

**St. Thomas Minor Hockey Association
Board of Directors Meeting
February 20, 2012**

In Attendance: Chris Smith, Lisa Matchim, Steve Woolley, Peter Ostojic, Dale Nurse, Heiu Reid, Joe Bilyea, Brent Smith, Mike Brisson, Cindy Hodgins.

Regrets: Dave Thomson, Adrian Douglas, Sheila Nesbitt, Troy Carlson, Derek MacMillan.

Ex. Offico: Lisa Smith, Administrator

1. Meeting Called to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 7:06pm.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Minutes from the previous meeting were taken by Sheila, approval of minutes was tabled until Sheila's arrival.

3. Budget Committee Meeting:

The Budget Committee will meet Tuesday February 28th 7pm to review the 2012/13 budget.

4. Treasurer's Report:

Dale provided an update – we still have some Knights game money and sponsorship still to come in. There is also still some team money outstanding. Dale questioned how we deal with teams who have problems collecting Team Fees from families, it is a team fee so is the team is ultimately responsible. Dale would like to set up meetings with the team managers during the season to review such procedures and responsibilities. Next Season we need to develop a new procedure to collect team fees.

5. Tyke Tournament:

The volunteer schedule looks good, we are waiting to hear back from the Parkside Hockey Program some of the students would like to volunteer. Lisa will touch base with Mr. McIntyre. Awards and mini sticks are done, Sheila will be picking them up.

6. Travel Report:

Coaching Applications – to date we have received 4 applications – Select 7, Atom, Atom AE, Minor Pee Wee. Lisa will write up an article to attract more attention. The deadline is the same as last year, Joe pointed out most applications come in at the last minute and we can extend the deadline at the time if here are insufficient applications.

Tryouts – the committee meet to review the tryout procedures and the following changes were suggested:

1. Increase Fees as follows: Atom and below \$60, M. Pee Wee and above \$75
 2. Increase tryout times as follows:
Below Atom - 4 – 1 hr tryouts, one to be an exhibition game.
M. Pee Wee & Above – 4 – 1.5 hr tryouts, to include one exhibition game.
 3. A team tryouts will run from Aug. 13-30, AE tryouts from Sept. 4-21.
 4. Deadline to register for tryouts will be July 15th – this will allow us to add tryouts if needed.
- Chris will review the meeting notes for any further changes.

Based on the feedback from surrounding associations we could expect to see more NRP's this season.

'98 Travel Team – we cannot make an application to the OMHA until after registration. Joe has spoken to our REM and she indicated given the circumstances surrounding our '98 team this year it would appear we have a strong chance of being exempt from icing Major Bantam team for 2012/13.

Minor Novice Travel – we received a request from potential coaches to have a full Minor Novice Program next season instead of the current Select 7 program. It doesn't make sense to expand out Full Travel Program to younger age groups when Hockey Canada is in discussions to eliminate all Travel Hockey below Atom. Also this was done a few years back without much success.

Alliance Report – Meeting is tomorrow night. One discussion will be the OHA's request for Averaging of 16 year olds, it wouldn't change the number of 16 year olds who can play Junior Hockey in Ontario but it will allow flexibility in the number each team can carry. Overall there will be little change to our program.

OMHA Report – First round of Shamrock League playoffs have been scheduled. AE All Stars Games will be April 1st in Strathroy. Joe requested feedback from the Coaches on the OMHA Preliminary Tournaments and the majority of coaches disliked the double knock out format, some teams played up to 4 games in a 24 hour period. The double knock-out format doesn't work for hockey.

7. House League Report:

Final Day - is March 3rd – Tommy Whites is sponsoring the Day - Mike is looking after the food, Sheila will be looking after awards and door prizes. Instead of purchasing a lot of little prizes Sheila suggested we get 1 or 2 big prizes and have all the players put their name in for a draw, she will talk to Mark at Tommy Whites about it. Mike will look after scheduling volunteers for the day. Midget Final day will be March 5th – Steve will help out that night.

All Star Games – Will be March 10th – Chris will confirm the commitment from the Old Angels. Lisa will schedule the games for a hour-fifteen to allow for player announcements, we will need someone on hand for game day operations. Heiu will look after sorting Jerseys prior to the event.

8. Travel Banquet:

Mike has checked with the hall and possible dates are April 15th or 22nd. Mike will confirm the hall for the 22nd of April. Chris will co-ordinate with Sheila on a Guest Speaker possibly Greg McKeeg. It was suggested we request teams to come in game day attire.

9. New Business:

Pee Wee House League Coach [REDACTED] – we received 4 written complaints regarding the conduct of a coach from the Elgin Mall Pee Wee House League team. The Coach was issued a GM21 and GRM60 by the Referees. The coach in question verbally abused the referee, used offensive language and threatened then while banging a stick on the glass at them. One of the Referee's also noted he was "grabbed" by a female on his way to the referee's room after the game however they were unable to determine if it was the Coaches wife. Chris asked Mike to remind the Referees that if they are ever touched by a coach or parent or if they ever feel threatened in any way they should go directly to the Referee Room, lock the door and call the police. Chris will inform the Coach, via registered mail that he is suspended and banned from the arena for the remainder of the season.

Novice House League Parent – the Novice House League convenor informed Chris he received 4 or 5 emails in a span of 2 or 3 hours from the parent regarding a fill in goalie. Chris will respond to his email from the parent and let him know we are done discussing the issue.

Board Members wondered if we are required to accept registrations from all players, given some of the problems we have faced this year is there justification for not allowing families to register for hockey? Nobody wants to see a child suffer because of the actions of a parent, but at the same time we have to consider the hockey environment we are providing for the rest of our membership. Perhaps this is something to review in the future.

Jerseys – Steve questioned how the Jerseys were standing up, nobody has any complaints on them and they still look good. It was asked if we would require all players to purchase new jersey's next season, Chris would like to leave that for Derek to address at the next meeting.

10. Next Meeting Date:
Tuesday March 20th – 7pm.

Motion #045 02/21/2012
To Adjourn.
S. Woolley/C. Hodgins

Carried.