

IMHA Board of Directors Meeting

Sunday, January 15, 2023

MINUTES – APPROVED: February 5th, 2023



Present: Todd Copeland, Brooke Ross, Paul Walkom, Jeff Reid, Randy Sheaves, Andrew Ward, Chris Dixon, Kerri Dixon, Kendra Bloomfield, Andy Marshall, Pat Conlin, Bill Stevenson, Scott Parker

Regrets: Mark Read, Jeff Sutherland

1. AM made a **motion to begin** the meeting. 2nd by KB. Carried.
2. KB made a motion to **approve the minutes** from the December 11th IMHA Board meeting. 2nd by PC. Carried.

3. **Regional 'A' Level Center Discussions**

TC: IMHA has had discussions with different local hockey associations as the direction in OMHA begins to shift. OMHA wants to create Regional 'A' level Centers, hoping for 10 -12 centers within IMHAs geographic area. They are encouraging centers to look for partnerships to create these 'A' level centers.

- The 2023-2024 seasons will have some organizations from our region move from a 'B' to 'A' level center (Mt. Brydges, Strathroy, Dorchester, St. Marys). Ilderton will move from a 'C' level center to 'B' categorization. These categorizations are based on registration numbers and competitiveness in past seasons.
- 'A' categorizations are centers with a threshold of 500 registration in OMHA and Ilderton is below that.
- Options to create a Regional 'A' Level center is a hybrid amalgamation or full amalgamation to achieve the 500 registration threshold. Discussions are evaluating the hybrid amalgamation that covers just the 'A' level teams and regional centers would still have their own LM teams in their own association.
- In these early discussions, 2 involving Lucan and 1 with North Middlesex, organizations involved have been looking at numbers, and ice availability throughout their centers.
- The 2024-2025 season would be the earliest timeline for the possibility of a new hybrid regional 'A' center.
- **OWHA:** Might be a full amalgamation of centers to develop numbers. OWHA timing would be similar as the hybrid association on a regional basis.
- Discussions are in the beginning stages and will continue to proceed and get into more detail and concepts around the possibility of a hybrid center. All centers want to grow opportunities for all association and players in the programs.
- As IMHA continue with discussions, the board will have information nights about this process and present to the membership to see if they want to move forward with the hybrid amalgamation to create a Regional 'A' level Center.
- PW: There is a potential possibility of losing players to centers that have already recategorized to 'A' for the 2023-2024 season.
- SP: OWHA players can already play in any associations so a hybrid amalgamation might not be strong enough.

4. **Formal Thank You to the Lion's Club**

KD: The Lions Club have supported IMHA this season in many ways. They supported with our Back To Hockey BBQ and have gave a very generous donation towards the new scorebaord. A formal, in person, acknowledgement would go a long way to show the boards appreciation of all the ways they support the association.

ACTION: BR will reach out to the Lions Club to present a formal acknowledgment of the Lion's support for IMHA.

TC: We have been in communication with the Lions, and we have been developing some ideas around the acknowledgement of their contribution to the scoreboard.

- When the scoreboard has been installed, there will be a formal letter of our agreement with the terms and conditions around their contribution.

5. Scoreboard:

TC: The timeline for the installment of the new scoreboard is late March to early April. Execulink is finalizing information about an internet feed into the arena that will manage the LED panel and the wifi to support our iPads. We are working on setting up the software to manage the content on the board. Once it is installed, there will be a letter of agreement with Middlesex about maintenance and upkeep of the board.

6. Hockey Day In Ilderton

KD: Everything is ready for Hockey Day in Ilderton but we have sold a limited number of tickets to the dance and need to have a better idea of numbers for the food. We have permission from the Municipality to use the concessions and we will do a chuck a puck between the two coaches games.

Any member of IMHA, and opposing teams from that day, are welcome to have free chips and pizza.

AM: Coaches Game: U9 and under at 6 and U11 and older at 7. Ceremony will be at 6 to recognize the U11 Girls C team for their provincial championship in the 2021-2022 season.

7. Komoka Ice Allocation

AW inquired about the possibility of getting more ice time in Komoka.

TC: This year Middlesex is having a new ice allocation committee to look at the existing contracts and current ice allocations.

8. Online Player Code of Conduct

KD: OMHA and OWHA have their code of conduct which are beginning to address online and social media. We should be proactive as an organization and develop a code of conduct which addresses behaviour online. Going forward we could develop the disciplinary committee that would be ready to talk about any incoming issues.

ACTION: KD and BR will look at other organizations code of conduct around social media and draft guidelines for IMHA players.

9. Round Table

-SP: IMHA **Return to Play Protocol** requires a doctor's note to return from some injuries. The doctor's note can cost the player a fee to obtain, which can range in price. If this is one of our policies should IMHA pay some of this fee?

-RS: If it's an occurrence that is documented by the team trainer, IMHA could approve paying the doctor note fees, up to a monitored amount.

-AW: Inquired if there are guidelines around what is accepted as a doctor's note.

ACTION: BR will follow up with the head trainer, Marty Dudgeon, about what OMHA guidelines are around return to play documentation.

-SP: There are 15-16, U11 and above, players going to the WOGHL All Star Game and there is a cost of \$60 for the jerseys.

- KB made a **motion** for IMHA to pay in full for the jersey cost to play in the WOGHL All Star Game. 2nd by AM. Carried.

-JR: Feedback is positive around IMHA program to promote new referees, which includes some subsidizing. Referees are in need, and we need to continue to help promote new referees to support hockey programs.

- RS made a **motion** to approve the following **cheques for processing**:

- Strathroy-Caradoc \$1068.00 (Ice Rental)

2nd by JR. Carried.

10. AM made a **motion** to **adjourn** to meeting 2nd by KD. Carried.

Online Motions and Updates

January 19th, 2023

- RS made a **motion** to approve the following **cheques for processing**:

- *Randy Sheaves* \$1150.00 (HDI Float)

2nd by SP. Carried.

January 30th, 2023

- RS made a **motion** to approve the following **cheques for processing**:

- *Pete's* \$678.00 (socks/pins/stickers)
- *Little Ceasar's* \$722.30 (HDI - Pizza)
- *Kerri Dixon* \$651.96 (HDI - Multiple Receipts)

2nd by BR. Carried.