



Devon Minor Hockey Meeting Minutes August 2021 DMHA Executive Meeting

Date: August 24, 2021

Called To Order: 7:04pm

Minutes Taken By: Brittany Wright

Attendees: Rainie Gervais, Brittany Wright, Tina Pollock, Duane McNirney, Nicole Howatt, Max Rupp, Joanna Parnell, Marc Aromin, Peggie Melnychuk, Joe Reynolds, Steven Kuchirka, Brent Coutu, Erick Barba, Wayne Wolfe, Ali Whelen, Melissa Price

Motion to approve the August 24, 2021 Agenda:

- Motion to approve the August 24, 2021 Agenda made by: Nicole Howatt
- Seconded by: Marc Aromin
- All in favour, motion approved

Review and Approve July 19, 2021 Minutes:

- Motion to approve the June 24, 2021 minutes made by: Nicole Howatt
- Seconded by: Peggie Melnychuk
- All in favour, motion approved

New Business:

Reports:

1. President - Raine Gervais
 - a. Registration Numbers and Team Sizes
 - i. Hard to determine this in a small association especially with AA and AAA tryouts
 - ii. U7-25 ; U9-37 ; U11-34(2 tryouts) ; U13-36(11 tryouts) ; U15-44(18 tryouts) ; U18-35(14 tryouts)
 1. There may be players from U18 in Calmar/Thorsby that may want to play in a non hitting league. We may have room for them to create a 2nd team, no Devon players would be cut to make room for these players. We could potentially get some tier ½ players.
 2. Rainie would like to see us having 2 teams in the U18 division, we can go up to 23 on a team, but that is a lot of work as we have to submit and ask permission. This may not even be a possibility.
 3. All other levels, aside from U7, will be at 2 teams, and U18 will hopefully be 2 teams as well. One hitting team and one non hitting team. We are hoping to not have to release players this year.
 - b. Player Development proposal from the Player Development Committee



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- i. Had a meeting last week to discuss a plan for player development within DMHA. We've had discussions with Dynamic Hockey based here in Devon for some development. This would mimic a lot of their hockey camps that they do right now.
- ii. Looking at providing this every Monday, spread over 20 Mondays. There would be an additional cost to players who want to take part in this through Dynamic Hockey. Costs would be to pay for ice time and coaches. This is an optional program for every player. Approximate number is \$40 per session, it would be in blocks of 5 sessions though, not pay for each lesson separately. Depending on registration numbers, ice may be blocked off the whole Monday evening for these programs.
 1. We are going to be gaining ice on other days as we will have a smaller number of teams, fewer games, and shorter games. We still will likely have practices in Thorsby and/or Calmar.
 2. Sessions will be pre-registered. If there is not enough registration, we will look into combining different groups, or else cancel the session all together. The break even number was approximately 5 players on the ice per session.
 3. Dynamic was fine with our coaches/parents watching the sessions
 4. The preference would be to run registration for these sessions through TeamSnap as well, but there have been no discussions as of yet about this
 5. After 5 players, is this a revenue generator? Or are we still breaking even. What insurance is this running through? If there are less than 5, can anybody outside the association register? This would be under our insurance, but Hockey Alberta has said that we can take other players for training as long as their association president signs a form to allow it. Players in DMHA are given first priority, second priority would be given to players that are normally with DMHA but went the AA/AAA route, would third priority be for Hockey Alberta kids in Calmar/Leduc/Thorsby? Could we open this up to kids living in the Devon/Parkland County area? This would all have to be defined and confirmed with Hockey Alberta.
- iii. There will be a paid version and a free for everyone version. We would look at having a certain number of sessions for everyone and fit them in where we could. Examples would be defenseman classes, shooting class, power skating class, goalie sessions and body contact/checking sessions. These would be tracked to ensure that all players have equal opportunity to take part in these free sessions.
 1. These sessions will be paid through cost savings in different areas, for example refing costs are less this season as we play



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fewer games. The paid sessions can also pay for these if there is any revenue from them.

