



RMHA AGM - Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 @ 7:00 PM

MYfm Centre

Call to Order: 7:02 PM by Jon Pole

Attendance:

Role	Members	Present	Absent
President	Jon Pole	x	
Vice President	Jamie Prince	x	
District Representative	Kyle Schroeder	x	
Secretary	Krystal Sadler	x	
Treasurer	Jenn Daniels	x	
Referee-in-Chief	Kevin Crozier	x	
JR House Convenor	Melissa Sharpe	x	
INT House Convenor	Jordan MacMillan	x	
SR House Convenor	Christie Somerville-Freemark	x	
Equipment Manager	Patrick Leclerc	x	
Registrar	Kasia Maves	x	
Fundraising	Tina Hunt	x	
Ice Allocator	Randy Pender	x	
Webmaster	Devin Berard	x	

Quorum is 28 Members. 50 Members attended.

Minutes of Last AGM Review - Small Issue to solve. The big change last year – moving some board position to alternate years to avoid having a drain of talent at once. We voted on this last year, and it passed - however (1) Constitution not updated on the website. (2) Minutes not posted on the website. **This leads to an issue of transparency.**

If someone read what is posted on our website – they would fairly observe the positions that are open this year based on last year's vote would be different than we have publicly posted. I asked two district chairs, and other President's their opinion and it was a 50-50 split. Half say – go with the website. Half say – go with the vote. End of the day – I believe it is a membership decision – as neither is right nor wrong. I would just like it to be simple and clean and 100% transparent. So, I would ask that someone make a motion ***“that we follow the information posted publicly on the website, and adjust the board terms upon voting this year, and ensure everything is updated properly for the public record”***.

Mike McMahon motions to follow what the vote was last year, not what is posted on the website. Tyler Stewart seconds this motion. 25 members raised hands to support this motion.

Mike McMahon motions to accept minutes from last year, Keith Gourley seconds. Motion carried.

Correspondence – Team sponsorship was successful this year, with new local and repeat sponsors. There are some plaques still to be received, so if you're here as a team sponsor and have not received one, please come see me at the end of the meeting.

The Bill Ringrose Bursary Plaque is on display this year in our case downstairs, applications are open for graduates this year from both RCI and St Joes and deadline is coming due as of May 31.

Second Ice Pad Committee Funds. We are waiting for a meeting with the town to clarify a few issues involving RMHA & honoring the request of the Second Ice Pad Committee. We want to ensure that Jim Millar is recognized for his work towards this incentive.

Lottery License. An anonymous complaint led to our Lottery License being frozen. The Nevada tickets, the RMHA raffle, and the Junior A 50/50 games. The town presented us with the three accusations – with no opportunity to provide any feedback or defense. IMO – all three were false accusations as we understood them. The OPP investigated and informed me they will not be taking action against RMHA. We have still not received any updated correspondence or clarity from the Town. **All the lottery funds are used to rent more ice FROM the town.** This is one of the main reasons for some of our changes in the constitution – simply put – many associations have moved away from this form of generating funds. We are lucky at RMHA because our tournament revenue moving forward will continue to grow. Now is the perfect time to review and implement new ideas and strategies.

District. Plans for changes to our league / Rep B. - Kyle explains that as of now, the Rep A/B program will stay the same as it was in the 2024/2025 season. Going forward for the district, we will be tiering House B/C District, Rep B. For the house teams in U15 it has been discussed lengthening the period times. House league is not allowed any body checking (not allowed in any house teams across Canada).

Tier 3 and tier 4 teams for U9 will now be Tier 2, Tier 3, Tier 4. This is approved at district level but requires HEO Stamp on this. Arnprior, Renfrew, Pembroke & Petawawa will be able to field this. If Eganville and Barry's Bay want to combine, this can be a Tier 2 team. Bobby Lavallee asked for clarification on whether tiered tournaments would change? Our league will be U11 House B/House C/Rep B. They will play against relevant teams.

Tyler Stewart asked how many players will be on U9 Tier 2. Kyle says maximum 18, minimum 10, but it depends on skill level. Will just be playing in the valley and U9 does not allow transfers.

Jon thanks Kyle for stickhandling this initiative for player development. When we're making teams, we are going to ensure that the top three C players are automatically affiliated to the B team, and that they are invited to practices, helping development.

