

BOARD MEETING November 24, 2021

7:30 PM / via ZOOM Webconference

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Julie M.	Beth F.	Brian V.
Matt W. (8:24)	Steve. M.	Ryan M.
Graham P.	Kevin F.	Alex. M.
Margaret D. (7:45)	Mark L.	Ian J. (Head Trainer)

Absent: No Staff present
Darren B.

Welcome and Call to order – 7:36pm motion by Ryan M., second by Beth F.

Approval of minutes from October 26, 2021 – motion by Kevin F., second by Brian V.
All approved.

Business Arising from minutes from last meeting:

- IT - Social Media (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook) – Brian V.
 - o In communications with Mohawk, awaiting referral to correct department, seem keen to participate
 - o Facebook and Instagram accounts to be transferred to Brian from Paul and will be moved to intern once decided
- Coaches Appreciation Night – Graham P.
 - o 28 signed up to come at BP Ancaster
 - o Total cost approved increased to \$2100 to include board members, however, food costs are lower - \$513 total food as we have half of the people we originally budgeted for
 - o Will provide 2 drink tickets per person
- Photo Day – Julie M.
 - o Move pictures to January – too much of a rush for prior to Christmas
 - o Need to confirm with city on where we can do it within arena
 - o 8-4 full day – aim for last 2 Saturdays in Jan. to spread out teams
 - o Schedules will be made for all teams
- Goalie Equipment Update – Darren B. – not available
- New IP Director – Ryan M.
 - o Working on posting to put up on website
- Operations Manager – Brian V.
 - o Has someone lined up who has come out of the sports management program at Brock who can provide some guidance when we are ready for further discussions on what we will need
 - o Define role, need budget, will depend on Bombers vote

Staff Reports:

Introduction of New Head Trainer – Ian Jones

- Non-parent volunteer who came on as a trainer in U11 and was approached for this position with the following qualifications:

- Growing up in Iroquois Falls, a small town 1 hr north of Timmins, Ian played minor hockey all the way through to his U17 season. He was a certified Hockey Canada on-ice official for over 7 years attaining a level 3 certification, and officiating up to major and minor U17 AAA. Attending Western University Ian graduated with an Honors Bachelor of Science in Psychology, and moved to Hamilton in 2018 to study Medicine at McMaster University. Graduating in 2021 Ian is now completing his Emergency Medicine residency through McMaster University. With a passion for volunteering and working with kids, Ian is looking forward to serving as head trainer for the AMHL. He is excited to contribute to the development of youth on and off the ice, ensuring a safe and fun experience that builds up everyone involved.

Referee-in-chief – Kevin McK. (Beth F. reporting)

- Lost a number of officials due to not returning because of COVID
- Most associations have lost officials – OMHA lost over 1000
- New referee clinic information was slow to come out from OMHA, many went to Alliance who had sessions available, hoping they can cross over now to OMHA
- Recertification was slow to come out, but officials are reverting as OMHA is not putting a deadline on recertifications being completed.
- Officials have been stepping up to ensure no games are cancelled, however, burnout an issue
- For Novice cross-ice – coaches need to be prepared to run games as limited number of level 1 refs available and many are too young to drive
- Novice/Atom cross-tice do not require timekeepers – when they move to full ice, will be reassessed
- Single games are hard to fill, especially with Select
- All officials have taken a maltreatment course in regards to the new section on abuse of officials, players and coaches towards players. – remind parents of zero tolerance on abuse of officials.
- Select games are paid in cash – amounts were forwarded to coaches
- Christmas tournaments this year will be taking up a lot of officials during the week of Dec. 27th – 2 HL and 1 AAA tournament run at the same time

Registrar – Heather B. (Graham P. reporting)

- HL teams are rostered which has allowed for Select teams to be rostered.
- New version of gender identity training released, only need to take if you haven't taken the previous course
- Margaret to help Heather with obtaining a list of who needs what training

Directors Reports:

Finance – Margaret D.

