

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 23, 2007

BLACKBURN MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Meeting is called to order at 7:05pm. Jim thanks all attendants. Jim has described the meeting itinerary.

Motion to approve the minutes from last year. Motion by Karen Jacques-Irving seconded by Stewart Shonfield. Passed by majority. All are in favor the motion is passed unanimous. Bruce Fanjoy objects to the fact that there are no hard copies of last years minutes. Objection has been noted.

Present: Karen Jacques-Irving, Monique Hayes, Fiona Daigle, Tammy Lynch, Paul Marquis, Catherine Tremblay, Jim Shepherd, Maurice Archambault, Randy Arnott, Cathy Parent, Lori Pancel, Bev McKeown, Stewart Shonfield, Erich Neumann
Missing – Greg Smallwood, Kim Edwards

Catherine asked to have all reports sent to her electronically for accuracy purposes.

President – Jim Shepherd

Jim thanks all those who are in attendance. Minutes will be posted on the internet as soon as all reports are received by Catherine.

Speaking Notes for Presidents Report

It's been an interesting year...

- Thanks to the Executive
- Plans to put the Assn in good standing for future
- Support and guidance from GHA
- Ice distributed evenly throughout the league
- New Rep B Agreement underway – to be signed w/in the next month pending the approval of the newly elected BMHA Board

Motion to accept report by Jim Walker seconded by Kim Shonfield and Motion carried by majority.

VP Hockey Operations – Greg Smallwood (Presented by Jim)

Aims and Objectives

- Players have overwhelmingly indicated that they enjoyed playing with their team this year, with greater than 95% saying so.

Coaches

- We are fortunate to have a first-rate group of coaches, who put many hours and a lot of heart into developing our children as players and as good citizens.
- The players evaluations of the coaches resulted in an overall rating of 89% out of the maximum, and 92% indicated that their coaches were “Excellent” or “Good”. 87% of players indicated they would want the same coach next year.
- Parent evaluations of coaches were implemented this year, and they were similar to the player evaluations, although there was more feedback in the comments section, both praise and valuable suggestions. The parents evaluations of the coaches resulted in an overall rating of 87% out of the maximum, and 89% indicated they would want the same coach next year.

GHA

- We retained the vast majority of our practice ice and home games at the Blackburn Arena, an improvement introduced last year.
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BMHA Success

- I know all our teams would like to be competing for the championship every year. Out of our nineteen House League teams, four were regular season division champions, Seven teams made it to the semi-finals round of the playoffs, five of those advanced to the Finals, with three emerging as playoff champions. Congratulations to all the BMHA teams for a well-contested season within the GHA.
- Many of our teams performed well in tournaments – too numerous to mention all of them, but it was particularly gratifying to hear of teams that were having a trying season in league play raise the bar in tournament play.
- Success is not measured by winning, but by players developing a love for the sport of hockey, and the players have overwhelmingly indicated that we are achieving this goal.

Volunteers

- Our organization is run entirely by volunteers at all levels, from the coaches and team officials to the members of the Board. Their time and effort is greatly appreciated.

VP Administration Maurice Archambault

Many thanks to all board members who performed their duties so well they made mine a breeze. One area requiring some streamlining is police checks in the area of timelines re: the gap in submitting and the return of the checks.

VP of Finance (Invite Kim to make report regarding the canteen)

Fiona presents her financial statement to the board and the parent community. The fees in out hockey association have not been raised for about 6 years and therefore this year we are forced to raise them by \$35 dollars which will bring the registration to \$385 for early and \$415 for regular registration. The fees are raised mostly because of the cost of the ice that has gone up substantially every year.

Financial Statement attached to the minutes. (excel format)

Mike Peski: Although BMHA has the cash (fund) to pay for the jerseys every five years, the proper financial reporting procedure of the jersey expenditure is to include it as a separate line item (column) under “Other Expenses”. Thus, the Total Expenditure for the 2006/07 season should be $\$149,295 + \$26,527 = \$175,822$, as it reflects the expense in the year that it occurred. Naturally, a footnote would disclose the justification and requirement of new jerseys, which should be generally accepted by the membership. Under this scenario the actual expenses for 2006/07 would exceed revenue and the net affect would be $\langle \$21,902 \rangle$. Having the Reserve Fund Expenditure reported separately under Total Revenue Minus Total Expenditures expenses, is not a true representation of the operations for this given season.

