



Devon Minor Hockey Meeting Minutes

Date: October 14, 2020

Called to Order: 6:35 PM

Minutes Taken By: Joanna Parnell

Attendees: Max Rupp, Joanna Parnell, Rainie Gervais, Tina Pollock, Nicole Howatt, Ali Whelen, Brent Coutu, Brandy Fisher, Brittany Wright, Melissa Price, Joe Reynolds, Erick Barba, Wayne Wolfe, Marc Aromin, Peggie Melnychuk, Steve Benson

Motion to approve the October 14, 2020 agenda:

- Motion to approve the October 14, 2020 agenda made by Brittany Wright, seconded by Peggie Melnychuk; All in favour, motion approved

Review and September 26, 2020 Minutes:

- Motion to approve the September 26, 2020 minutes made by Ali Whelen, seconded by Joanna Parnell; All in favour, motion approved

New Business: No New Business

Reports:

1. President: Marc Aromin

- Nothing to report

2. Vice President: Rainie Gervais

- On Ice Barriers for U9. This year there will be 30 players. It is a feasible option to purchase an additional set of barriers to split the ice in three to prevent the teams from having to intermingle as much as possible. Thought process would be to cut down on ice times and keeping in line with some cost savings in the thousands for the long term. Ice time can be cycled through between all three teams. We don't necessarily need a full set of boards, just the low-lying dividers to keep the puck in the designated play areas.
- They are quite pricey, however there are a few options. Omnisport in Spruce Grove, and Canadian Arena Supplies in Nisku
- Let's get some pricing on various options for the bumpers so if we need them in the future we are not struggling to find at the last minute.
- Discussion has been tabled as no decisions were made. Topic will be revisited when available options have been explored.

3. Past President: Ali Whelen



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- Nothing to report

4. Treasurer: Melissa Price

- Still needs some contact information from various executive members for documentation for the bank, Melissa need information from Rainie, Joe, Erick, Tina, needs full name including middle name, address, phone number and employer, employee title and detailed description of job. This is needed to have Marc and Rainie added as signing authority.
- Needs to submit to the registry's office for the annual report, Treasurer still needs Marc, Rainie, Nicole, Erick, Joe and Max's addresses.
- Needs the AGM minutes that state that Rainie Gervais has been elected as Vice President, this is needed for the Bank to put Rainie on as a signing authority.
- **Motion to remove Steven Kuchirka as a DMHA signing authority is made by Melissa Price, Seconded by Joanna Parnell. All in Favour. Motion approved.**
- We still need one more Auditor for the 2019/20 financial reports. Currently we only have Marianne listed. Krista Aromin has stepped up to be the second auditor.
- Has had a player from Warburg sign up, DMHA is offering him the early bird pricing.
- With the family who has been granted the registration with the benevolent funds, will we be waiving the \$200 fundraising fee?
- DMHA is \$30,000 in the red at this point with the lower number of registrants this year. DMHA needs to be aware of the deficit we are experiencing. We need to be conscious of where our monies are being spent.
- Regarding player movement, Melissa needs to know who is moving where to adjust how much to charge them, or refund the difference in fees.
- Will need to write a check for NAI by November 10. 1 U18, 3 U15, 3 U13, 2 U11, 3 U9 teams.

5. Secretary: Joanna Parnell

- Has created a document for contest rules, which will be added to DMHA rules and regulations document. Please refer to document at end of minutes for the wording regarding contest rules.
- Motion to adopt contest rules and add them to the rules and regulations made by Joanna Parnell, seconded by Peggie Melnychuk, All in Favour, motion passed.

6. Coach Director: Steven Kuchirka

- Has been conducting interviews for coaches, U9 and U11 have been selected. U13 interviews has been scheduled, U15 could use more applicants, currently only has three applications. U18 interviews have been scheduled.
- Head coaches will be selected after the evaluations on October 17/18.
- Thank you to all who have been involved in coaches' interviews and selection process.



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- Erick Barba had questions regarding the selection process and conflicts of interest. Steven responded with what DMHA's past procedure has been. Discussion about amending the Rules and Regulations to include documentation about conflict of interest.
- ACTION ITEM: REVIEW RULES AND REGS DOCUMENT RE COACHES SELECTION PROCESS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

7. Registrar: Nicole Howatt

- We should do a bylaw review to change the wording re: level names. IE Bantam to U15, Novice to U9 etc...the website also needs to be changed to update as well, Hockey Alberta has contacted Nicole a number of times reminding us that these changes need to be made.
- ACTION ITEM: ADJUST THE WEBSITE – WEBSITE COORDINATOR TO BE CONTACTED TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS.
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8. Referee in Chief: Joe Reynolds

