

Annual General Meeting

April 13th, 2022

MINUTES

Meeting called to order: 6:15 PM

a) Adoption of previous AGM minutes:

Motioned by Chris Ford 2nd Dustie Coombes- Approved. 2021 Minutes will be left open on WLMHA website.

b) Presidents' year end message: Mike Rispin:

Mike provided an update on the various parts of the association, including discussions about the changes to the minimum suspensions (accumulative Head Contact) and Maltreatment. Discussed the need to tighten up our financial usage and rules to avoid any chance of losing our gaming grant as it's \$100,000 which is a large amount of our operating budgets. Robin Ford continues to look for ways to ensure we are in compliance. Also thanked Total Ice for their support of our Initiation program, and a huge shout out to Tammy-Lee Isnardy for helping out Karlee Brown with the U9 program. Thanks to Tammy James and Dustie for taking care of discipline and fairplay. Thanks to Ryan Hatt for the work he did in our COVID-19 planning, and while he was able to finish the season we thank him for his service. Chris Ford continued to be challenged in getting enough refs in place, but did an excellent job of making sure things went as well as we could. It also was noted that Chris spent a lot of time at the arena watching the referees and providing guidance. Leah McAllister and Tanis Rosa successfully ran our house divisions through all of our challenges. Our rep division had success in getting to provincial championships, even if we didn't have success while there having 5 of our 6 teams attend was a great testament to our program. Jeremy Forester did a good job under difficult circumstances with COVID and a lack of experienced coaches. He worked well with Lance

MacDonald who is certified by BC Hockey to provide our coaching training. Lance has also completed evaluations of 4 Dev 1 coaches this year. Look forward to working with him this coming season as well as working to create more coach mentorship. A huge thanks to Jenny for all of her work related to parent aux – all of our pictures were delivered prior to Christmas even though she had to get creative. And all of the banquets went off without a hitch. She also assisted to have policy updates, including the one we will vote on later. Amy was helpful as our secretary and did a good job in keeping us up to date and aligned. Finally a big thanks to Joanne, whose role into the future will be changing but she will still be here to assist the association into the future.

Volunteer of the year award: Presented by Mike to Tanis Rosa

c) **Written Treasurer's Report:** Robyn Ford Available on our website

d) **Written Committee Reports (Q&A):**

1) **Registrar**-Joanne Davies: Joanne will be moving into a part-time remote position. At this time, we do not know how this will work. This year registration was down. Partly to COVID-19 and also losing a large amount of U18 players from the 2021 grad year. This year we were able to run the First Shift Program that brought in 30 players. All but 1 joined WLMHA after Christmas either by joining a division or the 2nd 6 week session. The 2022/23 season families will have to validate their Recreation Access Pass before they are able to register their player on Team Snap.

2) **Female Coordinator**- Vacant

3) **Coach Coordinator**- Lance MacDonald: Lance is now qualified by BC Hockey to run both the Coach 1 and Coach 2

4) **Constitution Policy and Procedure (CPP)**- Jenny Huffman: It was fairly uneventful with Constitution and Policy this year. The board did decide to change policy when it comes to the loaning of equipment. If you need to borrow any hockey equipment from WLMHA you will need to fill out the loan of equipment document. There will be a \$100 deposit taken and once equipment is returned in same condition as when it was borrowed WLMHA will refund your deposit. The board also wanted to change the terms of the board. For example, have directors for 2 years one year and then maybe some directors for 2 years the next year or possible for 1 year term. Just so the WLMHA board isn't starting a hockey year with the possibility of a completely new board. This policy change needs to be voted on at the AGM so it will now be decided by the new WLMHA board going forward.

Term length is being motioned from 1-year to a 2-year term

5) **Fair Play**-Tammy James: Kept a running record of head contact penalty minutes.

