



Junior Council Meeting

January 18-19, 2019
Canad Inns Polo Park

In attendance:

Ashley Fergusson, Kim Davis, Cliff Malzensky (CRJHL), Ray Liang (HTJHL), Murray Allen (MMJHL), Ed Albert (KJHL),

1. Call to order: 9:07am

Motion: Ray Liang/Murray Allen

CARRIED

2. Update league constitution submissions

Reminder that all leagues must submit their updated constitutions each season. These should be submitted to the Hockey Manitoba office by December 1st. This assists the branch in ensuring that all leagues are in compliance with the Hockey Manitoba/Hockey Canada regulations.

3. Protocol for player movement - Release agreements

It is important to establish a process for the movement of players between leagues. This is happening prior to the formation of teams and then also throughout the season. Players are always allowed to go to a higher level however there needs to be communication about this. If players from MMJHL/Junior B are trying out with the other league they must notify the previous team. Should the team wish to sign the player a written release would be required. Player movement can also occur at roster deadlines that can dramatically effects the lower level team.

Murray Allen suggested that there be a fee for the higher level teams that take a player at the deadline. The drawback from this is it has t be agreed upon on all levels.

The branch hesitates to get involved with these types of disputes until necessary. It is always encouraged that it is resolved at the league level.

For clarification:

- During the tryout process - if a player is trying out for a higher level team that team must communicate this (in writing) to the previous team. If a player is trying out for a lower level team that team must receive permission (in writing) from the higher level team.
- When players are moving during the season, that player cannot be contacted by any team other than that which he is property of until permission has been granted by his registered team. Any other team/league that has interest in the player in questions must contact the team first before contacting the player. Otherwise this shall be considered tampering and dealt with accordingly.

There was discussion and clarification on the need for written releases.

4. Affiliation agreements

Ashley clarified the regulations surrounding affiliation regulations and the submission of affiliation agreements.

Junior C expressed concerns that they have a limited number of players to access as APs and they are now being scooped up as MMJHL APs. APs are also a recruitment tool. They request that the regulation be changed to allow players to AP to both leagues.

Motion: Ray Liang/Murray Allen

CARRIED

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No player is permitted to be part of more than one specially affiliated player list at any one time during the current season. **EXCEPTION:** Players may be allowed to be part of multiple affiliation player lists with only one of the affiliated Junior teams' divisions leading to a regional or national championship.

Rationale: This would allow players to AP to both MMJHL and Junior C.

5. Supplementary insurance increase

There will be increase for supplementary insurance for Junior teams. The increase to the MJHL, Junior B and Junior C will be \$20. The increase for the MMJHL will be \$10.

Hockey Canada also provides extended dental coverage. The cost is approximately \$12 per player and would provide you with an addition \$25,000. This is a choice and something that should be presented to the league as an option.

Ashley will send out information on the supplementary increase and the extended dental coverage.

6. Face masks

Some junior leagues throughout Canada are moving to full face masks. This would be first and foremost for player safety but it also helps to cut costs for insurance. This is something that is brewing at the Hockey Canada level and could eventually become mandatory, with that said it would not be something that comes into play for a few years.

10. League updates

KJHL - Ed Albert has been elected as president of the league and has stepped down from his involvement with the Northstars. Peguis spearheaded the lawsuit and that lead to some changes in the league structure. To catch up on games, the league has had each team host a showcase weekend. Peguis is struggling with player commitment and were unable to attend the showcase in Norway House. The league will only end up being about 15 games this season. There are some issues with officials and the league RIC, Erik Ross, cannot find refs to assign to the games.



The league is seeking support from Hockey Manitoba with this situation. Assistance would be appreciated in the clarification that this league is one that our officials should be supporting. League is looking to have a playoff with the Lakehead Junior Hockey League in Ontario. League final will be in Peguis on Easter weekend.

HTJHL - The league has 7 teams this year. They are struggling with player numbers so that teams can have 3 "imports" from outside of their catchment area. The league has a 24 game schedule, three playoff rounds completed by the end of March.

CRJHL - So far things are going well. Travel times have been cut down and this is well received. Overtime has changed to 3 on 3 for 10 minutes, no shoot-out. Games can end in a tie if it is not resolved in OT. Good parody in the league any given night, any team can beat any team. It is a 32 game schedule.

MMJHL - 10 team league with a 45 game schedule. It is the showcase weekend at the Ice Plex this weekend with all teams playing their two league games in this venue. The Riels had to move to the Ice Plex when their area plant failed and the facility has been very accommodating. Pembina Valley leads the league the currently, a vast improvement for them over last season. On January 27th the Charleswood Hawks are having a tribute night to Wayne Deschouwer.

Murray Allen brought forth an issue with their RIC, Tom Vatr, in that issues are brought forward to him and they are not being dealt with to the satisfaction of the league. How can Hockey Manitoba assist with this issue? Teams have concerns that are brought up and seem to be taken personally by the RIC. There are communication issues as well that are breaking down. Harvey will follow up with the league afterward to hopefully resolve this issue.

MJHL - Season is about 2/3 done with a 60 game schedule. There are 11 teams, a few of which are in financial difficulty and it looks like a transfer of ownership may be in their near future. Generating funds to operate a Junior organization is difficult and an ongoing struggle for the teams. There was a league showcase this year as well as a joint showcase with the SJHL. The season has been pretty competitive so far and should continue in this manner into the playoffs.

8. Branch engagement - what can HM do to assist the leagues

The Branch is looking for feedback from the leagues on ways Hockey Manitoba can assist in the delivery of their programs.

Ashley attended league meetings for the MMJHL and MJHL this past season and will do the same for the upcoming season. It is something that we would like to continue with the other leagues as well. Kim spoke to the benefits of this in alleviating the number of questions the league receives pertaining to administrative concerns.

9. Notice of Motions

Motion 1: Voted in favor by - Kim Davis, KJHL, MMJHL

Motion 2: Voted in favor by - Kim Davis, KJHL, MMJHL

Motion 3: Voted in favor by - Kim Davis, KJHL, MMJHL

Motion 5: Abstained

Motion 10: Voted in favor by - Kim Davis, KJHL, MMJHL

Motion 11: Voted in favor by - Kim Davis, KJHL, MMJHL



Bill made some closing remarks thanking everyone for coming out and encourages the continuance of this tradition.

Adjourn: 11:45am

Motion: Cliff Malzensky/Ed Albert

CARRIED

