

Pembina Valley Minor Hockey Association

Annual Meeting

April 20, 2011

Miami Community Centre

1. Call To Order and Introductions

Jim Mutcheson called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Executive Members in Attendance: Jim Mutcheson, Warren Schroeder, Greg Ens, Sherry Rutherford, Matt Bestland, Brian McElroy, Roger Chartier, Brent Smart, Barb Orchard

Guests: Bert Dow – East Zone Chair, Hockey Manitoba
Bill Lawson – Regional Registrar, Hockey Manitoba
Dave Leonzio and Brian Messner – Pembina Valley AAA Hawks
Sheldon Friesen – Pembina Valley AA Female Hawks
Leanne Traynor – Sport Manitoba
Troy Ellingson – Langdon Midget Coach

2. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was distributed prior to the meeting. The acceptance of the agenda was moved by Greg Ens and Holland Association second.

3. Roll Call

The Association Roll Call was taken. The following Associations were represented: Altona, Holland, MacDonald, Manitou/Somerset, Morden, Notre Dame, Rock Lake, Swan Lake, Winkler and Red River Wild, Carman, Elm Creek, Roland, Treherne and Miami.

4. Sport Manitoba - Leanne Traynor

Leanne gave a presentation on the grants that are available and also provided a brief overview of the Grant Manual that assists in the application procedure. Leanne highlighted the grants that are available specifically for travel assistance for both individuals and teams. The travel grants are often not taken advantage of therefore Leanne wanted to ensure that everyone is aware of their existence. She encouraged contacting her office with any questions as they are very willing to assist any way that they can. The Kids Sport program was also reviewed. Contact information is available on the Sport Manitoba web site.

5. Langdon Midgets – Troy Ellingson

Troy and two board members were in attendance to put in a request to the Pembina Valley Minor Hockey Association to have the Langdon Midget team participate in the Midget League. Langdon is faced with great travel distances and would welcome the opportunity to be part of the League. The associations with teams from the 2010-2011 Midget League were asked and those represented at the meeting were in favour.

Questions regarding insurance, rule differences, age etc. were discussed and addressed. It is looking quite favourable and will be discussed further in greater detail.

6. Regional Registrar – Bill Lawson

Bill commended the local association registrars for their diligence over the past season as this Region runs very smoothly. The Hockey Canada Registration system has been implemented and is proving to be quite valuable. There were ten teams from Pembina Valley participating in the extended season. The number of tournaments in the Region in total was down slightly from last year but they all went well. All in all, Bill felt it was a great year from his standpoint.

7. East Zone Chair – Bert Dow

Bert is enjoying his new position and expressed that he missed working directly in the Pembina Valley Region with the associations. A big concern this past season has been the “Abuse of Officials”. This is an item that will be addressed at the Hockey Manitoba AGM.

8. Approval of the Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes.

The minutes of the October 6, 2010 Semi-Annual meeting of Pembina Valley Minor Hockey Association were posted on the web site. Red River association moved that the Semi-Annual Meeting minutes be adopted as circulated. MacDonald Minor Hockey second.

9. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business or discussion arising from the 2010 minutes.

10. Reports

Director – Jim Mutcheson

Jim would like to see the level of respect increased throughout the entire minor hockey system including players, coaches, team personnel and parents. Jim thanked the executive for their assistance and support through his first year in the role of director.

Referee in Chief – Brent Smart

Brent is stepping down from this position. He announced that Shane Froebe will be taking on the position of Referee Co-ordinator for Pembina Valley Minor Hockey Association. Brent also mentioned the concern regarding Abuse of Officials. A positive for the Region is that the official development program in Pembina Valley is resulting in several young officials moving into the higher levels of officiating.

Jim Mutcheson expressed thanks on behalf of the Region for the time and effort that Brent has put into his role as a member of the Executive and presented him with a token of that appreciation.

Development / Mentorship – Brian McElroy

Brian’s report is as printed in the report. Brian welcomes any questions or discussion regarding the programs.

Female – Sherry Rutherford

Sherry’s report is as printed in the report.

Midget – Roger Chartier

The league went well this year. Suspensions were down overall this season. Roger is glad to answer any questions.

Bantam – Kevin Scott

Kevin was unable to attend this meeting

Pee Wee – Warren Schroeder

Warren's report is as printed in the report and he thanked Brian for his role and assistance in the development program.

Atom – Greg Ens

The Atom Report is as printed in the report.

Novice – Matt Bestland

Matt read the Novice report from the Annual Report as there were some incidents that occurred in the past season at the Novice level that is quite concerning to the Pembina Valley Region and Hockey Manitoba. He asked that associations try and choose team personnel wisely and they are encouraged to monitor their behaviour.

Pembina Valley AAA Midget Hawks – Dave Leonzio

Dave mentioned that there were some challenges with the last season as is referred to in the annual report. The team and organization has been promoting an interaction with young minor hockey players and associations and this effort has had positive feedback from all involved; players, teams and parents.

