

TMHA Annual General Meeting – May 29, 2024

1. Call to order at 6:39 pm
2. Approval of agenda – motion put forth by Holly to approve the agenda, seconded by Ellen.
3. Approval of previous meeting minutes – motion put forth by Rob to approve previous meeting minutes, seconded by Holly.

Board Members in Attendance: Cam MacBean (Referee in Chief), Shasta Gillanders (2nd Vice – Rep Division), Rob Barg (Temporary 1st Vice – House Division), Tim Link (Bus Coordinator), Stacey Naeth (Equipment Manager), Holly Monsen (Treasurer Liaison), Ellen Duncan (Secretary).

4. Report From Board Members

President – Position Vacant interim roles and responsibilities assumed by first and second vice and distributed between board members.

2nd Vice (Rep Division) – Shasta Gillanders

Small board this year which stretched the capacity of members in their efforts to meet the demands of respective roles and responsibilities.

Rec program – Shasta stated that there were many hiccups with the reintroduction of a Rec league to Terrace Minor Hockey. No oversized rosters next year: Terrace can field two teams in the Rec league (For each Division) but cannot participate with three or more teams. Feedback from membership and coaches indicated that the kids enjoyed the opportunity to meet a variety of opponents. Shasta invited questions from the group, no questions put forward.

Minor Hockey Itself – a gap in local policy feedback from coaches and membership was identified – to address concerns from membership regarding issues such as the coaching selection process, the board voted on January 10th, 2024, to have Janet Hamel and Brendan Genaille begin reviewing policy. Janet Hamel requested volunteers to be part of the TMHA Policy Review Committee. Supporting Janet are Brendan Genaille, Holly Monsen, Rob Barg, Shasta Gillanders and Ellen Duncan. The TMHA policy mirrors policy from BC Hockey and will be updated on the TMHA website.

Minor Hockey Observation Project – On March 12, 2024, a Motion was put forth by Shasta Gillanders, to enlist the help of Jeremy Ainsworth who will complete a governance review and address challenges with program delivery, lack of officials, lack of volunteers and challenges related to geography. With unanimous board support, initiation of the Minor Hockey Observation Project was approved. Shasta told the group that the Pre-observation stage requires TMHA to submit a significant amount of documentation.

Anti-Bully Session – Shasta has offered to take on a special project in conjunction with safer schools to provide education for players, and with Cam's support, mentorship for young referees.

Of note: After communication with family members, it was decided that the Austin Braid memorial award be used to recognize a player from each rep division: *The Austin Braid Heart and Hustle Award*

Secretary - Ellen Duncan

TeamGenious App – Player Evaluation Software

Ellen shared with the group her first conversation with then President Brendan Genaille, who confided his feeling that many parents are scared to speak-up when met with challenge at TMHA. Ellen made it clear that she wanted to get involved at the board level to help bridge the communication gap between coaches, players and their families and to learn how best to advocate for players at TMHA. Ellen communicated that she looks forward to the implementation (planned for the 2024/2025 season) of a player evaluation tool that will help ensure a fair and transparent process.

Ellen looks forward to working with Shasta on special projects that will serve to keep player development at the center of TMHA programming.

Temporary 1st vice – Rob Barg

Rob kept it brief confiding that the previous hockey season was very taxing. He expressed his hope to secure more ice for the TMHA Rec program.

Treasurer – Holly Monsen

Holly described her role as link to TMHA Accountant Marc Schibli. Holly has been working with Tracey Salem to update the TMHA website; fixing links, updating and making the site more user friendly. Holly told members that they can expect many website improvements to come and invited membership to submit pictures, taken during the TMHA hockey season, to make the site more welcoming.

Holly reported that there is a small cost associated with use of the TeamGenious App. An increase in ice cost will be mirrored in small fee increases.

Registrar Position – Position Vacant

Shasta provided much support to Leanne Derry in the role of Registrar and extended support in a mentorship capacity to the person who assumes Registrar responsibility for the 2024/2025 season.

Ice Coordinator – Position Vacant

Referee in Chief – Cam MacBean

Referee courses up-coming: one in October 2024 and another in December 2024 – A shortage of referees lead to last minute game cancellations – mentorship potential being explored, good experience for kids. Mat Clarabut, asked about incentives for new Referees, he suggested buying whistles and timely payment (Holly explained where the time lapse challenges lie) – TMHA needs a new referee scheduler as Linda Van Barneveld has stepped down.

