

B.R.D.M.H.A. – Minutes

Tuesday, April 7th, 2009

ATTENDANTS:

Gil Lanoue, Dave Ferris, Lorne Strong, Pat Campeau, Rob Dannenberg, Richard Ireland, Sandy Bondy, Sharon Dunwoody, Ray Holland, Tracey Guilbeault, Todd Luno, Kevin Beuglet, Tony Gossman, Carmela Fenos

ABSENT:

Denis Comartin

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 p.m.

TODD SHOEMAKER, MANAGER OF RECREATION AND FACILITY SERVICES was scheduled to be in attendance at the meeting. Although his attendance was confirmed, Mr. Shoemaker was not in attendance.

ROBIN MARGERISON was in attendance as per our agenda. Robin is a member of the Executive in a non-voting position. She oversees the 50/50 program for the entire Association. Recently, Robin found that teams' 50/50 envelopes that had been deposited into the box at the arena from where she retrieves them had been stolen. This came to her attention at the end of March of this year. Two envelopes have been stolen, one with a \$41.00 deposit and the other with a \$18.00 deposit. This came about as one of the teams requested to withdraw some monies and the manager and Robin compared deposits and there was a discrepancy. This triggered Robin to review her own records regarding the amounts of envelopes and the amount in each envelope retrieved by her. A notice has now been put up in the vicinity of the 50/50 mailbox advising that the Association is aware of the theft and that provisions have been made to ensure that this does not happen again and also that movement is being monitored in the area. There is a security camera that has been installed in the area as well as other preventative measures to ensure that this act of stealing from the children cannot happen again. Robin suggested that the reimbursement of the funds that went missing could be replaced by an interest account that was started with monies received from 50/50. In that fashion, the children would not be affected due to the theft. Everyone agreed that this should be done.

Everyone thanked Robin and she left the meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING BY Rob and seconded by Ray. Minutes approved.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF REFEREES:

Tony advised that the season is at an end and the season went well with the referees. Both the Houseleague Day of Champs and the Local League Day of Champs went well.

During the off season Tony will meet with Greg Boyd in order to discuss the needs of the Association, as all new referee applications have been submitted and received.

Motion to accept Tony's report by Sharon and seconded by Richard. Report accepted.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF INTERLOCK:

Rob thanked Sharon and Tony for their help during the Local League Day of Champs. Everything went very well. The Belle River Bantam team involved in the finals on the Day of Champs won. We had two other teams in the finals as well. He heard very positive feedback from everyone involved.

Motion to accept Rob's report by Sharon and seconded by Ray. Report accepted.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSE LEAGUE SCHEDULING:

Sharon provided Sandy with the invoices for the total cost of the Local League Day of Champs. Sandy will pay the invoices and the other centres will reimburse BRDMHA their portion.

Sharon advised that everything was very smooth with the House League Day of Champs and the Local League Day of Champs.

Motion to accept Sharon's report by Rob and seconded by Tracey. Report accepted.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TOURNAMENTS:

Ray is currently in the process of registering our tournaments for next season. The travel tournament will be booked for December 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th. He is hoping to have the Select Seven, Atom, Peewee and Bantam divisions in the AA program and in the AE program Atom, Peewee and Bantam. He could enroll 32 teams. He would like to guarantee every team 4 games. This year the cost will be more. He is hoping to enroll Michigan teams. He has contacts for approximately 28 of the Associations in Michigan. It is Ray's hope that getting some Michigan teams will encourage other Associations in Ontario and within our own Bluewater to come back to our tournament. Gil thought that we should ensure that our own teams register in our tournament, hopefully, rather than going elsewhere.

Motion to accept Ray's report by Tony and seconded by Lorne. Report accepted.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PARENT'S CLUB:

Tracey had the thank you that Stan and Audrey Rychel provided for the flowers that were sent on behalf of BRDMHA for Andy Rychel. Tracey advised that Stan Rychel had also called her to thank her for all of the support given at Andy's passing.

The Day of Champs was a success. Tracey wanted to thank any Board members that attended to help and especially thank Gil and Janice Lanoue as well as Kim and Pat Leafave as well as their children. It is a long day and all the help provided by them was greatly appreciated. The pasta and salad idea went over very well. Due to the generosity of Tetrault Value Mart, the day of champs was not as expensive as it has been in previous years.

