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|  | **Wasaga Beach Minor Hockey Association** |
| February 13th, 2025 |
| Executive Meeting Minutes |

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| **Executive Member** | **Position** | **Attendance** |
| Erin Pozzebon | President | P |
| Kara Vickrey | Vice President | Joined via phone: 6:44 pm, left 7:08 pm |
| Laura Risk | Treasurer | P |
| Andrea Adam | Secretary | P |
| Katie Duncan | Director of Registration | P |
| Brighty Risk | Director of Representative & Silver Stick | P |
| VACANT | Director of Local League | NA |
| Jodi Petitpas | Director of Sponsorship & Fundraising | P |
| Marc Petitpas | Director of Equipment | P, left 8:57 |
| Matt Paine | Director of Coaching | P. left 9:43 |
| Ashley Eby | Director of Parent Representation | P |
| Erin Beresford | Director of Risk Management/Trainers/Diversity and Inclusiveness | P arrived 6:49 pm, left 8:57 |
| Stephanie Thorne | Director of Social Media | A |
| Tony Markic | Director at Large | A |
| Chris Underwood | Director of U7 | A |
| Ryan Thompson | Referee Scheduler | A |
| VACANT | Food & Beverage Manager | NA |

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| **CALL TO ORDER** |  |
| **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the February 13th General Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Wasaga Beach Minor Hockey Association is in session at 6:42 pm. |
| **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** |  |
| **Moved by:** Marc Petitpas**Second By:** Jodi Petitpas**Motion Approved:** all in favour 8-0-0 |
| **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** | From January 14th meeting |
| **Moved by:** Jodi Petitpas**Second By:** Katie Duncan**Motion Approved:** all in favour 8-0-0 |
| **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** | From January 20th meeting |
| **Moved by:** Laura Risk**Second By:** Katie Duncan**Motion Approved:** all in favour 8-0-0 |
| **REPORTS** |  |
| **President’s Report*** Erin P. received a phone call last week from Chris Roos, Director of Recreation for the Town of Wasaga Beach. Minor hockey became a topic of convo at the last council meeting with insinuations that minor hockey is failing, despite increased registration, no ice cancellations etc.
	+ Apparently someone was telling mayor and council that we may not survive next year.
	+ Chris asked Erin to provide him with the last three years of our registration numbers along with a bunch of other information.
	+ No one from the town has ever reached out to ask us about this or have a conversation. Is this even any of their business? We are simply a paying customer and we are not governed by the town.
	+ Collingwood Girls’ Hockey is looking to be a top priority here at the arena. River Dragons have top priority, then WBMHA and figure skating, then Collingwood Girls’ Hockey.
	+ Collingwood Minor Hockey is also asking to be a priority and Midland wants to use our arena for tryouts.
	+ They think we’re failing, but they’re very supportive of us and will do anything to help us out.
* Erin B & Marc suggested sending in an “executive summary” with qualitative answers to their questions.
* Chris also asked about girls hockey and wanting to create a girls hockey league: could create an all-girls U7 team?
	+ We could, but they would play co-ed OMHA teams. They would not be eligible to play in the WMHA.
* Discussion with Adam at OMHA regarding additional teams with open boarders. Specifically, what Collingwood is doing.
	+ Are they allowed AA, A, BB, B and LL? No, unless you apply to have additional teams and can prove there is a gap in your programming.
	+ Why would Collingwood be allowed B teams if other B centres around them can provide this? Adam says he has not received any applications from Collingwood for additional teams.
	+ There is not suddenly going to be an influx of teams around us. Clearview, Collingwood, and even Elmvale have ice issues.
	+ We did apply for BB in U15 and U18: hopefully we find out in the next few weeks.
	+ Because WBMHA does not have U13 and U15 LLthis year, we will still get to have them next year. This is status quo.
	+ For Collingwood, they broke down what they had in A category, one B, and one BB team. The U15B team could move up to U16 with those players, but that doesn’t mean a U15 team would replace them. They can leave it where it is (U15B), or they can move it up with the players (U16B), but that is it.
	+ Adam says they have not asked for any B teams but they cannot field them anyway because they don’t have the ice.
* Erin P. has applied for an Oreo equipment grant: there are two options: a $25,000 equipment grant and then there are 14 $10,000 grants.
	+ We won’t know anything until mid-May. They purchase everything and we tell them what we need and want.
	+ Should we receive something like this, we need to set up an inventory system to track everything.
* Applied for first-shift program which closes in mid-March: centres will know by mid-April. This is an introductory program 6 weeks to introduce new families to hockey. Bauer completely outfits the players for hockey, but there is minimal cost to parents.
	+ They ask us to have the practices at the same time every week, for the six weeks. Up to 40 kids.
	+ There are 3 seasons: fall, winter, and spring. Erin applied for Fall as she thought this was our best bet in terms of scheduling.
