

# MTMHA GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Date: September 22, 2025

**Time:** 7:00PM

Location: Courtright Firehall

| Marty Passmore |   | Brad Ouelette |   | Teriann Weeke  |  |
|----------------|---|---------------|---|----------------|--|
| Jay Vandenberg | Х | Nick Skeates  | Х | Stacey Skeates |  |
| Derek Gibbs    | Х | Angela Gibbs  |   | Brent          |  |
|                |   |               |   | MacDonald      |  |
| Nadine Powers  |   | Randy Pauling | Х | Jason Bourdage |  |
| Jay Passingham |   | Amanda Knight |   | Brad Ysebeart  |  |
| Stacey Mullen  | х | Jamie Bailey  | Х | Greg Armstrong |  |
|                | X |               |   |                |  |
| Tonya Lahey    | Х | Brian Turner  |   | Rick Harris    |  |
| Corey McKellar | Х |               |   |                |  |

## Call to order

Meeting called to order by Jay V. at 7:10 pm Jay chaired the meeting in Marty's absence.

# 2. Approval of agenda / conflict of interest

Approval of the agenda motioned by: Jay V.

Seconded by: Corey

**CARRIED** 

No conflicts of interest declared.

NOTE: We do not have a quorum at the present time – therefore voting will not take place.

## 3. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Approval of the meeting minutes motioned by: Jay V Seconded by: Teriann

#### **CARRIED**

### 4. <u>Director Reports</u>

#### a) President - Marty Passmore

THANK YOU! It has been a ton of work getting the season going.

**Cameras** -working with the arena on Sports Engine Play and Live Barn-hopefully have running soon- At the moment no cost to the organization. This will allow families to be able to subscribe and watch the games for \$20.00 /mth. – it is mandatory for U9 teams to have Live Barn. They have also committed to set up on Rink 2 – A conversation took place about potential discounts with Live Barn for annual subscriptions.

**Grant** -received \$2500 from Hockey Canada (from the U17 tournament held in Sarnia last year) - A cheque was presented at the Sting Game on Sept. 19th from the U17 Hockey Championship. There are specifications of how the money is to be used and reported on.

**Grant application** -Marty would like to reapply for a new scoreboard. The due date for this township application is October 15<sup>th</sup>, this is something that does not need to be voted on. We can also include in this application the cost of room rentals. It would be nice to do an arena wide 50/50 with all 3 associations to raise some funds for the scoreboard for at least rink 1. The Flags would like to participate in this.

**Sponsorship Money and purchases**- would like to be careful purchasing things that we will find sponsorship money for. Until we have the money it is like using "credit" to purchase.

**Vote on using the online store for Volunteer deposit**- Can we approve this? Will have to send a vote out for this – volunteer cheque to be set up on HCR - \$5.00 fee goes on right now and if hours are not completed then the \$495.00 goes through and once hours are completed, you would get the \$5.00 back. Online vote was completed after the August meeting; results are to be reviewed and we will move forward with results as applicable.

**Pictures**- can we consider this? See information below in PDF. Suzanna Kennedy's PDF was reviewed. Teriann noted that it's difficult to satisfy everyone when it comes to photographer preferences. Suzanna donates 5% of her sales (up to \$500) back to the association and attends team photo sessions if a team wins a title. She also handles booking arrangements.

A discussion took place regarding past experiences with photographers and whether another photographer has already been booked. Jay V. will look into this, as Derek mentioned a photographer is tentatively booked. The group also discussed the possibility of using multiple local photographers to provide variety and support local businesses.

**LL team composition**- Do we need a policy on this? Streamline picking? Question was raised whether this applies to U7. Some centers are tiering teams, while others are not. Four Counties determines if teams will be tiered, not individual associations. The goal is to create balanced teams since they'll be playing each other. Sorting skates are ranked 1, 2, and 3, and players are divided to form equal teams. Derek will draft a policy on this to ensure consistency across all teams.

#### b) VP of Hockey Operations - Jay Vandenberg

Teams are picked and sorted – thank you to EVERYONE for your help and support. **U18 –** 4 teams! Its been a long time since we had 4 teams in U18.

