



**Belle River District Minor Hockey Association**  
Board Meeting Minutes April 16, 2019 Atlas  
Tube Center, Belle River, Ontario

**In Attendance:** Rob Bodchon, John Marchand, Jennifer Lafeber, Paul Gray, Darren Crowley, Marco Levesque, Rob Dembinski, Alex Dominato, Frank Hamelin, Lisa VanSickle, Rob Halvorsen, Jamie Fick, Peter Thomson, Belle River District Minor Hockey Association General Membership

**Absent:** Mark Bateman, Rich Burford, Taylor VanSickle, Ken Poisson, Jay Menard

**Meeting Chair:** Paul Gray

**Recorder:** Jennifer Lafeber

**Meeting called to order by Paul Gray at 7:00pm.**

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**President's Welcome Message – 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. This year in Belle River we have provided hockey teams/leagues for over 840 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, and Peter Thomson. They did a great job in creating the drafts and helping foster fair competitive play for all our players. This season Players in Mites, Tykes and Novice saw some changes in programming that has been mandated by Hockey Canada. We believe this was a great and will aid in the continuous development we provide our grass roots players.

- 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 Third annual Atlas Cup and non-perishable 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 third consecutive year Belle River was successful in winning the cup.
- Once again we were successful in hosting Canadian Tire's First Shift program. I would again like to thank Peter Thomson, Rob Dembinski, JP Trepanier, 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. These players could not have been registered or played organized hockey before. This year we had registered over 45 new players who came out and got fitted in new gear and joined in and had fun with this program. The feedback was amazing. Following up on

the success from last year as well we have added an additional 6-week program for these players called the "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.
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- This year we hosted our 18th 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 70 teams and I believe this maybe our largest yet. The attendees 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 2018/2019 Bluewater 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 with both teams finishing as finalists.
- We also were fortunate to be selected to host the 2019 OHFs for the Atom group. This was a great success and thanks to the organizing committee, families, and coaching staff for making this such a memorable event.
- This is the end of our 50th year celebration. Wow what a year it was. Thanks to Jamie Fick and his group in making our association and alumni proud by packing the rink for with alumni from the Montreal Canadiens vs Belle River alumni in a game that will be remembered for years to come.
- 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. Unfortunately, we had to increase our registration amount due to these increases. 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.

### **Director Reports**

#### **Equipment – Rob Halvorsen:**

- Equipment is starting to be put away. I have lots to through. I will have 20 pylons ready in each rink for tryouts as well as trainer kits and water bottles.
- Also, if I could please get a rough team count for next season so I know how many trainer kits/water bottles we will need.
- Do we reuse water bottles or are they purchased every year?
- Hope to have Lower equipment room completely cleaned up in next week or two.

**Report accepted by Roy Garvey and seconded by Paul Gray**

**Director of Travel Scheduling – Mark Bateman:**

- Next years planning is well underway

**Registration – John Marchand:**

- Permission To Skate registration was opened on March 15th.
- Registration for 2019/2020 season was opened on April 1st at the new costs of \$375 for Mites and \$675 all other divisions.
- Currently processing player transfers in advance of Travel tryouts.

**Report accepted by Jamie Fick and seconded by JP Trepanier**

**Risk Management Officer – Rob Bodchon:**

- No Report

**Report accepted by Ron Gallant and seconded by Rob Dembinski**

**Referee in Chief –Rich Burford:**

- Both online applications for timekeeping and refereeing are now open
- Alex is sending out final e-transfers for the season as we speak

**Sponsorship and Communication – Ken Poisson:**

- No Report

**Treasurer – Alex Dominato:**

- Motion: For the 2019/2020 season – to continue with Hicks, McPherson, latonna, Driedger LLP for auditor and accountant for the association

**Motion seconded by John Marchand and carried unanimously.**

**Report accepted by Peter Thomson and seconded by Marco Levesque**

**Parents Club- Lisa VanSickle:**

- No Report

**Report accepted by Paolo Silvestri and seconded by Darren Crowley**

**Coaching Development – Rob Dembinski:**

- No Report

**Report accepted by Matt Decker and seconded by Rob Bodchon**

**Tournaments – Darren Crowley:**

- No Report

**Report accepted by John Marchand and seconded by Lisa VanSickle**

**Player Development – Peter Thomson:**

- No Report

**Report accepted by Jaret Wills and seconded by Daryll Smith**

**House League Atom to Juvenile – Frank Hamelin:**

- Going to start inputting player ratings
- Keeping track of coaches who want to return next season.

