



Salmon Arm Minor Hockey Association
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Minutes: July 2025

Date: July 21, 2025

In Attendance: Roy Sakaki, John White, David Mueller, Jason Brown, Eric Penner, Tanja Poschl, Matt Davies, Nikki Carlin, Devon Chan, Melanie Penner, Val Kloska, Cindy Cameron Cherry,

Absent: Sean Russell, Lana McNeil, Randi Northeast, Allison Drager, Lori Adamson, Liam O'Brien

Late Arrivals:

- 1. Call to order at 6:31 pm Chairing:** John White **Motion:** Cindy Cameron Cherry
Second: David Mueller
- 2. Approval of agenda: Moved:** Val Kloska **Second:** Cindy Cameron Cherry - **Carried**
- 3. Adoption of minutes from previous meeting: Moved:** Mel Penner **Second:** David Mueller - **Carried**
- 4. Presentation – No Presentation**
- 5. Business Arising for previous minutes: None**
- 6. Standing Reports:**

a) Executive Director

Jason Brown

Old Business

1) Jerseys have been shipped and are expected to arrive on Wednesday this week. There is also a U9 shipment to come. Will likely be a week or two before I hear it's been shipped.

2) Still working on ice. We are days away from finalizing startup ice through September 28th with Rogers Rink. Our August ice has been confirmed, and Crystal is working on the September ice. We should have that by Friday at the latest.

We have confirmed game slots with Chase Arena and Enderby. We are working with Sicamous Arena to secure some game slots there as well, but we will not have the same allotment this season as we did last.

Once pre-season ice has been booked with Crystal. We will move on to booking game slots with Rogers Rink. I have updated the template used for scheduling weekend in Vernon to include all game slots we have available (including our allotment from last season at Rogers Rink). We'll update that when Crystal and I work on game slots next week.

The last piece of the puzzle with regards to ice is the practice schedule. We have a tentative schedule for practice ice. It will need some work by committee, and we won't be able to finalize that until registration closes at the earliest. Likely not until the third week of August, which still puts us on a great timeline.

Overall, the ice situation is not great. With the growth of our neighbouring associations, we're being squeezed out of their arenas as they require more for their programming. We will have enough ice to navigate this season, but not by much. Game slots will prove to be the most difficult. We'll have a much better read on things when we're able to square away the teams.

3) Cole had his last day with us on June 30th. As is always the case during the summer, it was a quiet day around the arena. We wish him the best in his future endeavours and look forward to seeing him with the Novas this upcoming season.

4) Director of Hockey Development position has been posted. It will be a contract position, and the posting will remain open until this Friday night. Eric and I will be looking for a third to join us in interviewing for that role. Details are on the Indeed posting, which can be found on the front page of our website. Anticipated start date for that role is August 5th or August 11th, depending on availability of the successful candidate. *Looking for the position to be ~25hrs/wk (on and off ice) and within budget. Applicants have been coming in. Will need good communication with coaches and the DHD position. DHD will be on ice with rep teams weekly and Rec teams every second week? Also will create a player data base and coaching surveys.*

5) Registration is coming in well. We don't have a lot of players who were registered last season who are yet to register. There are still some out there, and we will continue to alert them of the deadline. We will continue to monitor numbers and will finalize our first team declarations some time around August 11. *We will get out a communication to the families that have yet to register. Put something on the website and socials. Have a divisional report to the membership by Aug 1st.*

6) The Sicamous user group meeting went well, but SMHA is growing and they have other user groups utilizing the ice. We reiterated that we use their ice and have supported them a lot in the past, but are still trying to get a little more ice from them. Jason tweaked their schedule a little and hoped they would see the benefit. In Enderby we have good practice ice and game ice.

New Business

Formation of committees to assist with startup, and to help with operations as we go into the season. Let Jason know ASAP if you want to be on the committees.

- a. Startup committee
- b. Coaching committee
- c. Tournament committee
- d. Apparel committee
- e. Policy committee
- f. Discipline committee

Each committee will be composed of a chairperson (in most cases someone from the executive), a staff member, and three volunteers. (5 people)

The role of each committee will be to organize a meeting schedule (monthly, bi-weekly, weekly) and create a checklist of items that need to be addressed that fall under their responsibility. As a committee, they will identify and prioritize labour required, and the staff member assigned to that committee will be responsible for completing any tasks that come out of those meetings.

In many cases, there will be work for the volunteer board members on the committee as well, so where people want to contribute, we still maintain those opportunities where they exist

Good flow sheet presenting the flow of communication. Making sure membership goes to DMs, who then bring up to board or staff.

