



**GIRLS HOCKEY CALGARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 21, 2023 @ 7:00 PM**  
**Via Microsoft Teams**

*Attending:* Shannon Cleary, Stu Bridle, Jarid Poissant, Michelle Hardy, Jacqui Piebiak, Kelly Raffan, Shannon Cleary, Spryng Kubicek, Jennifer Gerla, Paulette Niedermier, Jeaniece Frick, David Burch, Laura Dostaler, Andrea Zabkowski (guest)

*Absent:* Samm Domagala, Jeff Walker, Dan Giasson, Kyle Wanvig,

**CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 PM**

**1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

*Motion to approve meeting minutes. Seconded. Approved.*

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Motion to approve agenda. Seconded. Approved.*

**3. STANDING REPORTS**

**A. President Update**

- Introduction of a guest was made. She will be helping with evaluations and development pathway of the community teams next season.
- Working on Elite expansion – Will be expanding by 4 teams next year. Thank you to everyone who worked on this.
- Working with Hockey Calgary on provincial representations for provincials. All of the provincial representatives will be confirmed at the end of February. U13 Female B – 1 team. U15 Female B – 2 teams (one will be the host). U15 Female A – 2 teams. U18 Female A - 1 team. U18 Female B – 1 team. No co-ed division teams will be going to provincials.
  - Fire provincial representation – not hosting any provincials. All teams except U15 AA White, and U18 AA White have byes.
- Hockey Calgary has sent a self assessment document to ensure that we are functioning within our bylaws and Hockey Calgary bylaws and ensure we have proper policies in place. Method of reviewing. Will tie into the Nominations and Governance Committee.
- Board Planning for next season. Will begin reviewing our structure and potentially expanding the board and creating a board that makes sense, and then will need to start collecting expressions of interest for available board positions.
  - **Action:** President to send the self assessment document to the board members.
  - **Action:** All board members – please confirm with President or your VP what your thoughts are and what your desired role is with the board including if you are running for another term.



- Volunteer Awards Committee – Will be announcing call for nominations for awards. Also, looking into Hockey Calgary, and Hockey Alberta awards. There is also a Hockey Calgary Awards Celebration banquet – Associations are encouraged to buy a table. Have purchased one in the past. \$250.00/table.

## **B. Administration Update**

### **1. Spring Camp Registrations**

- Updated website and created registration form for Spring Skills Camp.
- Created website and registration form for Spring Try Hockey Camp
- Updated website and created registration forms for Calgary Fire Spring camps. 4 ice times now, will increase registrations to accommodate more players.
- Registration for all spring camps is currently open.

### **2. Team Development Fund**

- Confirmed Team Development Fund reimbursement amounts.
- 52 teams took advantage of the reimbursement.
- Only three U18 team submitted the form. None of the U18 A teams submitted the form.

### **3. Team Invoices**

- Have created invoices for community teams.
- Collect payment for Thanksgiving exhibition game officials and extra coach cards as necessary.

### **4. GHC Casino**

- GHC was awarded a casino for June 22 and 23
- Sign up created. Email will be sent to all members on Feb. 21st.
- 1 casino shift is equal to 1 Association Level credit for the 2022/23 season

## **C. Elite Update**

- We are finishing the season with all our teams finishing strong.
- Our AAA team should head into playoffs in 1<sup>st</sup> place and our two AA teams are finishing 1 and second in their division.
- Ice scheduler is confirming play off ice and practices to take our teams thru playoffs and into provincials.
- We have been busy working on the logistics of the expansion program, both the new U13 division as well as the additional U15 team. We have a 13AA coach interested in the third coaching position for U 15AA. He has a coaching team to work with him.
- We are holding U13 info sessions, in addition to the president is going out to speak to the GHC U13 and U11 players to inform them of the new program.
- We are working on completing the U13 manual.
- We will do a call out for more Elite volunteers as we will want to add positions to assist with the expansion.
- With the expansion of Elite we have made changes to the Firestarter and it will now run over three weekends, one for AAA, U18AA and U15AA- expanded to 12 teams.



