



Minutes

March 23, 2009

7:30PM

Cardinal Newman SS, Stoney Creek

Executive Attendees

Mark Robinson
Bernice Grasley
Greg Bridgwater
Pat Nicholls

Gina Gibson
Michele Piccini
Fran Rider

Executive Regrets

Erik Ellis, Glenn Henry, Jim Kennedy,
Debbie Bland, Bill Williamson, Doug Nicholls

Associations Represented

Belleville
Grand River
North Halton
Stratford

Brampton
Haldimand
North York
Toronto

Cambridge
Hamilton
Orangeville
Woolwich

Etobicoke
Kitchener
St Catharines

Association Regrets

Brantford
Ganoque
Markham-Stouffville
Niagara Falls
Rochester
Toronto Leaside

Burlington
Georgina
Milverton
North Durham
Saugeen-Maitland
Vaughan

Chatham
Guelph
Mitchell
Oakville
Scarborough

Ennismore
Keene
Napanee
Plattsville
St Thomas

Meeting called to order at 7:30PM by League President.

Additions to Agenda

- OWHA Recategorization Process
- Hosting of LLFHL Championship Weekend
- US Teams/Opt Out
- Managers Booklet
- Int BB/B coin toss to determine #1 and #2 seeds
- LLs retiring

Stoney Creek LL motioned to accept agenda with additions; 2nd by Head Convenor; All in favour.
Carried.

League President indicated we are unable to accept minutes from January 26 or February 23, 2009 meetings as no quorum. They will need to be reviewed and accepted at AGM in June 2009.

Business Arising from Previous Minutes

AGM (Motions & Executive Elections Nominations)

June 7, 2009 – Cambridge, ON

League President reminded group that Nomination Forms as well as Changes to Amendments Form are on the website. Nomination Forms are to be submitted to 1st VP Glenn Henry and Proposed Amendment Changes are to be submitted to Secretary Gina Gibson. Due date is April 7, 2009. League President also reminded group that Constitution changes requires a two-thirds majority to pass, Rules & Regulations require 50% to pass and Bylaws Amendments can only be brought forward by Executive.

Officials

No issues with officials

Travel (Atom AA & PWAA)

Subcommittee Chair absent but League President explained LLs would receive a survey for completion and return; Executive looking for innovative ways for scheduling; No combining categories as this goes against rules.

Treasurers Report

Reports were provided to LLs prior to meeting for review. No questions put forth.

Head Convenor's Report

Head convenor explained playoffs end March 28, 2009. There are some outstanding game sheets. "Thank You" to all convenors.

Discipline Chair's Report

Only 3 game sheets received today; Chair reminded group that suspensions cannot be served through exhibition games unless exception granted by OWHA.

Championship Weekend

Information booklet discussed; Secretary explained once it is finalized, it would be sent to all LLs; Cheques are payable to LLFHL and due when team manager checks in for first game; Association cheques are an option.

New Business

League Liaison Responsibilities

Discussion ensued regarding LLs and their responsibilities: Is it working?; Disappointing that more associations do not attend monthly meetings; Is the information getting to association executives and team managers?; Use of telephone conference calls or on-line web were discussed but costs could be a factor.

Cambridge LL advised he found executive dealt directly with a coach rather than LL on some issues; All correspondence should be through the LL.

Playoff Formats & Dates Feedback

League President explained playoff format was based on survey from previous year; Is another survey needed? St Catharines LL indicate 8-team playoff format works and it's possible LLs did not relay the information to their teams.

League President explained issue with respect to Rochester teams; Executive was advised upfront that Rochester would be hosting Nationals and it was our understanding that issue would be whether or not Rochester would be at Championship Weekend should they be successful in their bid to compete at the US Nationals; Exec was not aware that US Nationals Preliminaries could be an issue; In the Midget A division, Hamilton was declared series winners and advanced to Championship Weekend.

Should season be shortened? Lengthened? – St Catharines LL indicated season was shortened already this year; need to lock in dates for championship weekend.

Some issues with teams explaining they can't get their playoff games in during time provided; League President noted teams need to be commencing their OWHA Playdowns in early February, they shouldn't be waiting until end of February/beginning of March.

Cambridge LL enquired as to whether or not Novice teams could have a longer season; League President advised an amendment to the rules would be required for the AGM.

Brampton LL explained issues with seeding/reseeding of teams after series; All were reminded that no reseeding.

OWHA Recategorization Process

Brief discussion regarding process and who can submit form; OWHA rep explained process; Cambridge LL explained there should be 3 Novice Divisions (A, B, C) and 4 Atom Divisions (AA, A, B, C); LL explained eliminating the BB divisions would 'push' teams up to the divisions where they should be and would assist with the issue of not having enough Atom AA teams.

Hosting of LLFHL Championship Weekend

Some associations have enquired about hosting future Championship Weekends; League President explained exec working on the tender document; Items to consider: ice commitments from municipality, hours (approx 200 required), ice costs, accommodations, flexibility for floods, insurance provisions, EMS provisions.

Secretary explained local association did not profit from Champ Weekend; Secretary explained ice was available and exec was able to secure at reasonable rate; Any profits that would have been received through vendors were slated to be applied to next year's weekend; This would apply to any commissions received from hotels as well.

Is weekend set in stone? League is constrained by timing of provincial playoffs and provincials. Date would be set by Executive annually.

US Teams/Opt Out

Discussion ensued re US teams for next season and Opt Out; League President reminded group that Opt Out is for travel to US only, it does not apply if US team has secured ice in Ontario.

OWHA rep advised US teams want to have teams to play against; not enough competition for them in the US as girls hockey is still very new; There is a need to help US grow the game; Rep advised there

are US 'commuter kids' playing hockey on Canadian teams which shows their parents are willing to have their daughters play here.

Managers Booklet

Discussion ensued with respect to a booklet to assist managers; Secretary explained it has been discussed and the Exec will endeavour to complete for next season.

Int BB/B

Coin toss completed by OWHA rep; Cobourg #1 seed, Kitchener #2 seed

LLs Retiring

Brampton LL retiring – replacement will be Nadine

Woolwich LL retiring – replacement will be Gary

Stoney Creek LL motioned to adjourn meeting at 9:30PM

2nd by St Catharines LL

All in favour. Carried.