



Russell Minor Hockey Association
Board Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2023 – 7:00PM
Meeting Room – Russell Arena

X	President	Joey Abrams	X	Director, U7	Ryan Licari
	VP, House	Jon Gillard	X	Dir. Ice Scheduler	Christie Brock
	VP, Competitive	Ken Hill		Dir. Equipment	Ray Clavette (Virtual)
X	Past President (Virtual)	Yves Roy	X	Dir. Merchandise	Al Garneau (Virtual)
X	Treasurer	J.F. Gagne		Dir. Webmaster	Devon Kunkel
X	Secretary	Darren Page		Dir. Special Events	Vacant
X	Registrar	Amanda Nixon		Convenor; U18-U21	Vacant
X	GHA Convenor	Tricia Zakaria		Convenor; U13-U15	Vacant
	Dir. Comm. & Sponsor	Angela Oickle		Convenor; U9-U11	Vacant
X	Dir. Disc. Risk and Safety	Josh Nixon		Coach Mentor	

Guest: Michelle Macland

1. Call to Order and Attendance
 - Meeting Started 7:03pm
2. Approval of Minutes from Meeting on January 9th, 2023.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Devon Kunkle, Dir. Webmaster, Tricia Zakaria, GHA Convenor. All in favour, carried. Moved

3. Business arising from Minutes of Last Meeting
 - None
4. Agenda Items
 - Dir. Special Events (Amanda)
 - Application process was closed on February 2 and we received one interested applicant: Michelle Macland.
 - Ryan and Amanda met with Michelle, answered her questions and provided her with a run down of the position.
 - She seems excited to take on the role and they think she'd be a great fit.
 - Update the trainer bags and current suspensions (Josh)



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MOTION TO APPROVE: Amanda Nixon, Registrar, Devon Kunkle, Dir. Webmaster. All in favour, carried. Moved

Michelle Macland accepted.

5. Executive Reports

- President
 - Had GHA meeting
 - House league playoffs split decided. > 12 teams, split into 2. Sorted by points.
 - Fairplay for house will still be applied.
 - U13C & U15C
 - Not enough teams
 - Talking grouping teams (just an idea)
 - Status quo for now
 - Evaluations for next year
 - Move to having exhibition games
 - All groups have agreed to have eval. games
 - We will see where our players fits & where teams fit
 - Evaluators need to be sorted out (i.e. Russell will not be evaluated by other Associations)
 - Rust-offs/pathways will try apply
 - U9 Pathways – 2nd yr players – 8yr olds can affiliate to higher levels ONLY if they are playing goalie (from HEO)
 - U9 - 17 of 20 games need to be half ice
 - After Mar 1st can play full ice
 - Discipline:
 - Raised issues about number of hearings
 - Looking to build a program with coaches and refs
 - Need to mandate start of year discipline meeting
 - GHA Discipline Rep and Head Ref.
 - Have a separate meeting for U15 and U18



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- 17 parental ejections in GHA (none in Russell)
 - Need to look at maltreatment rule 11.2
 - Will no longer go to coaches, will wait until end of game
 - Registration for refs will start in May.
 - D9ra.com
 - Ice Scheduling (number will go up)
 - Like to open registration end of June beginning of July
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- VP; House
 - Evaluation committee – has 3 ppl confirmed
 - Looking to have 5 ppl
 - Started to review eval process. Will review after Mar. break with committee
 - Improvements & recommendations
 - Will need evaluators to volunteer
 - Need to ask earlier
 - Coaches on board for coaches' report cards (on players)(bring in this year)
 - VP; Competitive
 - Absent, provided update:

Summary of Events for the Past While

Action Items (Carried Over from Past Month)

- *Canucks seasons complete. Final Standing:*

<i>Team</i>	<i>Final Standings</i>
<i>U10</i>	<i>7th of 14. 9-11-0</i>
<i>U11</i>	<i>4th of 14. 12-6-2</i>
<i>U12</i>	<i>11th of 16. 13-12-5</i>
<i>U13</i>	<i>13th of 14. 7-20-3</i>
<i>U14* (Hawks)</i>	<i>1st of 15. 25-2-3</i>
<i>U15</i>	<i>2nd of 15. 17-8-5</i>
<i>U16</i>	<i>10th of 16. 10-15-5</i>
<i>U18</i>	<i>5th of 12. 17-7-6</i>

Playoff have started.