The true essence of a Reserve Fund does entitle the BMHA to set-up a jersey fund to reflect an on going commitment that is required in its operations. However, every five years the Association will naturally incur a similar financial scenario where expenditures exceed revenue to reflect the jersey expense. Otherwise, the excess revenue will appear as a credit every year during the build-up but the actual lump sum payment will never appear as an expenditure in total operations.

The purpose of my inquiry was to ensure that the proper financial presentation is in place. Our chartered accountant had offered to show a different way of presenting the expense should the executive be interested. Hope this helps!

Mike Peski
President
CARHA Hockey

Fiona Daigle: Mike, I will look into what you are asking, this is the way it has been and I'm continuing in the same fashion. Thank you I appreciate your comment.

Motion to accept the executive report; Motion by Gord Burnside, seconded by Cathy Parent all this in favour, motion carried by majority.

Registrar/Secretary – Catherine Tremblay

As most of you know, this was my last year as Registrar for personal and professional reasons I feel I can no longer fulfill my position to best of my abilities. I will miss everyone as I have made great friendships but a great person will be filling my shoes and I have great faith he will do a great job. I wanted to thank the board for always doing a great job with the kids and making my job a little easier. I also wanted to thank the parents, as we can see from those who are here how many caring parents are in

Blackburn hockey. Over the last four years on the board (one as IP Convener) we have gone through 3 different systems and now I think Hockey Canada has finally found the database that will work out best.

This year was a very interesting year with high emotion of dedicated board members and parents to their children but in the end working together created the best results.

In closing, thank you to the board for allowing me to service the hockey community over the last four years, it has been a great experience. I've learned many things that I plan to carry with me for a long time. Being involved with the Blackburn Minor Hockey has been very rewarding.

Discipline – Bev McKeown

Initially, with the introduction of the “new emphasis of the existing rules”, as outlined by the RIC, I had expected a busy year for trackable incidents for the 2006-07 season, based on the frustrations that I thought the coaches and players might experience. However, the season was quite uneventful. The association, including 2 Blackhawk teams, served a total of 43 game suspensions, which included 1 match penalty, 1 gross misconduct, 10 fights and 1 ODMHA Hearing. There was 1 coach GM. There is only 1 carryover suspension for next season-an assistant coach.

I must echo the VP Ops report in saying that our coaches did a great job and this was reflected on the ice. The teams were well balanced, thanks to the convenors, were challenged to their ability and thus the athletes were focused on the game.

I commend everyone involved with the teams and their ongoing season for keeping the athletes on the straight and narrow. It was a pleasure to be involved in the discipline of these athletes. I expect to be involved again next year in the discipline position.

Equipment Manager – Stewart Shonfield

Stinger jerseys were purchased this year, amount spent is reflected in Fiona's financial report.

Ways and Means and Public Relations– Lori Pancel

My term as Public Relations Director started off in June with the rounding up of the Blackburn Stingers for the ever-popular Fun Fair Parade. The stingers proudly paraded down Bearbrook, front and centre this year behind our very own Denis Gubranson, last years Parade Marshall. I am happy to say that each year more and more Stingers attend this event and hopefully this year will be no exception.

To advertise in the community for registration this past year, I had sent flyers to the local schools in our area, for Jr. and Sr. Kindergarten, and Grades 1 and 2. This helped with getting the word out into the community for our June registration.

For the first time last season, we posted our evaluation schedule at the beginning of September on our website. This enabled families to better plan for the evaluations and I received a lot of good feed back on this. It was widely accepted by our membership. The information board at the arena was updated as required with any information relevant to the start up of the season as well as during the season.

My Coaches and Trainer clinics were totally booked early in October. Many of our new coaches and trainers attended and were certified prior to the beginning of the season due to the availability of these clinics in Blackburn.. The BMHA hosted a Coaches Appreciation meet and greet at the Blackburn Arms this past November, which was attended by many new and returning coaches. It was a great way to start off the season.

