



Vancouver Island Amateur Hockey Association

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes Beban Park, Rooms 7/8, Nanaimo, BC August 7, 2011

Present

President – Jim Humphrey
Past President – Mark Kenny (absent)
Executive Director – Marg Herba
VP Competitive – Ardie Sloat
VP South – Michael Hanson
VP North – vacant
VP Mid Island – Jan Lavertu
District SRM – Carol Fergusson
District Coach Coord North – Mike Mowat (absent)
District Coach Coord South – Bob Gordon (absent)
District Female Dev Coordinator – Susie Sherman
NI RCM – Stuart Lavoie (absent)
SI RCM – Steve Moir (absent)
District Director – Deb Turney
VIAHA Hockey Ops Director – Robin Edwards

Alberni Valley MHA – Al McCulloch
Campbell River MHA – Duane Riddoch
Comox Valley MHA – Angie Williams
Cowichan Valley MHA – Dan Hawthorne
Gold River MHA – absent
Juan de Fuca MHA – Ken Carson
Kerry Park MHA – Jeremy Webb
Lake Cowichan MHA – Jackie Cummings
Nanaimo MHA – Dave Beatty
Oceanside MHA – absent
Peninsula MHA – Pat Hart
Powell River MHA – Patrick Devereaux
Saanich MHA – Brian Barber
Sooke MHA – Randy Bouvier
Tri Port MHA – Anne Dumonceaux
Victoria MHA – Chris Atchison
VRC MHA – Al Bevan

Absent MHAs: Gold River, Oceanside

Guests: Dale Stewart (CXV);

Call to Order: 11:04am

Welcome and Round Table Introductions

Adoption of Agenda:

MOTION: M/S (Al M/Dave B) To adopt the Agenda of August 7th, 2011 with the following additions:
Under New Business add f) Team Declarations; g) Atom Development.

CARRIED

Adoption of Previous Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: M/S (Ken C/Jan L) To adopt the Minutes of VIAHA Executive Meeting held April 30, 2011.

CARRIED

Correspondence: none

Old Business:

Female Regional Team Policy:

- Female Committee has been struck and will be known as VIAHA Female Hockey Committee
- Barb Norton will be the Chair and Susie Sherman, Vice Chair
- There was a call for expressions of interest to serve and after review of applications received, the following have been issued invitational letters to serve as representatives from the 3 regions:
Dennis Bellavance – Campbell River

Tim Paugh – Nanaimo
Chris Downey – Oceanside
Kristen Arnold – Cowichan Valley, Kerry Park
Wendy Pierce – Sooke

- The first meeting of the Committee will be on August 14, 2011
- Mandate will be to grow Female Hockey on Vancouver Island. It will not be league focused
- Weekend of August 27/28 has been designated as tryout conditioning ice to be held in all 3 regions
- Tryout evaluations will commence the weekend after the September long weekend
- There is a need for independent evaluators
- The number of teams will be based on evaluation standards rather than number of players trying out
- VIAHA will be considered the 'host' of the regional teams with MHAs doing the actual carding
- Ratio of ice for practices/games will be determined by the make up of the team
- The following will be the carding MHAs for each region: North (Comox Valley or Campbell River), Mid Island (Nanaimo), South Island (Juan de Fuca)
- Please encourage all your female players to tryout to see if they like it
- BCH Female Bantam A Championships 2012 will be held on the Island and VIAHA can have 2 teams in it

VIAHA Referee Mileage Chart:

- After examination of the rates, current gas prices, distance, etc., the officers will be discussing their findings with the RCMs and are recommending that the current rates remain unchanged

Results of Electronic Poll conducted June 7, 2011 regarding "BC Hockey Midget Tier 2 Host for 2012 Championships:

- Three MHAs put forth expressions of interest (Alberni Valley, Powell River, Saanich)
- The Motion put forth on June 7, 2011 was:
"That the VIAHA Officers recommend Saanich MHA as the Midget Tier 2 host for the 2012 BC Hockey Championships (Moved by Jan Lavertu, seconded by Michael Hanson)
- Results were: Approved (16), Opposed (1), Abstain (5) from a total of 22 eligible votes

MOTION: M/S (Jan L/AI M) **To put the results of the above noted Electronic Poll into the VIAHA Minutes.**

CARRIED

Reports:

