

MSWHL MEETING MINUTES – December 7, 2010

Attendees:

President: Sarah Mason (Flyers)
Vice President: Kerri Kelly (Puckin Chix)
Vice President: Sally Callaghan (Black Ice)
Vice President: Tammy Callahan (Polar Bears)
Secretary: Sarah Jacobsen (Flames)
Treasurer: Joanne Lukasik (Hammerheads, Polar Bears)
Past President: Ann Dobija
Div 1: Director Rep-Janine Martinez (Mission)
Div 2: Director-Jessica Richileau (Top Gun)
Div 3: Director- no rep present (Theresa Marsik-Absent-Excused)
Div 4: Director- no rep present (Lisa Durand- absent)
Div 5: Director- no rep present (Jennifer Czajkowski- absent)
Div 6: Director-Linda Donikian (Cleavers)

Other present: Div 1 **Hawks:** Carrie Sirola, Sara Sharp, Andrea Layman, and Marcie Walker
Honeybaked: Sarah Clark and Kristy Reinhardt
ICES: Connie Lasher
Belle Tire: Jessica Compton and Nicole Clemons
Div 2 **Top Gun:** Charlena “Micki” Sumoski-Statistician
Div 3 **Foosa:** Lisa Dzik, Rebecca and Amanda Wagner, and Anna Borovich
Polar Bears: Michele Monson
Div 4
Div 5: **Hammerheads:** Birdie Ball (Coach-Detroit Revolution)
Rampage: Brandi Josephs, Kellie Koertge, Melanie Bidwell, and Amy Senne,
Ice Pack: Terri Tocco, Cathie Counter and Valerie Murray
Div 6: **Spitfires:** Beth Silvis, Chani Devers, Kelly Rowan, and Melinda Cupples

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President Sarah Mason.

1. Review and approval of 11/9/10 minutes

2. General:

A. **New website:** Filesanywhere.com

- Online document share and management website that Board is now using for all league documents that is more user-friendly. Cost is \$19 per month and \$180 per year to maintain account-paying month by month until convinced service is effective. Consider granting access to statisticians for each division

B. **Voluminous Roster revisions-** cut off is December 31, 2010 for Ruicci Cup

- Add-ons to roster need to be approved by board prior to playing in a game at all times-no exceptions.
- 72-hour waiting period only applies for teams transferring within the league.
- Considered assignment of a single registrar designated solely to the league for next year Kathy Jaroshewich is willing to ask USA Hockey in January to designate software to our league so that we can have one person handle all of the rostering-- would need volunteer to manage all. Not much interest exhibited in the meeting.

C. **Penalty Caps:** Board is considering lowering cap on penalties per player and/or per game

2. General (cont'd):

D. Referees:

1. Many teams are complaining of poor refereeing
2. Concern was raised about talking directly to a ref named "JP," who oversees many of the refs in SE Michigan;
3. Birdie Ball stated that she talks frequently to JP and he said that he has not received any complaints, so it appears to be a matter of teams communicating their concerns through the appropriate channels-please talk to your ref schedulers and give them feedback.
4. Board is going to compile list of ref schedulers used by team and distribute.

E. Curfew clocks

1. Reminder to teams: please pay attention to your clocks and warm-up times so that games start on time-if late start, shorten warm-ups and line changes.
2. Game start times are supposed to be noted on score sheets-notify your scorekeepers.

3. Website: Stats and game schedules-Have been updated through end of November

4. Handbook update

- A. Draft copy has been distributed to all current board members and revised.
- B. Next step will be to distribute to wider audience for review (past board members)
- C. Intend to have it distributed to all managers by January, 2011 - Please send comments to board

5. Division Updates:

• Div 6:

- **TOT** Forged roster signature of Laura Steinbrenner. Please make sure players know they are signed on to a team
- **Chill** Supplemental Player add on Carrie Cunningham. Have 24 players currently and are looking to add number 25. Still need to submit a written appeal for Marcy Hamilton

• Div 5:

- **Puckin Chix** and **Ice Pack** game on 12-1-10
No formal complaint received but under mediation/review
- **Hammerheads** v. **Puckin Chix** game on 11-28-10
Conflict- managers came to an agreement and no formal complaint was filed
- **Ice Picks** request to add on 4 players:
Anna Valk, Dawn Lukomski - Wanted to be released from Metro Blades to be released to play in a lower division due to last year's division assignment; They have filed appeals. Board will vote on these appeals tonight.
Sandi Johnson- Appeal has been filed; Johnson conditionally approved.
Michelle Whitlow - Whitlow is a new player to the league; Conditionally approved because hockey history does not require appeal.

• Div 4:

- **Wildcats** potential for playing second half of season against some Division 5 teams due to unforeseen player circumstances.