My tournament update board was quickly taking shape early in the season, as many Stinger teams participated and won local and away tournaments. The website as well provided for a good read each month, with new and exciting hockey updates being posted there regularly.

I have been kept busy making room for all the new trophies in our trophy case, and the banners for our 3 Championship teams have been ordered and will be up in the arena by the beginning of the 2007-08 season. The plaques for the Coach and Volunteer of the year have been ordered and the recipients will be announced at this years dance.

Last year the BMHA decided that to thank all our wonderful volunteers, the cost for the Volunteer Appreciation Dance would be covered by the BMHA for volunteers and guest. Last year we had over 130 people attend this event, and by the way the tickets have been going this year, I am sure to have many or more attend this years event. The feedback was great on this event. The board decided that to keep within our budget for the dance we would continue to offer tickets free to volunteers and guests and replace the dinner with a light snack throughout the evening.

As this will be my last term as an Executive with the BMHA, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the board for the opportunity to serve Blackburn Minor Hockey. It has been a rewarding experience and I wish the new board every success.

Ice Scheduling – Karen Jacques

No report submitted..

Motion to accept the 5 report of the board. Motion by Kim Shonfield, seconded by Paul Hayes. Motion passed by majority.

IP – Kim Edwards - Absent

No report submitted, carried forward to next year's new business.

Novice – Erich Neumann

This year we had 47 players. They all had a fantastic year and they all enjoyed the program. We were blessed with many volunteers. Great coaches. They all picked up the fundamentals. Novice B brought back the banner for the year. I want to thank everyone on the board, everyone who helped out with the evaluations but I will help out at a team level.

Atom - Tammy Lynch

Atom C

- finished 9th (out of 9 teams) overall in regular season, record of 2-17-1
- in playoffs, they lost in the round robin
- although only two season wins, players were not discouraged and still had fun

Atom B1

- finished 5th (out of 16 teams) overall in regular season, record of 11-6-3
- in playoffs, they lost in the round robin
- participated in a couple of tournaments, no wins
- great coach to work with

Atom B2

- finished 10th (out of 16 teams) overall in regular season, record of 9-8-3
- in playoffs, they lost in the round robin
- participated in tournaments, no wins
- great coach to work with

Atom B3

- finished 11th (out of 16 teams) overall in regular season, record of 8-8-4
- in playoffs, advanced to semi-finals and lost 4-3
- participated in tournaments, no wins

Atom A

- finished 2nd (out of 12 teams) overall in regular season, record of 14-4-2
- in playoffs, first 3 games were shutouts, advanced to finals and lost 2-1
- participated in 5 tournaments, won 2 of them
- dedicated coaching staff

Peewee – Monique Hayes

Peewee A finished the season in 1st place and also won the playoffs.

Peewee B1 finished in 14th place for the season.

Peewee B2 finished in 2nd place for the season.

A good season was had by all.

Peewee Tournament Report – Norm Robillard

No report sent.

Bantam – Paul Marquis

There were three Bantam teams this year, one A and two B's. They all performed brilliantly on and off the ice, everyone had a lot of fun, won some tournaments, and there were no disciplinary action or suspension throughout the season. Under the leadership of Jeff Billingham, Bantam A finished in 4th place overall with a record of 13, 7 and 4.

Bantam A attended 4 tournaments: The Bell Sensplex in December, which they won, the Cougar Cup in January, St Jean sur Richelieu also in January, and Ottawa Roger Neilson Year End Tournament, where they made it to the semi final. The team was eliminated in the quarter-final of post-season play by Russell, who had finished in 1st place and won the league championship.

Bantam B1, led by veteran Blackburn coach Randy Arnott, had an outstanding season, finishing with a incredible record of 21, 1 and 2, and easily finishing in first place overall by 4 points, in a 24-team division! They played in two tournaments, Oswego New York in February and St Laurent during March break, the team went undefeated and won the St Laurent tournament. In league playoffs, the team breezed undefeated through the round-robin, only to be upset in the semi final by Cumberland 7. This single game knock-down was, in fact, only their second loss overall in all season play, including regular season and playoffs!