NOSL meeting attended by Roy and Jason. Talked about stop time procedures and brought that to all divisions and up. Concern on tournament teams. Having a 3 minute warmup. Tie breaking process will be adopted at some point. Having a scheduling update by breaking the season up into two parts (games 1-4 or 6 or 8, the 5 or 7 or 9-16) having tiers, this is strictly for scheduling. Scheduler gets a \$500 raise. Playoff format for top 6 may change (would be like how the Memorial Cup tournament works).

b) Administrator:

Roy Sakaki

- Referees mtg. summary/"spectator monitor"/green armbands program. *Talked about pay scale from OMAHA, fairness in scheduling, courses/seminars. Green armbands: Do we adopt? Having a spectator monitor to stop the referee abuse.*

- -two potential sponsors...Yukon Smash/Kristal Burgess Photography (contra). Roy is following up with sponsors that have not confirmed.
- -Busy Bee laundromat....hockey equipment...feedback Jason/Roy *Portable and able to bring to the rink. It is an ultraviolet sanitizer*
- -Tournaments: update, U18 fem. A (Chase), medal ordering. *Our home tournaments are starting to fill already. Cindy will be ordering medals.*
- Commission from Prestige is less than last year, could be due to less teams for.
-

c) Director of Hockey Development

John Doe

d) Treasurer:

Eric Penner

- 50/50 for the silverbacks. We still have the handhelds. Silverbacks want to look at the split. We would need address this after seeing how another year goes. Need to talk with the Booster Club and see their intention. We still require volunteers to help with the Booster Club. The trial of giving a credit or discount for registration to do the volunteer for the booster club. We need more information to decide where we go from here.
- Eric will sit down with Carmyn (booster) and Alex (silverbacks) to get information for the season.

e) DHO Senior:

Cindy Cameron-Cherry

- U18 tournaments are being booked by Tanja. She can update on what she has so far.
- We still need a U13 division manager, so any ideas would be helpful.
- In absence of a U13 Div manager, I will start to book some tournaments.
- Are Division Managers booking rep tournaments as well, as KIBHIT is open for registration now? *Jason will book KIBHIT?*
- Can we get a post or an email out there, so that any potential coaches know that we are booking tournaments, and if they have any suggestions to email their division managers? *Jason will send out this to Coaches.*
- Has anyone told Deb that we are advancing all tournaments this season? *Yes, President has communicated this.*
- Lastly, can we get a common graphic that we can all use as our email signatures, so that it looks more professional across the board?

f) DHO Junior:

Tziganey Gagnon

- **No report**

g) Secretary:

Dave Mueller

- *Please send in reports prior to the meeting and kindly let the secretary know even if there is no report.*

h) President: John White

- **No report**

i) 1st Vice President: Mel Penner

- **No report**

j) 2nd Vice President: Val Kloska

- *Sent out email to unregistered players.*
- *Have a virtual meeting with u11 female membership to discuss options and ideas regarding development team.*
- *TRY hockey having about 6 in male and 6 in female groups. TRY program is advertised on website.*
- *Coaching application for female teams will be provide by Jason.*

k) 3rd Vice President Liam O'Brien

- *Naming coaches for tier 2 soon, all other tiers will be parent coaches. Will have a communication out regarding this soon.*

7. Divisional Manager Reports:

k) U7

- **No report**

l) U9 Allison Drager

- **No report**

m) U11 Chantal Tessier

- **No report**

n) U13

- **No report**

o) U15 Randi North East

- **No report**

p) U18

Tanja Poschl

- Has booked 3 tournaments and have confirmed two of these. Also have sent out to three other tournaments, just waiting to hear back.

q) Female

Nikki Carlin

- Team and player requests are beginning to come in, including some dual rostering inquiries. I've responded to each individually, advising families that all requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to ensure fairness and alignment with SAMHA guidelines.
- OMAHA has updated their process regarding female players trying out for the NOVA program — the "Request to Try Out" form is no longer required- waiting on more details regarding this.
- Discussions around forming a U11 Female Development Team are ongoing, and we are working through the best approach to ensure proper support and development for the female players at that level.
- I've submitted tournament applications and am currently waiting for approvals. One item for feedback: many associations group multiple age divisions into a single tournament. Is this a more beneficial approach than sending each division to separate events? Would love input. *This is a good idea, though usually can only send one team from our association per tournament.*
-

r) Ref Assignor

Sean Russell

- **No report**

s) Referee In Chief

Matt Davies

- *had a meeting on june 27 with senior officials to make a plan for this upcoming year.*
- *Try to schedule refs efficiently time wise. back to back games. Not just a single game where some travel a long distance.*

- *Should look at not scheduling refs no more than three games back to back...possible injury, exhaustion, not at their peak performance in game three*
- *Scheduling..some concern from refs doing a U18 game then followed by U11 game. Try to keep same level. This is hard as I explained. At scheduling mtg, first priority is to get all teams games. Time is secondary.*
- *Jason and Sean will meet and come up with clear guidelines how to register on Spordle and inputting availability. Share this process with all at start of season.*
- *Monthly meetings with refs. Look at referee of the month...some form of award....possible food voucher at concession or Yukon Smash, etc. Roy will look into the details of this.*
- *Ref pay/travel. Jason reported that OMAHA is looking at a template that will pay refs same rate throughout the OMAHA leagues. Stay tuned.*
- *will bring up possible using green armbands for new officials.*

t) Equipment Manager

Devon Chan

- *Moving into barcode library for majority of equipment. Will track equipment much easier and better.*

u) Risk Manager/Social Media

Lori Adamson

- *No report*

Approval of standing reports: Moved: Mel Penner Seconded: Cindy Cameron Cherry

8. New Business:

- a. Sandbagging: Lana has offered to oversee again. Hockey Pool will be handled by Cindy
- b. Other:

In Camera:

Motion to move In Camera: David Mueller Second: Melanie Penner Time: 8:15pm

Motion to come out of In Camera: David Mueller**Second:** Melanie Penner **Time:** 8:15pm
Motion to Adjourn: Melanie Penner **Second:** David Mueller

Next meeting - @ Salmar Grand (Monday, August 18st, 6:30pm)