

# Hockey Manitoba Semi Annual Meeting

## Table of Contents

---

Hockey Manitoba Semi Annual Meeting Agenda.....	2
Minor Council Meeting Agendas.....	3
Female Council Agenda .....	6
Jr./Sr. Female Council Agenda .....	8
Development Council Agenda .....	9
Senior Council Agendas .....	10
President’s Report.....	11
Vice President’s Report.....	13
Executive Director’s Report.....	14
Financial Report.....	18
Hockey Development Report.....	19
Past President’s Report.....	20
Chair of Senior Male Report .....	20
Chair of Junior A/OA Report.....	21
Chair of Junior B/C Report .....	22
Chair of Rural Minor West Zone Report.....	23
Chair of Rural Minor East Zone Report.....	24
President of Hockey Winnipeg Report.....	25
Chair of Junior/Senior Female Hockey Report.....	26
Director of Brandon Minor Report.....	27
Director of Eastman Minor Report .....	27
Director of Interlake Minor Report.....	28
Director of Norman Minor Report .....	28
Director of Pembina Valley Minor Report.....	29
Director of Westman South Minor Report.....	30
Director of Yellowhead Minor Report .....	31
Female Vice Director of Central Plains Minor Report.....	32
Vice Director of Interlake Minor Report.....	33
Vice Director of Norman Minor Report .....	34
Vice Director of Pembina Valley Minor Report.....	34
Female Vice Director of Pembina Valley Minor Report.....	35
Vice Director of Westman South Minor Report.....	36
Female Vice Director of Westman South Minor Report.....	36
Female Vice Director of Winnipeg Report .....	37
Director of Officials Report.....	38





# Hockey Manitoba Semi Annual Meeting



January 17-18, 2014  
Radisson Downtown Hotel, Winnipeg

## Weekend Agenda

### Friday January 17<sup>th</sup>

7:00 – 7:30 PM	Plenary Session	Ambassador H (12 <sup>th</sup> floor)
7:30 – 10:00 PM	Minor Council (Proposed Structure) Female Council (Proposed Structure) Development Council (Proposed Structure) Senior Council (Proposed Structure)	Ambassador D (12 <sup>th</sup> floor) Ambassador B (11 <sup>th</sup> floor) Ambassador C (11 <sup>th</sup> floor) Ambassador G (12 <sup>th</sup> floor)
10:00 PM	Hockey Manitoba Hospitality	Terrace East (P-T floor)

### Saturday January 18<sup>th</sup>

8:30 – 9:30 AM	Presentation by Mr. George Kingston <i>Sustaining the Game</i>	Ambassador H (12 <sup>th</sup> floor)
9:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Minor Council (Existing Structure) Jr./Sr. Female Council (Existing Structure) Senior Male Council (Existing Structure) Junior Congress (Existing Structure)	Ambassador H (12 <sup>th</sup> floor) Ambassador B (11 <sup>th</sup> floor) Ambassador G (12 <sup>th</sup> floor) Ambassador D (12 <sup>th</sup> floor)
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Lunch Break (delegates on their own)	
1:30 – 4:00 PM	Plenary Session	Ambassador H (12 <sup>th</sup> floor)

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of 2013 Fall Council Minutes
4. Business arising from minutes
5. President's Report
6. Vice President's Report
7. Executive Director's Report
8. Financial Report
9. Director of Development Report
10. Executive Committee Chair Reports
11. Development Committee Chair Reports
12. Regional Directors' and Female Vice Directors' Reports
13. Council Reports (Proposed Structure)
14. Council Reports (Existing Structure)
15. Notice of Motions
16. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Presentation
17. Annual General Meeting
18. Other Business



# Minor Council Meeting

January 17-18, 2014  
Radisson Downtown Hotel, Winnipeg



**The information below was part of the Fall Council Meeting and has been included for review, discussion and revision (if necessary) in order to ensure consistency, understanding and functionality of the new governance model. It is important to establish a firm direction, purpose and agreement in each council during the evolution and adoption of the new delivery model in order to maximize the collective contribution of all members. The notes from the Fall Council Meeting will be available for your review and support.**

In an effort to address the impending Hockey Manitoba Governance transition to the new structure and the existing opportunity and ability to implement significant change, it is important that all councils identify their values (important), beliefs (firmly held opinion) and purpose (reason something is done/or created/or which something exists).

1. As a group you are being asked to discuss, identify the primary purpose and focus of your respective council. Please review, what you perceive as your role and function in the delivery of the Hockey Manitoba program?
2. Please establish 3 – 5 goals (goals = towards which and endeavor is directed) in your respective council that you believe are achievable moving forward?
3. Hockey Manitoba's main responsibility is to represent membership. Members can be defined as a player, official, parent, minor hockey association or region. As a result of such a wide representation, conflict amongst membership is unavoidable.
  - Do you agree with the above statements? If you disagree how would you define members and what role should Hockey Manitoba play in the management of members?
  - How does Hockey Manitoba balance the rights of the individuals versus program protection?
  - How do we get buy-in from all stakeholders?

## **Minor Council Agenda Items (Fall Council) – Proposed Structure**

1. Accountability Document – Minor Council Gold Standard
  - Where do we start?
  - What is the process?
  - How do we measure or know what is working? Survey parents? Survey Players?
  - Identify 10 things that measure quality hockey experience?
  - How do we make the game more fun?
2. Review Social Media Policy
3. Standardized Regional Meeting Dates – Spring, Fall and Winter
4. Define the role of the minor hockey association?
  - How can we assist MHA in program delivery? Service level?
  - How do we think like a local minor hockey association in order to help them?
  - What are the challenges?

