

Twin Centre Minor Hockey Association
Executive Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2020 – 7:30pm

Wellesley Community Center- outdoor at picnic tables to accommodate social distancing requirements

Present: David Dienesch, Mike Ellison White, Laura Albrecht, Tammy Egli, Troy Cluthe, Stefan Mitani, Kyle Mavin, Tonya Munro

Absent: Bob Crawford, Andrew Martin, Krista Edwards, Brett Bartlett, Luke Piasecki, Linda Chamberlain, Greg Gedcke

Guests: Dan Roth, Director of Recreation from Township of Wellesley

1. Call to Order – 7:35pm

David called meeting to order and introduced Dan Roth from the Township of Wellesley to provide an update on facilities and how return to play would look.

Dan thanked David for inviting him, recognized the Association's understanding and proposed to get the ice in and work closely with the Association. At this point ice will likely be going in only one arena as men's recreation hockey and other recreation groups have not confirmed interest in ice rental, they have been given a deadline of August 21st to confirm their interest. Currently, players must come dressed 15 minutes prior to game time, put skates on in designated area and must vacate 15 minutes following ice time. Only one parent allowed to attend per player, no grandparents or other family members. There will be a buffer zone of half an hour in between games, the Township will absorb this cost. There will be one entrance and one exit. The refrigeration company is scheduled for 1st week of September in St. Clements and Wellesley is booked for last week of September. Initially in April, the original thought was to put Wellesley in first to accommodate the Apple Jack's but the earliest start to their season is now December. As the dehumidifier in St. Clements is up to date ice would go in there first. If ice is put in Wellesley in early September and we have a heat wave, the viewing glass would fog up. Proposing ice in Wellesley in late September, to provide a buffer for the start of school in case things get shut down again. The Township would then have to decide on removing the ice if there is a second wave and we move back to an earlier stage. Dan stated that he understands most kids are in Wellesley and struggles with best location first but emphasized that decisions are based on all residents of the Township. If things change, and physical indoor numbers increase, Dan promised to put ice in both arenas, he noted that they will back the residents and the recreation department will absorb the additional cost. If the recreation league's agree to a certain amount of time then both ice pads will go in. Dan confirmed that TCMHA and Twin Centre Hericane's (TCH) hockey will take priority. When we need 3 ices times, we need 4.5 hours. The price was set in budget this year with a 2% increase from prior year. Dan will email David the actual cost. When questioned, Dan noted it is possible that Wednesday night is available dependant on curling's decision. Dan mentioned that TCH does not have enough registration to have an in house league, he suggested merging TCH and TCMHA together so that the TCH players have the opportunity to play. According to current rules, TCH players cannot play outside this centre. Dan re-confirmed that ice will go in one of the 2 arenas for sure, depending on other responses.

Dan addressed that question brought forward regarding St. Clements arena, and the lack of appropriate flooring for skates. He advised that the rubber flooring will be used to set up areas for putting on skates, in consultation with minor hockey to ensure social distancing, and approved by Public Health. Dan confirmed that if we get to stage 4 he will put ice in second arena. Stage 3 A, players can use bench. According to the insurance company, if we don't follow Public Health guidelines the Township may be

liable if there is a case of COVID within a facility. Dan is following all guidelines set out by the Province, Public Health, Hockey Canada and Minor Hockey. David confirmed registration numbers are decent. If minor hockey doesn't go ahead the ice will likely not go in as we are the biggest user. Dan hopes we go ahead if it is safe to do so, he feels it is good for the kid's mental health. Dan stated that he has no control over the ice rates, if we are looking for a discounted rate we would go through Dan to Council and advised that we be prepared to open our books. Currently recreation is the second largest income for the municipality, however it operates at a loss every year. Border municipalities are following the same practices and so far no one is providing discounted rates this year. Dan needs to know what our plan is so he can reschedule the refrigeration company if needed.

Tammy indicated that we need to determine the cost of the program and the interest of participants. Dan closed stating that ice will be in if we need it, no date confirmed.

2. Minutes from June 16, 2020- to be approved at next meeting

3. Association Reports

Treasurer Report: Tammy Egli
Nothing to report.

Registrar: Tammy Egli

All registration is open again until August 16th, numbers as of last week- 180, plus a couple additional who opted only tryouts. Last year we had 212. We have approximately 7-9 move in's, some are from Tavistock, some are new and waiting on transfers. Tammy has spoken to all player's that played outside our association last year and only one 1 will be returning to our Centre this year. Tammy expects total registration to be closer to 200.

U7-27

U8-11

U9-17

U11-35

U13-28

U15-24

U18-35

U21-3

After discussion, registration for all groups is now going to be open until August 31st.

Banquet Chair Report – Krista Edwards
Nothing to report.

Photo Coordinator Report: Luke Piasecki
Nothing to report.

Fundraising Chair Report: Open
Nothing to report.

Compliance Report: Linda Chamberland
Nothing to report.

Community Development Chair Report – Luke Piasecki
Nothing to report.

4. Hockey Operations Report

U11-U21 Convenor Report: Greg Gedcke
Nothing to report

U7-U9 Convenor Report: Stefan Mitani
Nothing to report.

Equipment Chair Report: Andrew Martin
On behalf of Andrew, David showed new jerseys, socks and velcro name bars (green on white) & (white on green), everyone was impressed with the final product

Coaching Committee Chair Report: Troy Cluthe
Nothing to report.