Financial Report

- Copy of Actual as of July 13th (with exception of Payroll which was to July 31) to 2011-2012 Budget and Percentage to Date was presented.
- Explanation of budget overage on BCH AGM (attending was Jim Humphrey, Jan Lavertu, Barb Norton and Carol Fergusson)

MOTION: M/S (Dave B/Anne D) **To accept the Financial Statement as of July 13, 2011 as presented.**

CARRIED

President – Jim Humphrey

- BCH AGM 2012 is in Whistler and would like to see all MHAs attend
- Operations Manual close to completion and is being reviewed now
- VIAHA Handbooks and Policy Manual will be handed out
- Attended District Presidents' Meeting with Jan Lavertu and the following noteworthy items were discussed:
Only VIAHA (South Island Rec League, Mid Island Rec League) and PCAHA still offer body-checking in recreational hockey. The rest of the province is non body-checking in recreational.
BCH AGM – will this event be given back to the MHAs to run and host? Still in discussions.
Female Major Midget League is struggling. There are only 4 teams this year.
Matches and Grosses letters of suspension – Districts will continue to assist their District Director in this duty.
Discussion for BCH to try and do more things on-line such as fillable/sendable referee reports.
Next District Presidents' meeting will be in November

Past President – Mark Kenny (absent)

No report.

Executive Director - Marg Herba

Will discuss under New Business items.

Director Hockey Operations – Robin Edwards

- Update on Don Taylor's condition
- Tournament Requests – please follow Regulation 18
- Operations Manual has been passed along for review
- Female Regional Team Tryout Evaluations, September 10/11 – still seeking ice
- Q: What about Female PW team? Numbers are low. Will there still be a team to offer?
- A: Everyone needs to promote and encourage their female members to participate and the possibility of a Female PW will be assessed
- Classification of 2 MHAs has been changed from last year: Cowichan Valley is now Tier 2 (formerly Tier 1 and Powell River is Tier 3 (formerly Tier 2). Must apply to BC Hockey if you wish to move up.

VP Competitive – Ardie Sloat

- Island League Managing Directors are as follows:
Pee Wee – Sharon Cairns
Bantam – Leslie Heinio
Midget – Ian Cartwright
- Island League Coach/Manager Meeting will be held on September 18th

VP North – Vacant

VP South – Michael Hanson

- There will be a South Island Presidents Meeting (along with their registrars) on August 17, 2011
- Q: With reference to VIAHA Bulletin 2011-02-IN IAT Transfers, requesting a drivers license with new address info does not prove a residential move. ICBC does not require proof to change an address. Is a drivers license then an appropriate document to request as even BCH does not use this? Due diligence is being done at the MHA level so why is there a need for more documentation by VIAHA?
- A: Each transfer is looked at and although such additional requirements may not be as necessary or applicable to mid and north associations, it is relevant to reviewing the south transfers. Consideration will be given to having the Bulletin amended.

VP Mid – Jan Lavertu

- Commissioners are in place.

District Coaching Coordinator (North) – Mike Mowat (absent)

No report.

District Coaching Coordinator (South) – Bob Gordon (absent)

- Following clinics are now on line:
Dev 1 – October 15/16 at Saanich
Coach Hybrid – October 1/2 at Cowichan Valley (Fuller Lake)
Coach Hybrid – October 29/30 at Saanich

District Female Development Coordinator – Susie Sherman

- Covered under Old Business: Female Regional Teams.
- Still getting registrations with more from the north
- Is there any interest or numbers for Female Juvenile?

Referee Committee Member (North) – Stuart Lavoie (absent)

No report.

Referee Committee Member (South) – Steve Moir (absent)

No report.

Safety & Risk Manager – Carol Fergusson

- Saanich and Nanaimo have requested HCSP clinics.
- Wants to combine close MHA clinics (ie. Oceanside and Nanaimo) as certification is good for 6 years and there is less of a demand for clinics now.
- Criminal Record Checks were discussed at the BCH AGM. MHAs should designate 1 person to review them and VIAHA should consider implementing a policy process of categorizing 'No', 'Maybe' and 'Possible' on coaching applications that an MHA receives. Such categorization may assist in decision making while waiting for the RCMP to conduct its search.