Bantam B2 had an equally fantastic year, under the dynamic guidance of Head Coach Todd Clarke. B2 Team had wonderful 17, 2 and 5 record, and was in 4th place overall, only one point shy of the 2nd place. Their strong record nevertheless pitted them against their Blackburn brethren in the post-season round-robin and they lost a very very close match against B1 on March 19, which essentially knocked-them off the semifinals, as there were no quarter finals in the Bantam B pooling structure this year.

Overall I can categorically say that all teams did extremely well, and parents were very pleased with the season. If there was one cloud in this clear sky, it was the teams' dissatisfaction with the amount of practice ice. While we all recognize the rarity of ice, the fact remains that ice is indeed available for purchase, if one has the time to look for it. However, coaches and managers are not always able to spend the significant time needed to continually look for additional ice, which sometimes come only available at moments notice and sells quickly. I believe the BMHA should find a way to facilitate the purchase of additional ice by Blackburn teams, for those teams who through fundraising and team fees, have decided on funding more practice ice.

Adding to this frustration is the fact that Orleans seemed to have extra ice to float around for sale, but to their own teams only – or at least not to Blackburn. It was reported to me that requests to buy ice for sale by Orleans were turned down as Orleans insisted their ice was not for sale to teams outside the Orleans MHA – or to quote a coach – “We do not sell ice to Blackburn”. Therefore, the BMHA should discuss a similar system to allocate extra ice back to the BMHA and only to the BMHA. There was at least one instance in the recent months of a Blackburn ice hour being put for sale on the Orleans website, with the email address of the seller being that of a Blackburn Stingers coach. I personally felt this was inappropriate, and I immediately advise the ice scheduler about this. That particular ice should have been offered back for sale to Blackburn or Blackhawks teams only – and particularly not on the Orleans ice sale website.

Thank you all for a great season, have a great summer and see you in the fall.

Midget – Cathy Parent

BMHA FINAL Midget Report for AGM 2006 – 2007

The total fall registration for midget players in the BMHA was 89 players 11 of who were goalies. One goalie withdrew, Rangers took 8 players and 10 went to rep B. House league was left with 70 players, divided into 60 skaters and 10 goalies. Orleans Hockey Association kindly agreed to accept two of our goalies, one A and one B. Two volunteers stepped forward although I believe one ended up going to an Ottawa team instead. The remaining players were divided into 4 teams of 15 skaters and 2 goalies, 1 A and 3 Bs. This division of skill placed 39.8% of the midget players at A and above.

All four teams enjoyed successful seasons. Players, coaches and parents all seemed to be content and in a positive frame of mind whenever I came across them in arenas.

League Results

Team	Place	W	L	T	PIM	Points
A	1/14	20	6	4	665	44
B1	1/27	26	2	2	384	54
B2	4/27	21	4	5	403	47
B3	6/27	20	7	3	283	43

Midget B1 won the Final in the B1 playoff division in overtime. The other three midget teams did not make it pass the round robin. The A team took part in 2 tournaments, winning Cumberland's. B1 went to 4 tournaments reaching the finals in Belleville and Rockland. B2 participated in 1 tournament reaching the quarter finals. B3 was in 3 tournaments reaching the semifinals in two and winning in Charlan.

I'd like to finish this final report with thanking Linda Canham for suggesting that I could be Bantam convener. Since that time I have had the privilege to serve the players and parents of the BMHA as convener at 3 levels including one year as Midget and Pee wee convener. I have enjoyed being a trainer for 10 years most often covering multiple teams. I guess it is the price you pay for being blessed with 4 sons. I'd like to also thank Roger Smiley, Tom Canham, Mark McAvoy, Maurice Archambault and Jim Shephard, the presidents, who kept the meetings and work of the BMHA palatable. A big thank you to the army of volunteers on the ice, at the desk and in the stands during evaluations and to the many coaches who took the teams I formed and worked to make hockey a fun and beneficial experience for our young people.