Mike McMahon says we are developing to play Aces, but are losing out on those kids, and the money from our association. This is affecting the kids that are playing here. Jon says in theory, we should probably lose 2-3 kids/season. If you look at the Rep B teams, they are inflated. On our U18 team this year, 5 Rep B players, and a lot of guys we needed for numbers. We weren't a pure Rep B team. If you took 2 of those players away, and made it House B team, it should perform around the same. This is an opportunity to make hockey more welcoming. Our biggest groups are house groups; they were also allocated more time for tournaments and the ability to fundraise.

Kyle says when two more associations validate this with district, they will be changed to Rep A.

Crystal Crown asks about evaluation for tiered teams.

Chantel Smith asked about how many teams there will be for tiering – based on number of kids. Kyle explained this is based on the number of kids that are involved, and their level of play.

Jon says this brings the ability to create select teams, which is open district wide.

Volunteer Appreciation – Brydon Schaap. Years as a coach for RMHA, on the RMHA Board, volunteered at District, District 5 Chair. Thank you for your years of service.

Presidents Report - I'm going to have the convenors speak to our teams and coaches. As President I would like to thank all our volunteers including our board members for helping the kids play hockey this season. I also appreciate the amount of people who have reached out to volunteer for next season in many different capacities. RMHA is really in an excellent position for the future.

I Took over mid-December. Kyle did a wonderful job. Upon Kyle's resignation – my first task was to deal w/ the main concern that was a Board Issue with the coach selection for U13 Rep and the team selection for U13 rep. This process brought to light that RMHA: requires updates to the constitution. For two main reasons – more crystal-clear tools for the Board to remedy issues in a clear and transparent manner AND to have our constitution better reflect / mirror other District Associations. We put together a committee – and their recommendations are what we will vote on in a bit.

Our workflow transparency has been disrupted and needs to be remedied. We used to post our minutes on the Bulletin Board downstairs. We no longer have the bulletin board. We then would post them on our old website. Then we changed websites. Moving forward – we need to have minutes + the updated constitution publicly available for all members and updated in a timely manner.

Updated team selection policies that do not allow for misinterpretation and give our members confidence that player and coach selection is transparent. Hockey Canada has a wonderful model that we will be adapting. This will also be publicly available.

Bobby Lavallee asked who is getting the call on picking the teams after evaluations. Jon suggests we have coaches picked prior to evaluations, and the coaches help make the teams, and the coaches pick which team from a hat. The only changes that would take place would be their own children.

Kevin Thomas asks that the original motion we passed at the beginning of the meeting be clarified. He felt that it was too close to call. Jon explained that by going with the website, it means that the VP and equipment manager position would be up for voting. Krystal read what the current Constitution on the website reads. Mike McMahon explained why we opted to make these changes in 2024/2025.

Courtney Melcher put forward a motion to vote based off the website. Mandy Afelskie seconds this. Because of confusion, we are repeating the motion from the beginning. 37 members for this motion, 10 members against the motion, 3 abstentions. Motion carries.

Vice Presidents Report - U11 team was successful and developed. U13 did well this year in their season, and silver stick. Thank you to Bobby for interim, Crystal Legris and Cole Carpenter. U18 with a strong winning record. Thank you to Jon Pole and the crew for helping out.

Risk and Safety suspensions will be transferred into September, and there is lengthy list of those in that position.

Jamie explained why himself and Tina were away for some of the season. They had hearings and it was determined there was a conflict based on RMHA's constitution and what transpired with Jamie.

He mentioned that regarding evaluations he believes they should not be made public.

Shaun Freemark asked about U15/U18 evaluations, if they are available? Jamie said no, they aren't shareable. The question stood that were these even done in the first place?

Jon spoke to the fact that the President doesn't have a vote and has reviewed all information regarding Tina and Jamie and based on the way the constitution read, not that what Jamie did was ok – the appeal was granted. The coaching selection, and way the team was made, is not something that Jon agrees should be stood behind. This is why it is important the membership makes decisions towards voting.

Ice Allocator – Would like to thank Jon, the board members for a wonderful year. Bobby Lavallee would like to know regarding ice time, and who is getting moved/based on time/availability. Kyle and RP work through the schedule and plan it all out. It will be a challenge to juggle, but it is exciting for RMHA.