- There are a number of new rules from HA. Refs at this time are not REQUIRED AND NOT RECOMMENDED. However, for the evaluations, if we use refs, they will be allowed if they have taken a clinic.
- To ref this year, they will need to attend a clinic because there is some changes because of COVID and additions they need to review.
- Level 2 refs and above be done virtually, Level 1 clinics to be held locally with a maximum of 15 people. Has reached out to the town to utilize the Dan Claypool Room by the end of November pending HA approval.
- 2 streams of officials – cohort official, and socially distanced official
- There will be no handshakes at all at the beginning or end of game.
- What is the proper face covering for officials on ice? Would like to have consistency with the officials. Would like to purchase some neck gators for our officials, has reached out to Evolution in Leduc for pricing. Currently there are 26 returning officials, with 9 maybes.

9. Referee Assignor: Brandy Fisher

- Right now, there are 20 refs that have taken the clinic. 4 level 1's, 16 have decided to not return.
- Has refs lined up for the evaluation weekend and are well informed about Covid guidelines.
- Do the refs need to be providing their own hand sanitizer and will they be responsible to sanitize the ref room themselves.
- Priority will be given to utilize the ref room to the ongoing refs, the outgoing refs need to give right of way to the officials who will be going on ice. Rainie will talk to ToD about providing sanitizer and wipes in the ref room.
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10. Level Director: Erick Barba



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- Has spoken with Evolution Sports excellence in Leduc about how purchasing apparel will be done this year. Evolution has created an app where it virtually will size your child for ordering. Or you can still go into the store for sizing. There will be online ordering available.
- Has also been in contact with Mike Saramaga photography about safely guidelines and extending photo night over a period of a number of days. Photos will be done off ice this year, in front of a greenscreen and a group photo will be compiled.

11. Fundraising Director: Peggie Melnychuk

- Individual fundraising proposal from Nutria – BearTracks Ice melt. They are ready to sell to us. It needs to be ordered as a pallet, 60 buckets/pallet. Our cost is \$13.00, \$819 for the pallet, they recommend to sell each pail between \$21-25. Each family would need to sell 7 or 8 pails to make back the \$200 from the mandatory fundraiser charged at registration. Each pail is 16kg each. If we go ahead with this fundraiser, we can order a pallet at a time, ordering more as need demands.
- Motion to adopt the BearTracks fundraiser for the 2020/21 season, this is an opt in opportunity for the individual families to make back the \$200 fundraising fee paid at the beginning of the season, motion made by Joanna Parnell, Nicole Howatt seconded; All in favour, motion passed.
- Motion to adopt Fundscrip and Evolution Sports Gift card raffle for the 2020/21 season, made by Joanna Parnell, seconded by Peggie Melnychuk; All in favour, motion passed.

12. League Representative: Max Rupp

- Bylaw amendments to correct the wording regarding the names of the levels. Joanna Parnell will create a committee to review. Brittany Wright, Ali Whelen, Joanna Parnell to be on the committee to review and amend.
- The definitions for rosters regarding coaches and on ice helpers, there are two rosters, the Hockey Alberta roster, the players and coaches on each team, then there is the cohort roster which is tracked by NAI, this is the players and two coaches that are allowed on the bench. Cohort coaches can be allowed on the bench and in the dressing room. The “on ice” coaches and ice helpers, need to enter the ice from a gate that is separate from the dressing room. If a non-cohort coach needs to for any reason be in the dressing room, the non-cohort coach and all players will need to wear a mask while in the dressing room.
- There will be no moving or re-booking of games at all, league games will take precedence over tournament or exhibition games if the league opens these up.

13. Ice Coordinator: TBD

- The teams have been submitted to NAI for game play, once the games have been scheduled by the league, the ice will be booked.
- Calmar and Thorsby have been approached to provide any available ice times for DMHA to use.
- Should we gain ice slots in Calmar, they have stated that there are no spectators at all allowed in the arena, only coaches and players at all times.
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14. AA/AAA Representative: TBD

- No Report

15. Equipment Manager: TBD

- With the current AHS guidelines with Covid-19, will we be allowed to have one jersey parent to keep and launder the jerseys.
- Every family will be responsible for their own home and away jerseys. If the jerseys are forgotten at home, that player will not be allowed to play until the correct coloured jersey is made available.
- Brittany already has a spread sheet to track which player has which jersey. DMHA will send out an email to parents that if the jerseys are not returned, or if they are returned in bad repair, the families will be charged \$50 per jersey.
- 4 more bags of pucks have gone missing, if they are not returned soon, more bags and pucks will need to be purchased.
- Pylons are still missing as well, the staff at the rink have found a few.
- The old jerseys in the storage room need to be thrown out as mice have been seen around them. To be removed and thrown out.

