

Michigan Senior Women's Hockey League

Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Attendees: Sarah Jacobsen (President; Freeze), Beth Silvis (Secretary; D3 Director; Spittin' Chicklets), Tracy Cosenza (Treasurer; D5 Director; Detroit Revolution), Kerri Kelly (Ruicci Cup Coordinator; Bombshells), Ann McManamon (D4 Director; Swarm); Michelle Reeve (D2 Director; Hammerheads)

Sarah Jacobsen called meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

- I. Review and approval of the 1/14/14 minutes with the following corrections:
 - A. Misspelling of Kathy Mosher's last name (not Mosier)
 - B. Travel permits section IV. A., strike the "(I believe anywhere out of their home state, though it may be only out of the country)"

- II. Treasurer's report
 - A. Comerica is researching the outstanding NGIN check in the amount of \$895.00
 - B. Balance remains unchanged from last month and current balance reflects \$6,360.36

- III. Division Updates:
 - A. D2: M. Reeve recommends that the eleven D2 teams for Ruicci Cup be split into Group A and Group B according to the standings by March 7th with no more than six teams in either grouping. The board voted unanimously to go ahead with this plan.
 - B. D3:
 1. Thirteen players have "80" penalties (aggressive), but no one has multiple "80" codes.
 2. Black Ice, Metro Blades, Freeze, Hammer Heads, and Polar Bears, will be playing in Ruicci Cup.
 3. The 1/24/14 game between Metro Blades and Polar Bears was brought up for discussion due to its roughness. Eight penalties were called in it, including three citations for fighting and two for checking. There also appeared to be a discrepancy in the assigned penalty minutes (a fighting penalty is a 5-minute penalty and these were all coded as 2-minute penalties). After further investigation, Pres. S. Jacobsen spoke with the referee scheduler and one of the referees who worked the game about the overall roughness of play that occurred and both teams' disappointment in the referees' inability to control the aggression in the game. The *roughing* penalties were actually mistakenly assigned as "*fighting penalties*" and an error made by an inexperienced scorekeeper. However, the referee scheduler also promised S. Jacobsen that the two referees would not work any remaining MSWHL games for the rest of this season. Metro Blades received a score sheet warning because of this game and agreed to speak to the scorekeeper to clarify her responsibilities.
 - C. D4:
 1. Penalties in general are running high, but are not necessarily aggressive penalties.
 2. Ladywings and Storm are the only teams not playing in Ruicci Cup
 3. Stingrays submitted an appeal for Kayla Curry, daughter of a player on their team, to play sparingly as a sub for them. Due to her age (20 y.o.) and experience level (10+ years), she was approved by the board under a 30-day review.

D. D5:

1. Statistics on the web are up to date thanks to the timely receipt of score sheets.
2. The 1/5/14 game between Flames and Cyclones was postponed due to weather and they are having difficulties rescheduling.
3. No issues with excessive or aggressive penalties
4. All teams, with the exception of Cyclones, are playing in Ruicci Cup

E. D6:

1. GP Chill needs to reschedule a home game against TOT 6
2. No major issues to report.
3. All teams are playing in Ruicci Cup

F. General: Reminder to all teams that games not played by March 7th will be considered forfeits.

IV. Senior Olympics

There have been no updates communicated via J. Smouter from the Michigan Olympics Committee regarding the change in date for this tournament. It was originally scheduled for Feb. 8-12 but due to minimal response/commitment, combined with some competing tournaments (e.g. Windsor), the Committee proposed a date and venue change.

V. Two teams (TOT5 and TOT6) are being asked to change their logos due to a copyright infringement. *Consider this as a caution to all teams to use originally designed logos, or only use existing logos with the necessary approval.*

VI. Referee issues

- A. S. Jacobsen inquired with four MAHA referee-in-chiefs (for each district/county) about a formal complaint process against referees who managers feel do not appear to take their games seriously or demonstrate bias or sub-par skills. Only one referee responded, and gave no formal nor written process by which to file a complaint other than by contacting the referee scheduler of the game in question to try and resolve the complaint.
- B. S. Jacobsen inquired with the same four MAHA referee-in-chiefs inquiring if there is a mandatory time frame notification for game cancellations to avoid having to pay the referees for the cost of their time. Only one responded and gave an informal response of "a few hours."

VII. MAHA rosters and travel permits

- A. M. Reeve discovered after talking with MAHA reps that our board was given misinformation last summer about NOT needing MAHA stamped rosters through the registrar. Apparently, MAHA had misclassified the MSWHL as a recreation/house league. *Next year the board will once again require managers to get an official hard copy/stamped roster of their teams through their registrar.*
- B. Any team traveling to tournaments needs an official stamped MAHA roster.
- C. Partly as a result of this mis-communication, the board discussed sending a board representative to future MAHA meetings, which typically occur twice per year. The next one is scheduled to occur in the summer, likely at Boyne Highlands. The board agreed to pay for reasonable lodging and travel expenses for the representative willing to attend.

VIII. Ruicci Cup planning

- A. Division split for D2 into Groups A and B
- B. Referees: only one bid was received and it was from Jim Kreklau, whom the board unanimously approved to be the Referee Scheduler.
- C. Kyle Nagy and Patrick McHugh agreed to be the official scorekeepers again
- D. Casey Currey Nikki Shaw have been selected as hospitality room supervisors to track the bracket updates and sell tickets for the raffle baskets
- E. Vendors will include Beer League Sports, Teresa Brown's custom bags, and a few others.
- F. The Ruicci Cup Trophy will be taken to Woods Trophy to have last year's winners added to it.
- G. Various prizes for 1st and 2nd place teams were reviewed and discussed. Considerations are being given to customized backpacks, duffel bags, stadium blankets, steel or hard plastic water bottles, and coffee mugs.
- H. Work schedule for board members was discussed. M. Reeve volunteered to put together the work schedule.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m. by S. Jacobsen

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Silvis
Secretary