



# Vancouver Island Amateur Hockey Association

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes Held at Beban Park, Rm 7/8, Nanaimo, April 26, 2009

### Present

President – Mark Kenny (chair)	Alberni Valley MHA – Al McCulloch
Past President – Jim Humphrey	Campbell River MHA – Bill Boschman
Executive Director – Marg Herba (minutes)	Comox Valley MHA – Dale Stewart
VP Competitive – Don Taylor	Cowichan Valley MHA – Kristen Arnold
VP South – Barb Norton	Gold River MHA – Represented by R Carter
VP North – Roy Carter	Juan de Fuca MHA – Dave Horner
VP Mid Island – Deb Turney	Kerry Park MHA – Jan Collins
District Safety & Risk Mgr – Carol Fergusson	Lake Cowichan MHA – ABSENT
District Coach Coordinator – Mike Mowat	Nanaimo MHA – Dave Beatty
Female Dev Coordinator – Teri Cotton	Oceanside MHA – Dean Bruyckere
NI RCM – Mike Fraser	Peninsula MHA – Elisa Moes
SI RCM – Steve Marsh	Powell River MHA – Leslie Perreault
BCH District Director – Joe McDonald	Saanich MHA – Owen Skene
VIAHA Exec. Assistant – Robin Edwards	Sooke – Linda Senft
	TriPort – John Labatt
	Victoria MHA – Annalyn Richardson
	VRC MHA – John Tinker

**Absent Associations:** Lake Cowichan (to fine)

**Guests:** Michael Hanson (JdF), Mike Madil (Sooke), Kathy Cloutier (Vic)

**Regrets:** none

**Call to Order:** 11:07am

Introduction of Members present.

### **Adoption of Agenda/Previous Minutes:**

**MOTION:** M/S (Roy C/Elisa M) To adopt the Previous Minutes of March 29, 2009 with the following corrections:

Under BCH District Director	Tournament sanction fees - \$100.00
	Association fees - \$100.00
Under Old Business (Atom Dev)	The BCH Resolution changed will affect Island League as well if passed.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** M/S (Roy C/John T) To adopt the Agenda with the following changes/additions:  
Add under New Items Other – Remembrance Day Weekend.

**CARRIED**

### **Old Business**

#### **Recreational Playoff Officiating Fees**

We should examine prorating officiating fees during the playoffs for recreational since the length of game time is significantly longer than regular league games. Steve (RCM South) has looked at some other

associations/districts and they pay by length of the game. Mark put forth a recommendation for the staff to work with the RCMs and poll the RICs for their input.

**MOTION: M/S (Roy C/Bill B) That the staff, with consultation from the RCMs and RICs, draft some referee playoff payment options to present for discussion at the next VIAHA meeting.**

**CARRIED**

**ACTION: Add to May 24<sup>th</sup> Agenda – Recreational Playoff Officiating Fee Proposal.**

#### **VIAHA Meeting dates and rotating venues**

Discussion that Saturdays may work better for meetings, or alternate Saturdays and Sundays. Staff will work on proposal for dates and rotating venues to be presented.

**ACTION: Add to May 24th Agenda – dates and rotating meeting locations around.**

#### **VIAHA Scholarships and VIAHA Awards**

Reminder that the Scholarship application deadline is April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mark suggested that the Awards Committee be composed of the Officers. Everyone in agreement.

**ACTION: Add to May 24th Agenda – Scholarship winners and Award winners.**

## **Reports**

### **Financial Report**

Marg reported that all the bookkeeping has been handed over to Kevin Roden, our accountant, to prepare the Year End Report.

**MOTION: M/S (Carol F/Al M) That the Revenue/Expense statement as of March 31, 2009 be accepted.**

**CARRIED**

### **President - Mark Kenny**

The Nominating Committee is in place. Mark welcomed the new Executive members and noted that there are still some AGMs to take place. Grosses and Matches are items of concern and all associations need to take a closer look at them.

### **Past President - Jim Humphrey**

Jim is chairing and working with the Nomination Committee.

