

Yellowhead Hockey – Fall Meeting

Minutes – Wednesday, September 4, 2024

The Fall Meeting of the Yellowhead Hockey Association was held on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, in person. Director, Kaileigh Kyle, presided over the meeting with members of all regional organizations present.

**Attendees**

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| Kaileigh Kyle (Director)  Alison Swereda (Vice-Director, Development)  Andrea Smith (Secretary / Treasurer)  Sarah Ramsey (Hamiota)  Jeff Knight (Hamiota)  Marla Steen (Neepawa/Coach Coordinator)  Lance Henderson (Rivers)  Aaron Chipelski (North Rep)  Jolene Lowes ( Elkorn)  Mallory Foullard (Tri-Valley)  Jessa Stowe (Birtle)  Whitney Cottingham (Birtle)  Marueen Twovoice (Wayway)  Dale Martin (Shoal Lake)  Eric Bjornson (Erickson)  Greg Griffiths (Erickson)  Matt Saler (Minnedosa)  Mike Lamb (Minnedosa)  Wyatt Rapsky (RIC)  Mike Couvier (west rep)  Mike Collyer (East rep)  Brian Armitage (Miniota)  Brett Hunter (RMFHL) |  |

1. **Call to Order**
   1. Director Kaliegh Kyle called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.
2. **Minutes**
   1. Minutesof the April 17, 2024, Spring Meeting, were confirmed to have been read by all in attendance by the Secretary.
   2. **MOTION:** Brian Armitage/Lance Henderson
   3. “That minutes of the April 17, 2024, Spring Meeting be adopted as presented.”
   4. **MOTION CARRIED**
3. **Reports**

**Directors Report** –

* + - * + MEH – was defeated at the spring agm
        + No Season Opener this year in Winnipeg it will be virtual September 28, 2024 as the cost was too high

- There was a special meeting called by the President of Hockey Manitoba June 17 with three items on the agenda.

• Fee adjustment for the Hockey Manitoba Appeals.

• A review on the status of the Hockey Manitoba Season Opener.

• Discussion on a possible fee adjustment of the Hockey Manitoba Membership Fee

* + - * + Hockey Manitoba raised the price of appeals from $157.50 to $300 due to large volume of appeals in recent years
        + Once we know the date of the governance review we will be looking for opinions for the MHA’s as well as the board.
        + Constitutions are Due October 1st if you have not already sent to Yellowhead. It was decided to send to Yellowhead over Hockey Mb so it does not get missed.
        + Mentioned everyone on this board are volunteers like you so give us time to find out the answers have the discussion and get back to everyone. Along with being able to enjoy watching our kids play hockey and not being cornered every time we walk in a rink.

**Vice Director (Female Hockey) Report** – Provided by Logn McGonical

* + - * + U18 AAA. Had a good year last year. Lost to the Ice in the semi finals. this year numbers are really low. Final cuts to be made tonight. There were 26 kids sign up 4 goalies and 22 skaters. Team will be cut down to 9 or 10 forwards 6 D and 2 goalies
        + U15 AAA. Tryouts went great. Had 27 kids attend. 2 goalies 6 d and 18 forwards. Team will consist of 9 or 10 forwards, 6 d and 2 goalies. First cuts have been made. Down to 12 forwards 6 d and 2 goalies. U15 Have confirmed 2 travel tourneys one in Kindersley SK and one in Blaine MN. Head coach Tori Murphy Assistant coaches Sydney Murray and Karli Frederick
        + Cuts from yellowhead have been given the option to be released to attend Brandon U15 AAA Female tryouts for the purpose of team formation only as Brandon has 14 kids signed up for tryouts only 12 skaters

***NOTE:  In conversation after meeting it should be noted that although AAA U18 numbers are low the U18 female numbers of girls continuing to play from Yellowhead in the RMFHL is 38 which combined is around 60 girls in our region ages 16-18 playing U18 hockey. This is a fantastic number to see.***

**Vice Director (Development) Report** – Provided by Alison Swereda

* + - * + Successful condition camp but the numbers were lower than previous year, 115 players and 20 goalies
        + U15AAA Tryouts had 51 male registered last year 58
        + U18 AAA – 52 Registered, last year 48
        + Will be doing AA program again for the kids that don’t make AAA u15

**Treasurer** – Provided by Andrea Smith

* + 1. Andrea Smith presented the Income and Expense report
    2. **MOTION:** Alison Swereda, Marla Steen
       1. “That the Financial Statement from April 16, 2024 – August 31, 2024, be adopted as presented.”
       2. **MOTION CARRIED**
  1. Coaching Coordinator Report – Provided by Marla Steen
     + - * Registration is open to all for online courses
         * We are looking at mentorship training program for coaches
         * Applied for ‘We are Coaches” for remale coach development
         * Rivers is having an inperson coach clinic 1 on November 17, 2024
  2. Referee Coordinator Report – Provided by Josh Tait
     + - * Ref 1 & 2 Clinics set for this year:

Neepawa - September 29th

Rivers - October 6th

Hamiota - October 26th

Minnedosa - November 3rd

Birtle October 2nd (in class) - positive feedback was brought forward from last year, and they are happy to open it up to surrounding schools.

* + - * + Official shortage - 80 (2023) to  70 (2024) I feel like this number is a little on the lower side but this is what hockey mb provided me.

- Fee Structure - same as last year and to be used by each MHA – See Attached.

- Incentives - Again, working on a draw for a skate with AHL and WHL officials at a selected game

- Mentorship & Supervision - This was a big topic of discussion and more associations should have officials supervising

- Show cases - Male Oct 4-6 & Female Dec 6-8. $75/official, would this be something the region would be willing to cover if we had any interested officials attend?