Pembina Valley AA Female Midget Hawks – Sheldon Friesen

Sheldon Friesen reported the girls had a successful season. He asked all associations to encourage female players to participate and to be aware of their web site and to keep watching it for updates. They plan on starting in August to prepare for next season.

11. Notice of Motions – Hockey Manitoba

The Notice of Motion package from Hockey Manitoba had been forwarded to each Association in the Region for review and the Notice of Motions is also posted on the Hockey Manitoba web site for review. They will be voted on at the Hockey Manitoba Annual Meeting. The Motions were highlighted, reviewed and discussed at length. The executive members that are attending the Hockey Manitoba meeting will vote on behalf of the region based on the results of the discussion. Each Association has a vote at the Hockey Manitoba meeting and are welcome and encouraged to attend.

New Business

1. Constitutional Changes – Presentation at Semi-Annual Meeting

The Executive is proposing a change to the format of the Constitution. There would be a separation made between the Constitution and the rules and by-laws. This would facilitate a much easier process to change or amend rules, etc. without affecting the

constitution. There was a brief discussion and it was decided that the Executive should proceed with that process and it will be presented at the Semi-Annual Meeting in the fall.

2. Scholarship – Update

The Pembina Valley Minor Hockey Association scholarship criteria and application are posted on the web site. The deadline to submit applications is June 5, 2011.

3. June Meeting – Hot Stove Concept

A brief overview of the intent of a Hot Stove Concept meeting was held. The general reception around the concept among the Associations was favourable and some valuable items to discuss at the meeting were provided. Associations are encouraged to keep an eye on the web site for a date and location for this meeting to be set.

4. Elections

Five positions are up for election on the Pembina Valley Executive: Director, Vice-Director, Vice-Director Female, and two League Convenors. Greg Ens chaired the portion of the election pertaining to the directors and Roger Chartier chaired the election of the convenors:

Director:

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

Vice-Director:

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

Vice-Director Female:

Sherry Rutherford let her name stand for the position of Female Vice-Director. There were no further nominations from the floor. Sherry returns as the Vice-Director Female by acclamation.

League Convenors:

Warren Schroeder will let his name stand as a league convenor. There were no nominations from the floor. Warren will return as a convenor for two years by acclamation.

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 by acclamation.

5. Open Discussion from the Floor

Jeff Pierce from Manitou Minor Hockey presented and enquired about the possibility of changing the Initiation program from full ice to cross ice games. Cross ice would allow the players to be more engaged in the game as well as allowing a higher level of development for the players. Jeff has spoken with Hockey associations that have already implemented this concept and have found it quite successful. It is a concept that is worthy of further conversation and consideration.

A question was raised regarding the Hockey Summit that was held two years ago. Unfortunately, there has not been a lot of information shared from that Summit. Bert will pass that question on when he attends the Hockey Canada Meetings in May.

The point was raised about having a second scheduling meeting to assist with the scheduling of the second half of the split season or to possibly move the schedule up by

approximately two weeks. The second round of scheduling did create some problems and a lot of extra work for the ice co-ordinators within some associations. Comments from various associations indicated that there was some very quiet time in their arenas between the first and second half of the split season that could have been taken advantage of if the schedule was in place sooner.

An inquiry was made as to whether Pembina Valley Minor Hockey Association has ever considered the possibility of a mandated registration deadline. This concept could be quite beneficial to both small and larger centres. This topic would be worthy of further discussion at the Hot Stove Meeting in June.

A question was raised regarding the Region's stand on the use of overage players and the monitoring of those players. There is motion being put forward at the Hockey Manitoba AGM that is intended to clarify the guidelines around the use of overage players.

A concern was raised about having a league Convenor in a division that is also a coach in that same division.

There was a question regarding the process of determining when and where the Pee Wee Development tournaments would be held. It is hoped that in future seasons that communities and associations will be provided the opportunity to apply to host the tournaments similar to the Provincial hosting process.

A question was raised inquiring where an atom female team could play when there is not a league. Sherry clarified that there are not enough girls to form teams to make a female league but there are enough atom girls to form two teams that would be eligible to play exhibition, tournaments and provincials. It was also mentioned that if an association has enough girls to create an atom team that female teams have participated in the league with the boys in the past.

Volunteer of the Month

Congratulations to Ken and Larry Michels from Holland on their successful nomination by the Pembina Valley Region as the Hockey Manitoba March 2011 Volunteer of the Month. They have been active supporters of hockey in Holland and surrounding area in excess of 35 years. It is their level of commitment to the game of hockey and their continuous effort to provide a place for kids to play that make them an excellent resource within the community and region to the game of hockey.

Winkler Minor Hockey moved that the meeting be adjourned at 10:50 p.m.