* LL matchups came out this week, all those games are now scheduled. Round robin is 8 games, 4 away, 4 home, and must be complete by March 9th.
* Nothing else to report
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| **Registrar Report*** Nothing to report
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| **Treasurer Report*** Updated budget is about 90% complete. Should be sending via email hopefully Monday and will include known future expenses.
* Nothing else to report.
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| **OMHA Report*** League wants to assure us that ref is in charge. Investigates all complaints.
* Rule of thumb: it goes through representative and then to him.
* There’s been discrimination/disrespect penalty mix-ups in older age groups
* Registration for next year: there will be a webinar from OHF for new changes. Not sure what this looks like yet.
* U9 pilot is being discussed. OMHA is discussing changes to U9 with Hockey Canada re: introduction to full ice. Different options being explored.
* Heads up on player movement: there will be a lot of contracts for players playing rep elsewhere. They will be held accountable to player contracts. You are bound once you sign it, you cannot change teams after this. Junior (U18) is an exception.
* Everyone on the board should be reading up on the open borders: there’s going to be tampering issues and we need to be aware of what this looks like. Violations of tampering policies go back to the association.
	+ Our coaching interviews this year must include a question on tampering rules.
	+ Other centres around us are talking about putting limits on out-of-town players for next year. Whatever we decide our policy is on this, we need to be fully transparent so players trying out will understand the rules.
* We received a fine for $30 for a team not putting in a suspension soon enough.
* Nothing else to report.
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| **Silver Stick Report*** Submitted financials, looked very profitable. Approximately $23,000 in gross profit, excluding concessions, vendors, etc.
* Looking at Silver Stick dates for next year.
* Hoping to keep the same set up next year but to be determined.
* Nothing else to report.
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| **GBTLL Report*** We have the U9 tournament coming. Erin has notified parents that they will need to volunteer their time for this.
* LL & Rep, we received $1,000 for our mementos. Going to buy hats for all star games in April.
* LL playoffs start this weekend and must have completed all eight games by March 9th.
* This is the first year that LL has done reseeding. Mostly well received with only a few bumps along the way.
* Insurance fees will be going up to $61 per on ice participant for Hockey Canada next year.
* Nothing else to report
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| **Risk Management Report*** Reminders have gone out to trainers around injury reporting: they are on their logs, but if there is an incident/injury, a report must be filled out.
* Example: someone fell, hit head and cut their head, but not at hockey. Stitches were needed was the only information given. Then parent said no, they never fell, they scraped their head walking past a pole.
	+ There’s a grey area re: asking for information that didn’t happen at the arena/association activity. If we do know about it, we need a written policy that regardless of if the injury took place while playing hockey or outside of hockey, if it could affect your play, you may be asked to get a doctor’s note.
		- If we’re requesting it, should we pay for it?
	+ Can we update the language around return to play to outline what happens for injuries incurred on and off the ice?
* Erin B. has encountered some risky situations that we don’t have policies on and we should have some to protect ourselves: related to alcohol consumption and child protection.
* Nothing else to report.
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| **Coaches Report*** Have used up all funds allocated to goalie clinics: Blaire has offered half rate to go out to team practices, and we have utilized that as much as possible.
* Matt has also interviewed some people to do power skating for younger age groups. Matt is trying to get this up and running ASAP for U5-U7 age groups.
* With Blaire having used all approved funding, motion to approve more funding to finish the season (see below)
* Nothing else to report.
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| **Fundraising Report*** Trying to finish up sponsor puck drops for any sponsors who want it. U21 sponsor has requested it. Only game is on the 21st and Jodi is waiting to hear back if that works for him.
* Proposed comedy event back in November, there hasn’t been good venue availability. Starting to feel like this would be better as a kick-off to next season’s fundraising.
* Two sponsorship cheques are still outstanding: Jodi to follow up with sponsors.
* If we want to include sponsorship revenue for amalgamation presentation: we’ve raised $32,000 - $33,000 this year.
* Nothing else to report.
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| **Equipment Report*** Jersey letters received from Rick; Marc can let teams know if they need them, they are available. If not, he’ll save them for next year.
* Marc took a photo of U9 LL door magnet, which was an approved use of our logo: they look great! Marc waiting to hear about pricing on this as an option for all teams moving forward.
* Nothing else to report.
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| **Parent Rep Report*** Nothing to report.
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| **Vice President’s Report*** Nothing to report.
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| **NEW BUSINESS** |  |
| **Amalgamation/Restructuring*** Small group met last Monday to discuss how to present this to the membership
* Kara put together PowerPoint presentation for Townhall
* Kara did a lot of research for this to give a clear understanding of the difference between amalgamation and reorganization
	+ Start with season recap, difference between amalgamation and reorganization
	+ Reorganization: keep LL separate
	+ Amalgamation: everything all in together
	+ Advantages and disadvantages of Amalgamation vs reorganization
	+ Considerations: lower registration numbers across Ontario, not just WBMHA
	+ Many associations have amalgamated/reorganized because of this
	+ We are really strong in u5-u7 and anticipated to keep this growing
	+ Premium ice time is available to meet out needs
	+ Positioned nicely for increased registration over next several years: new high schools, Costco, etc. will bring jobs and new families
	+ Long and positive relationship with the town: Fill-a-Helmet LOVE
	+ Collingwood obviously has ice time issues
	+ Follow with Q&A: discussion, NOT a debate, everyone must remain respectful.