Risk Manager – Position Vacant

Equipment Manager – Stacey Naeth

Stacey spent a lot of time cleaning and organizing the cage. Bob Park donated new goalie gear with the closing of his sport shop. Darren Beaulieu helped Stacey organize equipment deciding what to donate

and what is bound for the landfill. **Action:** Stacey plans to connect with Shawn Dando to see if he can use some of the gear at the Skeena Hockey Academy. Next on Stacey's agenda, a jersey inventory, gear swap, a paper record to follow gear/jersey distribution. Mat Clarabut asked if TMHA can charge parents out for the cost of a jersey. Shasta suggested the registrar get a list to make it easier to follow returns using TeamSnap. Kylie Lamb indicated that the U13 rep jerseys required a lot of repairs during the 2023/2024 season. A jersey Inventory is in the works.

Sponsorship – Position Vacant

Rob Barg expressed his hope to seek sponsorship to help cover ice costs.

Bus Coordinator – Tim Link

Bus required minor service, a new pay grade for travel to reduce cost to teams, money put aside to purchase a new bus (24 seats need a class four), trailer required minimal service. Procedure should be in place before start of season to help offset maintenance and travel cost with fundraising and sponsorship.

5. *Financial Report* – refer to attached report submitted by Marc Schibli

6. *Coaching Awards*

Craig Schaeffer was awarded the President's Award and Coach of the Year.

Craig started volunteering with the Timbits coaching up to three teams a year. He Refereed when needed, acted as division head, and was instrumental getting U18 tournament up and running again.

Raina Trappl is this year's recipient of the Larry Swanson Memorial Award (Hockey Citizen Award): For the person who played minor hockey with TMHA and is making the most impact toward development of the game/players in Terrace.

Darren Beaulieu is this Year's recipient of the John Dodd Memorial Award: For recognition of this person's long-term service and dedication to the youth of Terrace and the sport of hockey.

Brian Rigler is this year's recipient of the Coaching 3M Award: For the coach who contributed most to coaching development.

Most promising Referee was awarded by Cam MacBean to *Aiden Haig* who provided referee coverage, often with short notice, making sure games could be played.

The award for *Most Supportive Parent* was awarded by Cam MacBean to *Suzanne Banville* and *Linda Van Barneveld*. Linda is retiring from her position as Referee Scheduler and Susan did not hesitate to step in and prevent a major player altercation.

7. *Open Discussion from the Floor*

Janet addressed the group regarding the U11 development program, stressing that coaches need to understand that the gold standard from BC Hockey met many challenges in Terrace. When questioned about the number of tournaments allowed at the U11 level, Janet provided clarification: a fourth

tournament was granted for this year's U11 development team through The Hockey Canada exemption to add tournament process.

Questions arose re: the fielding of travel teams in Terrace. Janet provided further clarification: TMHA exists under the umbrella of BC hockey, exploring alternate options (unsanctioned) removes a team from Minor Hockey League games and it becomes difficult to find other teams to meet. Vanderhoof was offered as an example the community had only one U11 team and chose not to participate in the BC player pathway.

Craig asked the group to consider the impact on players when U11 Development play U13 House teams or U13 Rep against U15 House. The point was made that House teams follow Fair Play guidelines but that this is not common practice at the Rep level in Terrace. When it comes to Player Development, there has been a big shift in philosophy at the BC Hockey.

Point of Clarification:

Fair and Equal Ice time is mandated at the U11 Development level, outlined on page 16 of the U11 Development Player Pathway document:

u11-hockey-player-pathway-e.pdf (hockeycanada.ca)

Members asked if we are seeing a gap in rep, do we have U13 and U15 rep kids playing house hockey?

Brain Rigler suggested that there is a problem at the district level – that 'the top three kids need somewhere to go to play at a higher level'. Craig Schaefer challenged this opinion stating that he has had success teaching skilled players the importance of a team effort getting kids to work extra hard 'to set-up goals for their teammates'. Craig stressed the importance of teaching leadership and encouraging players to help develop teammates. Another coach added that it 'boils down to coaching and parenting to prevent a false sense of hierarchy'.

