

**Comox Valley Minor Hockey Association
December 17, 2024 Executive Minutes**

Attendance: Jason Rae (President), Luisa Perry (1st Vice), Todd Brown (Asst to 1st Vice), Lance Petty (2nd Vice), Tish Kristensen (Asst to 2nd Vice/Rep Director), Andrew Robb (Director at Large), Trevor Pritoula (Director at Large), Beth Matthews (Secretary), Matt MacDonald (Treasurer) Melissa Berrigan (Ice Coordinator), Cam Knox (Coach Coordinator), Claire Hughson (Female Coordinator), Simon Morgan (Registrar)

Regrets: Jacob Hill (RIC)

Call To Order: 6:33 PM

Additions to Agenda: None

Adoption of Agenda: Trevor Pritoula/Tish Kristensen **All in favor**

Approval of November 19 Minutes: Trevor Pritoula/Tish Kristensen **All in favor**

Motion in between meetings:

Motion: Luisa Perry/ Lance Petty: To accept the recommendation by the interview committee to appoint Todd Brown as the Assistant to 1st Vice (one year term)

All in Favor

Outstanding Items: None

President:

Looked into what has been transpired with the board on the stairs as everything has been taken down and have had a discussion with CVRD.

Request sent in from U18 – there was a game where a player was unconscious. Have asked Jacob to send in senior referees in future games.

At the end of the year the executive will be getting new teams emails.

Registrar:

Governance meeting attended on November 27 – will be great to make introductions. Live Barn – Got a hold of Live Barn, however CVRD is installing cameras for security purposes.

CVRD is trying to find ways to fix the Internet issues.

Female development was created by Cam and was run independently. Since CVMHA has taken over there is insurance required and a roster submitted.

BC Hockey June 6-7 – have booked three rooms. Topics include discipline, non-sanctioned leagues.

Parent respect in sport has been completed.

U21 – one player has been moved down to U18 and the other player quit.

Failed payments – five people have not paid.

Migration from First Shift – approximately 5 into other divisions and 8 into female development.

Raffles have been wrapped up – net around \$3000 down from \$15000 last year.

Financial support has been asked for by a player and wants to travel to a tournament.

May want to look into having a fund for these requests at the Budget meeting.

AGM will be held in five months.

Signing authorities are being changed.

Ice Allocator:

Canucks Day was great and the players had an amazing time.

Makeup session for First Shift being held on January 4th at Glacier Gardens.

Tournaments have all been scheduled. Teams cannot play back-to-back games in tournaments.

Sticks have been handed out for silent auction for team tournaments.

If there is pick up ice over the Christmas break the team will be billed for the ice.

Coach coordinator:

Working through coaching certifications.

Practice plans have been going well and well received. Some have been adjusted and tailored to the age group.

Have a January play off meeting planned.

REP Director:

U13 and U15 are having their tournaments over the Christmas break.

U13 T1 raised \$2000 towards Hockey Fights Cancer this past weekend.

Best of threes starts on January 25/26 weekend.

U13 T1 is hosting Provincials in Campbell River.

Female Coordinator:

Would be helpful to provide more context to the team around the extra costs.

The Female development had to pay for their own socks and fundraise for their jerseys.

Feel that the association should be more transparent with regards to fees, tracking ice per team, games per team, etc.

Think that the female U11 female development should be offered \$100 per player in refund. No motion made.

Melissa: Tried to foster the development of the female development program.

Luisa: Has been tracking these things over the past two years – wanting to use it at the budget meeting (re: fees).

Andrew: Suggestion to take one ice from the female recreation groups that are already getting more ice than most rec teams.

RIC:

U7 Jamboree:

Referee Assignor has completed acquiring volunteer officials for U7 Jamboree. This is a great opportunity for young kids to get experience. All that is required is dropping a puck and blowing whistle for goals. Most years in the past officials have received gift cards for the time. There will be ten different officials that work the games for the gift cards. Eighteen total games with a single official per game.

U11B Tournament:

Fully assigned with more senior officials. This will hopefully allow for our younger officials to get more experience and feel comfortable. Contacted tournament coordinator for possibility for food and drink for officials. If there are any suspension questions to reach out to RIC for clarification required. Jeremy Walker has agreed to supervise the first day of the tournament, I will be between both tournaments. Mentors Kevin Thompson and Adam Pitcher are out of town during Christmas break.