• Div 3

- Scheduling for second half of season to be completed by Board by December 10, 2010
- **Metro Blades** cancellation of game with **FOOSA** discussed. Reminder: teams are only allowed

three (3) cancellations per year

- **Div 2**

- **Cranks** player Amber Maly-Top Gun requests review of her placement in division due to skill level. Amber did not play last year in league but played for Black Beauty the year prior in a higher division. Board should have required appeal but missed the division change. Amber is conditionally approved to play but will be subject to review if more teams take issue.
- Appeals need to be submitted for each returning player, no matter how long player has been out of the league
- **Cougars**- forged roster signature Shawna Shafer. Again, please make sure players know they are signed on to a team and what it takes to be released.

- **Div 1**

- **Mission** formal complaint v. **O'Leary Hawks** and Sara Sharp. Synopsis from Mission (presented by Janine Martinez): Sara Sharp's threw a punch and received a double minor penalty, then allegedly bragged about it during the handshake; words were exchanged; Mission is asking the league to monitor Sara's penalties from here on out;
- **O'Leary Hawks** complaint v. **Mission**. Synopsis from O'Leary Hawks (presented by Carrie Sirola): Alleges that Janine Martinez started the interaction with Sara Sharp by pushing Sara's head down into the ice on a play and holding her until the puck was out of the zone; Janine allegedly insulted Sara during the handshake and then some Mission players wanted to push Sara off the ice and continue the fight.
- **Outcome/Resolution:**
 - 1. Both players (Sara Sharp and Janine Martinez) appear to have exhibited unsportsmanlike conduct during this incident
 - 2. Official warning given to both players that they are "on watch" for any further unsportsmanlike conduct and will receive further consequences from the board if any additional complaints arise this season about their conduct.
- **O'Leary Hawks** general complaint v. **Mission**. O'Leary Hawks synopsis (presented by Carrie Sirola): Alleges that Mission has been playing "dirty, malicious" hockey for the past three years (e.g. sticks in the back, slashing from behind the play), which has resulted in opposing players needing ACL knee surgery, having bruised kidneys, etc.; Mission has reportedly accrued the most penalty minutes (averaging 8 to 11 minutes per game) of all teams in the league; Mission home refs allegedly don't call penalties as much on them compared to away game referees (stats were submitted by C. Sirola)
 - Response by J. Martinez- requested that the board look at the penalties and types given (tripping, hooking vs. slashing) before making any determination
 - **Honeybaked** also voiced concerns about Mission's rough play and turned down a scrimmage to play them due to concerns about getting injured (e.g. slashes to the back of legs, hits from behind);
 - Some people claimed the "mentality" of the **Mission** team as a whole was the major concern and cited examples of a certain player (Brenda Malnar) who when she moved up to **Mission** last year allegedly became "more chippy."
 - **Belle Tire** and **Honeybaked** are considering cancelling or forfeiting games against Mission due to their rough play.

5. Division Update/Issues:

Div 1 (cont'd)

- Concern voiced that when teams know they're being watched (e.g. by the presence of board members or by videotaping) that they will improve/alter their behavior, which may not be a bad thing, but the sustainability of that "improved" behavior" was a concern.
- **ICES (Connie Lasher)**- Voiced that her team does not have a concern about Mission's play and that she believed she spoke for her team as a whole.

Outcome/Resolution:

1. As a general rule, hockey should still be fun and not played out of fear of severe injury from opposing players.
2. All teams and players should "look in the mirror" and take responsibility for their own actions.
3. Mission/J. Martinez will be given an opportunity to formally respond to the complaint
4. Suggestions were given for coaches/managers to self-impose or even double the penalty

6. Ruicci Cup Updates (K. Kelly):

All 5 teams from D1 will not be playing

One of 6 teams from D2 have indicated that they will be playing

One of 6 teams from D3 have indicated that they will be playing

Two of 7 teams from D4 have indicated that they will be playing

Three of 7 teams from D5 have indicated that they will be playing

Three of 8 teams from D6 have indicated that they will be playing

Fee will only be increased \$50 to \$100 (Teams have always been paying \$450 for the tournament)

Inquiry about using the same process (referees and scorekeeping) for scheduling this year as last year-

Board noted that it was still early to be dealing with referee scheduling at this time but did note that

teams will not have to resubmit docs since board now has access online to every teams rosters and

applications which should save every team a lot of time.

7. Treasurer Report (J. Lukasik)

1. Current balance: \$2913.45

2. Check for \$ 29.94 cleared (website expense)

Next League Meetings:

Tuesday, January 11, 2011 and Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Meeting Adjourned 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Jacobsen, Secretary