### **Executive Director - Marg Herba & Executive Assistant – Robin Edwards**

Marg thanked everyone for their cooperation in getting their expenses in by March 31<sup>st</sup>. There will still be some items that should be for this year's books such as the April meeting and AGM expenses but in past years, these items have been accounted for in the new year. She also reminded everyone to make sure the office is advised of the new association executive contact list as soon as possible. Rooms for the BCH AGM (for the most part) have been re-confirmed by the associations and the VIAHA block will be split into individual associations to cover by guarantee shortly. She reminded everyone that VIAHA has put forth 3 resolutions to BCH.

Q: Boundaries? Is there going to be a change?

Joe: That issue is still undecided at Hockey Canada and it will be discussed at BC Hockey's AGM. Even if it gets changed, it probably wouldn't be in effect this coming year. One option for boundaries is to open them up as the players get older.

Robin presented a proposal from Good To Go Catering for the VIAHA AGM meal. Cost will be around \$22.00/person.

### **VP Competitive – Don Taylor**

There are some carryover suspensions. Winding up on a few remaining issues.

### **VP North – Roy Carter**

Roy announced that he will not be returning as VP North due to new business commitments. Mark thanked Roy on behalf of the membership for his work this year as an Officer.

### **VP South – Barb Norton**

Barb is working with the South associations to figure out a course of action for the Female A teams. They still need to all meet for discussions.

### **VP Mid Island – Deb Turney**

Deb thanked her Commissioners with their Mid Island dinner a few weeks ago and is in the process of handing out their appreciation items.

### **Coaching Coordinator – Mike Mowat**

Mike is meeting with Joe after the meeting regarding clinics. He will send a report next week to the office for distribution.

### **Female Development Coordinator – Teri Cotton**

Teri reported on the following items: Female U18 in Salmon Arm, Female U14 was cancelled due to low numbers provincially and the Female U16 Island team (100 Mile House) was representative of the whole Island. She thanked everyone for promoting and supporting the female camps on the Island.

### **RCM North - Mike Fraser**

No report.

### **RCM South - Steve Marsh**

There were good provincials this year. Steve/Mike will be meeting with Joe after regarding the clinic schedule. Steve Marsh has served as RCM South for the past 6 years and thanked everyone for their cooperation throughout the years. Steve Moir, who acted as Alternate RCM South this past season, is waiting to be appointed by BCH.

### **Safety & Risk Manager – Carol Fergusson**

Carol will be meeting with Joe to discuss the clinic schedule. She discussed an article regarding concussions from an 11 year old's point of view and had copies to distribute.

### **BC Hockey District Director – Joe McDonald**

Joe is meeting with Coach, Safety and the RCMs to discuss clinics for next season. There will be 2 BCH Championships to host on the Island next year (PWT1 and Bantam T4). If you are interested, please get your association application form in to Joe as soon as possible. Joe handed out an updated Match/Gross Misconduct Penalties spreadsheet for the Island and as the question was posed last meeting, the Island in comparison to the other districts. Unfortunately, Vancouver Island has some of the highest percentages. In some categories, VI has a higher incident rate than the Lower Mainland. Joe has been reminding everyone all year of the necessity to get the Match and Gross Misconducts under control. For instance, in Midget 2007-2008 season, Match/Gross was 38/23. This year they jumped to 46/39. Team First – Is anyone promoting this program? Cowichan Valley is. Joe reiterated that the program is an important one to promote to reach and educate the parents and coaches early, and we should all be looking at giving this program more visibility. If anyone has items for Joe to bring forward to his BCH Minor meetings, please let him know right away.

Q: Has BCH set dates for the Championships next year?

Joe: Not yet. Hopefully will know this week or shortly thereafter and Joe will advise. Spring Break dates are not consistent across the province.

## **New Business**

### **Saanich MHA exemption/amendment of \$200 file for Reg 7.10**

Saanich is requesting that their \$200 fine for missing/late tournament game sheets be reduced to \$50.