One member asked about mixing strong U11 players and U13 House players. The concern expressed from the group that U11 players can get hurt playing with bigger players in U13. Historically, the A Select Program was created to address the problem. Janet told the group the tournament blackouts created too much contention, so the program was dropped.

Raina Trappl asked if there is a Rec division for U11 – Janet stated that the cost of a Rec league is substantial, and that the city of Terrace is already talking about offering TMHA less ice. It was suggested that a Tournament team could work if the cost is carried by parents. A concern was raised about ensuring all the kids are getting an opportunity to play in Rec.

Brain expressed frustration having paid out of pocket to make sure that the U13 Rep team did not miss tournament opportunities. Holly offered a solution; the Treasurer can grant coaches access to the bank account – making sure signers are added by August. The organization had appointed three different Treasurers in the span of three months. Holly needed to close and reopen accounts due to a change in service providers. Currently, all accounts are stable and final.

Shasta made it clear that teams are asked to come forward with budgets in a timely fashion but that this does not always happen.

Brain Rigler asked about early appointment of a team manager. Shasta spoke to parent complaints re: coaching and staff selections and the importance of a transparent process.

The subject was discussed by the Board on May 14th:

Group consensus points to TMHA Policy; membership cannot be assumed, no staff appointed until the team roster has been finalized.

Janet offered that it is rare in Terrace to have more than one application for a coaching position. Mat Clarabut asked if parents can be questions about intension to volunteer via TeamSnap.

Holly and Shasta made it clear that getting registration up and running take precedence over getting the call out for Coaching application.

At the May 14th Board Meeting: It was proposed that the request for coaching applications go out early July, 2024; allowing sufficient time for interviews and the extension of recruiting efforts in the case a suitable candidate is not found.

There was question about missed league games. Shasta and Janet addressed the question: When the NWD schedule comes out Northwest District games are booked for the Main rink. TMHA paid penalties to make sure games got moved to the appropriate ice surface. Shasta emphasized the facts: The City changed policy part way through the season; needing more certainty in the booking process. Penalty Fees have been applied for all users. As Ice Scheduler, Paula Ferretti took a lot of abuse for circumstances outside her control.

8. Application /Elections of Executive

Executive:

President – one application received from Brendan Genaille, who formally accepted the position.

1st Vice – Brendan nominated from the floor Craig Shaefer, who formally accepted the position.

2nd Vice – one application received from Janet Hamel, who formally accepted the position.

Secretary – one application received from Ellen Duncan, who formally accepted the position.

Treasurer Liaison – one application received from Holly Monsen, who formally accepted the position.

Directors:

Head Coach – One application was received from Darren Beaulieu, who has formally accepted the position.

Equipment Manager – One application was received from Stacey Naeth, who has formally accepted the position.

Referee in Chief – One application was received from Cam MacBean, who has formally Accepted the position.

Ice Scheduler – Rob Barg offered to fill the position if no one else showed interest in assuming the responsibilities.

Stacey Naeth Nominate Melissa Rigler for a director position.

Dave Merritt Nominated his wife Shannon McCullough-Merritt for a director position, Shannon accepted the nomination via phone call.

Action: Shasta to share registrar responsibilities with Kylie Lamb so that she might consider assuming the responsibility of Registrar.

Action: f/u with Troy Hansen to gauge interest in acting as referee scheduler.

Non-Voting Inclusion position: Diversity and inclusion position, not necessary to attend meetings. Looking for candidate.

Non-Voting social media Person: too much for a director to do off the side of their desk. Coordinate with teams to continue updates and increase presence and awareness.

Shasta expressed her intention to take on *Special Projects for TMHA* – Bullying seminar, governance piece, so we are not losing important projects.

Live Stream query (Raina) – refer to minutes from February 6th, 2024:

Pixellot Viewer – the Board is considering a 3-Year subscription and potential sponsorship opportunities. Need to consult user groups.

9. Winning ticket for 100 off Registration Fee goes to *Kylie Lamb*

10. Meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM

11. *Next Meeting:* June 12th at 6:30, Rich McDaniel Room – Terrace Sportsplex

Respectfully Submitted by *Ellen Dunca, RD*