- Permission To Skate registration was opened March 20th. I have been assisting families with registration issues.
- Modified Registration system to accommodate new IP division.
- 2018/2019 season registration was opened April 4th. Registration process and costs are the same as last season. I have been assisting families with registration issues, processing transfers and answering questions.
- Registration Costs are as follows:
 - Mites/Pre School - \$350
 - Tyke/Initiation Program through Midget - \$600 before August 1st, \$700 after August 1st
 - BRDMHA players attending our tryouts must be registered and paid, including travel tryout fee.
 - Non-resident players must pay the travel tryout fee only to attend our tryouts.

Report accepted by Marco Levesque and seconded by Rob Bodchan

Risk Management Officer – Rob Bodchon:

- No Report

Referee in Chief –Rich Burford:

-final checks will be sent out shortly I believe by Alex and Laura

-applications online for next seasons referees and timekeepers will be opened next week on our website

-H/L and Bluewater Day of Champs ran very well and I would like to thank everyone on the board for their support throughout the year and am looking forward to next season.

Sponsorship and Communication – Ken Poisson:

- Still collecting sponsorship cheques from Corporate Sponsor: Great Lakes Chiropractic
- Options for changing Sponsorship Form to include advanced payment option

Report accepted by Peter Thompson and seconded by Rob Bodchan

Treasurer – Alex Dominato:

- Meeting with Auditor Monday to review the draft copy of Season Balance
- Ref Cheques mailed for past season
- Auditors Reports to be discussed and presented at May meeting

Report accepted by Frank Hamelin and seconded by Dan Anger

Parents Club- Lisa VanSickle:

- Stroll the streets: need volunteers to sell tickets before Sunsplash
- Information for Montreal Alumni Game to be incorporated at each stroll the streets, have tickets available for sale before Sunsplash

Report accepted by John Marchand and seconded by Frank Hamelin

Coaching Development – Rob Dembinski:

- D1 Coach Clinic – Scheduled for August 25-26 in Belle River. The clinic is now open and coaches can register through our updated clinic enrollment page. Here is the link. https://brdmha.com/Pages/1696/BRDMHA_Clinic_Enrollment/
- Clinic enrollment page has also been updated to include a link for Gender Identity & Expression Training. It also includes links to Trainers & Respect In Sport on-line clinics.
- Coach Level (C1) Clinic – Due to anticipated demand, I am working with the OMHA to schedule this clinic in October at the ATC. This is the tradition Tyke level coach clinic.
- In the past month I have been very involved in travel coaching selection committees and supporting Marco & coaches with try-out preparations & planning. I intend to be around for all the try outs and supporting our coaches in their try outs.

- Our in-season Tyke development programs came to an end in March. It was another successfully season with special thanks to Peter, Jay and their team of coaches that supported these programs.
- Lastly, our Summer Tyke Development Clinic has been scheduled and registration is open. This clinic will begin on May 22nd and is opened to 2011-12 aged players and any players that were involved in our 1st & 2nd Shift programs.

Report accepted by Marco Levesque and seconded by Alex Dominato

Tournaments – Darren Crowley:

- I was able to collect the final rebate cheques and complete the financials from the tourney. Final numbers appear as though we profited \$20800. I'm quite happy with this, considering we offered many upgrades that other tourneys would never consider offering.
- The permit for the 2018 tournament was submitted and approved. The date will be November 30 to December 2. Entry fees will remain the same at \$1175. The registration link is now open on the association website, and the webpage is being updated daily. We are offering up to 48 entries, and are focusing on Novice and Atom aged teams only. We currently have 9 teams committed either verbally or signed.
- Presently I am in the process of securing hotel blocks, booking the ice, and setting up sponsors and vendors. I am also looking into a sticker exchange, and getting programs printed.
- I have sent personal emails to over 100 new 2018/19 coaches from associations from across the province, and will continue to work this weekly when new coaches are released. This method worked well last year, and many I have spoken to heard good things about last year's tourney, and new teams are showing interest.
- On my TO DO LIST... is update the OMHA Championship and Finalist banners, and order the banners for the 2017 Novice teams and this year's Midget team....