The coaches dinner is ready to go. The deadline for registering is tomorrow. As of today 159 people have

registered. Tracey advises that that is approximately ½ of what we normally have. She was looking for direction from the Board as to whether to cut off the registration or keep it open. It was decided that since she has to give final numbers to the St. Simon St. Jude parish by Saturday, that she keep the registration open until Saturday. The insurance, liquor licence and DJ are all set to go.

She has received to date 4 gate boxes returned. She has received money back in the gate boxes, which she will deposit into the Parent's Club account.

Motion to accept Tracey's report by Pat and seconded by Sharon. Report accepted.

REPORT FROM THE TRAVEL DIRECTOR:

Todd provided Sandy with bills for payment.

Todd advised that he attended at the Bluewater meeting last night with Pat. The decision has been made that there are no more gate boxes for any games commencing 2009/10 season. It has also been confirmed that there are 24 regular season games again next season and the Bluewater season for games commence on September 12th, 2009. Todd advised that Rick Bruce, the President for Bluewater Association emphasized at last night's meeting that the Bluewater Association centres should work with each other to solve difficulties, i.e. if Essex has a problem with LaSalle, the two should discuss it and attempt a resolution. If resolution cannot be achieved by the two centres then Bluewater can be contacted for assistance.

Further Todd advised that the Registration for BRDMHA for the 2009/10 season needs to be up and running in order to be in a position to hand out the Permissions to Skate forms that have been requested by players.

At the Bluewater meeting, Craig Lane asked each Association to provide a letter of support for the under 17 camp to be returned to the local area. This year it was moved to Georgetown and Craig would like to see it kept within our area.

Also discussed was playoff rules for ties. This year a tiebreaker game was played and it was discussed that forward we will be using the OHF rules for tiebreakers.

With inclement weather the Centre Contacts will be responsible for advising other centres if they will not attend for a game. Coaches should not be making the calls.

Todd has booked 4 rooms for the AGM in Toronto. He was looking for confirmation from the Board members as to their attendance.

BRDMHA had 3 teams in the Bluewater Day of Champs. The Novice lost by a narrow margin. The Atom Majors lost in overtime and the Atom AE team won on the Day of Champs. Great job by all teams and coaching staffs!

Todd had many handouts that were provided to him regarding new rules in effect, including the Hometown Hero forms and the handout 'Made in Ontario Plan', regarding residency change. There is an information meeting scheduled for May 2nd, 2009.

Motion to accept Todd's report by Rob and seconded by Kevin. Report accepted.

REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF EQUIPMENT:

Pat advised that he is still in the process of collecting equipment back from the travel teams. He has approximately 3/4 of the equipment back and will contact the coaches directly. Mark Gilbert has been coming in to assist and get himself familiarized with the system in place for the equipment.

Pat advised that he will need all of the names for the awards to be handed out at the Coaches dinner.

Randy Merton award recipient is Parker Jacques;

House League Coach of the year is Tom Bradd;

Travel Coach of the year is Chris Werner;

Hometown Heros are Robin Marjerison, Sean Burkinshaw, Megan Holland and Stephen Holland.

Motion to accept Pat's report by Lorne and seconded by Kevin. Report accepted.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF REGISTRATION:

Lorne advised that he will have a list of registered players for the AGM scheduled for next week. He will have the ballots printed and available.

The phone line has finally be activated at Lorne's home. Lorne now does have a working voice mail system.

The information from registration has been provided to the OMHA for insurance purposes, as requested by them.

Lorne advised that he did attend the training session for Hockey Canada Registration. The new system is much more user friendly. There are many tools available on the system and he will become more familiar with it. The credit card system has been set up and it is ready to go. Tony will need the link information to put onto the website. Every player is brand new there are no old passwords to use.

Motion to accept Lorne's report by Sandy and seconded by Pat. Report accepted.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PLAYER DEVELOPMENT:

Kevin advises that everything is completed for the Player Development for this season.

Coaches clinics will be starting soon. The next clinic available has been on the website for sometime now and the information is as follows:

A Development 1 Refresher will be held at Pavillon des Jeunes on Thursday, May 14th. Registration will begin at 6:00PM with the class running 6:30 to 10:30PM. The cost is covered for BRDMHA members and \$45.00 for non-BRDMHA members. Please email Kevin, development@brdmha.com with your name and phone number if you wish to attend.

Hopefully a mass email will be able to be sent out to everyone in order to provide the information in an effective

manner. The OMHA helping out in order to schedule the clinics in a timely fashion.

Motion to accept Kevin's report by Dave and seconded by Tony. Report accepted.

