



FEMALE COUNCIL MEETING

Saturday, June 15th, 2013

1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

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ATTENDANCE: G. Nesom (Chair), T. Thomas, B. Stinn, F. Zinger, C. Denney, G. Kirkland, S. Gaeckle, L. Paradis, C. Jenkins, B. Varga, K. Odland, P. Coristine, J. Hughes, S. Hughes, T. Thiessen, M. Harding, K. Hitchcock, G. Ball

ABSENT (with regards): L. Fulton

HOCKEY ALBERTA STAFF: M. Kraichy, K. Baltimore

RECORDING SECRETARY: V. Hofferd

- AGENDA-

1.0 Call to Order

G. Nesom

- G. Nesom called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

1.1 Introductions

G. Nesom

- Introductions made for all Hockey Alberta Staff, Board and Council Members in attendance.

1.2 Review of Voting Procedures

F. Zinger

- F. Zinger referred to page 48 of the AGM Meeting Package (provided to all delegates) for the AGM Voting Structures.
- Prior to the meeting there was no voting scheduled to be made. As such, the only candidate up for election will be named.

1.3 Roll call of delegates

F. Zinger

- See Introductions.

2.0 Agenda

G. Nesom

2.1 Additions/Deletions

- 7.6 - Curtis Nichols will present the Officials Report. This will be moved from 7.6 up to 4.3 under the Senior Report – 'Hockey Alberta Officials Report' as Curtis is required to leave the meeting early.



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2.2 Approval of Agenda

Moved By: Brian Varga (Medicine Hat) **Seconded By:** Steve Hughes (Lloydminster)

Motion to approve the agenda as amended.

Carried

3.0 Minutes of Female Council Meeting – 2012 AGM

G. Nesom

3.1 Errors or Omissions

- No errors. No omissions.

3.2 Approval

Moved By: Chad Jenkins (SAMHA) **Seconded By:** Bob Stinn

Motion to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2012 as presented.

Carried

3.3 Business Arising from Minutes

- None.

4.0 Female Council Chair Report

G. Nesom

- Atom and Senior Female players have previously played 3x15 minute periods at Provincial Championships whilst Peewee through Midget Female players played 3x20 minute periods. From now on, all female players will play 3x20 minute periods at Provincial Championships. This decision was ratified by the Hockey Alberta Board of Directors on June 14, 2013.
- Female players will be allowed to affiliate from female minor to mainstream minor on a case by case basis. All cases must be approved.
- Hockey Canada made a regulation change to E-35A which now restricts affiliated players to ten games per season of playing on their affiliate team. This rule affects all divisions. If an eleventh game is played by a player, the player is forcibly returned to their club team (as noted in HCR) and the coaching staff of the team they were affiliated to could be subject to the penalties of playing an ineligible player. This could result in indefinite suspension for the coach. Female Council believes this will broaden and strengthen the depth of female players as it will allow more girls the ability to play an elite stream of the game.



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- World Girls Hockey Day will be Thanksgiving Weekend 2013. Any female hockey players playing within Alberta in a sanctioned event that registers their involvement with the IIHF (via Twitter) will count towards Alberta's total of players involved. There will be a world long game being played across the Canadian Provinces. If there are any associations interested in hosting Alberta's portion (game), they are to let Greg Nesom know via email.

Action Item: G. Nesom will provide further information via email to anyone interested in hosting Alberta's portion of the Long Game, and as well, just in general information. Email: greg.nesom@live.ca

- Female Council understands the changes that Hockey Alberta/Canada's new decision to remove bodychecking will have on recruitment and retention of female players in the female stream. They also recognize that what is important is to keep females in hockey, regardless of the stream they choose to play. Female Council will continue working with Hockey Canada to develop a female stream path that showcases the benefits of playing Female Hockey.
- There will no longer be designated representatives of Minor and Senior, North and South. From now on there will be a 'Minor Lead' and 'Senior Lead' representative for the province who will be supported by the remaining council members.
- Junior Women's and Private/Prep Schools are eligible to be taken under Hockey Alberta's sanctioning umbrella. The questions that needs to be asked is if they were to be sanctioned by Hockey Alberta, what would they provide Hockey Alberta in return, and also if they do become sanctioned by Hockey Alberta, how do we avoid tampering? It is to be noted that if Hockey Alberta sanctions sport schools they will need to go through the already 'in-place' approval process.