**MOTION:** M/S (Bill B/Dave H) **That Saanich's request for fine reduction be denied and the fine to stand as issued.**

**Carried**

### **VIAHA Office and Summer Hours**

Mark advised that last summer, the office was manned Monday to Thursday 10:00am – 3:00pm. Are we continuing with that this year? Jim explained that VIAHA only had 1 employee at that time. Marg reported that incoming calls are minimal now (1 per day) and calls are being forwarded to her home office (when office location is not staffed). There was discussion as to a) the summer hours, b) why not work from other locations as everything is done electronically, and c) is there a need to have an office at all. There were questions as to whether wages would be adjusted with these shortened hours; however Mark advised that the staff work and are available 24/7 during the season and there is no overtime paid to staff so the year evens out. He also advised that the 2009 – 2010 budget has not been adopted yet and is open to discussion and amendment.

**MOTION:** M/S (Al M/Roy C) **That the VIAHA office be manned with the following summer hours 10:00am to 3:00pm Monday to Thursday and to start May 1<sup>st</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Carried**

### **Atom Development Proposal**

Proposal to run North and South leagues with some crossover play during the regular season. Nanaimo is fine with existing or new. Jim reminded everyone that we don't know yet how many teams there will be and we need to have a viable league. The proposal from Leslie H was based on last season's teams. VIAHA will be scheduling the placement games this fall and we should wait till associations declare their teams. Campbell River asked if consideration for a North/South split would apply to other divisions if they asked for it. Peninsula explained that the issues they faced was not the travelling but the way the scheduling worked out. There were some late game times and with travelling afterwards, resulted in Atom aged kids getting home late.

### **Island Pacific Female proposal and update on South Associations meeting**

Item removed as Barb is still trying to schedule this meeting. She has advised Laurie Wishart there are still some items required of them.

### **Female AAA Policy and next year's possible host association**

The policy still has a number of items to be discussed at BCH and either Jim or Joe will distribute them once they have been passed. Jim, as Chair of the Female Midget AAA League, issued a memo from BCH regarding Team Staff applications. Applications to HOST the Major Midgets should come to VIAHA.

### **Yellow/Red Card Program**

Mark thanked Don and the rest of the committee that looked into this program. Al had a prototype of the poster and a sample Yellow Card. The recommendation is to go Yellow/Yellow rather than Yellow/Red. First Yellow is a Warning; Second Yellow will mean immediate eviction from the playing area (and they have 2 minutes to do so). The on-ice official has the authority to stop the game if the spectator refuses to leave the playing area. If this is to work, we need ALL associations to be involved. Parents, unruly spectators, etc. need to know the program exists no matter which association rink they are in on the Island. It would be a good idea to have a press release sent to all the local papers promoting the program. Associations need to look at posting notices in all their arenas. There were suggestions to have the managers hand out the cards and to report on the game report who they handed cards out to. Mark said it's the responsibility of all of us and all of the local executive members to hand out the cards. We may not get names but we can record which team's parents, association, etc. It would then be tracked and the responsibility of the associations to monitor, action, etc.

Pen: What about the police coming to the arena (as stated on the card)?

Dean: Police will come but if not an emergency situation, it won't be a priority for them. If it's a fight that has gotten out of hand, then yes, they do come.

Spike: Incidents in the stands are usually dealt with by the parents. Refs won't start the game till the offender leaves and they usually leave right away.

John T: This should exclude coaches and team officials on the bench.

Spike: Yes, this does not include coaches and team officials.

Dean: Managers probably won't want to do this; perhaps it should be the officials pointing out the offenders.

Spike: The on-ice officials have the authority to stop the game if the offender refuses to leave the playing area.

Mark: Could be anyone (executive, safety person, etc). This program is successful in PCAHA. They only draw in the ref if the situation gets out of hand.

Teri: This all sounds great but what pitfalls did PCAHA have, if any?

