

WHISTLER MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
(the “**Association**”)

MINUTES OF A MEETING of the Board of Directors of the Association held at Meadow Park Sports Complex at 7:06 pm (Pacific Time) on February 12, 2024.

PRESENT:

Louise Tomcheck (LT), Nadia Demers (ND), Norma Gonzalez Felix NGF), Kevin Sopp (KS), , Todd Carter (TC), Trish Nakagawa (TN), Wade Sutton (WS), Jordan Harvey (JH), Chris McKinney (CM)

REGRETS:

Aaron Hoverd, Karen Davies

BLOCK 1

A. Call to Order and Quorum and Declaration of Meeting

Notice of the Meeting having been given to all the Directors of the Association, with the consent of the Meeting, Louise Tomcheck acted as Chair and Todd Carter acted as Recording Secretary.

The Chair noted that a quorum of the Directors was present and declared the Meeting open for the transaction of business.

B. Approval of Agenda

The Chair advised the Meeting that the Agenda had been previously circulated to all members of the Board and was approved as presented. (CM/WS)

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the Meeting of January 8, 2024 were approved as amended (WS/KS).

BLOCK 2

D. President Report

- Three WMHA teams brought banners home – U15FC, U15A and U18C.
- Louise and Trish attended virtual PCAHA semi-annual AGM. Concern that a possible proposed change to the U11A title could increase the struggle to retain members against the non-sanctioned leagues. Some MHA are concerned that members are utilizing rule loopholes to register at private clubs.
- Lions Gate League meeting last week. Jim Fryer U18C tournament fundraising has fallen short so associations will make up difference.

- Grateful for Ainslie Conway as new WMHA social media person. The Board will establish guidelines for approval process.
- Referee issues are emerging. Multiple complaints from parents and players around too many penalties in general and lopsided imbalance against Whistler home teams. These should be documented and will be bumped to Hockey Canada for potential action. Also, complaints from referees around verbal abuse from players, coaches and players. We need an environment of support and collaboration. Corey has taken the lead and will mentor senior officials. Third party observers also recently assessed local games and determined they met the MHA levels of expectation. WMHA has funds available for referee development.

E. Treasurer Report

- Consider leveraging surplus funds to purchase gear and equipment for new hockey players.
- Hockey banquet tentatively scheduled for April 4th.
- May need additional funding for referees in new budget – house team playing closer to 20 games then ten games.

BLOCK 3

F. Policy Updates

- Todd Carter to update Bylaws to capture new policies around penalty minutes and suspensions. Remove Lions Gate League teams from the policy because current policy potentially translates to double jeopardy. Practically speaking, the new policies only apply to rep teams and female C teams.
- Motion to make suspensions discretionary in playoffs. (LT/WS). Carried.

G. Bears Update

- Too early to make decisions around team formation. Will vote in March meeting and announce teams prior to Spring Break. First ID camp early April. Final team announcement end of April. Main camp mid-August.
- Looking like five teams at the rep level. May be three U18 rep teams. We need three 90-minute ice times ... which is covered because female ice time already 90 minutes.
- No ice time or interest issues to constrain a potential U18F Bears team.
- WMHA can support one U15 Bears team and one or two U18 Bears team.
- Coaches always a concern for Bears team.
- U13 Bears team still not logical based on morning ice times.
- Mike Borelli looking for long-term commitment to Bears program but not sure what that looks like – will always depend on numbers and ice times.
- Circulate intent to play from Mar 4 – Mar 10.

H. DOH Contract

- Some board members will draft a contract for review.

I. Esso Fun Days + Development Communication

- A member is interested in organizing development days leveraging the Esso Fun Days program. The Board is supportive but experience indicates the program may be more work than it was worth as they chose the days for the program, which is limiting. They also require a huge area to dress the kids with the equipment. Suggestion was to provide our own program instead and possibly use development funds to provide gear for some of these kids.
- Amanda didn't show for two development sessions last week with no communication. Jesse didn't show for U15C development camp.

J. Other Business + In Camera

- None.

L. Termination of Meeting

- Meeting adjourned: 9:13 pm
- Next Meeting: March 11, 2024, 7:30 pm at MPSC