



Belle River District Minor Hockey Association
Board Meeting Minutes January 19, 2019
Atlas Tube Center, Belle River, Ontario

In Attendance: Rob Bodchon, John Marchand, Rob Halvorsen, Jennifer Lafeber, Jamie Fick, Paul Gray, Peter Thomson, Darren Crowley, Ken Poisson, Marco Levesque,

Absent: Mark Bateman, Rich Burford, Alex Dominato, Frank Hamelin, Taylor VanSickle, Lisa VanSickle, Rob Dembinski, Jay Menard

Meeting Chair: Paul Gray

Recorder: Jennifer Lafeber

Meeting called to order by Paul Gray at 6:39pm.

Director Reports

Equipment – Rob Halvorsen:

- I have received 60 pylons which will be painted green this week and stenciled with BRDMHA. Than put in the equipment room for use.
- I believe Paul is working with source on day of champ medals. I received from Tim Horton's via dan anger Timbits medals for the tykes I assume. I will try to get a count of what was sent so we can ensure we have enough.
- Did a decent cleanup of the upper equipment room. Also, swept and mopped team's equipment room on main floor.
- I talked over at source and they have slowed significantly so I should be able to get Dave over to go through some socks for return.

Report accepted by Rob Bodchon and seconded by Jamie Fick

Director of Travel Scheduling – Mark Bateman:

- All house league completed as previously reported including Day of Champs allotments.
- Currently organizing OMHA and Bluewater playoff schedules
- MARCH BREAK ICE if there are any player development camps required over March break please let me know ASAP as I will be giving back the majority of ice during the break. As per past practice house league will not be scheduled the first weekend (March 9th and 10th) , yet will return the following weekend of the break (March 16th and 17th).
- Reminder 2019 House League Day of Champs is Saturday March 23rd.
- ATTENTION as I will be securing the 2019/2020 ice in February. If there are any changes or additions I will need to know come end of February.
- 2019/2020 Travel tryout dates and times will start to post the 2nd week of February.

Registration – John Marchand:

- Affiliate players added to many rosters.
- Team staff updates completed.
- All House League and Travel rosters have been completed and sent out to Coaches/Managers.

Report accepted by Rob Halvorsen and seconded by Kenneth Poisson

Risk Management Officer – Rob Bodchon:

- One incident regarding a Dad coach having hands on with his own child. Spoke with him after investigation. Needs to apologize to staff and players as well serves weekend suspension. Informed him that this will not be tolerated and next time he's off the bench.

Report accepted by John Marchand and seconded by Marco Levesque

Referee in Chief –Rich Burford:

- travel playdown assigning as well as H/L running smoothly

Sponsorship and Communication – Ken Poisson:

- No Report

Treasurer – Alex Dominato:

- Replaced all office furniture that was ruined in the office. New laptop and office supplies will be set up this week. New table will be arriving hopefully soon. Does anyone know where we ordered the other furniture from? Monarch? Looking to order 4 more ref chairs
- Continued to pay and work through any issues with ref e-transfers
- Refunds and reimbursements are still coming in - I have a pile that was placed in the main yesterday and a few still to issue.
- Working with travel managers to issue regular season mileage reimbursement. Majority of funds needed to be payed back from travel teams to the association have now been collected unless other arrangements have been made.
All travel teams were asked to front the funds for referees and mileage for playoffs and will be reimbursed with by round or at the end of the season.
- Family Discount will be added to website Feb 1st for BR families with 3 or more children playing.
- If any travel teams are looking for \$200-year end cheques, please advise the association is no longer doing that
- Waiting for documents to be handed back from HMID for 2017/2018 and monthly statements for this current year. Once they are returned to me electronically I will share with everyone prior to the upcoming meeting.
- In touch with the photocopier company to start the process of ending our contract with them once their is no penalty
- Deposited \$2900 from Montreal Alumni ticket sales early last week. Will keep taking cash on a weekly basis and depositing.