Treasurers Report – The finances reflect all the initiatives and reports you have heard so far tonight and the reports to come. Jenn now goes over the financials for this year and highlight where there are notable differences from last year. U7 – up by \$4k. Notably less de-registration of U7 players. We normally have about half a dozen to a dozen. This year, we only had a couple, so kudos to the coaches for keeping the kids engaged and teaching them to love the game and not give up. U9 – on par with last year. U11 – down by \$4K mainly due to the 2013 cohort moving into the U13 division. U13 – Up by \$12K largely due to

the 2013 cohort. U15 – Down by \$7K. The 2012s are a smaller group, but we also lost many due to the rep b pilot project. Numbers were bolstered slightly by bringing Cobden “House A” players. U18 – up by \$3K. U21 – did not go ahead. Sibling/goalie discount – dropped revenue by \$6k. An incentive that started last year to help retain and develop goalies. Sponsorship down from last year but on par with normal. Sponsorship was up last year due to a sizeable donation from a local thrift store. House League In-House Tournament – Up \$22K. House league kids keep the lights on. This is way up due to multi-day tournaments, splitting U15 A and B created two tournaments, and selling out our tournaments. Donations came in memory of Terry Mosco and Todd Clarke. Their families chose to honor RMHA, and we will honor these donations by ensuring they are used sustainably and can be replenished. A committee is being formed to lay out a plan moving forward. Expenses—Clinic expenses are up. This is a considerable expense, but it is necessary. It includes goalie clinics but mainly consists of coach development, trainer courses, Respect in Sport, etc. In-house tournament expenses up by \$3K, the main expense that would offset the in-house tournament revenue would be part of the ice bill. Insurance - up due to higher player registrations, lots of bench staff, and anticipated increases set out by HEO. Ref and Timekeeper expenses – up due to the increased number of tournaments and games. We hold \$125K in trust, as per the wishes of the second ice pad committee. We are attempting to coordinate a meeting with the town to ensure that the committee's wishes are honored.

RIC Report - Thank you everyone for all of your help over the last couple of years, it was a pleasure working with all of you. 366 games were played which assigned Refs and time keepers, which a large step up for last year.

JR House Convenors Report - Thank you to all the U7 and U9 coaches and managers. We had a very large U7 group and needed lots of help on the ice. U7 had 4 teams. 1st years were large teams of 16-17 and 2/3 yr were teams of 12-13. U9 had 1 U9 tier 3 team and 3 U9 tier 4 teams this season. The tournaments were very successful. U7 had 32 teams and a waitlist. U9T3 had 17 teams and U9T4 had 18 teams. At U9 we need to be careful when QC teams register as their tiering is very different than ON.

Intermediate House Convenors Report - First year for me - definitely some bumps along the way. Thanks to the executive members for helping me. We ran 2 successful tournaments - both sold out fast and had a wait list, both were able to generate money for the house teams. Despite some last-minute challenges - especially for u13, all feedback from the tournaments was very positive from the away teams. Special thanks to the coaches and trainers, and the managers.

Senior House Convenors Report - Thank you to all of the coaches, assistant coaches, trainers, managers and parent volunteers for their dedication and support to RMHA and their teams this past season. Their commitment makes a significant difference in the season for our players. This was the first year that we tiered U15 into A and B teams with no Rep B team. So, it was new to everyone. We had wonderful volunteers come out and assist with those evaluations. We also had excellent head coaches and bench staff take on the challenge and I believe by the end all our players had the best experience we could offer thanks to our volunteers. I specifically would like to thank Chad Davis and Patrick Leclerc as the head coaches for those two teams and all the work you put in. U18 is definitely always interesting as we have young adults on our hands and come the end of the year, we have some of our players age out of minor hockey and with it some coaches moving on. We had a great group of bench staff on both teams and lots of accomplishments for the players including our U18 house teams taking the A Championship and the B Division pool. Special mention to our Head coaches Randy Clarke and Joel Scobie. We wish the best of luck to some our coaches that may not return as they had players age out, but you never know they may come back and some still have more to keep playing, Randy Clarke, Brian McIntyre, Chad Scarab, Chris Phillips, Peter Vander Ploeg, Shaun Freemark.