- The ice scheduler has been working on ice and ice for Firestarter, prep camps, tryouts and practices will be confirmed once the permits are back.
- We will have the apparel requirements confirmed this week and will be making an order for the items needed for expansion to have them in for the new season. This will be a significant order as we will need sets of Jerseys.
- Have also started the process of organizing the year end banquet. Banquet will be on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Note: Will be the last year at the Delta due to the number of players.
- U13 Fire Expansion - Have received a lot of information to date but have not received important information such as travel and costs because Hockey Alberta does not have the information yet. Will have a meeting in the next 2 weeks among all of the franchises to discuss. Within GHC, there will be an open house on February 27<sup>th</sup>. There has been a lot of interest from females on community teams. Will be able to share all information after Feb 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### **D. Operations Update**

Summary of recent accomplishments and activities:

- Grad game was played on Feb 10
- Jerseys looked great! Shout out to FBG.
- Great Atmosphere / lots of fans
- Volunteers were amazing.
- Lots to build on moving forward.

List of activities in progress and upcoming events:

- Team Formation Group – most if not all planning on returning for next season.
- Still need to meet to discuss issues from last season.
- Possible changes for next year need to be decided on – Adding Coaches to team formation overview, Evaluation's set up, increasing volunteers etc.
- The ice scheduler has been working on ice for next year incorporating some asks from our group.
- Need to start looking at who may be coming and going on the board that can help in Operations.
- Look at starting evaluations after all the releases have been completed and increase time between each ice time to give the team formations group more time to work and review the evaluation groupings and final teams.
- Coach and assistant coach evaluation links will be sent to all the coaches at the end of the week.
- Recommendation for Friend Requests be eliminated as the association grows and looking for parity teams. It is causing more issues during team formation.

#### **E. Community Update**

- Has been working with what will community look like at U13, and looking at the team discrepancies and team performance of the past season
- Working with the coaches after the mid-season coaching reviews.
- Has also been working with VP Operations on some disciplinary issues and lessons learned.
- Spring Camp registration – 123/176 – the goal is to have 150 registrants. U11 is sold out.



Need at least 10 more registrants in U9 and U13. Try Hockey registration – 26/40. Would like 4 more U15/U18 players new to hockey. Created a Facebook group and a paid facebook ad and an Instagram ad as well to help increase registration.

- **Action:** The director of programs development - Would like to recap at the next meeting the 2022/23 program and introduce the 2023/24 program.
- **Action:** Get information to Hockey Calgary about the spring program to get their help advertising it.

#### F. Financial Update

- Please see February Financial update that was included in board package.
- Discussion was had about creating a development fund to invest in a female development facility that is related to GHC will be a separate entity.

#### 4. BUSINESS ARISING

- a. Calgary Fire Expansion – more to come.
- b. Safety in Hockey (Discriminatory Language, Social Media, Conflict)
  - Hockey Calgary has advised that Alberta is the worst in Canada and furthermore Calgary is the worst in Alberta for 11.4 infractions. GHC has dealt with 3 – 2 – players have been accused, and 1 have complained. No players have been suspended due to the infractions.
  - **Action:** Hockey Calgary has asked that members look at the resources on the Hockey Calgary website and give suggestions to improve the website and the process. Also, review the GHC website and send Shannon suggestions on how to make hockey a safer environment (can also include mental health, performance, parent behaviour).
  - Remind teams to follow the process when there is a conflict and there are resources on the GHC and HC website to help deal with these conflicts. Most conflicts can be dealt with at the team level but if they do need help there are steps and protocol to help them resolve the issues.
- c. Hockey Calgary Boundary Review
  - Hockey Calgary is currently redefining the boundaries in NW Calgary. A presentation will be emailed out to board regarding the boundary review and the



2 recommendations. GHC will not abstain from the vote therefore the board to provide feedback on which boundary recommendation is the preferred.

- **Action:** The president to email out boundary review presentation including the 2 recommendations and board to provide feedback.

c. Hockey Canada Refund

- Hockey Canada is issuing a the \$3.00 refund that is collected from minor hockey families during registration. Hockey Calgary currently is holding the funds. Hockey Calgary will be issuing a refund directly to families should they choose. If families choose not to claim the refund the money will be donated to 3 charities that the HC operations board have voted on.
- **Action:** The administrator to email out HC letter regarding refund.

d. MHA Governance & Leadership Self-Assessment

- Hockey Calgary has provided a chart to help ensure that we are operating at the same level and being held accountable.
- Will complete as a board and will also involve the Nominations and Governance Committee to help out our roles and help with recommendations for future nominations.
- **Action:** The president to email out the Self Assessment document to board and the board will provide feedback and suggestions to help improve the board.

**ADJOURNED: 8:12 PM**