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<i>Team</i>	
<i>U10</i>	<i>0-1-1 so far in round robin</i>
<i>U11</i>	<i>1-2-0 so far in round robin</i>
<i>U12</i>	<i>1-0-0 so far in Consolation round robin</i>
<i>U13</i>	<i>0-0-1 so far in Consolation round robin</i>
<i>U14*</i>	<i>2-0-1 won Quarter finals of Championship bracket</i>
<i>U15</i>	<i>0-3-0 lost Quarter final of Championship bracket</i>
<i>U16</i>	<i>2-0-1 so far in Consolation round robin</i>
<i>U18</i>	<i>0-3-0 lost Quarter finals of Championship bracket</i>

- *I am disappointed for the players that have lost in the first round. It is always an abrupt end to a season. Both the U15 and U18 teams had strong seasons and won more than they lost. That however is hockey.*

Information Items

- As some of you are aware, I have been at this hockey board thing for a long time – since 2012. I have spent every Labour Day until Thanksgiving in a rink for the last 11 years running tryouts, doing evaluations, and sorting out the myriad of small problems that crop up. I think I am done. I have achieved the most important thing I wanted to do by reviving competitive hockey in Russell. In the 11 years the RMHA has almost doubled its number of kids playing competitive hockey from 31 to 58, with another 16 playing Pro, U Sport, Maj Jr, Jr A, Jr B and Jr C. Our board has more that just JF and I with kids playing competitive hockey now and our relationship with Metcalfe and Leitrim for the Canucks is both positive and stable. I do not plan to run again as VP Competitive for the RMHA so I will be looking for successor. Julia Tuff is the Metcalfe VP Competitive and she is both very nice and extremely organized, she will help any one of you want the role. I will be reaching out to some likely replacement candidates shorty, people who have been involved with competitive hockey at the coaching or board level to see if there is anyone interested. The candidates should come with coaching or board experience as they will be a VP for the RMHA, and they will represent the RMHA with our partners in District 9 and on the Ottawa B League board.
- The future will hold its challenges; some that are coming:
 - U12-U15 Pathways – Pushing tryouts back into the school year where they belong but crashing the schedule for AAA, AA, Rep B tryouts and HL sorts.



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- Re-establishing numbers (I think HEO is down from abt 30,000 when I started to 20,000 in 2020-21, and our numbers are even lower post pandemic, I am hearing around 17,000-18,000. Rebuilding will be a challenge and our teams will be weaker relative to what they were when I started.
- Lower numbers will result in “contraction” and potential realignments – it will be most felt at the AAA level as they have already started to change, U16AAA is coming back and U18AAA is potentially reducing from 12 teams to 6. It will also affect the AA, Rep B and HL as more players will draw up to play on teams and perhaps sent back if they reduce the number of teams
- The other two HEO Rep B leagues (UOVMHL and UCMHL) are struggling with numbers and some of their better teams are jumping to the OBMHL. It is unclear to me how, given the numbers we can support three Rep leagues in HEO. There have already been talks of merging the three but the distances between the centers will need to be addressed (who wants to drive from Petawawa to Cornwall on a Tuesday night for a 1 hour U13 Rep B game).

Budget

- *Final numbers from tryouts, income, and expenses still outstanding – will try to sort with Metcalfe and the two treasurers for next month's meeting.*

- Treasurer
 - Absent
- Secretary
 - Nothing to add
- Past President
 - Absent

6. Director Reports

- Registrar
 - Nothing to add
- Ice Scheduler



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- Goalie clinic – spoke with Adam Rousseau
 - Availability will not work out.
 - Will go back to Colin, Doug, & Chris. Matt is also interested.
 - Will look at dates
- U9 Jamboree will be Mar. 24th, 25th & 26th (Metcalf or Richcraft Potvin)
- May need to give up some 8am ice times for playoffs

- U7
 - Absent
 - Working with JF to deposit funds from Fun Day

- GHA Convenor
 - Nothing to add

- Discipline, Risk and Safety
 - Touched on trainer bags
 - Gave updates on suspensions

- Equipment
 - Absent

- Sponsorship & Communications
 - Absent
 - Joey added new banners are up
 - Joey: has a potential sponsor for \$2500 donation, sent to Ang
 - Might be a power skating clinic

- Merchandise
 - Absent

- Webmaster



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- Nothing to add
- Took down posting for spec. events position

- Special Events (U11 and U13 Tournaments)
 - Absent
 - Joey: excited to have Michelle!

7. Round Table

- Josh: do we know yet what will happen with U13C playoffs?
 - 3 games, #1 gets a buy
- Christie: U9 full ice practices not feasible (can't undersell ice)
 - Joey: for 2nd yr U9, start teaching major kids full ice & offsides
 - Dedicate an ice time or split ice length wise (1 or 2 practices)
- Joey: we need to decide the AGM date: May 8th is the last meeting
- May 17th

All in favor

8. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Tricia Zakaria, GHA Convenor, seconded **Jon Gillard**, VP House, All in favour. Carried.

Next meeting: Monday, 13 March 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Russell Arena (Meeting Room).

Meeting Ended: 8:28pm