Registrars Report – Membership growth by 10% - U7 – 59, U9-43, U11 47, U13-47, U15-28, U18-54. 23 will age out this year. 9 were registered for U21 but could not make it work. 77 tried out for Titans/Aces/Thunder, and 46 did not return. 86 bench staff over 19 teams. For future bench staffs, please ensure your VSC is updated and all courses are valid.

Equipment Managers Report - Thank Coaches and Managers for putting up with my first year as equipment manager. We had some issues with name bars at the beginning of the season, but I think we got it all cleared up pretty quick and have a better system in place for this year. This year we acquired pinnies for all coaches U9 and up based on coach's feedback from last year. Last year we had complaints from managers about the clothes hangers. New clothes hangers were purchased for almost all jerseys. We kept the ones that were very good already. Equipment room mostly cleaned up of hoarding. Purchased bins and worked on organizing that room to make things easier to find. We acquired a new banner for RMHA to use at events to make things look more professional. This is for tournaments, fundraising and Junior A games and any other events we have to better show off RMHA. Equipment shed on BEI rink organized and cleaned. For this year, we will be replacing the shed on the Delauriers side and doing the same so that they match and coaches will have the same layout and equipment at both rinks. Another set of goalie

equipment was acquired for a larger size we did not have. Kinda bigger U9 or U11 type player. Goalie equipment was loaned out to parents and teams whose players wanted to try goalie. Worked with coaches to make sure they had enough pucks throughout the season. Also, after the first couple of months, I realized that home teams were losing a lot of pucks at home tournaments, so I worked with tournament organizers and scorekeepers to get them set up with pucks before tournaments, so refs were not bugging the coaches. Finally, ALL jerseys, first aid kits, socks were inventoried and now put on a shared drive. I am not sure when the inventory was last done, but it needed to be completed. Thank you to the executive members (and families) that helped me with that process. It would be way too overwhelming to do on your own, so it was great to have all that support.

Fundraisers Report – We started with the Golf Tournament, and it was suggested that it be moved to after tryouts and evaluations are over. There were 8 teams that participated. The two main fundraisers are Tag Day, and Raffle. Tag Day was booked around pictures, thanksgiving and practices. This was a -\$30 difference from last year. If you pay the fundraising fee, you don't have to participate in these fundraisers. U18 only participate in raffle. Raffle tickets were sent out before time away from the board. There were some families that took double tickets due to missing Tag Day. Jon talked about lottery licenses; Tina explained that as Fundraiser, her name is on these licenses and noted that it's never been an issue prior, but running lotteries and raffles are illegal without a license. She did speak to AGCO regarding the complaint put forward. She will not be staying on this executive as this year was stressful. The timing of her removal was very suspicious to her, due to the complaint regarding her daughter.

Webmaster Report – Thank you to managers and parents for items to be posted. Going forward the webmaster will be an appointed position, and he will help the process.

Constitution & By-Law Amendments - We want to make changes based on transparency and clarity. The removal of Fundraising as a voting member has nothing to do with what has happened this year, it's based on moving forward and what other associations follow. The removal of Webmaster as a voting member, this mirrors other associations, however this is something that we can handle through the Secretary position, not needed for two people. We amended the constitution to now adjust the differences. Timberwolves name, the positions of Webmaster/Fundraiser as voting members, everything from previous AGM updated. We are splitting the JR Convenor to 2 positions – U7 and U9, as they are large undertakings. Can remove member of executive board by 2/3 vote. Bobby Lavallee asks where revisions or changes start for constitutions. Jon explains that we formed a committee to suggest changes, and 30 days prior to AGM. Bobby suggests

that jerseys should be carried by kids, and they require responsibility. Has this been something that we have considered doing for the future?

Jon says we are going to structure a jersey committee as this has always been a big conversation. During his season, Jon carried the bags, and two other teams commented that when their kids do it – it's a mess. There is no right or wrong answer for this, but we need to consider all the options in this through a committee. 2 years ago, U18's were allowed to buy their own jerseys - \$160 per kid, home and away. That's the start of the process. Mike McMahon explained that previously, the policy was started to keep jerseys in good condition. Every team used to have their own lockers to keep home jerseys in and only had to carry away jerseys.

Keith Gourley said he was told that changes can be brought to AGM. Is the jersey issue a Constitution or policy issue?