Last but not least a special thank you to all the many board members past and present who shared my 'hour a week with a couple of phone calls' of volunteer work. From cleaning the fryer, dealing with sending players off in ambulances, unending making up and remaking of team lists, to the fun relationships with the players including watching my own sons move up from players to coaches I will miss minor hockey a great deal but as my kids move on so must I, dancing and singing out the door.

Respectfully and gratefully submitted

Juvenile – Maurice

2006/2007 saw the juvenile team struggle in the first half of the season followed by improved play in the second half. Regular season record was 1 win 21 losses and 2 ties. The playoffs were competitive but ended with an early exit.

Rep B – Randy Arnott

This was my fifth year as convener the first at Rep B and things went reasonably well. There were a few minor problems at the beginning of the year, most of them during the tryouts, finding competitive quality goaltenders for some teams and a coach for another. The two teams that were assigned to Blackburn both had very good years the Minor Atoms finished first in the regular season before losing out in the semi finals. Our other team was the minor Midget team they finished third in the regular season and also lost in the semis.

All of the Blackhawk teams had very good years all finishing near the top of the regular season standings and having reasonable success in the playoffs. Two teams won everything the **Minor Peewee team, led by coach Steve Guest, and the Minor Bantam team, led by coach Chris Fraser congratulations to both team**

Motion from the floor to accept the reports from the Conveners from Gerry Kemp, seconded by Rob Billingham, motion carried by majority.

Constitutional Changes – Presented by Maurice Archambault

Change the date from 2006/2007 to 2007/2008,

Changing the Registrar/Secretary to two positions.

Changing VP of Administration to VP of Finance.

Motion to accept change by Cathy Parent, Seconded by Kim Shonfield, carried by majority.

BMHA Executive Nominations 2007/2008

President: - Jim Shepherd – by acclamation

VP Operations – Greg Smallwood – by acclamation

VP Administration – Maurice Archambault – by acclamation

VP Finance – Fiona Daigle – by acclamation

Registrar – Dave Campbell – by acclamation

Secretary -

Past President – Maurice Archambault

Discipline Chair – Beverly Mckeown – by acclamation

Directors:

Ice Scheduler – Wally Montpetit – by acclamation

Ways and Means – Paul Hayes – by acclamation

Public Relations – Vacant

Equipment – Stewart Shonfield - by acclamation

Initiation Program – Vacant

Novice Convener – Louise Lee - by acclamation

Atom Convener – Paul Graham - by acclamation

PeeWee Convener – Tammy Lynch - by acclamation

Bantam Convener – Randy Arnott – Majority Vote

Midget Convener – Brenda Feely - by acclamation

Juvenile Convener – Vacant

Rep B Convener – Chris Fraser - by acclamation

Cathy Parent moves to accept the candidates, seconded by Sean Murray all are in favor passed unanimous. Motion Carried

Action Item for Next year – Get report from Kim Edwards for the approval

New Business: Floor is opened,

Fred Vivash: has a question regarding the coach selection. What will board do to ensure the conveners can abide by the by-laws that were set by BMHA.

Jim Shepherd: Greg Smallwood is working with a committee to ensure that the selection of coaches to the satisfaction to all. Thank you Fred for the great question.

Signing of the Rep B agreement: right now it is back with Joe Robino to have the final changes made and now the package will be done and then a meeting will be recalled and agreement signed. Early coach selection for the Rep B would be much better. Jim is agreeing with this comment.

Bruce Fanjoy: Rep B future – Can you give us an update on the Rep B situation?

JimShepherd: The report is being worked on.

Lori Pancel: further added it is being worked. Trying to get the try-city agreement first. There would not be anything on this topic until next season.

Bruce Fanjoy: will the report be brought to the public. Answer from both Jim and Lori is yes.

Fred Vivash – Will the information be released as it is available.

Lori Pancel: Yes, not to worry you will all be kept up to date.

Paul Graham – Has the board looked at the hockey Canada for the evaluation?

Jim Shepherd: Yes that is what we use. We are doing it according to the hockey Canada rules and regulations.

Motion to adjourn – motion by Cathy Parent seconded by Kim Shonfield, all are in favor. Unanimous meeting has been adjourned.