2. Motion to move ahead with player development plan made by Marc Aromin, seconded by Nicole Howatt. No objections, motion approved. The Player Development committee will move forward to make more concrete plans that will be brought forward to the executive.
 - c. League Calendar Discussion
 - i. Calendar has been finalized for the new league and fits in well with our regular evaluations
 - ii. Already voted to opt out of Minor Hockey week
 - iii. There are breaks when tiering happens
 - iv. Joanna, please post the schedule to the website so that parents can be aware of these dates. EFHL has already posted to their website.
 - d. School Calendars
 - i. These are out, have discussed with Dynamic the possibility of having some training during school breaks
 - e. Hockey Alberta's Latest Bulletin
 - i. At this point in time, there are no restrictions. However, Hockey Alberta will be following any guidelines set out by AHS. If the time comes, the executive will meet to decide how we can comply with any provincial or municipal restrictions.
 - f. Questions have been raised about making vaccinations mandatory. At this point in time, DMHA is not looking to do this. We would only look to comply if our governing entities required this.
 - g. Cohorts will not be tracked this year unless one of our governing entities requires this.
2. Vice President - Duane McNirney
 - a. Nothing to report
3. Past President - Marc Aromin
 - a.
4. Treasurer - Melissa Blize
 - a. Reporting on the expenses she has made this year
 - i. Reports were emailed out with the budget sheet and quickbooks, please see the email from August 24, 2021 from Melissa for all details
 - b. Benevolent Fund
 - i. Since 2016/2017 there has been approximately \$11,000 deposited and only about \$4500 withdrawn
 - ii. What can we transfer in from last year? At what point do we cap the Benevolent Fund if we aren't using it and use the monies elsewhere, like player development for example? Or do we let it go and see how high we can get it?



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1. If we are going to cap the Benevolent Fund, we need to have a specific purpose for these funds so that the association members know where the money is going to. -Duane
2. It would be great to cap it, then use the money to put towards player development. For example, we could buy training devices and get a job box to lock the equipment in. -Marc
3. Use the extra money after the cap for new boards for the 2nd sheet of ice when the new arena is built. -Tina
4. The money should not go towards lowering fees, it should go into a fixed asset like jerseys or training equipment. Otherwise we are just collecting fees to give it back. -Max
- iii. Currently there is \$7,562 in the Benevolent Fund, Marc suggested to cap it at \$7000 and put the late fee money to other use
- iv. Melissa suggests leaving it as it is, we have \$60,000 in our tournament fund to use for Jerseys. Then she can make a new account for equipment.
- v. Suggestion from Peggie, leave the money as is, but place a cap of \$5000, so once it dips below \$5000 then the late fees can start to replenish the account at that point
- vi. Late fees from last year could go to equipment.
- vii. Motion to cap the Benevolent Fund at \$5000 made by Nicole Howatt, seconded by Melissa Price. No objections, motion passed.
- viii. Motion to put last seasons late fees, and future seasons late fees in a new Equipment account made by Nicole Howatt, seconded by Marc Aromin. No objections, motion passed.
5. Secretary - Brittany Wright
 - a. Penny Steeves wants her sponsorship to go to the U11 team with the most players from last season on it
6. Coach Director - Steven Kuchirka
 - a. Only 12 applications so far, 6 assistants and 6 head coaches
 - b. Typically only head coaches are interviewed
 - c. Assistant coaches still need to fill out an application
 - d. Conditioning sessions/DMHA season officially starts on Friday, September 10
 - e. Coaches Interview should all be completed by September 17 for U9-U13
 - f. Erick Barba asked if the executive should be able to coach? Rainie has specifically reached out to any executive that applies that he would prefer they not head coach, but they could assist. This will also depend on the number of applicants. There is also a suggestion that executive members could not be managers, this would be difficult as most don't volunteer. Level Coordinator should be avoided as an executive member.
7. Registrar - Nicole Howatt
 - a. Tournaments



