



January 2024 Minutes

Meeting start: 6:00 pm

Attendees: Darrel Pitman, Jen McCharles, Willie Cowie, Andrew Alkins, Rob Fiddler, Dave Jackowski

Guests: Tim Lowe

Absent: Adam Dennis

1 – All approve the meeting minutes from last meeting – All approve

2 – Rep Report: Deferred to February

3 – House Report: Deferred to February

4 – Budget Report: Deferred to February

5 – House League Draft and Evaluations

DJ raised concerns with HL draft and players that missed evaluations. At times this give perception of a conflict as the teams can be unbalanced. Although in most years an evaluation of these players would occur at a regular practice, this year the number was to significant. DP suggested that a contingency ice be added at the end of evaluations to ensure some evaluation can occur. A second option would be to conduct some evaluations on during the week when most kids are not away on vacation.

DJ also inquired about the evaluations and the perceived conflict that exist when coached assist with evaluations. PD and WC went through the processes and explained how any favoritism is eliminated by using average of the rating provided by the coaches and independent evaluators.

Action: Elizabeth to reserve a few ice sessions as contingency and look at possible weekday evaluations.

6 – First Shift (viability)

The group discussed the viability of the FS program moving forward. All agreed that it does provide a benefit, primarily to U9-U10 aged kids. All agreed that if coach is willing to volunteer to run the program we offer again.

Post Meeting Note: Andy Lyle agreed to run the program again.

Action: Elizabeth the schedule FS in the same time slot for 2024/25 season.

7 – Modified Ice set up

The group discussed the U9 modified ice set up and the challenges with flooding. AA suggested we approach the City with a proposal that mimics what is done at other rinks. At other rinks, the boards are opened sufficiently to allow the the Zamboni to safely move through the opening to the resurface the $\frac{3}{4}$ section. There may be some concerns with creating an uneven surface with this approach.

Action: Dave will review current practices both in north bay and surrounding areas and explore options that will facilitate ice resurfacing for the 2024/25 season when modified ice is used.

8 – Registration vs ice availability

AA presented the current amount of ice that NBMH has/will purchase for 2023/24. This was presented against the number of recommended practises outlined by the Hockey Canada pathways program. Currently most programs are not meeting the requirements even when team rent ice in alternative locations such as East Ferris, Powassan, Trout Creek, Temiskaming, Mattawa and Sturgeon. AA suggested once the data is collected, that a outside firm be hired to prepare a report to assist with capping registration numbers and negotiating with the City for more suitable ice.

Action: Andrew to continue gathering data and present options of possible consultants that would be capable of undertaking the work.

9 – Coaching Applications

The CSC recommended requesting coaching applications by the end of the week and closing applications two weeks after posting. All agreed.

Action: Elizabeth to open portal for coaching applications.

10 – 2024/25 Teams

AA outlined the need to request all cards, including U12AA and 16AA for the 2024/25 season. Once evaluations are undertaken a final decision can be made if NBMH should move forward with the team based on numbers and competitiveness.

Motion AA: Request cards in: U9T1 x 2, U10AA, U11AA, U11A, U12AA, U13AA, U13A, U14AA, U15AA, U15A and U16AA

Second: RF

Vote: 100% in favour

11 – Discipline – Close camera

12 – Benevity Fund

The group discussed the purpose of Benevity funds. AA explained that such a fund is something a company sometimes offers their employees when they volunteer their time. The fund cannot be transferred from player to player from the groups understanding.

13 – Website Activation

Jen and Lisa outlined the remaining issue with launching the new website. Some information from a past board member is required to appropriately link team snap to the new site is required. Once that is done the site can launched.

14 – AAA – Additional members

Andrew briefed the group about the outcome of his meetings with Scott. It appears that there is desire to cooperate and move forward in a constructive manner. Currently AAA are reviewing NBMH's rules of operations and policies to see how well the align with theirs. The next step will be to introduce a 2 more members from both associations to the meeting. Lisa and Adam were nominated to assist Andrew moving forward.

15 - Roundtable

No business raised.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.