Action Item: F. Zinger will get clarification from the Board of Directors as to what constitutes tampering.

4.1 Minor

B. Stinn / T. Thomas

- B. Stinn reported that provincial tournaments were successful this year. Throughout the season there were very few Issues to overcome. There are more plans to be a part of the games for the AAA Leagues.



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- T. Thomas reported the level of female Hockey is improving immensely and continues to increase with each passing year. There are a lot of questions surrounding the development of female peewee players with the new bodychecking rule. T. Thomas noted female council will continue to work on the development of the female stream to ensure female players have every opportunity to become the best players they can be.

4.2 Senior

G. Nesom

- G. Nesom reported this season to come will be the second year that Women's Rec will be administered by Canlan. Women's AA/A will continue to be registered through Hockey Alberta.
- G. Nesom noted that because of the inception of the Canlan Registration, numbers of female players have been skewed.

4.3 Hockey Alberta Officials Report

- C. Nichols reported that Referees are looking for help in terms of recruitment of officials for the officiating program.
- Ryan Gregory out of Calgary is the new female coordinator for officiating.
- There are scholarships from Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada available for female Hockey Players that are being underutilized at present.

Action Item: C. Nichols will provide information about these scholarships via email to anyone who would like it. Email: chairman@hareferees.ca

- There is a new clinic structure – E Learning – all level 1 and 2 officials will need to take E Learning before they can take the one day officiating clinic to become referees.
- C. Nichols noted that he is aware some leagues/associations are putting minimum requirements of officiating levels for the officials in their league. The Junior Women's League was having issues with lack of quality in their officiating. This rule they implicated is causing issues as there are not enough officials that meet the requirements.

Action Item: G. Nesom will work with the league, and with the referee council to help straighten out the situation and to help eliminate the issues for future.



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5.0 Hockey Alberta Notices of Motion

F. Zinger

5.1 Notice of Motion #1: Nominations

- F. Zinger reported that on pages 61-63 of the AGM Delegates Information Book can be found information regarding Providing Notice of the Notices of Motion for the AGM meeting June 16. Process is 5.2 A & B as denoted.

5.2 Notice of Motion #2: Transitional Provisions

- Bylaw 4.3 – A governance Board was created last year that saw the Board of Directors become 8. Bylaw 4.3 is the transition provision that was contained in the bylaws struck in 2012 for the transition. Having that the transition has already happened, there is no need to keep the provision in place.

6.0 Female Council Elections

F. Zinger

6.1 Chairperson

- G. Nesom has been acclaimed to the position of female council chair for the 2013-2014 season.

6.2 Senior Provincial Representative – North

- As there were no nominations received, there is a vacancy that will be filled by appointment.

6.3 Senior Provincial Representative – South

- Lil Fulton has been acclaimed to the position of Senior Provincial Representative South for the 2013-2014 Season.

6.4 Minor Provincial Representative – North

- As there were no nominations received, there is a vacancy that will be filled by appointment.

6.5 Minor Provincial Representative – South

- Bob Stinn has been acclaimed to the position of Minor Provincial Representative South

Action Item: G. Nesom will be recommending N. Williams and T. Thomas as the two individuals to fill the vacancies for the remaining two positions.



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7.0 New Business

7.1 2013 Championship Updates **Minor/Senior Reps**

- a) 2013 Provincial Championships
 - G. Nesom noted that Atom Female Provincial Rules need to be changed in order to improve the means to which teams can be zone representatives and eliminate the Wildcard trend of the tournament.
- b) 2013 Western Canadian Shield
 - The Calgary Coyotes represented in the AA category and the Grande Prairie Panthers represented in the A category.
- c) 2013 Esso Midget Female AAA Championship
 - The Edmonton Thunder won bronze at the Esso Nationals.