16. Evaluations Co-ordinator: Brent Coutu

- Evaluation process has been posted, it has been a very difficult time to decide what to do regarding U18/U16 and U15. As of this point in time, evaluations will proceed as follows:

2020 Evaluation Process

Pee Wee (U13)

- The players have been divided into 3 teams for evaluations. Each team will have 1 Skills session and 2 Scrimmages between Saturday, Oct. 17th & Sunday, Oct. 18th. As well as Oct 19th for the goalies.
- These sessions will allow our Evaluators to rank the players. Goalies, Defence, Forwards
- A coach for U13 team 1 will be selected on Monday evening. This roster will consist of 1 or 2 Goalies and 12 or 13 skaters. The top 2 or 3 Goalies and skaters ranked 1 - 20 will skate on Tuesday and Wednesday. The top players will be placed on the team based on the weekend evaluations. U13 team 1 Head Coach will select the final 2-4 players to complete their roster.
- A coach for U13 team 2 will be selected on Thursday, October 22nd. This roster will consist of 12 or 13 players and 1 or 2 Goalies.
- All remaining U13 players will skate on 2 more times. A selected number of top players will be placed on the team based on evaluation scores and the U13 team 2 Head coach will select the final 3 or 4 players.
- Remaining players will form Pee Wee 3 and a coach can be selected.

Bantam (U15)

- The players have been divided into 3 teams for evaluations. Each team will have 1 Skills session and 2 Scrimmages between Saturday, October 17th and Sunday, October 18th.



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- It has been decided that there will be 2 TOP teams and they will be divided to be equal strength teams. Initially both teams will be starting as Tier 3 teams. Some of the reasons that the executive and evaluation committee made this choice are the following:
 - 95% of the U15 players would like to play contact and only Tiers 1, 2, & 3 are contact. If we went with our traditional model, the 3 teams would be placed in Tiers 2, 4, 6, which would mean 66% of our U15 players would be playing non-contact. Some may question why we would not go with Tier's 2, 3 & 5 and it was determined to be in the best interest of the kids to go with two Tier 3 teams. The evaluation coordinator is happy to explain all the reasons and the thought process in detail.
- We will refer to those two teams as 1A and 1B, with the A and B not representing anything besides a label for schedules. Then there will also be a 3rd team referred to as U15 Team 2.
- With the current number of players at U15, each team will consist of 9 Forwards and 3 D, however subject to change if the number of players in U15 changes.
- These teams will be made up strictly from the outside evaluators scores, with no coaches picks. However, this is subject to change if there are ties in the scores. The evaluation committee holds each other accountable and impartial. We are working many hours to make this a great situation and year for all kids or at least as many kids as possible.

Note – Team size and numbers will change if/when other players join U15

Midget (U18)

- The players have been divided into 2 teams for evaluations.
 - Each team will have 1 Skills session and 2 Scrimmages between Saturday, October 17th and Sunday, October 18th.
 - These sessions will allow our Evaluators to rank the players. Hockey Alberta and the league states that 17 skaters is the maximum that we can have on a U18 roster and we are currently at 21 skaters in Devon. As we explain the process, please know that this is the most difficult decision that we have had to make and it is with very heavy hearts that we have to do this. We have tried to explore every option that has been suggested and unfortunately this is the option that is chosen. We fully understand that it is a bad option out of the few bad options to choose from. We are willing to explain all the reasons and thought processes that went into this decision.
 - The team will be made based on the scores from outside evaluators. The bottom 4 players will be given options based on their age. If a 2005 born child is ranked in the bottom 4, he will have the option to join the U15 Devon team or be released to play where he chooses. There are no guarantees, but DMHA will work with the family to look for a U18 roster spot in Spruce Grove, Calmar, Leduc, Edmonton, etc. If a 2004 or 2003 child is ranked in the bottom 4, then they will only have one option. He will be released to play where he chooses. There are no guarantees, but DMHA will work with the family to look for a U18 roster spot in Spruce Grove, Calmar, Leduc, Edmonton, etc
- **Discussion on Evaluation process:** There was some disagreement regarding the process for evaluation the overage players who will potentially be moving down from U18 to U15. Discussion around the approval process for the overage players and how DMHA is proceeding out of order. Registrar and Vice President disagree with the process and having the applications not be approved. DMHA is moving players down in order to stay within the smaller cohort numbers that NAI has requested. The decision to move players down as overaged players has not been an easy decision. Should HA step in and say that the overaged



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players are not approved DMHA will address this with the players at that point. If DMHA does not allow the players to try for overaged status, these kids will not be able to play hockey at all.