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- i. Dates of tournaments we are thinking of so that she can get sanction numbers. The level coordinator and ice coordinator need to get together and discuss this. It might be tough to pinpoint dates immediately as we are still up in the air on team numbers and tiers, especially with U18. Once we have tiering figured out, Rainie will get the information to Nicole so that we can apply for the sanctions and get our tournaments listed on the Hockey Alberta website.
 1. January 8th and 15th weekends look to be Edmonton Minor Hockey week, so this would be a natural time for us to host 2 of our own tournaments
8. Referee in Chief - Joe Reynolds
 - a. There are some changes in the rulebook, Rule 11 for misconduct and discriminatory actions
 - b. Tentative clinic schedule has been released, our tentative date is October 23 and currently looking for a venue. JMHS is not allowing an outside group in at the moment. Possibly Community Center or Pioneer 73 Club. We typically run 2 sessions on this day, and we will need approximately 1 hour of ice time on this day. Please pass anyone interested in reffing to Joe or Brandy.
 - c. Players can become a ref at 13 years old
9. Referee Assignor - Brandy Fisher
 - a. Not In Attendance
10. Level Director - Ali Whelen
 - a. Needs level directors, hoping to wait until after coaches are selected
 - b. She will get in touch with Mike about team/player pictures in October
 - c. She will reach out to Tina and they will figure out some tournament dates
11. Fundraising Director - Peggie Melnychuk
 - a. She has signed the association up for FlipGive
 - i. Similar to the gift cards last year, but an online option so she doesn't have to chase anyone down to give anything. Everyone downloads an app and then uses the app when they make any purchases. This is a passive fundraising option and does not cost anyone anything
 - b. Will put together some options to propose for those who want to make back their fundraising fee
 - c. Potentially meeting after September 6th with Evolution to discuss how we can use purchasing our swag as a fundraiser for DMHA as well
 - d. Oilers have reached out, Rainie and Peggie will also look into this
12. League Representative - Max Rupp
 - a. No updates at this time
13. Ice Coordinator - Tina Pollock
 - a. Tentative dates given to the town for tournaments
 - i. Nov 12-14
 - ii. Nov 19-21



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- iii. Dec 3-5
- iv. Jan 7-9
- v. Jan 14-16
- b. Ice costs have gone up, \$117 for prime, non prime is \$82
- 14. Equipment Manager - Adam Wright
 - a. Not in attendance
 - b. We will hold onto the graduating players' jerseys until a plan has been decided. Once the arena is open and more easily accessible, we will then go in and organize the room and grab the necessary jerseys.
- 15. AA/AAA Representative - Jon Morton
 - a. Not In Attendance
 - b. Lots of players are out at evaluation camps for AA/AAA at the moment
- 16. Evaluations Coordinator - Brent Coutu/Adam Wright
 - a. Everything is close to being organized, nothing to report.
 - b. Remind the committee to prepare for some long days
 - c. Evaluation groups do not need to be in team snap this year as we do not need to do health/cohort tracking
- 17. Website Coordinator - Joanna Parnell
 - a. Done a lot of updates on the website
 - b. Travel and exhibition permits can stay
 - c. Please go through and look through the website to see if anything needs to be updated and let Joanna know and she will get this done, she would appreciate the feedback.
 - d. If anything needs to be posted on social media, please send her an email or a text
- 18. U7 Level Coordinator - TBD
- 19. U9 Level Coordinator - TBD
- 20. U11 Level Coordinator - TBD
- 21. U13 Level Coordinator - TBD
- 22. U15 Level Coordinator - TBD
- 23. U18 Level Coordinator - TBD

Closing Discussion:

-Add a graduating player ceremony discussion to next months agenda

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 21 @ 7:00pm - Tentatively on ZOOM, but may move to in person as we get closer to the meeting date

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:03pm