Jenn noted that in the constitution "The coach shall be responsible for the proper maintenance and storage of all equipment assigned to this team. He shall arrange for the safekeeping of all equipment assigned to his team and shall at the conclusion of the season give a proper accounting of all equipment to the Equipment Manager". The issue we had was with the team not following policies. When we don't follow the policy, it allows for grey areas. Mike McMahon noted that there were many teams at the high school level that had jerseys out which shows that other teams haven't followed policies. It would be nice to give the kids responsibility.

Jon suggests that if the membership wants changes, that they can bring them to the executive members, and it can be discussed.

Motion to accept changes to constitution by Crystal Crown, second Melissa MacMillan. 1 Abstain, 0 against, everyone else in favor.

Election of New Executive – Brydon Schaap chaired the elections, opened the floor for nominations. Positions for the 2025/2026 term:

President – Christie Freemark nominates Jon Pole. Chantel Smith nominates Christie Freemark. If no further nominations, nominations closed. Jon will you let your name stand? Yes. Christie will you let your name stand? No. Jon is acclaimed as President.

Vice President – Crystal Crown nominates Christie Freemark, Courtney Melcher nominates Patrick Leclerc. If no further nominations, nominations closed. Christie will you let your name stand? No. Patrick will you let your name stand? Yes. Patrick Leclerc acclaimed as Vice President.

Secretary - Jenn Daniels nominates Krystal Sadler. If no further nominations, nominations closed. Krystal will you let your name stand? Yes. Krystal Sadler is acclaimed as secretary.

RIC – Jenn Daniels nominates Kevin Crozier. Kyle Schroeder nominates Roy Heffler. If no further nominations, nominations closed. Kevin will you let your name stand? No. Roy will you let your name stand? Yes. Roy Heffler is acclaimed.

Ice Allocator – Jenn Daniels nominates Randy Pender. Jon Pole nominates Kevin Crozier. Jordan MacMillan nominates Bobby Lavallee. If no further nominations, nominations closed. Randy will you let your name stand? Yes. Kevin will you let your name stand? No. Bobby Lavallee will you let your name stand? No. Randy Pender is acclaimed as Ice Allocator.

U7 Convenor – Kyle nominates Melissa Sharpe. Melissa MacMillan nominates Ashely English. Jenn Daniels nominates Mandy Afelskie. If no further nominations, nominations closed. Melissa will you let your name stand? No. Ashley will you let your name stand? No. Mandy will you let your name stand? No. We will move on and come back to this later.

U9 Convenor – Kyle nominates Melissa Sharpe. Megan Prince nominated Ashely English, Tina nominates Tyler Stewart, Jon Pole nominates Matt Brennan (through email acknowledgement). If no further nominations, nominations closed. Melissa will you let your name stand? No. Ashley will you let your name stand? Yes. Tyler will you let your name stand? Yes. Matt will let his name stand, through email. Three nominees were put forward to vote, tied for Matt & Ashely. From this tie, two nominees were put forward to vote. Ashley English has received the U9 Convenor position.

Equipment Manager – Patrick Leclerc nominates Jamie Virgin. Devin Berard nominates Cole Carpenter. If no further nominations, nominations closed. Jamie will you let your name stand? Yes. Cole will you let your name stand? Yes. Jamie Virgin is acclaimed as Equipment Manager.

U7 – Any nominations for U7? Megan Prince nominated by Jordan MacMillan. Megan Prince nominates Mike McMahon. If no further nominations, nominations closed. Megan will you let your name stand? No. Mike will you let your name stand? This will have to go back to executive for 1 year appointed position.

Brydon motions to destroy ballots, Mike McMahon second. Motion carries.

The slate of directors for the 2025-26 season and fiscal year are as follows:

President – Jon Pole

Vice President – Patrick Leclerc

Secretary – Krystal Sadler

Treasurer – Jenn Daniels

Ice Allocator: Randall A Pender

Equipment Manager: Jamie Virgin

Referee in Chief: Roy Hefler

Registrar: Kasia Maves

U7 – Junior House Convenor: Vacant

U9 - Junior House Convenor: Ashley English

Intermediate House Convenor: Jordan MacMillan

Senior House Convenor Christie Somerville-Freemark

Development District Representative: Kyle Schroeder

New Business - Motion to appoint McKillicans review books, by Crystal Crown, Chantel Smith seconds. All in favor. Motion carries.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:41 PM motioned by Bobby Lavallee second by Mike McMahon. All in favor. Motion carries.