

Michigan Senior Women's Hockey League

Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 13, 2016

Attendees: Sarah Jacobsen (Freeze, President, D5 Rep), Michelle Reeve (Hammerheads, Vice President, Asst. Treasurer, D0 Rep), Renee LeBlanc (TOT2, Asst. Secretary, D6 Rep), Sally Krug-Shaffer (Black Ice, Secretary, D4 Rep), Sarah Parker (Freeze, D3 Rep), Tammy Callaghan (Stingrays, Treasurer, D1 Rep), Kerri Kelly (Bombshells, Ruicci Cup Coordinator, D2 Rep), Sarah Price (ICES), Laura Slayton (ICES), Michelle Smith (ICES), Brad Widger (G2S), Ginny Widger (G2S)

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by S. Jacobsen

I. Approval of 12/9/15 minutes – Motion by R. LeBlanc, seconded K. Kelly

II. Treasurer's report (T. Callahan)

- A. Current balance \$9373.91 (no transactions within past month)
- B. IRS 990 Form update-working on this form

III. Old Business

- A. USA Patches: hat trick, playmaker, and shut out patches available. To receive these patches, scan the scoresheet to your Division Director as proof of one or more of these achievements who will then forward it on to C. Schwanger. One patch per player per season will be given for each category.
- B. Sub goalie list adds- April Yager has been added to the list and is approved for D5 and D6.

IV. New Business

A. Division Updates

1. D0 – M. Reeve

a. Cougars v. ICES game (12/13/15). ICES' player Sarah Price read her statement about what occurred in the game, citing ongoing verbal harassment about her gender expression by four players (Bridget Godfrey, Nicole Powell, Alt. Captain Jackie Warner, and Rachel Wright). A statement from the referee of the game was also considered (citing "targeting" of S. Price by Cougars players), as well as incriminating social media posts by Cougars players. Co-captain and manager Laura Slayton also spoke about the behavior in question, as did co-captain Michelle Smith, including admitting her own role in the conflict near the end of the game. Cougars did not send a representative to attend the meeting. Board referred to USA hockey and MAHA handbooks on the issue of harassment. A one game suspension was issued to each of the Cougar players involved in the incident, as well as team manager and captain

Renee Wright. M. Reeve and S. Jacobsen agreed to follow up with Cougars' manager and players in question for a face-to-face meeting.
b. Two-page complaint filed by Belle Tire from 12/20/15 game vs. Cougars was reviewed and summarized. Overall concerns raised about referee issues (particularly against Scott Racer), broken clock, rough play (e.g. Cougars' slashing, punching, and putting BT players into "head locks"), profane sexual comments, ref (particularly S. Racer) not calling penalties and falling on top of BT player Courtney Miller. M. Reeve will follow up w/District 2 referee-in-chief Perry Petterle about complaint re: S. Racer.

2. D1- T. Callahan

a. Renegades scheduling update. Request to webmaster April Yager has been made to create a D1 team "button" on the website for Renegades in order to complete remainder of season schedule.

3. D2- K. Kelly

a. G2S v. Ladywings issues discussed and reviewed from 12/20/15 and 1/3/16 games. Ladywings' coach Matthew Sanborn was assessed two unsportsmanlike penalties by referees at 12/20/15 game.

b. Ladywings' coach M. Sanborn's 1/6/16 letter to board was read and reviewed. In summary, he expressed concerns about the "extremely dirty and dangerous plays... promoted by the coaching staff, and allowed by the referees," indicating further than he is "not comfortable having his team play Goody 2 Shoes again." Two representatives from the G2S (Coach Brad Widger and goalie Ginny Widger) were in attendance and felt that the game was well played with acceptable play by both teams. B. Widger acknowledged he told his players to "shadow" A. Kobe but not to play dirty. Though no board member attended the 12/20/15 game, board member S. Krug-Shaffer attended the 1/3/16 game and agreed that the game appeared to be played fairly and did not notice any out of the ordinary roughness. Ladywings will be contacted about the upcoming 2/14/16 game and if they choose not to play it, it will count as their forfeit. If they choose to play it, at least one board member will be in attendance.

c. Ice Picks vs. Hammerheads 1/9/16 game: a 5 minute penalty for fighting was issued to Hammerhead player, Katie (Victoria) Sweet. A two game suspension was issued and will be served without protest.

4. D3- S. Parker- no issues to report

5. D4- S. Krug- Shaffer

a. Player release: Shannon Konarski (Griffins to MC Crush). Player was released from Griffins and placed on the official roster of the MC Crush.

6. D5- S. Jacobsen- no issues to report

7. D6- R. LeBlanc- no issues to report

8. General: As a reminder, all people on the bench MUST be listed on the team roster and registered with the league. This includes all coaches and any other people "working the door." No children under age 18 may be on the bench due to USA Hockey rules governing adult leagues). All teams are

bound by this USA Hockey rule, which will be strictly enforced at Ruicci Cup.

B. Consideration of request by Michele Monson to create a division by age, specifically an over 40 or over 50 division. The board discussed the possibility of an age bracket division for the MSWHL. Statistically, 356 out of the 751 (47%) rostered skaters in our league are over age 40, and 140 are over age 50 (19%). The possibility exists for a division where all players would be over a defined age, however, more data and opinions of other teams/players will be collected and the option will be revisited in our summer meetings.

C. Ruicci Cup (K. Kelly)

1. Letters for intent to play will go out to all teams with requested response by 2/10/16.
2. Checks will be due on 3/1/16.
3. Scoresheet cut off date for game statistics to count towards Ruicci standings is midnight on 3/20/16.
4. Ruicci cup will be played on 3/31/16-4/2/16.
5. Referee bids are due by 2/5/16 and will be discussed at the meeting on 2/10/16. The winning ref bid will be announced on 2/22/16.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Krug-Shaffer
Secretary

Next meeting:

Wednesday February 10, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Engineering Society of Detroit (Suite 450), Oakland Commons, 20700 Civic Center Drive, Southfield, MI