- Game Reports - Through HCR

- Discussed covering fees for officials - up to each MHA

1. **New Business:**
2. Provincial Play in – Aaron asked Kaileigh to look into when the Matrix will expire; she will work on extending it if that is the case. See Attached

Even though MHA’s voted on the format for last season it ended up that MHA’s weren’t entirely happy with the outcome.

This will be discussed at the December meeting

b) U13 Regional Development Program - Kaileigh apologized on behalf of board for sending a condensed version of the program, See Attached for full slide

-Currently there have been a total of 51 kids sign up 42 male and 9 female

- Last year’s Yellowhead : U13 numbers were 90 male and 56 females

- We have currently been working on some ice and trying to get it different parts of the region so that it cuts down on driving

- If we go ahead with this the next steps will be finding a Coach development person and then open up an application for coaches to fall under the Coach development person t to help with the weekly practices and tournaments as this 1 individual can’t be at everything at once.

- There have been concern brought forward and some questions I don’t have the answers for until it is trialed and reviewed.

 Keep any questions coming forward!

*Discussion during meeting:  Finding that other regions are not pushing forward on this Pilot even though earlier in summer were all for it. It was decided that Yellowhead will email Hockey Manitoba stating that if at least 4 regions have not joined by September 20th then we will be not following through with the program we will then try to offer a weekly skate with different instructors throughout the region as there was a good amount of interest.*

c) **DAREN BRYANT/ALISON SWEREDA – MATRIX FUNDING**

Yellowhead Hockey Regional Support Program – Investing in our kids!   (As previously discussed at numerous board meetings and AGM’s)  A**ttached is some framework, this is still in Draft form and we will continue to finalize what percentages will be used each year**

**Some items/ideas we are working on are:**

1. Grassroots hockey initiative – Get in the game.  As discussed in several previous meetings, we need more grassroots players playing the game.  Not all parents are hockey people like us.  It’s important to go back to grassroots ourselves and do more to sell and promote all the positive aspects of the sport of hockey. See**ATTACHMENT**.  The goals are to get it to all schools within our region, K to grade 4.  If it encourages even 5 kids to sign up, perfect.  Printing quotes have been provided.  We will get them to schools shortly.
2. Coaches – looking at getting a guest speaker to come in and do a session with coaches
3. Referee initiative – free whistles for all refs, as well if any ref would like to attend either showcase in Winnipeg we will look at help covering the cost of this.
4. U13 Regional Development Pilot- Keeping the cost on the lower end so more kids will hopefully be interested and can attend.
5. High Performance imitative –

D) **YCCC Report – Daren**

YCCC is going well.  Quarterly meeting held in July with the next one planned for the end of Sept or early Oct.  All 4 teams/Group is communicating.  Managers are focused on camp.  Please go to the [www.yellowheadhockey.ca](http://www.yellowheadhockey.ca/) website to review all documents that have been created to help streamline and support the Chief program.

e) **South Rep - Daren**

Yellowhead Hockey Social media is going well with the hired person.   $35/hour rate.  This becomes very efficient when the content and direction is being provided by us, and EMJ manages the design and posting.  Our first invoice has been received.   Expect a $2 to $3000 yearly budget on this.

This also includes the website being more current and having meeting minutes posted for anyone to review.

The constitution is going to be reviewed and make sure current as last updated 2019

F) **Land Acknowledgement Update**

 Yellowhead Hockey – Puckboard Proposal Draft – as follow up from our spring AGM. We have been working with Carla Gambler in getting this project completed and into rinks. **See Attached**

**G) Rep Reports**

North Rep – Aaron  No comments

East Rep – Mike Collyer – Make sure you use your reps and the right flow of communication See Attached

West Rep- Mike Couvier – Even though no kids in minor hockey he still enjoys to volunteer time to the region and sports.

**KNOW YOUR REPS**

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| **North Rep** | **Aaron Chipelski** | **yhdnorthrep@gmail.com** | **Tri Valley** | **Wayway** | **Shoal Lake** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **South Rep** | **Daren Bryant** | **yhdsouthrep@gmail.com** | **Rivers** | **Hamiota** | **Virden (N)**  **Carberry (N)** |
| **East Rep** | **Mike Collyer** | **yhdeastrep@gmail.com** | **EOS** | **Minnedosa** | **Neepawa** |
| **West Rep** | **Mike Couvier** | **yhdwestrep@gmail.com** | **Birtle** | **Elkhorn** | **Miniota** |

Round Table

Brady Waddell – mentioned that a monthly zoom meeting with officials in our region may help younger kids ask questions of scenarios, that might have happened. As well as even the old guys as he had just experienced something he had never seen before. This was well received and the board will let Josh know to get implemented.

It was asked why Hockey Manitoba gave Brandon the exemption to allow U15 AAA girls who were cut to come try out for their team as they only had 12 sign up .Our own regions numbers for AAA were not a large number therefore making house league teams tougher to buil. There could be a possibility of Yellowhead house league teams losing more girls to help another region and possibly cutting our own house league teams. Kaileigh will follow up with Logan and Hockey Manitoba

**MOTION:** Jolene Lowes/Marla Steen

* + - 1. “To Pay Hamiota $150 for the use of the hall for our meeting”
      2. **MOTION CARRIED**

1. **Next Meeting & Adjournment**
   1. **NEXT MEETING –** December 11, 2024, /Hamiota Hall
   2. **Adjourned** by Kaileigh Kyle at 9:00 PM

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Kaileigh Kyle , Director Andrea Smith, Secretary-Treasurer