	+ Take an informal vote by show of hands to continue discussions on amalgamation/reorganization with Collingwood and Clearview
		- This is supposed to be an introduction; an overview of the information discussed.
* Erin B. is concerned that with only one meeting, short ten days of notice, no virtual option, etc. we may not get the turn out we need to gauge interest amongst the membership
* Considerations: we get a discount (grant) from the town for our Ice which we do not know if the town would continue to offer this discount (grant) if we amalgamate with these other centres and form a new organization.
* U7 Jamboree this weekend: no unmet volunteer needs
* Banquet is set for April 13th
* AGM is set for April 27th

**TRYOUTS*** If we’re going to offer Spring tryouts they must be held:
* **May 3 – May 9th for U 11 /13** ice booked for May 3, 5 & 6th
* **May 5 -May 11 for u 15/18** ice booked for May 5, 6 & 10th
* If we do not run Spring tryouts, we cannot run tryouts until Sept 6th.
* IF we run Spring tryouts, we have to have a prep phase in March and April. Then we can do Spring programming with team based development 1-2 times per week. Sanction required.
	+ We can then also run summer skills training August 11th – 29th. Must be sanctioned and registration is required through HCR.
	+ If teams are already created, they can start practicing the week before labour day and can play 4 exhibition games or 2 games and a pre-season tournament in September.
* We can do tryouts in May and allow coaches to reserve a certain number of spots for fall tryouts, but there’s a cost because we then have to provide four warm up skates to them in September.
* Mandatory pre-skates have been booked tentatively for March 31, April 5, 12, and 13th.
* If we want to run Spring skates, Mondays in May and June is all that’s available.
* Aug 11, 14, 18, 19, 21, 25 on hold for pre-season skills and drills again. If we want Dan to run them again, we should book him in now.
* Want to have a discussion about u21 and whether we continue that as part of our programming, it has been a bit of a thorn in our side this year.
	+ Is this worth continuing and, if so, how can we turn this around a little bit? These guys are just being way too aggressive out there.
	+ We have several players on repeat suspensions again and again.
	+ Would it be better if we put them in the rep loop where hitting is allowed and maybe we’d get more committed players who are capable of playing at that level?
		- To discuss at the next meeting so we can plan for registration.
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| **MOTIONS** |  |
| 1. Motion to offer half price registration for all goalies for U11 and up.
* Discussion: this came about regarding amalgamation, in order to retain talent, especially with our trouble retaining goalies in our upper age divisions. What are the parameters? If you play out at all, do you pay the remainder? We should look at what other centres are doing to make a determination on our approach.
* Moved: Katie Duncan
* Second: Matt Paine
* Vote: Did not pass, 0-7-0
1. Motion to reduce $200 registration for all U5-U7 registrants.
* Discussion: registration is currently $310. The value they’re getting is incremental to others. Are we planning to offer the same program for this lesser registration cost? There are no other kids’ programs around that are a 6 month season, two nights a week. Ours is $310, which is cheaper than some others such as Elmvale at approx. $500. Can we break it down into two separate sessions? Sept – Dec and Jan – Mar? Matt to speak with U5 coach to get an idea of attendance on a weekly basis. Can we offer once weekly? Less of a time commitment for parents.
* Moved: Katie Duncan
* Second: Ashley Eby
* Vote: deferred to next meeting
1. Motion to hold a town hall discussion for association members and present the PowerPoint with information about amalgamation/reorganization as presented to the board.
* Moved: Katie Duncan
* Second: Matt Paine
* Vote: all in favour, 7-0-0
1. Motion to approve up to $900 for coach Blaire to continue goalie clinics.
* Moved: Matt Paine
* Second: Ashley Eby
* Vote: all in favour, 9-0-0
1. Motion to approve up to $900 for Power Skating clinics for U5 – U9 LL age group.
* Moved: Matt Paine
* Second: Marc Petitpas
* Vote: all in favour, 9-0-0
1. Motion to hold Spring tryouts for 25-26 season May 3 – 11th.
* Moved: Brighty Risk
* Second: Ashley Eby
* Vote: all in favour, 6-0-0
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| **AJOURNMENT** |  10:02 pm |
| Moved: Katie DuncanSecond: Jodi PetitpasVote: all in favour, 6-0-0 |
| **NEXT MEETING** | Will take place on Monday, March 17th in the Rotary Room of the Wasaga Stars Arena |