Game Coordinator Report: Mike Ellison White
Nothing to report.

Ice Scheduler Report: Tonya Munro
Nothing to report.

Hockey Development Report: Brett Bartlett
Nothing to report.

Tournament Chair Report: Kyle Mavin
Nothing to report.

5. New business

David welcomed everyone to the new season and thanked everyone who stayed to help with the Executive. He noted that this is going to be a very different year and wondered how much reading has been done with all the releases from OMHA & OHF. Most recently, a comprehensive OHF package has been released. At this time it is suggested that we split up and segregate tasks to address everything more quickly. The following groups to address key areas were established;

Covid Safety and Alert Group

Group Lead: David

Members: Laura, Luke, Krista

-> work with Township on facility requirements/procedure, coordinate the health tracking of players/coaches for each ice session, training process for coaches, trainers, team personnel, communication to players and members

Return to Play Structure Group

Group Lead: Mike

Members: Stefan, Greg, Troy, Tonya, Brett

-> includes ice scheduling, team structures, skills programming, group play (internal and/or external) and referee/timekeeper requirements throughout the season

Registration and Compliance Group

Group Lead: Tammy

Members: Kyle, Linda, Andrew

-> how we start the season, costs of season or individual sessions, how we continue to register participants as we go, compliance to the portal of players and team officials and rosters

Stage 3 C

- Game play can begin, 3 on 3 and 4 on 4, we may divide house league and rep teams
- Play limited to own PHU, current maximum is 50 per league
- Team max is 10, 9 players and 1 goalie, minimum is 5 players plus a goalie
- Registration is based on last year's registered Association or return to home association

Stage 3 D

- Play can extend to adjacent PHU's

Stage 4

- TCH's would have to finish the season with the TCMHA
- Tryouts are optional, 2019/20 team classification may be used to determine this year's teams

Team Options- Rep/ House League/ Mixed

- We have a rep loop and have players that are capable of playing rep and only want to play rep
- Some parents are voicing concern about having to play with lower skilled kids
- Stefan figures the chances are high that rep kids will come back even if they are mixed with LL skilled players
- Stefan also noted that mixing the kids would be great for the LL kids
- Placing players into tiers when they move to 3 on 3 and 4 on 4 could be very positive
- Tammy is concerned for the midget and juvenile player numbers
- Mike commented that some ice time is better than none
- Mike raised concern with the midgets as there is no contact

Other Discussion regarding Return to Play

- David mentioned that Team Snap has a health check on the app which can be used for the checklist and would fulfil the requirements
- Ontario Trillium Fund- David assigned to Group 3
- Kyle likes the groups, questioned how do we move back? David said this would be added to game play and procedure
- Notice to families- task groups will work on plan and come together with their plan by September 11th, working on month to month scenarios
- If there isn't enough for a team and your association doesn't have a team- can you go elsewhere? Nothing has been said about moving within age groups
- Some players may not be allowed to play in those locations if that isn't there home center, even if they player there last year

6. General Discussion

Communication

- Kyle strongly encouraged communication
- Tammy is steering people towards the guidelines set out by OHF
- David confirmed last week with Dan Schaus that he is willing to keep up social media including Facebook, Instagram & Twitter, this will be very beneficial to get information out to everyone
- We need to communicate why we need to collect the fundraising fee and what it is going to cover

Fees

- Tammy is hoping within the next two weeks we will have a plan in place and fees
- We are not able to collect fees at this time, it is expected at stage 3c to be able to collect fees
- Our bank currently can't accept e-transfers
- David confirmed that you can set up a session, so that you can pay through the HCR, then add the next session and then they can pay on HCR again
- Tammy has accepted e-transfers personally and then wrote a cheque to the association
- Change of bank was mentioned and may be an option
- Tammy feels we need to set fee structure as soon as possible so that we can get the system set up
- Tammy spoke with Dan Schaus, he mentioned the fundraising fee and asked if we are still going to be charging this, David confirmed we will have to determine how much the fee will need to be going forward
- The fundraising fee provides funds to buy equipment and other necessities
- David feels the fees definitely have to be reduced, the fee will be determined by how the return to play looks and what each groups schedule will be and the programming being offered
- Stefan wants to ensure we put out a clear outline of the fees

Other

- If TCH join's TCMHA, Tammy has to request a move for each player to move to TCMHA, this is required for insurance
- We need to determine if the TCH's are going to play with us so that they can get registered
- Troy suggested that if they do join us this year, they should be a part of our 3 COVID groups
- Tavistock and Wilmot are playing within their location only
- David's opinion is to do something even though an option was put forward by OHF has said that you don't have to offer anything
- Waterloo, Kitchener and Cambridge are playing at home only
- Mike feels that we first need to decide if we will have programming, and when it will start
- Tammy suggested October 1st so that everyone can get back to school and routine
- David confirmed a lot of the protocols are the same as school and kids will be used to mask and indoor protocol
- Start Date- to be determined

Next Steps

- Groups begin working on more finite details, the Association is relying on groups to get things going
- All groups need to put information together and we need a plan for the month of October as to what things are going to look like
- Discussion with TCH- David will have a discussion with Dave Zyta
- David will reach out to Bob Crawford to see if he wants to assist with a group

7. Next meeting: August 26th, 7:00 pm

8. Adjournment 9:20 pm

Motion to adjourn

Moved by: Troy

Seconded by: Laura

Vote: All in favour

Motion: Passed