**Discussion about team selection posts/tryout list:** There unfortunately was a situation where the team selection list was posted, the board believes this was accidental as it was taken down quickly. Discussion took place about whether player signings should be posted on the website or kept confidential. The group agreed that posting them publicly is not preferred. It was also noted that participants should be reminded to check their spam folders for communication about signing offiers. Next year, this information will be reviewed during the coaches' meetings, and only players who were released, not those selected - will be shown.

**U7 team – tournaments –** Discussion took place regarding whether U7 teams should be allowed to participate in multiple tournaments. Traditionally, U7 teams attend a one-day jamboree rather than a full three-day tournament. It was noted that there are non-sanctioned ("outlaw") three-day tournaments, which our teams are not permitted to attend.

Lady Flags goalie camp request for U15 shooters (2-3 per week) – Thursdays, Oct 2-Dec 10, 5:10-6:30 – These events are not covered by insurance, as the players are not rostered under that organization. More information will be gathered to determine if coverage through the Lady Flags would apply—if so, participation could be a possibility.

#### c) Risk Management – Derek Gibbs

Not too much to report. Carry over suspension will be going out to teams to some players and coaches. Coaches meeting went well – going to request that coaches have someone walk out players if ejected from a game.

#### d) Registrar – Amanda Knight

Regrets

#### e) Director of Communications - Teriann Weeke

The meeting minutes have all been archived except for the most recent 12 months worth, as new minutes are posted the others will be archived to keep at 12 months. The "Contact Us" information has been updated.

With having open boarders and new parents, it would be nice to update the Volunteer Section of the website. We need to review what we want that page to look like, what information should be posted. There was talk about the Webmaster position if this would be counted as volunteer hours, conclusion was that this is not a requirement and would be removed.

Teriann would like to go over the coaches/manager's handbook and then over the summer she will go and set up a fresh one at the beginning of each season. I would like to do a welcome communication to team managers to post social media posts – to encourage it more and build character in our kids and create friendships. We need to have some sort of photo release, we can't be posting any players' photos unless we have a photo release. Can we send this out separately this year and then maybe set up for next year's registration. Corunna ball does this at time of registration – Derek will research other forms with different organizations and look to see if we can craft one specific to the organization.

Stacey S. wanted to do a manager's meeting, Derek said to go for it but wait until the teams were settled – and then she could go ahead and schedule. Teriann will help with this meeting to go over anything that is needed.

Can VSC link be on the site because it is not easy to find. We have the letter available – Derek showed that the hyperlink is on the letter, and it will take you right to the website.

Lastly, If you find anything that is not working on the website to let Teriann know so it can be reviewed – or something that doesn't make sense it can be reviewed. Derek and Terriann have been working on broken links.

#### f) Director of Travel Teams - Brad Ouelette

Regrets

#### g) Director of Resources - Angela Gibbs

Regrets

Jay V. did state that another jersey order was going in this week, and then everyone should be dressed after that.

### h) Director of Development - Nick Skeates

Jeff expressed interest in doing more sessions throughout the season or on PA days and will follow up once he returns.

Jay V. asked if Nick could connect with Jay P. to check on the availability of additional ice times.

Currently, there are no scheduled goalie sessions; ice availability will be reviewed to determine the best options moving forward.

#### i) Director of Fundamentals - Brian Turner

Regrets, but provided an update below.

U5 coaches are identified

First skate this past week and uniforms this weekend

U7 coaches identified, risk management guidelines reviewed – working with this group for police checks.

All LL hockey teams must have approved to be on the roster – anyone else has to be pending and approved by December 1<sup>st</sup> or cant' be rostered TONYA may have missed some

U9 – coach is identified and Brian will be handing over development manual, U9 coaches are expected to use hockey Canada coaching app and it lays out all the plans – OHF meeting laid out the way they want U9 programing to go – and make sure that they are not running on all system stuff when it supposed to be on sill development. And OHF will be using the Live Barn to confirm.

## j) Director of Tournaments – Randy Pauling

**Tourism Sarnia Lambton** – A meeting was hosted for local committees to assist smaller organizations with volunteer recruitment, sponsorship opportunities, and hotel bookings at no cost. In return, they are seeking some form of advertising or recognition. The goal is to build stronger connections with local minor associations.

