

Pembina Valley Minor Hockey Association

Annual Meeting

April 27, 2009

Miami Community Centre

1. Call To Order

Bert Dow called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Executive Members in Attendance: Bert Dow, Jim Mutcheson, Kevin Scott, Brian McElroy, Roger Chartier, Brent Smart, Louise Vigier, Barb Orchard

Regrets: Vince Hink, Greg Ens

2. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was included in the Annual Report for the Association representatives to review prior to the meeting. The Agenda was moved as printed by Winkler Minor Hockey.

3. Roll Call

The Association Roll Call was taken. The following Associations were represented:

Altona, Carman, Elm Creek, Holland, MacDonald, Manitou/Somerset, MSJ Wild, Notre Dame, Rock Lake, Roland, Miami, Southern Steelers, Swan Lake, Treherne, and Winkler

Regrets: Rosenort absent due to flood

Morden Minor Hockey was not represented at the meeting.

4. Cindy Kowalski Sport Manitoba

Cindy was in attendance from Sport Manitoba. She provided information on various topics and programs:

1. A Grants Resource Manual was distributed to each Association.
2. Cindy spoke about the Kids Sport Program and reminded everyone to not take the fees from clients that have applied for Kids Sport upfront. The program can only reimburse sports organizations and not the individuals.
3. Community Sport Inventory – Sport Manitoba is creating a data base for all of the sport organizations in the Central Region. There is a form for each Association to fill out and return to her office. This form will have to be updated on an annual basis. With that information, the Sport Manitoba office can forward any information that is pertinent to that particular sport.
4. The Manitoba Power Smart Winter Games will be happening in March 2010 in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. The participating age groups for Hockey are Male – 1995 and some clarification needs to be made whether the Female is for 1993 and / or 1994. Central Region encompasses a region that includes Pembina Valley and Central Region.

5. Approval of 2008 Annual Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting of the Pembina Valley Minor Hockey Association were approved and moved by Winkler Minor Hockey. Macdonald Minor Hockey second.

6. Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business or discussion arising from the 2008 minutes.

7. Dr. F. Letain award

The 2009 recipient was unable to attend the Annual General Meeting therefore the award will be presented at the Semi-Annual Meeting in the fall.

8. Reports

All Executive, Convenor, Pembina Valley Male and Female Hawks reports were compiled in the printed report that was distributed to the Association representatives for review prior to the meeting.

Brent Smart added that there will be five clinics for officials held in the fall – the details are posted on the web site. Brent also requested that each Association promote the clinics at their registrations. Females should be encouraged to become part of the Officiating program as there is a great deal of resources available for female development.

Discussion arising from the reports was as follows:

- Playoff dates must be set prior to the playoffs beginning and those dates will have to be adhered to. It will be reviewed further and will be discussed at the next Executive meeting with the details to be presented at the Semi-Annual meeting in the fall. The suggestion was made to more strictly enforce the rules and guidelines that are already in place and not add more rules.

- Each Association is encouraged to bring forward a Coach Mentor for Brian McElroy to work with so that the program becomes easier to promote and more accessible to the entire region.

9. New Business

Bert Dow

Bert mentioned again about the Mentorship Program and the promotion and participation in it.

Next season will see league guidelines and rules enforced more stringently to keep league and playoff schedules moving forward. With the Manitoba Winter Games and development programs there is a possibility for some age groups to lose three weekends from their scheduled games.

There has been some discussion around the protocol around the collection of Bonds and or Fines. Next season may have the Region's Director contacting the Association President regarding the implementation of the loss of bonds/fines as well as sending out the invoice.

Louise Vigier

Pee Wee skills camps for females are being planned for October 2009 possibly in Swan Lake and Morris.

10. Notice of Motions – Hockey Manitoba

The Notice of Motions are listed on the Hockey Manitoba web site. The Notice of Motions that will be voted on at the Hockey Manitoba Annual Meeting were reviewed and discussed. The discussion provided a general feedback and a sense of what the various Associations in Pembina Valley are thinking. The executive members that are attending the Hockey Manitoba meeting will put forward further questions, amendments and vote accordingly. Each Association has a vote at the Hockey Manitoba meeting and are welcome and encouraged to attend.