- Statements sent to board for review, no questions
 - o Budgeted for \$22K shortfall, up to \$44K – will be covered through contingency fund from GIC cashed in.
 - o Kept out \$50K and reinvested \$100K back into GIC
- Registration was down, minimal sponsorship due to COVID
- Costs per player went up overall to cover fixed costs
- Sponsors have indicated they want to come back once they are back on their feet
- Several sponsors were just not able to contribute this year

Sponsorship – Kevin F.

- Sponsors have appreciated jerseys that we have given

- Cobb's and Albatross are very happy with the increase in business due to AMHL discounts.
- Clothing sale may happen, working on trying to increase and advertise sales for Christmas – Breakaway has set up an online store – 5% of yearly sales back to AMHL
- Licence plate covers sold through website and direct ordering - \$5 from each cover back to AMHL

Special Events – Julie M.

- AMHL participation in Bulldogs Teddy Bear Toss game to benefit MacKids:
 - o Cost to AMHL \$3600 but would recoup cost through ticket sales (300 at least)
 - o Ticket cost is \$15 with \$3 from each ticket going to MacKids beyond 300 tickets
 - o 50/50 fundraiser to MacKids – need volunteers to run
 - o Chuck-a-puck proceeds to MacKids – need volunteers to run
 - o there will be administrative/communication help required on this as we are on a shortened timeline (of course) and will require HL coaches/managers support
 - o Concern from board members is limited amount of time to get volunteers to help and to sell tickets (no automated process for ticket sales), not enough time as game is in less than a month
 - o Minimal amount of donation in the end to go to MacKids

MOTION by Matt W. seconded by Julie M. to not participate in the Bulldogs Teddy Bear Toss game as presented but to go back to Bulldogs to suggest alternatives. All Approved.

- o Matt W. to go back to the Bulldogs with our concerns and suggest an alternative plan to contribute to fundraising for MacKids.

Senior House League – Graham P.

- Going well
- COVID case dealt with a team – following public health guidelines
- Select tournaments with U16 and 18 this weekend
- Playoff weekend ready to go

Junior HL – Brian V.

- Goalie issue – U11 not enough, starting to show as an issue as kids are rotating through position which leads to an imbalance in the games
- Need to find a solution as U11 will move to U13 and can't have kids rotating at that age
- PK goaltending asked to put a proposal together for a training program for goalies
- Find a way to entice kids to take on position – ie. Subsidized registration
- Referee issue over the weekend – 3rd period was too short, would not fill the full time
- Will provide Referees again with the full timing for each division so that the whole hour is being used and copy all directors so that everyone is aware of the direction
- Matt to have a discussion with Kevin to review issues and how to help

Initiation Program – Ryan M. substitute

- U7 activities cancelled last weekend due to a positive COVID case – Public Health recommended to cancel whole program for the weekend
- Everyone seemed understanding
- Returning this weekend
- Reiterate protocols, mask wearing, change room capacity, additional change rooms available from city, contact tracing
- CHiPs running well – jerseys are in
- Working with city on flooding between U6, U7 and U8 to not have to remove boards
- Goalie equipment is out for U8

Rep directors – Steve M. and Alex M.

- Navigating OMHA suspension list – quite a lot in senior division
- AP requests for HL/LL players have been coming through, should they have tried out for Bombers first? Has not come up thus far, however, may need to have more available
- OMHA flexible on rostering any number of APs
- OMHA approving APs now, requests and approvals are moving through
- Steve to confirm if we can approve AP if they haven't tried out for Bombers
- 2 teams under quarantine U12AA and U10AA until Dec. 3

Development – Mark

- no new updates

Standing Agenda Items:**Ancaster/Glanbrook Pilot**

- no new updates

New Business:

- Contact tracing protocols with city
 - o City feels we are doing a good job with QR code
 - o Updated reminder communication to forward to coaches and through website on masks, QR code for contact tracing, and procedure if someone becomes ill
 - o Give all trainers access to contact tracing QR code system to bring up
 - o Post QR signs at the vaccination verification table for better visibility
- Super Saturday – defer to next meeting
- Head Trainer – Ian J.
 - o Review policies
 - o Can help with COVID group as well
- December meeting on Dec. 15 or 16 – Beth to follow up

Adjournment – 9:20 pm motion by Graham P., second by Beth F.