6) **Parent Aux**-Jenny Huffman: Hello everyone! It was great to finally be able to play a year of hockey. PAC this year held pictures back in October. With the delay in mail because of the flood were had to make another plan to get pictures to everyone before Christmas but it all worked out in the end. PAC as well organized the year end banquets. Which was great to see all the kids' happy smiley faces. We had 4 days in March where the banquets were held at WL school campus and the kids received their awards from their teams and district awards. It was a great year to see these kids on the ice and completing the year with banquet get together.

7) **Rep Coordinator**-Jeremy Forster: This 2021/2022 season WLMHA had 6 rep teams three integrated teams and three female teams all in the U13, U15 and U18 divisions, We also had s U11 development team. All our teams had great success this season despite having the covid pandemic still lingering. We were able to almost have a complete season. One challenge was with public health order restricting tournament's during part our season our teams made the best of it by taking in as many exhibition games as possible under the BC health

orders. Five out of our six rep teams made it to provincials by way of play in or by with no other tier 2 teams in NDC to pay. All in all this was a great bounce back season for all WLMHA Rep teams for the pervious pandemic shortened season. Thanks to all our coaches, managers, and other volunteer's for stepping up during this season.

8) **Discipline**-Dustie Coombes: Great to see players back out on the ice. Maltreatment and Head contact issues this year. Working with players to be more respectful and work on better chirps.

9) **House Coordinator**-U 11/13-Tanis Rosa & U15/18-Leah MacAllister:

U11/13. This season there were 4 U11 teams and 3 U13 teams which is quite lower than past seasons. Thankfully Quesnel and 100 Mile House opened their doors and allowed the teams to have opportunities to challenge new competition. The U13 house tournament ran the first day of the Vaccine Passport Mandate. This actually ran quiet smoothly, smother than anticipated. U11 House Tournament was put together in a week as the No Travel Mandate was lifted while allowed tournaments to run. Both tournaments revenue a significant amount of money. A huge thank you to all of the volunteers and parent support.

10) **Initiation Coordinator**- Karlee Brown: A huge THANK YOU to Tammy-Lee Isnardy for stepping out and helping out with the Novice/U9 division as well as the first shift program

11) **Referee In Chief (RIC)**-Chris Ford: There were several new Ref's this year. Unfortunately, due to there being no games last season our refs missed a year of development. We worked hard this season to bring the ref's up to a higher level of reffing. We only used WL refs this season which was great. We had ref mentorship with Larry Krause in January, both on and off the ice. He did some observing and coaching. We had some disputes with refs this year but that goes with every year.

12) **Risk Management-** Vacant- Thank you to Ryan Hatt for all he did while he held this position.

e) **Amendments to Constitution:**

5.3 Change that reads to 2 years

Purpose to aid the association in creating a level of consistency over the years and avoid wholesale board changes from occurring and creating knowledge vacuums.

Was presented to all those present and it was approved unanimously. The policy change and the method of execution is attached.

f) **Presentation-** Williams Lake Physiotherapy Clinic (Concussion Baseline Testing, Education and Training): Proposing to have sessions with players, parents and volunteers. \$190 per person or \$110 per person when you have a group of 4 or more. Receipts can be submitted to your personal medical plan.

g) **Unfinished Business-** None

Mike provided parting words – attached below.

h) **Election of Officers:**

Past President: Mike Rispin

President: Dustie Coombes (Acclimation)

1st Vice President: Chris Ford (Acclimation)

2nd Vice President: Tanis Rosa (Acclimation)

Treasurer: Robyn Ford (Acclimation)

Secretary: Quynn Passeri (Acclimation)

Directors: (All by Acclimation)

Aaron Relf

Jeremy Forster

Lance MacDonald

Matt Sherlock

Chris Moore

Equipment Manager: Michael Rosa – not a voting position.

i) **Free Registration Draw:** Tanis Rosa and Lindsay Wood

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn brought forward by Corwin Schmid. 2nd by Tanis Rosa.

Adjourned @ 7:35 PM

BYLAW CHANGE

TERM LIMITS MOTION

BE IT MOVED THAT WLMHA BY-LAW 5.3 be amended as follows:

5.3 The Executive Officers will be elected at the AGM for a term not exceeding two years.

Purpose: To aid the association in creating a level of consistency over the years and avoid wholesale board changes from occurring and creating knowledge vacuums.

