



# STITTSVILLE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

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## Stittsville Minor Hockey Association

Management Council Monthly Meeting - Tuesday, January 19, 2021

7:00PM – VIRTUAL MEETING

### Attendance:

Scott Phelan*	Emily Parent*	Scott Rogers*	Neil Farr*
Terry Foley*	Rob Lomas*	Rob Rae*	Fiona Livingstone
Holly Foley	Bethany Roy	James Moser	Leanne Simpson
Natasha Pappin	Deanne Ferguson	Rob Stewart	Lee Pothier
Joseph Discher	Courtney Milbury		

\*denotes voting Executive members

### 1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:02PM with Scott Phelan chairing.

#### a) Approval of Agenda

*There was no motion to approve the proposed agenda.*

#### b) Approval of Minutes

*There were no minutes brought forward for approval for this meeting.*

#### c) Conflict of Interest

Quorum was established, voting members acknowledged and no conflicts declared.

## **2. President Update – Scott Phelan**

The President's Report was delivered during the meeting. Some of the key highlights discussed included:

Mr. Phelan welcomed the members and thanked them for their continued support and patience in the effort to return to hockey.

Mr. Phelan raised the need to discuss SMHA's options regarding moving forward if provincial regulations are eased on February 11, 2021.

It was noted that West Carleton Minor Hockey has already confirmed they are not resuming their programming and the remaining D4 associations are currently undecided.

There was some discussion regarding the confusion of the lockdown dates as the provincial emergency measures are in place until February 19, 2021. It was agreed that February 11, 2021 was the last date of the lockdown and current restrictions.

It was discussed that the earliest the city facilities could be opened is February 12, 2021 and that there is no indication how the opening will happen. ie. under a colour system?

It was discussed there may not be any value in continuing with a 6-week program at the U18 age group. This also raises the question of whether it is possible to cancel one age group but carry on the others.

There was significant discussion concerning how to approach possible refunds to parents. One idea was to allow parents to hold it as a deposit for next season. However, it was soon determined the registration system is not set up to allow for these types of scenarios. Additionally, it requires a manual entry in the registration system for each e-transfer with a \$1/e-transfer transaction fee from the bank. It was also agreed that a refund/deposit scenario would entail a lot of effort to track and monitor. However, many were in agreement that a refund of some type is owed to parents that is proportionate to the shortened program.

There was some discussion on whether hockey should return before the kids return to school. It was brought up that the lockdown won't be lifted until the number of COVID cases falls below 1000/day.

The ice cancellation dates are not currently known.

There was discussion regarding the drop-dead decision date with no consensus. The majority are in agreement that has the program resuming as late as the end of February. Some raised concerns that the date should be mid-February to at least offer a 6-week program with the number of players allowed on the ice to be factored into the decision.

It was raised that if 10%-15% of parents agreed to an-opt out offer, it would impact the finances for those remaining families. It could also result in teams being without a goalie.

Mr. Phelan agreed to send out an announcement via Campaigner with SMHA's approach to parents as well as posting the message on the SMHA website.

### **3. VP Finance – Emily Parent**

The VP Finance Report was submitted in advance of the meeting and is attached.

Ms. Parent noted that Beckwith had not cashed the January cheques and that she would look into credits that may be available to confirm that we were not charged for any ice we didn't use.

Ms. Parent indicated that if SMHA returned all funds back and with the forecast of outstanding expenses, SMHA would break even and retain a \$45,000 profit from the fall session.

Ms. Parent identified that SMHA would incur a \$1/e-transfer fee and Ms. Parent would have to enter all e-transfer info into the registration system. It was determined that applying the credits would require a lot of effort.

Ms. Parent recommended refunding parents and if SMHA is able to proceed with programming, have SMHA cover the cost from last year's revenues.

Ms. Parent stated that from a cash perspective, SMHA is in a favourable position.



SMHA VP FINANCE  
Jan 2021 update.pdf

### **4. VP Operations – Rob Rae**

The VP Operations Report was submitted in advance of the meeting and is attached.

Mr. Rae noted that SMHA's contracts with the city are currently on hold and not cancelled.

Mr. Rae also noted that if the provincial restrictions are not lifted on February 11, 2021, the extension would likely include multiple weeks.

Mr. Rae also expressed his support to continue with SMHA programming even if the return to hockey isn't until the end of February providing it includes full rosters.



SMHA MEETING  
POSITION REPORT VP

### **5. VP Support Services – Terry Foley**

Mr. Foley asked if there is a drop dead date where SMHA does not proceed with programming and raised the question of what any potential refund scenarios would entail with the revision of a possible 6 week program vs the original 12 week plan. Terry expressed his agreement that the regular refund policy should apply to those parents who don't want to proceed if SMHA programming is resumed.

Mr. Foley was supportive of an administrative fee for refunds.

Mr. Foley raised the question of assuming the city ice allocation remains the same as the fall, what does it cost the SMHA? And what does SMHA do with the excess cash? Also, if the current restrictions are lifted on February 11, 2021, does SMHA plan to resume programming effective February 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup>? Mr. Foley further suggested that the latest date that SMHA should consider resuming hockey operations is February 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Foley was supportive of allowing parents the ability to opt out now and did not see the value in sending out another survey to parents.

#### **6. Director of Competitive – Scott Rogers**

Mr. Rogers agreed it was fair to allow parents to opt out of the program as it can only offer a 6-week program at max, instead of the initial 12-week program expectation.

#### **7. Director of Development (U7/U9)– Neil Farr**

Mr. Farr proposed extending the season into April. It was raised that the city may be able to offer 2 weeks at CRC, but cannot accommodate this on other single ice pad rinks (due to Spring programs).

Mr. Farr expressed concerns with allowing parents to opt out as he felt it would be too much effort to realign teams. However, he was supportive in the SMHA continuing to offer a program, even if the resume date was as late as the end of February with full rosters.

#### **8. Director of House (U11/U13) – James Moser**

Mr. Moser suggested if we are not given the go ahead on February 12, 2021, then SMHA should provide a refund and add any administrative fees to next year's registration.

Mr. Moser raised the possibility of having to run the program with the reduced capacity on the ice with full teams not being able to practice together and if that should play into SMHA's decision.

Mr. Moser noted that there was no refund offer in the fall and that parents signed up knowing the risks.

Mr. Moser remarked that if SMHA was going to offer withdrawals, they should do so now as that information would be required prior to February 11. He also raised the possibility of coaches deciding not to continue.

Mr. Moser believes that there would still be a viable program for U11/U13 for a 4-week, 8 touches/week session.

**9. New Business**

No new business topics were identified.

**10. Adjournment**

*A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:26PM. (Scott Rogers/Terry Foley)*

*Motion Approved.*

**11. In-Camera Session**

*No in-camera session was requested.*

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