Parents Club- Lisa VanSickle:

- **No Report**

Coaching Development – Rob Dembinski:

- I am currently working on setting up coaching clinics for 2019. I plan to collaborate with Windsor on D1 and Coach Level 1&2 clinics this year to maximize attendance and share the work planning/hosting clinics.
- I am also working on travel coach re-certifications with various travel coaches using the new NCCP field evaluation process. This is on-going.
- Lastly, I plan to work with Alex on more efficient ways of reimbursement in 2019.

Tournaments – Darren Crowley:

- This years Randy Merton/Dan Holland Memorial tournament was one of the largest ever held. We had 67 teams participate, over the course of 3 days. There were 155 games played, at 3 different venues, using 9 different sheets of ice. We hosted 49 teams from outside of Essex county, all staying in hotels, including 3 teams from the United States, and from as far away as

Fort Erie and Oshawa. Teams were also present from different associations such as the GTHL and Alliance Hockey.

- In total we had 6 divisions compete and awarded championship plaques and medals 14 teams in 7 championship games.
- All participating teams were given a pizza party as part of their participation, and all participants were given a gift bag, including free samples and a souvenir puck. Also, all round robin, quarter final, semi final, and consolation games included a player of the game trophy for both teams.
- Tournament financials are still a work in progress at this time, I am currently in the process of collecting all rebate cheques from the hotels.
- This year, vendors were once again located in the Renaud Room at the ATC. This year they included a photographer, as well as a few unique items representatives. We also had PHL and Canadian tire approach us, and they had 2 reps on site doing a promotion, and they donated \$500 to the organization.
- This year we offered a 50/50 draw. This was of limited success due to the inability to sell tickets and will be better planned and assessed in the future. The total ticket sales were less than 400.
- Our volunteers were incredible, always on site, and on time..... this could not happen without them.
- Moving forward, in the coming months, I would like to address or refine the following.
 - -Use of the Renaud Room and vendor location, issue of cost and access.
 - -Team pizza party and the possible elimination, cost and staffing issue.
 - -Volunteer recruitment.
 - -Blackout dates for BR teams.
 - -Tourney price increase, assess other markets and value for dollar.
 - -Revisit our target age group if Novice fails to exist in the future.
 - -Assess our ceiling in terms of participation, hotel space and facilities.
 - -Use of outside agencies and software to aid in running tourney, provided it does not reduce revenue.
 - -Idea of sponsorship opportunities, local and large scale.
 - -Volunteer appreciation.
 - -Possible 2 tourneys, 1 travel and 1 jamboree.

Report accepted by Peter Thomson and seconded by Jamie Fick

Player Development – Peter Thomson:

- No Report

House League Atom to Juvenile – Frank Hamelin:

- Few complaints from M/J league about team balancing but the team complaining is not getting blown out, have won games or tied, so not making any changes.
- Some teams complaining about lack of scoresheets, but each team Atom-Bantam was given 10 sheets, enough for 20 games which should last until March and each M/J team was given 15 for 30 games, enough until Feb 19th. Working with Marco to acquire more.

Director of Travel – Marco Levesque:

APs

- All APs have been processed and forwarded to John Marchand for rostering.
- Over 50 players AP'd to higher level teams this year, great response from coaches furthering the commitment to development

Midget Major All Star Game

- Hosted by Tecumseh on December 6th at 7pm
- Provides Bluewater hockey players more opportunity for showcasing their talent, scouts of most Jr C teams were in attendance
- Belle River was represented by the following players: Evan Taylor (G), Caden Vanderpark (D), Kade Beuglet (D), Neil Vorshuk (F), Colton Candido (F), Kyle Emery (D)
- Excellent evening of hockey, big thanks for Tecumseh for hosting a well-run event

Tournament Success

So far this year, we have had a lot of success in tournaments:

- Novice AA: Champions - Halton Hills Best of the Best Tournament (Halton Hills) Oct 5-7
- Peewee AE: Champions - Fall Colours Tournament (Ann Arbor, MI) Oct 26-28
- Midget Minor: Champions - International Silver Stick Qualifier (Stratford) Nov 2-4
- Bantam AE : Champions - Motown Cup Tournament (Detroit, MI, USA) Nov 9-11
- Novice AA: Champions - International Silver Stick Qualifier (Georgina) Nov 15-18
- Bantam Minor AA: Champions - Buffalo Classic (Buffalo, NY) Nov 23-25
- Atom AE: Champions - Belle River Randy Merten/Dan Holland Tournament (Belle River) Nov 30-Dec 2
- Bantam AE: Champions - South Bend Irish Cup (South Bend, IN) Dec 7-9

Organization Success

- We currently have a record of 199-73-38
- Our total GF: 1298 GA: 734

Playdowns

- Breakdown of playdowns will be discussed at next BW meeting, January 7th. Likely not changing from format year prior.
- Playdowns begin January 12th
- More info to come

Report accepted by Rob Bodchon and seconded by Rob Halvorsen

Director at Large– Jamie Fick:

- Ticket sales for the Alumni game are on going.
- Ticket sales to be posted on “Snapped”
- Sponsorships are on going

Report accepted by Marco Levesque and seconded by Darren Crowley

New Business - Paul Gray:

Happy New Year, Welcome to 2019 and the start of our planning for the 2019-2020 season. However, there are many exciting things yet to come to close out this season. Playdowns, Playoffs, Day of Champions (BRDMHA, and Bluewater), Atom OHF Championships, Volunteer Banquet.

6:45pm - Delegation from the Atom OHF Committee to review what they have going on as Hosts of the Atom Major OHF Tournament.

Presidents Message

- I forgot at the dinner to thank everyone for all they do for our association. as cliché as it sounds If it was not for you guys our association would not be able to be what it is. On behalf of our players, parents I thank you all.
- For most part everything is going fine on my end. Waiting for a meeting with Terry to go over whatever he wants to go over.
- Been walking around arena over the past few weeks everything looks like It is going very well. Also, have observed many competitive games in House League.
- Budget meeting amongst Executive is coming up by end of month and beginning of Next Month to present to Board for approval hopefully in February
- If there are things you would like to see please forward me any of things for next year.
- Travel Jerseys are ordered for next season (novice through Juvenile)

- Pucks and Pylons. We will handle this different next season. The association will have 6 buckets of pucks in the Coaches room along with a number of Pylons, supplies etc. These will be put into the Community locker for our coaches use. The intent is after they are used they are to be returned to the locker. If coaches need or require extra pylons places such as National sports and Pro Hockey Life offer a Coaches kits that include pylons and other stuff. I will get Eric at ProHockey Life to get us a price and we can pass this onto our coaches.
 - Motion was presented over email for the medals an banner. – The majority selected Atom and Below Medals and Banners for Peewee and Above. 50th Anniversary Medals for Day of Champs have been ordered. Total Qty is 450 Mites – Atom House League will receive a medal
 - 50th Anniversary Banners for Day of Champs have tentatively been ordered. Question though is: My thought is we would put the number 50 in the background with the players name and anniversary logo on the banner. Any objections or would you rather see the players number and name?
 - In the past we never have given our travel teams anything. Is this something we would entertain this year? If so need to know NOW
 - Board Positions up for Election. **President*, Treasurer*, Travel Director*, House League Director, Tournaments, Equipment, Parents Club, Sponsorship.** – *Must come from Current board. Please send your intentions to me as soon as possible as we may need to recruit board members.
 - In the NEWS this week. 7-year-old Players and coach from Hespler Minor Hockey Association removed from Play for playing in an Outlaw League. Note. Be careful as to what you put your kids into and what and who you align yourselves with. If you have questions be sure to present them to an executive member for the right answers.
 - Coaches Evaluations will be coming out in the next little while. Please encourage all our parents and players to fill these out these help in our Selection process.
 - Travel coaching applications for 2019-2020 season will be coming out very soon as well.

Report accepted by Rob Bodchon and seconded by Rob Halvorsen

Meeting adjourned 8:58 pm

Paul Gray, President

Approval Date

Next meeting – February 19, 2018 at 6:30pm

