
Metro East Inferno Female Hockey Association Annual General Meeting

Location: Westphal Room

Date: June 19th ,2019

Time: 7:00pm

In Attendance: Chris Tremblay, Guy Dumont, Nicole Delaney, Jeff MacDonald, Brad Avery, Dave Bruce, Joy Prescesky, Kim Findlay

Absent: Dawn Monk, Andrew Lockyer, Kristina Blackmore

I. Meeting was called to order by Chris Tremblay at 7:00pm

- He introduced himself and thanked everyone for coming

II. Team Recognition

- Lauren Henman from St. Thomas Women's University Hockey team presented the medals to the Atom AA girls, Coach Adam Greenwood gave a little background on the Atom AA team's accomplishments this year and then called all the girls up to receive their medals;
- Lauren Henman also presented the Midget AA girls with their medals, Coach Leo Morz called the girls up to receive their medals and Chris Tremblay gave a little background on the Midget AA team's accomplishments this year.

III. Volunteer Recognition

- Chris Tremblay presented Derrick McCarthy with the Volunteer of the year award. Derrick is a tireless proponent of female hockey. In the 2 short years he has been with the Association, he has been a head coach and an assistant coach, as well pulling double duty last year in guiding the Whaler's Female Novice team. He continues to be an important cog in our wheel from a player development standpoint and is a huge part of the future of the Metro East Inferno.

IV. Board Recognition

- Adam Greenwood presented a plaque to the Metro East Inferno Female Hockey Association Board Chris Tremblay accepted on their behalf to recognize the inaugural executive.

V. Roll Call of Members

- All board members signed off on being present; Chris introduced all members to the room

VI. Approval of Minutes from 2018-2019 MEIFHA AGM

- Chris announced that the minutes were posted on website and asked for approval Jeff MacDonald Vice President approved, Guy Dumont seconded

VII. Constitutional Amendments and Approval

- Chris announced that there were no amendments to any of our Constitutional Amendments

VIII. President's Report

- First Season as a Female Hockey Association, Chris talked about how important it was to operate as a solid female hockey association, talked about things we want to implement as an Association;
- Chris talked about Importance of Volunteers and the positions we have presently open, how hard it is to find volunteers but how we as an association can't operate without volunteers;
- MEIFHA commitment to the growth of female hockey, Chris talked about the fact that we do balance teams, but that we are committed to grow and develop the female game as an association;
- With growth comes change, Chris talked about how we as an association have learned, made changes, seen what worked and didn't and that it takes time and we will continue to try to make things better.

IX. Executive Vice -President's Report

- **Team Selections-** MEIFHA had approximately 225 Players and 70+ Volunteers (Bench Staff & DR Chaperones); 14 Teams, down 1 Team from 2017-2018 Season (there was no C-Level this year); 4 Atom Teams, 4 PW Teams, 3 Bantam, 3 Midget
- **Coach/Volunteer Certifications-** There were a few bench staff that had to refrain from team activity after either the Dec.1/Dec.14 deadlines. Not bad this year; HNS Risk Management has announced that the CRC/CAR vulnerable sector checks will be more streamlined next year. We're looking forward to hearing the details. The easier the process, the easier it will be to volunteer your time.
- **Discipline/Complaints-**There were only 1 or 2 suspensions this season, all related to the playing rules of hockey; There were a few complaints/concerns/comments this season, mostly related to the beginning of the season processes and decisions. These were related to our Jersey Carrier policy; Coach Selection process; Team Selection/Player Evaluation process; Other complaints/concerns through the season were related to Social Media; MEIFHA has a Social Media Policy that should be used as a guideline for all members. More and more concerns about the use of Social Media at the team

level are being raised. The Association wants to put an educational focus on Social Media use at the beginning and throughout the season moving forward.

- **MEIFHA Team Operations-** There were a few issues related to Team Budget/Team Finances that the Executive offered assistance with. Problems were resolved quickly.
- **Team Highlights-** Many Team successes did not show on the scoreboard; Atom A Red had a consistent effort and focus all season, 21-1-3 record, earned a berth in HNS DoC. ; Atom AA – outscored opponents at a ratio of 6 to 1; girls all got along very well; Peewee AA – sponsored a family in need at Christmas, collected donations and did all the shopping; Awarded HNS Peewee AA Provincial Fair Play Award which was special because of the subjective way in which it is awarded. The girls carried themselves very well, on and off the ice and should be proud → it has as much to do with "non-hockey" as it does "hockey"; Bantam A Red – won SEDMHA; raised \$2,100 in one day, sponsored 5 families in the community, delivered gifts in person; Midget A Black – runner up at SEDMHA and Sweetheart; top scoring team; had 3 players selected to represent Team Atlantic at the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships (May 2019).
- **2020 IIHF World Women's Hockey Championship-** Late March/Early April next year; A few MEIFHA members attended a Legacy Strategy Stakeholder Consultation session to brainstorm how female hockey can capitalize on the benefits of this event. Many great points came from this, start hockey early, more female coaches, more female officials, etc.; We're excited capitalize on these legacy benefits
- **B Level-** HNS Roadshow session in Fall 2018 → recognized that female hockey has grown such that there is a need for a 3rd tier, B-Level seemed to be a preferred model over C-Level; B-Level Approved by HNS Female Council; We must collaborate with other FHA's to make this work; We cannot provide details until we have registration numbers.
- **Novice Female Hockey-** Valley Wild had a heavily sponsored program this past winter that saw significant numbers of participants; MWF recognized that some of their MHA's have not offered novice female hockey so feel it's time to expand their programming to include Novice; MEIFHA aspires to increase their programming to include Novice as well; HNS addressed it at their AGM and formed a committee to guide FHA's in taking on Novice; HNS Female Council approved Female Novice hockey programming for the 3 FHA's in the province; MEIFHA is working toward this and has a lot of work to do to coordinate this summer; Collaboration with the 4 MHA's is critical.
- **Policy Manual-** MEIFHA Policies and Procedures Manual will be amended (changes, improvements) to reflect the change and growth of our Association; Any amendments will be concentrated and communicated at the beginning of the season; we do not want to change our policies during the season; Amendments to our Constitution must be approved by vote at our AGM or Special Meeting (Semi-Annual Meeting if called by the President)