7.2 2014 Championship Updates **Minor/Senior Reps**

- a) 2014 Provincial Dates
 - 2014 Provincial Information can be found in the package provided to delegates.
 - G. Nesom reported that there was a regulation change that will affect the time for team declaring intent for Provincials. All teams will register with the same fee, whether provincial or not, and there will be a date in which teams need to submit intent.

Action Item: G. Nesom will find out if there is a possibility to create a provincial program for the Junior Women's league if they were to become sanctioned by Hockey Alberta.

- S. Gaeckle asked if the flat lined rule is able to be changed for future for Atom teams being able to get into the Provincial tournaments.

Action Item: G. Nesom will research for EMHA if there is a possibility that the Atom Female teams they have playing in a mainstream league all season long could be allowed to play in Atom Female.



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- B. Varga asked if there is there a possibility of taking female players from mainstream (several teams) to join one sole female team to enter in Provincial Championships, or a tournament in general. As of right now, once a player chooses a stream to play in, that is the stream that player has chosen to which they will finish the season in and to play provincials in.

Action Item: G. Nesom will look into if it is a possibility to have players be pulled from mainstream teams to join together on a Female Team, in an effort to promote the female game, to play together for a tournament, or exhibition, during the season. (Medicine Hat and Lethbridge would very much support this idea.)

- b) 2014 Western Shield Championship
 - Red Deer will host the 2014 Western Shield Championship.
- c) 2014 Esso Midget AAA Championship
 - Will be held in Stony Creek, Ontario

7.2 League Reports – No League Reports.

7.3 Female Team Alberta Update

M. Kraichy

- 2012 U18 Nationals Team Finished 7th. Three Girls from Team Alberta went on to represent Canada at the World U18 tournament in Finland.
- 2013 U18 Team Preparation is well underway. 46 athletes have been selected to attend summer camp in Camrose. The 2013 U18 Nationals will be held in Calgary in November.
- ATB Alberta Challenge was a tremendous success. There was a new format split that saw 3 North and 3 South teams rather than zone format. Competition was heightened and goal spreads were less. From the tournament 60 athletes were selected to attend U16 Female Camp in Camrose this summer.
- Team Alberta Skills Camps – Each regional centre has either run, or will be running spring/summer female skills camps for emphasis of LTPD for the Female Game.



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- This upcoming season Rocky Mountain Female League will be running a large event in conjunction with World Female Hockey Weekend with Team Alberta U18 playing two exhibition games as part of the weekend's festivities.
 - Alberta Winter Games February 2014 – Zone Selection Camps November 29-Dec 1st – Locations to be Determined. Team Training will be January 25 or 26. Competition Feb 6-9 in Banff, AB.

7.4 2013 Hockey Canada AGM Update

G. Nesom

- The removal of bodychecking from Peewee Hockey will cause some difficulties for the female stream. See 4.0.
- The format of the Quebec Quadrant Pilot system they were granted for sending a team to Nationals was voted against at the AGM.
- G. Nesom encourages Associations to host Esso Fun Days events, but also to host them at a different time from World Girls Hockey Day so that an association has two opportunities to showcase the female game. G. Nesom also encourages LMHA's to host female implementation events of their own, be it Esso Fun days or not.

7.5 Minor Programs

- Minor Female versus Male Stream. G. Nesom noted that there are a lot of Minor Hockey Associations that have implemented the rule that if a female player does try out for a Male Team and does not make the team they are required to play on a recreational male team. With the female game so quickly changing, allowing these players to return to female hockey if they so choose could be an option to consider that could vastly improve the female game.

Action Item: G. Nesom to find out if this rule, currently implemented on an LMHA basis, could be changed to make improvements to the female stream.

7.6 Junior League

- G. Ball would like to know if there is any way that Hockey Alberta can assist the junior programs in getting word out about the Junior program to graduating players from the Minor Hockey System.
- G. Ball would like to know if there can be additional payments made for referees so that they're being paid for the caliber of hockey they are officiating.



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Action Item: G. Nesom to work with the Junior League in hopes of helping them smooth out the rough edges currently affecting their league.

8.0 Adjournment

G. Nesom

Moved By: Brian Varga

Seconded By: Todd Thiessen.

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Carried

- Meeting was adjourned at 3:47 PM.