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER:

Sandy provided an updated financial statement. She is having conversation with our new registration contact in order to find out if we can have an automatic payment plan for parents with Visa or Mastercard. Everyone will have the option of using the payment plan if available. Perhaps the plan could be \$250.00 at registration and \$100.00 for the next 3 months.

She has not yet paid the March and April ice bills as she does not have confirmation yet regarding the ice times. The referee bills for the past month have also not yet been paid.

Sandy has received a number of requests for the \$200.00 for the team parties as in years past.

Sandy made a Motion, which was seconded by Kevin that travel teams requesting in writing the \$200.00 for their team parties be provided with the funds, provided that they have returned all of the equipment and gate box and have provided a Financial Statement.

Motion passed.

Sandy advised that she had received a request from the Bantam Major team for the \$1,000.00 towards the expenses in travelling for the OMHA finals.

Motion to accept Sandy's report by Tracey and seconded by Ray. Report accepted.

REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF ABUSE AND HARASSMENT:

Dave advised that everything has been pretty quiet on his end. He did not have any new cases and was simply looking at resolution for a couple of the files.

Motion to go in camera by Richard and seconded by Lorne.

(In camera discussed ensued)

Motion to go out of camera by Sharon and seconded by Rob.

Motion to accept Dave's report by Todd and seconded by Kevin. Report accepted.

REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF SPONSORSHIP AND COMMUNICATION:

No report from Richard.

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Gil reiterated other Board members and acknowledged and thanked everyone for the very successful Day of Champs. Gil thanked Dave and everyone else that helped out on that day, including the Leafeyes previously mentioned by Tracey. Gil thought Tracey did a good job as did her helpers, her husband, daughter and son. He felt that the entire organization had fun that day. He heard parents saying that they were 'impressed'. The ice was handled 'single handily by Sharon' she did an excellent job. Pat also said that he heard nothing but great things about both Days of Champs.

NEW BUSINESS:

IT will continue being our webmaster and therefore we will not lose any of the information that had been input into the registration either.

There was more discussion regarding Dave's suggestion of financial statements being provided by team managers possibly three times a year to the entire team as well as a copy to the Board. Dave's idea is that if money goes missing, we could catch it right away. We are asking the teams to provide us with their due diligence. Kevin is worried that we are having difficulties getting people to volunteer to be coaches and managers and perhaps simply adding work to them would further deter people from wanting to volunteer. Sandy advised if we are going to ask that the financial statements be submitted to us we also need someone to monitor them from the Board. Tony suggested that Dave, as risk manager could have that duty. Tony went on to say that Dave's position is more than simply dealing with conflicts occurring with people not abiding by our Code of Conduct. He could be looked at as a Director of Risk Management. Kevin thinks that we could take extra preventative measures at the bank when setting up our bank accounts. We could attend at a certain bank and insist that all BRDMHA accounts be within that institution and need 3 signatures and a further person authorized to simply look into the account and not have any signing authority. It was suggested by Lorne that perhaps we can look around at how other centres handle their accounts and use their idea as a bench mark. This will be discussed further at our next meeting.

There was discussion regarding the fact that since the gate boxes are a thing of the past for the payment of referees, the travel sector will have to increase their travel fees even further to accommodate this change. Perhaps at the same time, we could consider the hiring of timekeepers as well in order to make the change all at once. After discussion, it was decided that the scorekeepers continue to be the volunteers from the teams. However, the harmonized sales tax implemented by the government will also affect our ice fees. Gil will call the Township tomorrow and inquire as to how this will affect us.

Kevin was concerned about three separate phone calls that he had received regarding the fact that these people implied that "the Board was not taking care of the problem that arose with the peewee AE team in the playoffs appropriately". Kevin did not know anything of any problem as this had arisen after our last Board meeting. He asked for clarification from someone on the Board that had knowledge of the problem. As it was a problem arising from a travel team, obviously, Todd would have the most information and he relayed the information to the rest of the Board as follows:

Last Monday, Denis had received information from the Centre Contact of Essex that the Essex peewee AE team was scheduled to play the BRDMHA peewee AE team that Friday. The Centre Contact from Essex asked that the game be rescheduled to be played in Belle River the day before, the Thursday as the Essex peewee AE team was scheduled to play in a tournament in Milton starting on the Friday. The game was rescheduled to Thursday in Belle River at 8:00 p.m. Denis advised the Belle River Coach of this information by email and further gave him the information that it was the intention of the Essex team 'win or lose' not to participate in the Bluewater Day of Champs, but rather continue on with their tournament in Milton. A copy of this email forwarded to the Belle River peewee AE Coach was also cc'd to Todd. Todd read the email and did not think much of it other than it would be against rules for Essex not to participate in Bluewater Day of Champs should they be successful in the semi game against Belle River. On Wednesday, Todd spoke to the peewee AE Coach from Belle River at the arena and advised him that he did not see that happening. He told him that it would be against rules and they would be fined as well as other sanctions put on the team if they did not participate in the Day of Champs. The Belle River Coach advised Todd that he did not think that they (the Belle River peewee AE team) would have any difficulty in defeating the Essex team in the semi-final as they had always won against them throughout the season. Todd advised the Coach that he should continue playing as if they were both in contention for the Day of Champs and that he would get further clarification from Bluewater and OMHA. That evening, Todd wrote to our REM for OMHA and asked the question. The next morning, Craig Lane advised Todd that, his question should be directed to the President of Bluewater. Todd forwarded the email to the President of Bluewater, who responded that severe sanctions would be placed on the team and the association if they did not participate in the Bluewater Day of Champs and as well, they would also receive a fine. Todd called the Belle River peewee AE Coach at work, and relayed the message to him. Further, he forwarded an email advising him of the information that he received from both Craig Lane and the President of Bluewater, Rick Bruce. Todd **could not say** that in fact Essex would follow the guidelines of Bluewater and the OMHA. Essex is at liberty to do whatever they want, but he strongly suggested to the Belle River Coach, that if they wanted to be in the Bluewater Day of Champs that they needed to win the game against Essex in the semi. On the Thursday, prior to the game commencing, the Essex Coach once again advised the Belle River Coach that Essex would not participate in the Day of Champs. The game was played and Belle River lost 8 - 0. After the game the Essex Coach approached the Belle River Coach and said something to the effect of 'have fun on the Day of Champs and good luck to you'. The Belle River Coach believed that the Essex team would not participate in the Day of Champs and continued on to tell his players and parents after the game that they would still be participating in the Day of Champs due to Essex withdrawing in order to participate in the tournament. That same evening the Belle River Coach received an email from the Essex Coach advising him that the parents had voted and had made the decision to participate in the Day of Champs. The Belle River Coach forwarded the email received to his parents. The parents then started emailing Todd and Craig Lane advising that this was not fair and not teaching the children anything and that they needed us as a Board to back them up and 'get justice for their players'. The argument was that the team would never have agreed to change the day of the semi game from Friday to Thursday to accommodate Essex if they were going to participate in the Day of Champs. The reason for the change not being wanted was because the game was to be played at 8:00 p.m. which was viewed as too late for the peewee AE team to play, during the week. However, discussions had in the Board meeting were that that decision is not up to the team or the coach, not to change a game day or time. That decision must be made by the Centre Contact based on the reasoning why the game is requesting to be changed. This was a reason that would govern a change being given. A reminder that the Bluewater Association encourages the Centres to work together. Not to employ the services of that Board at every turn. We as an Association have asked numerous other Associations to change games for us in the same instances. Why should we not be flexible? Todd remained silent with regards to the emails forwarded by parents, however, he did send an explanation email to the coach. Gil quickly provided an email to the coach advising him that asking the parents to complain to the Board through emails was not the proper way to deal with this. Thereafter, Gil provided a summary of information as provided by Denis, Todd and the string of emails from Craig Lane and Rick Bruce as well as the parents of the peewee AE team. This information was forwarded by Gil by email to all of the parents on the team.

There was much discussion amongst the Board members. Some of the Board members had been contacted by the parents from the peewee AE team and they wanted to know what could be done about this situation. Therefore, it was decided that through these Minutes, the explanation was complete.

Pat advised that Todd did bring this up at the Bluewater meeting on Monday, the end result was that coaches should not be dealing with coaches and if something needs to be changed, as always, the Centre Contacts should be the ones involved. If this was left to the two Centre Contacts dealing with it, this situation would not have occurred. There would have been discussion, the semi game would have been played at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday in Belle River to accommodate the Essex team and if Belle River was successful, they would have played in the Day of Champs and Essex would have gone to their tournament. However, Belle River lost the game. That made them the 3rd or 4th place team and therefore not eligible to play in the Day of Champs.

It is the hope of this Board, that this clarifies the situation as described above. This Board is and has always been looking out for the best interests of the players within the BRDMHA and will continue to do so in the future.

**Meeting adjourned. Next meeting scheduled Tuesday,
April 14th at 6:00 p.m. at
The Knights of Columbus**