ACTION: VIAHA request for Carol to review our CRC Policy and to report back on her recommendations for a CRC Review Policy

BC Hockey District Director – Deb Turney

- Deb is going to review and make some changes to streamline her Recreational Team Tournament Approval Process
- Revised BCH Policy Manual out now – please read

New Business

VIAHA Registrar's Seminar (Sunday, August 14, 2011)

- Bonnie Unwin from BCH will be in attendance.
- All registrars have been invited and encouraged to attend. This is not an Intro to the HCR but rather a sharing of knowledge and driven questions.
- The seminar will be held at the VIAHA office at 11:00am

Non-Body Checking in Recreational Hockey

- There is mounting pressure at Hockey Canada and possibly by next season, there will probably be direction to eliminate body-checking at the Pee Wee level, both in recreational and carded hockey
- District Presidents are asking the Branch to make a decision as presently, the only districts to still offer body-checking in recreational are VIAHA and PCAHA
- Discussion on various articles, types of injuries in hockey and other sports, concussions
- Discussion that the movement is to remove body-checking; there is still body contact and there is a difference between the two.
- Enrollment numbers grew in the north MHAs once they took out body-checking
- Removing body-checking does not take away from the competitiveness in hockey
- Must be cognizant that all member concerns are recognized. Could we consider offering both body-contact and non-body contact teams in our recreational leagues?
- Officials will need more development and be willing to make the calls. Coaches will need more education to recognize the difference between body-checking and body contact.
- Stats Can information reveals that a) youth population is not as fit as before, and b) the youth activity profile has changed over the years. We have 2 options: 1) try to change the direction of youth activity (not viable) or 2) embrace the change by providing safe forums for the activity
- Enrollment in the sport is declining overall. Kids are becoming fearful for their safety; immigration demographics are not familiar with the sport; there is a multitude of media information on the hockey related injuries
- Elimination of body-checking could possibly take that 'edge' away from bubble players hoping to make a carded team
- Changes in equipment does not equal more safety
- What do we do about affiliated players who, in essence, are caught between two types of play?
- Maybe too late to implement non body-checking into South Island and Mid Island this year. Players have registered with the expectation and understanding that both recreational leagues are body-checking
- Not comfortable with making any decisions now without advising, educating and consulting with membership
- We say we hold checking clinics in our MHAs. However, requests for these BCH clinics are minimal. Who's instructing them and how open is our liability? We need to look at this from the legal perspective as well.
- General lack of respect in the sport and for opponent all around

- Need to look at the betterment of all players, not just the bubble players. They all know there is some inherent risk in the sport but kids should not have to worry about their safety.

MOTION: M/S (Jan L/Ardie S) **Effective immediately, there will be no body-checking in all levels of recreational hockey within VIAHA.**

Voting by show of hands: Yes (10), No (7)

CARRIED

BC Hockey Conflict of Interest Policy

- Still some discussion/changes coming from BCH?
- To defer topic to the VIAHA Officers

BC Hockey AGM 2012 Accommodation Arrangements in Whistler, BC

- BCH AGM is June 22 – 24, 2012
- Formerly the Coast Whistler, now the Aava Whistler Hotel
- VIAHA has booked 60 rooms at a rate of \$109.00+taxes/nite
- Marg will be reminding everyone at each meeting. Please encourage your executive to attend
- Process will be different this year. MHAs will be required to post their own credit card to their room commitments a few weeks ahead of the event.

2011-2012 Commissioners/Managing Directors

- Island League – see VP Competitive Report
- Mid Island Recreational League: Pee Wee – Maria Charlesworth
Bantam – Tracy Watson
Midget – Marilyn Powell
- South Island Recreational League: Still recruiting
- Atom Development: Staci Nelson
- Female Hockey: Barb Norton
- Reminder that league participating MHAs are required to provide commissioners. Failure to do so will result in the MHA President assuming the duties.

Team Declarations

- MHAs were requested to tentatively declare all their teams for the upcoming season to assist VIAHA in league preparation.
- Formal declaration will take place at the VIAHA Executive Meeting on September 25th.

In Camera

None.

Other:

- Jim Humphrey will be away from August 8 to September 14. In his absence, Acting VIAHA President will be Michael Hanson (VP South).

Next Meeting: Sunday, September 25, 2011 at 11:00am at Beban Park, Rooms 7/8.

Adjourn

MOTION: M/S (Jackie C/Anne D) To adjourn August 7, 2011 meeting at 1:25pm.

CARRIED

Jim Humphrey, President

Marg Herba, Executive Director