RIVERS MINOR HOCKEY FALL MEETING
September 14, 2023
Redfern Hatt, Riverdale Community Centre

Meeting called to order by Gerald Lepp at 7:00 PM

Minutes from the Spring Meeting had been circulated via email and supplied with the Agenda. Crystal Bourdin moved to accept the minutes as circulated and reviewed, second by Kelly Spurway. CARRIED

Treasurer Report presented by Aaron Tycoles. Current balance $90,291.89. Hockey Manitoba has yet to bill the pre-bill on fees for the year. $9750 in Revenue for 3 on 3 and Powerskating has been received with expenses yet to come. We have also received a refund of $677 from Hockey Canada for the assessment from last year. Lance has also done a good job securing sponsorship so that will be above budget for the year. The board may look to purchase a GIC once all the registration numbers come in and we know where we will be expense wise. Motion by Aaron Tycoles to accept the Treasurer Report as presented. Seconded by Andrea Munz. CARRIED

Yellowhead Report presented by Gerald Lepp.

- Directors Cup will be running for 2010 born players, and Rising stars for 2011 players again this year.
- Hockey Manitoba is starting an Indigenous Culture course that will probably be part of minor hockey associations for 2024-25.
- Pilot Project coming as young as U9 that all Minor Hockey Associations give the kids 1 weekend off per month. This would include a AA program that would be used for skill development.
- AAA Rosters with the exception of U18 Female are not yet finalised.
- No mention of requirement for Social media training in 2023-24.

Parkissimo Report by Gerald Lepp.

- Lots of different teams from outside the region attended the meeting, with teams from Roblin, Grand Plains, Dauphin, Swan River, Gladstone and Sandy Bay all playing in some of the divisions.
- All team coaching staff and managers to be finalised by October 3rd, with scheduling meetings happening the week of the 10th.
- Digital game sheets are passed, so Rivers Minor Hockey will be buying an IPad and providing training to the managers on the system.
- Motion passed on the U13 Pilot Project to split divisions by skill level and allow associations with more than one team to split and be in two divisions
    - 8 Teams will be in DIvision 1, and 10 teams in Division 2
    - Possible split into 3 divisions after December 3
    - Rivers will split their teams and put one in Division 1, and one in Division 2
- U9 is moving to a league tournament for this season that will be based on standings. All age divisions will move to that for 2024-25.

Provincial Playins:

U11- January 26-28 in Rivers
U13- January 19-21 in Hamiota
U15- January 19-21 in Neepawa

Rivers Minor Hockey Tournament Dates:

U7- November 18

U9- January 6-7
U11- December 8-10
U13- November 3-5
U15- TBD

Rivers Minor Hockey Day will be November 25th.

Players and Teams for 2023-24:

U7- 15 Players
U9- 18 Players- 2 Teams
U11- 17 Players- 1 Team
U11 Female- 5 Players with some going to Minnedosa and some to Hamiota
U13- 20 Players- 2 Teams of 10
U13 Female- 5 Players going to Hamiota
U15- 20 registered- will have 1 team once the AAA Tryouts are completed.
U15 Female- Possible split with Hamiota once the AAA tryouts are completed.
U18 Female- Possible split with Hamiota once the AAA tryouts are completed

Ice time for teams will be available on the rink website. Aaron explained the changes in ice allocation in an attempt to maximise revenue for the facility by moving more games to the weekend and practising during the week. Midweek game slots and Sunday Game slots will be allocated prior to the league scheduling meetings.

Live Barn is being added to the facility, with the Senior Jets helping to cover the install costs.

Today was the deadline for coaching applications. Currently U13, U9, and U7 did not have enough coaches. U11 had multiple candidates for head coach, and because there were 3 executive members that were in conflict, Aaron and Gerald had decided that they would leave it to a parent vote to select the head coach. The email would be sent out Friday the 15th to start the process.

Lance Henderson and Dan Spurway spoke on the A/P Policy that was circulated to membership.