**Report accepted by Erin Cornway and seconded by Laura Lane**

**Director of Travel – Marco Levesque:**

- No Report

**Report accepted by Lisa VanSickle and seconded by Frank Hamelin**

**Director at Large– Jamie Fick:**

- No Report

**Report accepted by Tara Masse and seconded by Peter Thomson**

**New Business - Paul Gray:**

**Agenda :**

- 1) Approval of Agenda - Majority approval
- 2) Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting of the membership – Seconded by Frank Hamelin and carried Marco Levesque
- 3) Receiving of Directors reports of the activities of the association during the preceding year
- 4) Receiving information regarding planned activities of the association for the upcoming year
- 5) Treasurer report
- 6) Appointment of Auditor for the ensuing year
- 7) Consideration of any proposed amendments to the letters of Patent or Bylaws of the association.
- 8) Election of New Board

**Proposed Amendments of the Letters of Patent or Bylaws of the Association**

**Item: 2019-01**

By Paul Gray

Re: Housekeeping  
Bylaw - Travel Operating Procedures - 2.1C

Original

All Midget Major and Midget AE teams shall carry 17 skaters and 2 goalies. The Midget Minor team will have the option to have 15-17 skaters and 2 goalies; (October 2007)

Revise to

All Midget Major and shall carry 17 skaters and 2 goalies. The Midget Minor team will have the option to have 15-17 skaters and 2 goalies; (October 2007)

Rationale:

Our league no longer offers Midget AE hockey

**Amendment seconded by Jaret Wills and carried by Matt Decker.**

**Item: 2019-02**

By Paul Gray

Re: Housekeeping

Bylaw - Travel Operating Procedures - 2.1e

Any player requesting an NRP to their closest A center must first be released from the AA team. No exceptions. All current OMHA regulations regarding NRP passports will apply  
Revise to  
Any player requesting an NRP to an A center must first be released from the AA team. No exceptions. All current OMHA regulations regarding NRP passports will apply

Rationale:

Changes made by the OHF/OMHA removed the stipulation that released players can move to ANY surrounding A centre.

**Amendment seconded by Darren Crowley and carried by Lisa Vansickle.**

**Report accepted by Rob Bodchon and seconded by Darren Crowley**

**Election of Board Members – Jennifer Lafeber:**

- President\*

*Nominee - Paul Gray - Acclaimed*

*The Nominee has reached his term limit of four (4) years. He has advised the Board of Directors that he would stay in the position if there was no other candidate that would come forward.*

- Treasurer\*

*Nominee - Alex Dominato - Acclaimed*

*The Nominee has reached her term limit of four (4) years. She has advised the Board of Directors that she would stay in the position if there was no other candidate that would come forward.*

- Travel Director – Jamie Fick – Acclaimed via Ballot by membership (Reviewed by Alex Dominato and Verified by Laura Lane)
- Director of Player Development (one-year term) – Dan Holmes – Acclaimed
- Director of House League (Atom through Midget) - Frank Hamelin – Acclaimed
- Director of Tournaments – Darren Crowley – Acclaimed
- Equipment Manager – Rob Halverson – Acclaimed
- Parent’s Club – Anita Liviero – Acclaimed
- Sponsorship and Communication – Remains Open
- Director of Registration (interim) – Ron Gallant – Acclaimed
- Risk Management Officer – Rob Bodchon – Acclaimed
- Director at Large – JP Trepanier – Acclaimed

Congratulations to those individuals new to the Board!!!

**Report accepted by Greg Spencer and seconded by Katie Bezaire**

**Meeting adjourned 8:15 pm**



Paul Gray, President

5/21/2019

Approval Date

**Next meeting – May 21, 2019 at 6:30pm**