U21 Tournament:

RIC will be personally assigning this tournament. I will be the main point of contact for this tournament and spending most days there. With all the extra recruiting completed and people coming home for the holidays, there will be lots of new officials. These officiating crews are highly experienced, and I expect any problem players will be handled swiftly. As we know a lot of these players are adults and in their last year, any types of suspensions to them may seem null and void to them. Player safety is paramount, and all officials are on heightened alert for issues in the NON-BODY CHECKING tournament.

NHL Officials Night

An exciting opportunity has come our way for the North Island officials. Canucks Officiating Nights, whereby four officials will be on the ice to skate the opening laps with NHL officials and take part in the national anthem ceremony. All officials are provided with two tickets, one for the official, and one for a parent or guardian. Additional tickets are available for purchase when the Canucks reach out to the officials to confirm attendance. They provide more details (example, time to arrive, parking instructions, seating arrangements, etc) when they reach out ahead of the game. The date of the game is March 9, 2025. To note - officials are not provided compensation for travel, hotels, or any other incurred expenses for this event. This is for officials 18 years of age and under. Please send me an email reply with the official's full name if they are interested in entering this draw contest. The associations included in this draw are: Tri-Port, CR, Comox, Powell River, Oceanside, Port Alberni and Nanaimo. Names will go into 4 different buckets and 1 official from each bucket will be the winner of the draw.

Pick 1: Tri-Port and CR

Pick 2: Comox and PR

Pick 3: Oceanside and Alberni Valley

Pick 4: Nanaimo

To avoid a conflict of interest with CRH we have been added to the PR pool.

BC HOCKEY HIGH PERFORMANCE FEMALES

We are creating a shortlist of female and non-binary officials who are on the pathway towards BC Hockey's female high performance program. Ideal candidates must identify as female or non-binary, and should meet the following criteria:

- Age 14-24
- Regularly works U13/U15 rep hockey or higher
- Shows an interest in progressing in officiating
- Has an interest in working female hockey

1st Vice:

Have been handing out pictures, however am waiting for the other half of the orders. Working on schedules for various exhibition games – 7 games to complete the rotation. Powell River will not be picking the associations that will be participating in the All-Stars tournament until January.

Had a discipline meeting to hear what happened at Goalie development. Apologies will be occurring by the players.

Buddy Check for Jesse swag was all handed out to the teams. Email to be sent out as a reminder. May want to focus next year over the course of a weekend to bring more awareness to Buddy Check for Jesse.

Discussion around AP's attending practices and how fees are being collected.

Assistant to 1st Vice: Nothing to report

2nd Vice:

Sponsorship update – highlighted all the platinum sponsors on social media.
Sent a message to Simon thanking all volunteers and highlighting all the sponsors.
Will be working on getting team photos with business logos on them.
Having major website issues and trouble connecting with Randi.
Sent out an email to sponsors letting them know the issues we are having with our website. Think an IT person is needed for our OPS.
Looking for ideas for the cabinet spaces.
Have a cheque that needs to be deposited – Simon to deposit.

Assistant to 2nd Vice: Nothing to report

Treasurer:

Signing is in progress – will be able to approve things soon.
Reminder to cc the treasurer in all emails.

Directors at Large:

Trevor:

Have been looking at streaming options – may be a YouTube option available.
First Shift has been going really well. Will be sending out an option about continuing to play in the association – can sign up until February 10.

Andrew:

Put together an injury prevention/concussion information session for our members.
Would be a 15-20 minutes geared toward parents and provide education.
Could coordinate with the coaches meeting potentially and invite parents and safeties.

Adjourn: 9:09PM

Next Meeting: Tuesday January 21 @ 6:30 (SC1 Aquarium)

To U11 Female Development Families,

Thank you for submitting your letter and for bringing your team concerns forward to the association. We understand this U11 Female Development team is new this year and the extra rep fee has become a source of dissension within the parent group and with the association.

The CVMHA board met last week to discuss your letter and concerns brought forward.