- They looked and Pembina Valley, Brandon, and other smaller associations to come up with what works best
- 8 game maximum
- Where there are a gold and bronze team, the gold team would A/P from the bronze team. The bronze team would A/P from the age group below.
- Communication is key to the policy.. The coach that is needing the A/P would ask the coach of the team that they are A/Ping from prior to asking the player, if the coach says no then the A/P is not allowed.
- Permission is not needed to attend a practice as an A/P
- Hockey Manitoba's current policy is very vague, so the need for something more formalised is needed.
- Conversation occurred regarding the need for maximum games, coaches playing A/P's more than players on their own team, and players being brought up to help teams win, and what Rivers Minor Hockey is doing to help develop players who won't have a chance to move up when teams don't need A/P's
- It was the consensus of membership that the need for a financial penalty should be removed.
- Executive has the power to approve over 8 games if needed, as well as the ability to deal with coaches that break the rules.

Motion made by Kelly Spurway that the A/P Policy be adopted as presented after removing the financial penalties, as well as the verbiage is to be cleaned up to align with Hockey Manitoba age categories. Seconded by Deanne Stevenson. CARRIED.

Gerald reviewed the process for the 13U Pilot project and how the teams will be split:

- WCHA will be coming and conducting evaluations. This includes two 90 minute practices and a 90 minute intersquad game/scrimmage
- Rankings will include shooting, passing, skating, stick handling, and hockey IQ
- List will be provided to the executive and the teams will be split.
- A suggestion was made by membership that a question be asked to parents/players if they do not want to be evaluated and just play on the lower team.
- A question was asked on cost, Gerald and Aaron said that the original quote to do two teams was $3850 and we had not received a new price for one team. Estimate was between $2000-$2200.
- Gerald will send out an email regarding the evaluation process and asking the question as suggested on Friday the 15th.

46 kids are registered for power skating. Lance will send out times in the next week. At the very least we will break even or make a little bit of money.

Numbers were down a little for 3 on 3, with the younger group and U15 still having space. We will go down to 3 nights a week to save ice costs and should still make a decent profit.

CJ's is selling Jets gear such as hats and toques in the canteen this year. Aaron also spoke on the online store being moved over to Dynasty Curling/Tri-Star Screenprinting. We will make some money as a fundraiser with the move.

Rivers Minor Hockey will be applying to host the U11 Provincials.

Discussion was had on whether or not to do the cash calendars, the hockey draft or any other fundraising this year. Trevor Peters spoke about how we had used the fundraisers coming out of Covid when he was President as a way of making some cash back after paying to keep the ice in. But before that we just relied on tournaments. There were also some other ideas brought forward. Based on current financial position, selling clothing, sponsorship, and the possibility of hosting the provincials the decision was made to not do any additional fundraising this year.

Gerald spoke on using some of the budget in Player Development on a checking clinic for U13 and U15 players, while we would look at some other options for U9 and U11 for extra development.

All coaches were reminded that Respect in Sport expires after 5 years for any coaches that took theirs in 2017 or 2018. All parents need to complete the parent course. Jamie will send out instructions on how to upload them.

Child Abuse Regsitry checks need to be completed each year for all coaches, managers, and safeties.

There will be a Christmas Break between Christmas and New Years with no practices.

Chris Anderson made a suggestion of having a mid season meeting with the executive and the managers and coaches as a way to open up communication. Lance suggested that we have it in or around December 7th after the Yellowhead meeting. Gerald will communicate a date once it is scheduled.

Deanne Stevenson mentioned that Facebook was not a great way to communicate now that we have eliminated the website. The Executive will look at a more cost effective option like Google Sites to have at the very least an information page.

Kyle Ratz gave a referee report. Clinic in town will be on October 15th. His goal is to try and provide some mentoring for the younger officials and some support when they need.

Trevor Peters motioned for adjournment at 8:34 PM