- Secretary created a poll to finalize the process. Out of 11 voting members, 10 voted to approve the evaluation process for overaged U18 players, 1 abstained. All 10 votes were to approve the overaged players.
- Is there a possibility to pull players from other minor hockey leagues to increase how many players we have at the U18 and U15 level so that we don't need to have overaged players at the U15 level, and continue to have 2 U18 teams? The short answer is no. Rainie and Marc have contacted numerous associations within a 120 km radius and every association is experiencing much the same response for registration this year and don't have players to spare. Ultimately, DMHA cannot force players from other associations to come play here. We have tried to entice players and reaching out since August.

17. **Website Coordinator:** TBD

18. **IP Level Coordinator:**

19. **Novice Level Coordinator:**

20. **Atom Level Coordinator:**

21. **PeeWee Level Coordinator:**

22. **Bantam Level Coordinator:**

23. **Midget Level Coordinator:**

Closing Discussion:

ACTION ITEMS:

- I. Review the rules and regulations document re: coaches selection process and conflicts of interest
- II. Adjust the website – website coordinator to be contacted to adjust the website on renaming the levels to be in compliance with Hockey Alberta guidelines
- III. Committee created to review and amend Bylaws regarding level name changes. Committee to consist of Joanna Parnell, Brittany Wright, Ali Whelen. Joanna will chair and set meeting times to review.

TABLED DISCUSSIONS:

- I. Pricing for bumper style ice dividers

Next Meeting Date and Location: November 4, 2020, Servus Credit Union Building second floor, DMHA room.

Meeting adjourned: 9:18 PM



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DMHA Contest Rules Document:

Who Can Enter

1. To be eligible to participate in this contest, entrants must be members in good standing of the Devon Minor Hockey Association (DMHA).
2. DMHA executive board members are eligible to enter in contests and giveaways provided they abstain from voting should they be one of the potential contest winners if the contest requires a tie breaker vote.

How to Enter

1. *Registration Giveaway at the DMHA AGM*

- a) Member must be in attendance at the AGM to enter. Only one entry allowed per family.
- b) The contest is active at the commencement of the Annual General Meeting, and will be drawn at the conclusion of the AGM.
- c) One (1) winner will be selected by random drawing from among valid entries. Remaining valid entries will not carry over to the next drawing.
- d) The winner of the random draw must be in attendance at the time of the drawing. Should the person whose name is drawn is not there, a new name will be drawn and so forth until an eligible members name is selected and present in the room at the time of selection.

2. *Free Registration Contest for DMHA wide fundraiser*

- a) This contest giveaway is for one free registration to the person or member in good standing who sells the most amount of tickets or retail product, whether they be for an association wide raffle, 50/50, or other general fundraising event that benefits the Association as a whole.
- b) The contest is active until the final date of the fundraiser at hand and the winner will be selected by the fundraising director at the conclusion of the fundraiser. The total number of tickets or retail items sold will be tallied by a committee made up of the members of the DMHA executive.
- c) One (1) winner will be selected based on the total number of tickets or retail items sold during the time frame of the fundraiser.



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- d) Should there be two or more members who have sold an equal amount of tickets or retail products, the names will be put into a “hat” and a random draw will be conducted.

The Prize(s)

1. One (1) winner will be selected. That winner will receive one free registration for the next available hockey season. The prize may not be carried over to another season should the winner of the contest’s hockey player choose not to play hockey in the current season the contest is run for.
2. If a winner cannot be notified within fourteen (14) days, or does not timely sign and return the release and affidavit of eligibility, then the prize will be forfeited, and the prize will be awarded to an alternate winner randomly selected from among remaining valid entries.
3. There will be no substitutions or cash alternatives for any prize except at the sole discretion of DMHA. No transfer or assignment of prizes is allowed.
4. Only one prize will be awarded per household and will be applied to the lowest valued registration cost, and will only be applied to registration fees, and will not be applied to any and all other fees associated with fundraising etc...
5. DMHA is not liable if the provider of any part of the prize fails to satisfy its obligations to furnish its portion of the prize.
6. DMHA is not responsible for any liability arising directly or indirectly from the award or use of the prize.
7. In claiming your prize, you acknowledge that DMHA has the right to publicize your name, character, likeness, photograph, voice and the fact that you are the winner for promotional purposes without financial remuneration.

Odds of Winning/Miscellaneous

1. Odds of winning depend on the number of valid entries received.
2. DMHA reserves the right to make rules and contest changes, and change the aforementioned contest dates.