11. Discussion from the Floor

MSJ and Rosenort will become an official amalgamated centre for next season. There will be a name change. The Amalgamation will help to field a team in all age categories and possibly two in some categories.

Manitou will once again be combined with Somerset.

Southern Steelers will struggle with numbers as their Association is becoming smaller and smaller.

Roland will have two teams with good numbers.

Carman numbers are looking fairly good for next year.

Altona will have one or two age groups that have too many for one team and not enough for two. There is a large gap with low numbers in the female program particularly in the younger age groups.

MacDonald may see an increase in their numbers next year.

Treherne will continue to combine when they have to in some age groups in order to ice a team or keep players in the program.

Holland will continue generally the same as the past seasons.

Rock Lake made mention that the Rock Lake Female Atom team won their Provincial category.

Swan Lake continues to combine with other communities as is necessary.

Notre Dame – things are going well.

Elm Creek may be down to one team next year.

Miami continues to struggle with numbers at atom age.

Winkler's numbers were down this year and did not have any female hockey at all but hope that will improve in the future. Frustrations were expressed at the Association level as to the PVMHA website – needs to be more current and updated more quickly.

Bert's reply regarding the website - there is plan to change and update the website completely and it will hopefully be up and running for next season.

It was mentioned by several Associations that everyone will have to work together to keep the programs going and perhaps slow the trend of declining numbers.

Concern expressed about the length of time that is taken with particularly High School tryouts - creates a delay in determining whether numbers will support a midget team which in turn makes it challenging to roster, schedule, combine with other teams, etc.

Overage applications will be scrutinized very closely next year.

General consensus is that communication is very important. Information needs to get throughout the entire Association. Request has been made that Pembina Valley Executive communicate with the Association Executive instead of with the individual coach or manager.

On line registration – by end of this year Pembina Valley will have to have another 25% of Associations participating. Within two years everyone will be registering on-line.

Parent Orientation Program – program is very worthwhile. Will continue to facilitate the program throughout the region. It would be beneficial to the facilitation if Associations would provide a representative that could ensure that all parents in their own Association have an opportunity to take the program. Ideally, each Association could gather their parents together to cover as many parents as possible in each session to cut down on the number of sessions held. More details to be worked out for the coming season.

Conflict arose this year at a Provincial competition between what was stated in the Hockey Canada rule book and Hockey Manitoba's bulletin. They each stated something different. It created a challenging situation for the hosting Association. The question was asked who was responsible to ensure that the bulletins are distributed and adhered to. In this instance, it is not up to the Association to ensure that the bulletins are distributed. The bulletins are on the Hockey Manitoba website and officials should be checking to ensure that they have the necessary bulletins and updates if they have come up after the Officials' meeting in the fall. At that time, Brent would be distributing the information to the referees-in-chief of each Association.

Bert presented the concept of the possibility of implementing a split season at the Atom level for next year. Discussion around how it would be implemented. Half of the games before Christmas and half of the games after Christmas. Realignment of teams would be done for the second half of the season. Most felt that the concept was one that was definitely worth pursuing.

12. Elections

Six positions are up for election on the Pembina Valley Executive: Director, Vice-Director, Vice-Director Female, and 3 League Convenors. Brent Smart chaired the elections.

Director:

Bert Dow let his name stand for the position of Director. There were no nominations from the floor. Bert returns as director by acclamation.

Vice-Director:

Jim Mutcheson let his name stand for the position of Vice-Director. There were no nominations from the floor. Jim returns as vice-director by acclamation.

Vice-Director Female:

Louise Vigier let her name stand for the position of Vice-Director Female. There were no nominations from the floor. Louise returns as vice-director female by acclamation.

League Convenor:

Greg Ens will let his name stand as a league convenor. There were no nominations from the floor. Greg will return as a convenor for two years.

League Convenor:

Roger Chartier will let his name stand as the league convenor for Midgets. There were no nominations from the floor. Roger returns as a convenor for two years.

League Convenor:

There were no nominations from the floor therefore nominations were tabled to the fall semi-annual meeting. This convenor position is for one year.

A motion was made by Notre Dame Minor Hockey that the Pembina Valley Executive find the necessary replacement(s) for any vacant positions on the Executive and that this recommendation be an amendment to be included in the Pembina Valley Minor Hockey Association Constitution. Manitou Minor Hockey second. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m. by MacDonald Minor Hockey.