X. Vice -President's Operations Report-

- **Coach/Player Selection Process**-“AA” coaches selected in July, Independent evaluators- only had 2 concerns this year, we are going to be reviewing this again this year, team balancing based on evaluations- we will also be discussing this over the summer to improve on it; “A” teams selected through a draft, Coach/Player Selection process- “the coach application will come out as early as June 20th, and try to get the coaches in place before the season starts if possible for all levels
- **Development**-coach development tools, weekly development, development weekend, extra ice time
- **Season Highlights**-Atom A Red and Atom AA regular Season Champions, Midget AA provincial champions, Atom AA day of Champions winners, Atom Red day of Champions Finalist, 3 of 3 AA teams in provincials
- **Year End Feedback**-coach evaluations (84 vs 296), Coach questionnaire
- **Outlook for 2019-2020 Season**-always looking at improving operations, continue to push our development model, improve the hockey experience for all, players/parents/coaches/game officials/spectators; Provincials changing next year, no more hosting, top 4 teams will go, different levels next year as well, Day of Champions will just be for girls as well

XI. Vice-President Finance Report

- **Revenue**- Collected registration dues directly from membership \$251,000 (2018 -\$206,900), Collected conditioning, tryout and balancing funds at the door \$28,400 (2018 - \$25,000), Charged team accounts for uniform replacement fee \$8,400 (2018 \$9,400), Team official certification fee \$5,600 (2018 - \$nil)
- **Expenses**- Paid ice contracts with 5 facilities (DSP, 4-Pad, Shearwater, East Hants, CHP) \$200,932 (2018 -\$175,500), Officials (on ice and off ice) \$26,900 (2018 -\$22,400), Insurance and Coaches certification paid to HNS \$15,800 (2018 \$15,200); Player & coach development \$14,400 (2018 - \$8,800)
- **Surplus**- Cumulative Surplus (3 years) = \$31,500; Target Surplus (3 years) = \$25,800
- **Proposed Budget 2019-2020**- No planned increase in dues Variables to consider (# of players, # of teams, ice costs); Target Surplus (4 years) = \$40,000 (to be used for jersey replacement); Balance exceeding target surplus will be invested in player and coach development

XII. MEIFHA Executive 2019-2020

- Board of Directors – Voting members
 - President- Chris Tremblay
 - Executive Vice President- Jeff MacDonald
 - Vice-President Hockey Operations- Guy Dumont
 - Vice-President Administration- Nicole Delaney
 - Vice-President Finance-Dave Bruce

Executive Board Members

- Community Relations-Dawn Monk
- Secretary-Seeking Candidates
- Registrar- Nicole Delaney
- Ice Scheduler- Brad Avery
- Novice Coordinator- Seeking Candidates
- Atom/PW Coordinator- Seeking Candidates
- Bantam/Midget Coordinator- Joy Prescesky
- Risk Management Coordinator-Seeking Candidates
- Financial Assistance Coordinator- Kim Findlay
- Equipment Manager- Kristina Blackmore
- Referee-In-Chief- Pete Boutin

XIII. Question Period

- Asked about B level- Bernice addressed, Jeff addressed that it will likely be a South Conference Model
- Asked about Midget level- Guy addressed that we are looking at this over summer
- Coaching communications needs to be better during try-outs / evaluations especially at Midget
- Player requests better communication on this and what happens in line with our policy
- Would like to see that we have a policy/strongly encouraged something that says we need 1 female bench staff- Jeff is going to bring forward as a motion

- Independent Evaluator asked if we are getting the best bang for the buck- we are looking at this over the summer to make it better
- Fees will they be going up-will not be raised unless ice rates go up
- Guy addressed the Novice teams if we have the numbers will be local
- Guy addressed Ice Scheduling will not be done in a room this year, but Hockey Nova Scotia is looking at a system
- Novice will we have an advance, intermediate level- we will look at asking other associations numbers and what are they doing...addressing over the summer
- Do we have Goalie gear-we are looking into this especially for Novice level

ADJOURN at 8:55

Attendance AGM

Nicole Delaney

Kristina Blackmore

Joy Presceky

Dave Bruce

Brad Aveny

Guy Demont

Jeff MacDonald

Kim Findlay

Mark Underhill

Matt Tatter

Sean Carroll

Rob Bourgeois

Adam Greenwood

Scott Demont

DEAN STEWARTSON

Derek McCarthy

Ian Marshall

Danny MacLeod

Kathy Marshall Cormier

MICHAEL CUTCLIFFE

Doug Banfield

David MacNeil

Bernie Keddy

Roger Baychuk