Moved by: Mike Rispin(President WLMHA)

Seconded by: Tanis Rosa (Director WLMHA)

Application

If approved it will start at the AGM at the end of the 2022/23 season

2022/23 AGM the following will be elected for two-year terms:

President

Secretary

Second Vice-President and

4 Directors

All other positions will be elected for a one year term

2023/24 AGM the following will be elected for two-year terms:

1st Vice President

Treasurer

5 directors

All other positions will be remaining in place from the previous AGM.

Nothing in this bylaw amendment impacts the ability of a board member from resigning their position or from the membership from removing a board member using By-Law 5.5.

This by-law change is supported by your current WLMHA Board of directors.

Resolution must be passed by a 2/3 majority of voting members present at the AGM

Mike's Parting Message

From a FOOTBALL guy who never played this great game, I slapped on some skates, a helmet and some elbow pads (Dino Lecomte - laughed hard when he saw those) and went out looking more confused and scared than the initiation kids around me. Thanks to Marco Passeri that first year I learned a lot about skating and while I'm barely an Atom player, I can at least skate forward, hard stop and even pivot and skate backwards - just don't ask me to do any of it with a puck and stick. I'm sure the kids around me were terrified this big oaf was going to fall on them. (I actually got taken out in one of my first seasons by a falling young player, but I managed to miss them when I went down, was a pretty neat twist move).

After seeing some craziness in a penalty box watching a PeeWee game, I asked "who is responsible for discipline around here"...well turns out they had just lost their discipline chair and someone said "hey if you're going to complain, you should stand up" well I did and 13 years later I'm still here, from the chair of discipline (which turned out to be my favourite role - although I never got to be house coordinator – but I doubt it) I was President three different times, Female Coordinator, Rep Coordinator, Managed both T2 and Female teams through some fun years, we didn't always win, but watching the kids have fun and do their best was awesome.

I've met some great people as I've navigated through 13 years of service on a Minor Hockey board, and while it's not near the accomplishment of a Roy Kozuki (45 years reffing - wow - thanks Roy), it's certainly been a long run.

It's funny in many circles I'm known as a rule follower - the guy that knows the rules and follows them always - I have to tell you, that's not always the case. I learned a long time ago that in order to know the art of possible you have to know where the shades of gray exist, knowing where the gray is, helps you to add some color. I think I've done a reasonable job of following the rules, while being as creative as possible within the rules to make my #1 goal a reality - KIDS ON ICE...IT really is that simple.

I have to say that these last two years have been the absolute worst two years to manage a hockey association at any role, but as President I found myself challenged on more than one occasion. That being said I'd like to thank all of the parents, players, coaches, managers, coordinators, referees, volunteers (normally the parents), and of course the office administrator that navigated through all of the changing restrictions.

To those of you from the last years board that made it through to this point - I thank you and want you to know that I truly appreciated all the work and effort that you put into making sure the 450+ players in our association had the best experience we could give them. Everyone worked hard and did the best they could to be successful and while there is always room for improvement, given what the last two years was, a huge and heartfelt THANK YOU.

As we move towards the election of the 2022/2023 Board of Directors - I want to wish all of you that chose to remain the best of luck, those that choose to move on a heartfelt thank you and those just joining, my blessings, as you move into something that can be both VERY rewarding, but also very challenging.

And to the membership as a whole I hope your child's experience is all they can make out of it, I always said my stated goal for my kids in any organized sport, was a) they learn to work together, b) they have fun c) they put in their best effort - ALWAYS, d) they came out of it with a sport they can enjoy for life - anything above that, was gravy. I think my kids got that out of this great game and I hope that all of yours do as well.

Thank you for your support, your criticism, your anger, your happiness and your camaraderie - and please reach out for a beer, for advice or even rule interpretation – I really do know where the gray is buried.

Mike Rispin

One Last Time as Your President of WLMHA

See you around the Rink