All local tournaments are full or nearly full, except for the REP tournament, which is currently at half capacity. Ice must be booked by mid-October. Discussions with the tournament organizers provided helpful pointers. No funds have been spent on this tournament so far.

Advertising for tournaments: The official process is through the OMHA website; teams select tournaments there. Currently, one more team is needed in each of the U13, U15, and U18 divisions to reach five teams per division, and two more teams are needed for U11.

Future considerations include the possibility of offering discounts to teams within our league. Outreach has been made to all Shamrock Rep organizations to collect convenor contacts and encourage participation. Interest in the tournament is currently limited, which is expected when launching a new event. Jay V. supports continuing efforts to attract more teams. No money has been spent yet. Discussion included whether to invest in promotion.

Merchandise ideas for future tournaments were suggested for brainstorming. A township sponsorship request may be submitted, with careful attention to strategy and wording. The U9 full-ice pilot program starting in November could be included in future tournaments, but it is not feasible this year due to timing.

Randy will monitor registrations for additional teams.

Teriann will create a marketing flyer to share with coaches to generate interest. For future planning, the goal is to promote the tournament earlier, ideally in Spring 2026.

Taggert is full except for U18 – this is January

16 for Rise up cup so far – this is March

#### k) Director of Fundraising and Sponsorship - Stacey Skeates

**Tournament Vendors:** A discussion took place about having vendors at tournaments and the associated costs. This was done for one tournament previously.

#### Sponsorship

Can we please have an in person managers' meeting, where Stacey S. can go over jersey sponsorship, team sponsorship and fundraising? Does anyone else want to come and discuss things with managers? Yes, the session will be scheduled. Teriann and Derek will attend. Receipt books must be completed at the end of each month, and this process will be reviewed during the session.

**Team Sponsorship** - can we allow U7 teams to get sponsorship to cover tournament costs and a team party? Maybe a maximum of \$1000? If so, can they open a bank account? I've had a team manager reach out to me to request this. There is nothing in writing that prohibits sponsorships; however, there is also no provision allowing participation in three-day tournaments. U7 teams cannot have additional sponsorships, as they are already sponsored by Tim Hortons. This clarification will be added to the sponsorship policy. A budget outline will be required to review plans, consistent with the process used for other teams.

**Wall and Rink Board -** sales are going well. So far I have sold 25 rink & wall boards, and still have a few more to hear back from. Will update next meeting with total raised once I have all expenses back. Cost is \$110 per board. Installation is included at no charge; however, there is a fee for removal.

**TV** - the new tv and supplies have been purchased. We should see them up this week. The Opti Sign account will be shared between MTMHA and the Flags. It will be used for Flags games, and at other times, for MTMHA purposes. There are many options for utilizing the display, and discussions will take place about rotating usage with the Moore Skate Club and other arena organizations. Collaboration is encouraged.

Flags plan to sponsor one of our tournaments. I need to get them that info. but was waiting to hear

\$2500 brought in from Sarnia Tourism U17 worlds. Thanks Marty for going to receive. Stacey will have to do a report to show what the money was spent for. Derek asked that she come back with a proposal with a few different options and then the board can vote.

**Lady Flags** – talking with them and building relationships.

#### **Fundraising:**

**Nov 7th Sarnia Sting Association Game -** U7s will be able to skate at the first intermission. Need MTMHA promo code to get the discount.U11FC teams will be doing the OHL experience game, Jay Passingham/Brent - can we schedule this as one of their games? The coaches are responsible to do their travel permits – and Stacey S. will bring that up at the managers meeting.I have the rest of the schedule made as well. I'm working on prizes for Chuck a puck and incentives for teams. If anyone has any to send my way. And we also need prizes for pre-sold puck prizes. U13 FC are doing bench warmers – and a fan tunnel for U9X2.

**Chuck a Puck with Flags -** I have reached out to John to ask for allocated dates for chuck a puck and will divide among interested teams. He's getting back to me. Will work with Lady Flags to split these dates.

We want to run Krispy Kreme Fundraisers. I would like to hold one soon, and then do them for tournaments, especially for the Juvenile Silverstick.

The BBQ went well at the museum! It was so nice being back, they were happy we were there, 6 volunteers was a good number.

Scoreboard 50/50 with Flags and Lady Flags, discussed above – that we should stick with the grant for other items and work on fundraising for the scoreboard.