Mark: Didn't really ask that question; only asked about the program.  
Elisa: The important thing is the topic is out there and there will be more awareness in the stands. All executives must support the program and their volunteers.  
Carol: This also reinforces the Team First program. It is important NOT to let the vocal minority rule the game. Handing out the cards is less confrontational than trying to 'reason' with someone.  
Dean: If you are just handing out cards, how do you document who you hand it to?  
Mark: The reporting would tag by association and team.  
Spike: We will need to look at changing some of the wording on the poster.

**MOTION: M/S (Elisa M/AI M) That Vancouver Island Amateur Hockey Association and all its member associations adopt and implement the Yellow Card program subject to the amended wording on the poster/cards. Approximate cost to each association for posters and cards is \$150.00.**

**CARRIED**

### **Summer Officiating School – 3 officials**

Mike and Steve have some names and will advise Marg. The three spots have been reserved and paid for by Marg.

### **Oceanside leaving tournament (lack of players)**

Mark gave some background on this situation (involving 2 Island teams playing each other at an off-Island tournament). One team lost players halfway through the tournament due to suspensions and the roster was not big to start with. Mark emphasized that although it was Oceanside this time, it could be any team. What do we do if a team cannot field enough players to continue playing? The other team expected a game, had costs, etc.

Don: Does VIAHA need to do anything about this or leave it up to the association?  
Bill: We already have fines in place for scheduled games. There is already a rule for a minimum of 6 players to play a game.  
Carol: I don't think we can do anything.  
Joe: We should examine the root cause of this. Was the team having problems all year? If so, then decline approval when they request permission to attend a tournament. Associations need to look hard at their teams and requests. If a decline approval is warranted, let Joe know with documentation and he will support your decision.  
Mark: Consider who is going and why. It is a privilege to attend, not a right to go to tournaments.  
Al: Alberni Valley sends their teams letters about representing the association, how to behave, etc.

### **Juvenile – Male and Female**

Nanaimo sent out a letter asking if any associations have any interest in forming juvenile recreational teams. Nanaimo's Sr teams have a waiting list.

Teri: The South associations tried but could not create nor have the teams commit to league play.  
Al: There seems to be interest in a juvenile league and Alberni Valley could probably get enough players interested in playing in a league.  
Dave H: Thinks there is interest in the South. We just need someone to run it and get ice.  
Annalyn: We had ice available for juvenile but it ended up not being used. I don't know if players just started dropping out or there was no one to organize it.  
Dave H: When the South meets about the females, we should also discuss the juveniles.  
Dave B: One possibility might be to look at an 'area' team (ie. combining players from 2 associations to form 1 team if each doesn't have enough to form their own team)  
Linda: We have ice, pretty sure we have interest but my concern would be enough senior officials.  
Jim: The Western Shield (Female Sr A and AA) will be hosted in BC this year. If we can get more female teams going, we could bid to host somewhere on the Island.

### **VIAHA Resolutions**

Discussion ensued on item by item on the Proposed Resolution package put forth by the Resolution Committee. Jim and John L took the notes on this and will forward the package summation to the office for distribution and voting at the AGM.

## **VIAHA AGM**

This is set for 11:00am, May 24<sup>th</sup> at Beban Park Lounge. Marg will be sending out the AGM package shortly including attachments.

**MOTION:** M/S (Bill B/AI M) That VIAHA book the caterer “Good To Go” and the price for the luncheon at \$22.00/plate be approved.

**CARRIED**

Guests that have been invited are Jeff Edgley (BCH Branch Supervisor) and Rob Fryer (BCH Branch Coordinator RIC). Invitations will be sent out to these gentlemen and the individual award winners (Coach, Official President's) will be our guests for lunch.

## **Other**

### **Remembrance Day weekend tournament**

How do we decide which weekend to block off as the holiday falls in the middle of the week? Joe is going to meetings in Vancouver and will find out what the other districts are doing.

**Next Meeting:** VIAHA Annual General Meeting, May 24, 2009 at 11:00am at Beban Park Lounge, Nanaimo, BC

## **Adjourn**

**MOTION:** M/S (Bill B/Roy C) to Adjourn at 3:55pm

**CARRIED**

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Mark Kenny, President

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Marg Herba, Executive Director