

**St. Thomas Minor Hockey Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**In Attendance:** Rhonda Rickwood, Cindy Hodgins, Charmaine Goddeeris, Chris Smith, Derek MacMillan, Clay Trumble, Dave Thomson, Rob Clark, Brian Jacobs, Sheila Nesbitt, Lois Corkum, Doredi Contrado, Mike Brisson, Steve Woolley.

**Regrets:** Troy Carlson, Adrian Douglas

**Ex Officio:** Lisa Smith

**1. Meeting Called to Order:**

Meeting was called to order at 6:05, by Brian Jacobs.

**Motion # 36 02/26/2009**

**To approve the minutes of the January 22, 2009 meeting.**

**Contardo/Smith**

**Carried.**

There was no business arising from the January minutes.

**2. Special Events:**

**Travel Banquet** – quotes for the dinner were requested and Park Place was the cheapest. The committee is still working on a guest speaker for the banquet; if anyone has a suggestion please let them know.

**Knights Game- Golf Tournament** – Currently the 2 events are scheduled for the same day, the Knights game is set and cannot change, Dave is looking for direction on changing the golf tournament.

Points to consider:

- Currently we have a Saturday afternoon booked for the Golf Tournament, which could be key in increasing attendance.
- People could still attend both, but if they are leaving the golf tournament early to go to the Knights game the silent auction might suffer.
- There was concern over the number of volunteers needed to run both events at the same time. Dave noted minimal volunteers are needed at the end of the golf day.

The biggest concern was having our 2 main funding raising events in conflict with each other, it would be a disservice to both. Dave will contact the golf course to see if there are any other Saturday dates available in August or September. If there are none, we will find a way to make it work.

Doredi suggested we add more family oriented events around the Knights game. Brian pointed out we can do a better job with sponsorship this year. Things like having a sponsor on the back of the tickets, to pay for the printing costs. We may also be able to sell assigned seating this year.

**3. House League:**

Clay reported that there had been a couple of suspensions handed down, some were handled by Adrian. The All Star Games are being held March 7<sup>th</sup>. As Tyke Convener Derek requested that players who are involved in the Tyke Select program not be used in the All Star game to allow the other players a chance to shine.

**4. Treasurers Report:**

Sheila pointed out we have not utilized the Nevada money yet this year, one of the items it can be used towards is ice bills if that's okay with everyone, it was.

We received a cheque from Format Industries; Cindy indicated the Bantam team had been waiting for some sponsorship money from them for their Europe Trip. Sheila will issue the Bantam team a cheque for the donation.

For next year we need to better job with screening and managing subsidized players. Sheila will continue talk with Ontario Works about screening families for us. Sheila also suggested we establish a fund from which to draw the player's subsidies, could we earmark something like sign board sponsorship for this? Some board members questioned if we have to help a family with their general registration fee, should they be allowed to play travel?

Budget and Finance committee needs to meet soon to establish registration fees for next season.

**Motion # 37 02/26/2009**

**To approve the Treasurer's Report.**

**Smith/Rickwood**

**Carried.**

**5. Ice Report:**

Lisa presented the ice report until the end of January, there were no questions. Chris pointed out that the teams using the morning practice should see an advantage or they will decline to use them next season and we will have less prime time ice for practices. Sheila pointed out that we should not make it a stipulation on coaches that they have to be able to use the am times, because some coaches are just not able to commit to them. Steve suggested we need to establish what our ice needs are first. Lisa and Brian suggested a planning session specifically for the ice committee be convened to work through these issues.

**6. Travel Report:**

OMHA/Shamrock – there are no problems or issues here.

Alliance – There was a new proposal presented at the last Alliance meeting to deal with their structure for the 2009/10 season. The proposal would see London Jr. Knights move to 2 AAA teams and 4 Forest City teams join the Seeded league. This would see an increased game schedule. The proposal has been tabled until the next Meeting, Chris will keep the Board up to date.

It was pointed out that we had some complaints about the season structure from some teams. The Pee Wee team has been sitting a month waiting for their Alliance playoffs to start. Should we re-evaluate our leagues? It was pointed out that we have 3 options and we would get complaints about all 3. Chris pointed out that the structure change to the Alliance would mean we would return to playing the second half of the season.

Locker Room – the storage room is complete, but we have found there is not enough locker space for the Midget Team equipment so we are having 2 additional double sized lockers built in the back room.

**7. Registration Report:**

We are moving to the Hockey Canada Registration system for the 2009/10 season , Lisa & Rhonda will be attending a training session March 8<sup>th</sup> and will report back.

The Board reviewed the suggestions for 2009/10 Registration:

- Registration to Start – April 15<sup>th</sup>

- Continue option to post date cheques until September 1<sup>st</sup>, with increased frequency 15<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, to help families spread their payments out.
- Handouts to all the schools
- Offer Registration information/forms at house league final day, if we're ready we could even accept registrations then too.
- Registration form on the web site to down load and pay via mail.
- 3 Registration days to be determined.
- New Registration deadline of July 1<sup>st</sup>:
  1. This is not out of line with other centres or sports (for soccer you must register by Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> / season starts 3<sup>rd</sup> week in May 3 months before) July 1<sup>st</sup> would be 3 months before the start of House League.
  2. This will mean we have only 1 deadline for Travel & House league
  3. It will allow us to set # of teams and schedules for house league sooner
- Eliminate the \$100 late fee, instead work it in as a savings ie: if you register before July 1<sup>st</sup> you save \$50.
- Build an Administration Fee into the Refund Policy ie: All refunds are subject to a \$25.00 administration fee. This will cover, the cost of writing the cheque, stamp, envelope, administrators and treasurer's time to process etc.

Everyone was in agreement with all suggestions.

**8. *Tournament Report:***

The Tyke Tournament will start Friday, volunteers are still needed for Sunday. Brian asked Lisa to review the tournament format to be sure things were clear.

**9. *New Business:***

**AGM Date** – last year we have the AGM early hoping to attract more people, that didn't appear to work so it was suggested going back to the old time line and have the AGM when the financial reports are ready. The AGM will be held May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Bantam Europe Trip** – for next year it was suggested that we open up the Europe Trip to all Bantam aged Travel Players.

***Motion # 38 02/26/2009***

***To Adjourn.***

***Smith/Goddeeris***

***Carried.***

***Next Meeting Date:***

March 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm Timken Centre.