**Community Engagement:** The committee has been formed and held its first meeting, which went very well. We created a mission statement, discussion took place regarding whether the mission statement needs board approval before being added as a new tab on the website. It was agreed that this item will require a board vote. The topic has been tabled for the next meeting, with plans to streamline what the final version and presentation could look like.

**Player Recognition Program:** sponsored by Melissa Atyeo and Dynamic Graffix starts at the end of this week! A nomination form will be created for submitting reasons why a player is being nominated. Instead of displaying signs on lawns, recognition will be shown at the arena entrance. Helmet stickers will be given for "Player of the Week," and each nominated player's name will be entered into a monthly draw for a gift certificate at the arena.

**Coach of the month –** has been changed to Head Coach Highlights It will follow an interview-style format, showcasing a different coach on social media and on the TV in the arena lobby.

**Team Socials with a Cause -** Ideas were shared to promote team building through community involvement, such as yard cleanups at the museum, raking leaves in the community, writing cards for hospitals or retirement homes, and organizing food drives. The goal is to encourage teams to give back while strengthening team connections.

**Dances –** Legion with Lady Flags

Discussion took place regarding Team Outfitters, who are willing to offer 25% back on sales and provide various logo options beyond just Dynamic Graffix. Their products are good quality, and there is interest in doing a limited-edition run with them. Previously, there was an exclusivity requirement, but the group expressed interest in supporting multiple local organizations. Teriann will connect with Stacey S. to review this instead of the Director of Resources and will bring the information back to the group for discussion.

#### I) Director of Four Counties - Brent MacDonald

Regrets

### m) Director of Volunteers - Nadine Power

Regrets

## n) OMHA Representative- Corey McKellar

Not much to report at this time. The focus has been on getting everything up and running and completing the team rostering process.

### o) Ice Scheduler-Jay Passingham

Regrets - He is waiting on U9 and U21 to schedule.

#### 5. Financial Report

#### a) Director of Finance - Jamie Bailey

Registration came in a little higher than last year. If there are no unexpected expenses, we should be in good shape for the year. I still need to figure out tournament and fundraising in plans. Still working with accountants and HST stuff. Budgets and bank letters are rolling around. Funded just over \$30000 in tournaments for teams but will be repaid with team fees.

The books are open to any member if they want to view the books. Need to get some proper filing – Derek will look into an electronic form of storage and secured storage.

Reminder to be aware of the email scams that come in.

#### 6. Committee Report

a) Hockey Committee – Numbers and team sizes update - important decisions regarding team sizes were made over the summer. Several variables impacted team formation, including open borders, late registrations, player withdrawals, and goalie availability. The priority was to ensure that all players had the opportunity to participate in hockey. Local league team breakdown: 1 U9, 2 U11, 2 U13, 1 U15, 2 U18. Registration numbers are healthy this year, resulting in smaller, more manageable team sizes rather than very large teams.

# b) Financial Committee- has not met yet.

## 7. <u>Unfinished Business</u>

None

# 8. New Business Arising / Motions

## 9. Any Other Business

# 10. Adjournment

Motion by: Stacey S.

Seconded by: Cory

adjourned at 10:02 pm

## 11. Action Items

| Action Item   | ASSIGNED TO | MEETING<br>ORIGINATED FROM |
|---|-------------|----------------------------|
| Develop a streamline approach for team selection for the LL in 2025/2026 season   | Derek       | Sept. 22,2025              |
| Time Clock Training Follow Up<br>Also suggested by the Silverstick Committee and to<br>reach out to Deb Black for help. | Randy P.    | October 2024               |
| Ensure that Derek is receiving the ONE DB system updates  | Marty       | May 2025                   |
| A welcome / info. package   |             | May 2025                   |
| Implement a time-out function on the website for news posts and improve the search bar                                  | Teriann     | May 2025                   |

| Revised refund policy                     | Marty                   | May 2025 |
|---|-------------------------|----------|
| U3 Timbit program - to be discussed later |                         | May 2025 |
|   |                         |          |
| Fundraising plan for 2025/2026            | Stacey S                | May 2025 |
| Sponsorship letters and bars              | Committee<br>Discussion | May 2025 |