We went through your concerns point by point and will address them here:

Rep Teams use more ice with 2 single team practices/week:

⌚ Unfortunately, the U11 FD team came in after ice allocation was placed for the season, single team ice could not be accommodated

⌚ Because of this, extra available ice is being offered to the U11 Female Development's head coach and manager, the team has already received multiple extra ice times above other Lightning teams, rep and house, at no extra charge

o When this extra ice is used as an exhibition game, this includes the official's fees (more information below on this)

⌚ Bears teams have early morning, weekday practices, these ice times have a lower cost than afternoon "Prime Time" ice slots that Lightning has been allocated this season

⌚ If the U11 Female Development team would like single team practices, this can be worked out with the U11 rec Lightning team with the ice allocated to them

⌚ U11 Coed house receives only one practice and one game/ week of shared ice, Lightning has 2 practices/week

⌚ On-Ice minutes are being tracked per team/player this season, that information will be used to reallocate ice as we continue with this season and into next season

Rep Fees go towards jersey purchases:

⌚ This is not the case, many rep families purchase their own team jerseys for the season

Rep fees go towards higher administration costs – the U11 FD team takes no extra admin management than house/rec:

⌚ There are extra fees and costs associated with rep teams both at the VIAHA and CVMHA level

o VIAHA rep fee is \$750/ team + \$75 carding fee

o CVMHA has associated costs for extra ice allocation, rep coordinator and higher-level administration, these are paid positions, these representatives are used in a larger capacity with rep teams in general

o The coaching coordinator, a paid position, has a more involved role to play with rep teams to ensure coaches are meeting and following the guidelines and credentials set forth by Hockey Canada

Subsidized Travel:

⌚ There is no subsidized travel for any teams/coaches within the association

Cost for the Rep teams are higher – U11 FD coaching staff and admin are all volunteer:

⌚ Referee fees are higher in rep games, the VIAHA Game Officials Compensation

Table is linked below, U11 Development officials fees are under the rep compensation, minus \$5 per official:

o house/rec games have 2 officials (one ref and one linesperson) on the ice for a total officiating cost of \$66 per game

o Rep games, specifically U11 Development, have 3 officials (one ref and two linespersons) on the ice, they are paid \$5 less each than the U13 rep officials, for a total officiating cost of \$120 per game

2024-2025_VIAHA_Policy_Manual.pdf Policy 7.14, Page 78

⌚ Only Tier 1 non-parent coaches are paid within the association, and this is paid by the team, it does not come out of the association rep fee, all other rep/house/female coaches are volunteer

Your concern and accusation of gender disparity and structural discrimination is a tough pill to

swallow for the association board. The Female Development program has been running at a deficit to the association for 6 years in order to get the female program on it's feet, we are only

now starting to see a return on investment. Also, the association board scrambled to

accommodate the female teams last year, late to the table for ice and space, and worked hard to

integrate the new program teams into the already existing system. The Lightning teams have

been receiving 2 practices and 1 game/week, this is more ice than our coed house teams receive. Furthermore, Lightning recreational players have the opportunity to also dual roster –

giving our female players double the opportunities and ice time that our male players receive.

The only division within our association that is gender exclusive is the female program. We

realize this does not pertain specifically to this U11 Female Development team but we want you

to be aware of where we are coming from on this.

After going through your concerns as a group, we had some good discussions about how the rep Bears Program, the female Lightning Program and the house Flyer Program run within our

Minor Hockey Association. We do see that this U11 Female Development team is not receiving

quite the same resources per player as the rep Bears players in this unique, transition season.

We would like to offer the families on this team a one-time partial refund of the rep fee of \$100/player. We feel this is a fair compromise and allows the team and the association to move

forward together to continue to provide a positive environment for our players this season and

make an effort to bring any future female rep teams up to par with our integrated rep teams.

Thank you again for bringing your concerns to our attention, we hope this response helps to clarify the use of the rep fees within both CVMHA and VIAHA, and can allow your team to move

forward with the season with a more positive outlook.

Sincerely,

Claire Hughson, Female Coordinator

On behalf of the CVMHA Executive:

Jason Rae – President

Luisa Perry – First Vice

Lance Petty – Second Vice

Tish Christianson – Assistant to Second Vice

Beth Matthews- Secretary

Matt McDonald - Treasurer

Trevor Pritoula –Director at Large

Andrew Robb – Director At Large