Report accepted by John Marchand and seconded by Dan Anger

Player Development – Peter Thomson:

- DOC went well again. Busy day but no real hiccups at all.
- We have had some good comments back from coaches regarding how the season went and that is gratifying.

- I have applied for the First Shift program again. I haven't heard anything back yet but have sent a follow up to my contact to see when approved associations will be announced.
- We had subcommittee meeting with Rob D, Paul, John and Marco to discuss the Novice Tyke 2010,2011 players for next year and came to a good understanding of the new rules. The 2010's and 2011's will be allowed to play together in HL due to size of association.

Report accepted by Marco Levesque and seconded by John Marchand

House League Atom to Juvenile – Frank Hamelin:

- Player evaluations coming in from this past season
- Day of Champs – length of game, no curfew. House league By-Laws to be amended to clarify rule.

Report accepted by Jamie Fick and seconded by Dan Anger

Director of Travel – Marco Levesque:

- To all members, thank you for upholding the reputation of the Organization as a board member
- Bluewater Day of Champs – March 30, 2019 will be hosted in Belle River

Report accepted by Rob Bodchon and seconded by Jamie Fick

Director at Large– Jamie Fick:

- Winning Logo is attached. This will be the logo we go with, unless there are any objections. The only thing I would say with the logo is changing the color of the banner with 50th Anniversary. This will go on the all swag for travel teams, banners, flags, water bottles, jerseys etc....
- We need to decide on the Alumni Game very soon. I have projected, best guess costs and revenue. See below.
- Next, I will be going in to see Dave Bellaire and see what our 3rd jersey option can be. This is for the travel teams to have the option to purchase for this season.
- House League Jerseys....can we have a vote if we want to use the Original Logo on the jersey for this season and have the new 50th Anniversary logo patch on it as well?? I will Talk with Dave Bellaire about this as well.
- Dan Anger, I will be contacting you to discuss some items with banners and equipment.

Report accepted by Peter Thomson and seconded by Lisa VanSickle

New Business - Paul Gray:

Agenda:

- Approval of the Agenda of the AGM – Approved by Alex Dominato, Seconded by Marco Levesque
- Approval of the minutes from the 2017 AGM – Approved by John Marchand, Second by Peter Thomson
- Reports of Members of the association for the preceding year
- Information regarding planned activities of the association for the upcoming year
- Treasurer report – including our financial health for the past year and projections for upcoming year
- Appointment of Auditor – HMID Firm, fees are less than previous Auditor, quicker turnaround – Defer appointment of Auditor until May meeting.
- Considerations of any proposed amendments to our constitution or bylaws of the association – Refer to Marco's notes
- Election of New Board

Motion 1: Exceptional Player Movement Policy – Status amended in constitution for players age from 8 to 9 years old and above status only applies to BRDMHA members – Travel Operating Procedure – Appendix A - committee include travel director as lead and remove “1 other hockey person”

Motion seconded by Alex Dominato and carried unanimously.

Motion 2: OMHA/OHF additional funds for teams advancing to be incorporated into the Travel Operating procedures motion to approve \$500 (OMHA Semi Finals), \$500 (OMHA Finals) and \$1,000. (Final OHF)

Donations to teams are at the discretion of the Board of Director and are subject to change at any time.

Motion seconded by Dan Anger and carried unanimously.

Motion 3: BRDMHA to send \$1,000 donation to the Humboldt Go Fund Me fundraiser to show support for the victims of the accident. Donation to include a “pass the hat” at the Coaches Appreciation Dinner complete with a Jersey picture.

Motion seconded by Kenneth Poission and carried unanimously.

Election of Board Members – Jennifer Lafeber:

- Referee in Chief – Rich Burford
- Risk Management – Bod Bodchon
- Director of Registration – John Marchand
- Coaching Development – Rob Dembinski
- Hockey Operations and Scheduling – Mark Bateman
- Secretary – Jennifer Lafeber

- Director at Large – Jamie Fick
- Player Development – Peter Thomson
- Staff Member – Jay Menard

Congratulations to those individuals new to the Board!!!

Meeting adjourned 9:44 pm

Paul Gray, President

Approval Date

Next meeting – May 15, 2018 at 6:30pm