5. Standardized Registration Dates. Should we consider spring registration? Introduction of Parent On-Line registration.
6. Recruitment and Retention Plan.
  - Review of the registration numbers. Players, officials and volunteers.
  - How do we establish realistic targets to grow the game?
  - How can Hockey Manitoba provide assistance to MHA?
  - What are the obstacles challenges?

### **Minor Council Discussion Points (Semi Annual) – Proposed Structure**

1. Brain storming recruitment and retention initiatives for coaches, players, officials and volunteers.
2. Spring registration implementation, challenges and time lines. Committee selection.
3. Freedom of movement, global philosophy – challenges and limitations of introducing more flexibility
4. Traditional delivery system. Is there a more effective method to service our membership?
5. What is the role of the region? How and what can the Branch provide what is needed and necessary in the way of support? What are some essential resources the Branch can provide to regions?
6. Summer hockey programs, entrepreneurs. How do they affect and impact our current structure? What steps should we take to align ourselves with them for the benefit of members?
7. Development week? Is it worthwhile and beneficial for members and how do we improve?
8. Coaching programs? How can we assist the volunteer coach? How can they more effectively delivery our message?
9. Best practices. How do we share our best practices in order to create and maximize the synergy amongst our partners?
10. Other

## **Minor Council Agenda Items – Existing Structure**

1. Opening Remarks, Introductions and confirmation of Credentials
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Approval of previous Minor Council minutes
4. Notice of Motions
5. Parent Respect in Sport Program
6. Capital Region Discussion
7. Boundary Committee Update
8. Sports Schools
9. Non Contact Hockey
10. Parent On Line Respect Program
11. Body Checking update – Bernie Reichardt
12. Manitoba Winter Games Update - Brian Franklin and Bernie Reichardt
13. Director's Cup
14. Provincials Review
15. Other Business



# Female Council Meeting



January 17-18, 2014  
Radisson Downtown Hotel, Winnipeg

**The information below was part of the Fall Council Meeting and has been included for review, discussion and revision (if necessary) in order to ensure consistency, understanding and functionality of the new governance model. It is important to establish a firm direction, purpose and agreement in each council during the evolution and adoption of the new delivery model in order to maximize the collective contribution of all members. The notes from the Fall Council Meeting will be available for your review and support.**

In an effort to address the impending Hockey Manitoba Governance transition to the new structure and the existing opportunity and ability to implement significant change, it is important that all councils identify their values (important), beliefs (firmly held opinion) and purpose (reason something is done/or created/or which something exists).

1. As a group you are being asked to discuss and identify the primary purpose and focus of your respective council. Please review, what you perceive as your role and function in the delivery of the Hockey Manitoba program?
2. Please establish 3 – 5 goals (goals = towards which and endeavor is directed) in your respective council that you believe are achievable moving forward?
3. Hockey Manitoba's main responsibility is to represent membership. Members can be defined as a player, coach, official, parent, minor hockey association or region. As a result of such a wide representation, conflict amongst membership is unavoidable.
  - Do you agree with the above statements?
  - If you disagree how would you define members and what role should Hockey Manitoba play in the management of members?
  - How does Hockey Manitoba balance the rights of the individuals versus program protection?
  - How do we get buy-in from all stakeholders?
4. Program Review
  - Are the current programs and structure the most effective delivery model to maximize development?
5. Accountability Document – Female Council Gold Standard
  - Where do we start?
  - What is the process?
  - How do we measure or know what is working? Survey parents? Survey Players?
  - Identify 10 things that measure quality hockey experience?
  - How do we make the game more fun?
6. Discuss the challenges and workable solutions within the new Female Council.
  - How do you balance all aspects of female hockey within one council?
  - How can all stakeholders of the female game work together most effectively?
  - What support is needed to best serve Minor, Junior and Senior female programs?

## **Female Council Discussion Points (Semi Annual) – Proposed Structure**

1. Brain storming recruitment and retention initiatives for coaches, players, officials and volunteers.
2. Spring registration implementation, challenges and time lines. Committee selection.
3. Freedom of movement, global philosophy – challenges and limitations of introducing more flexibility?
4. Traditional delivery system. Is there a more effective method to service our membership?
5. What is the role of the region? How and what can the Branch provide what is needed and necessary in the way of support? What are some essential resources the Branch can provide to regions?
6. Summer hockey programs, entrepreneurs. How do they affect and impact our current structure? What steps should we take to align ourselves with them for the benefit of members?
7. Development week? Is it worthwhile and beneficial for members and how do we improve?
8. Coaching programs? How can we assist the volunteer coach? How can they more effectively delivery our message?
9. Best practices. How do we share our best practices in order to create and maximize the synergy amongst our partners?
10. Other



# Jr./Sr. Female Council Meeting



January 18, 2014  
Radisson Downtown Hotel, Winnipeg

## Existing Structure Agenda

1. Welcome & Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Fall Council Minutes September 2013
4. Chair Report – Kirk Koppers
5. Reports            Directors:            Courtney Lofto (Sr.), Linda Benson (Jr.)  
                          Co-Presidents:      Brenda Dubeck & Dan Sullivan (Sr.)  
                          President:            Kirk Koppers (Jr.)
6. Provincials Update – Senior Female - Steve Horne (ACC) incl. schedule
7. Western Shield Update – Kirk Koppers (Red Deer, Alberta- host 2014)
8. Governance – last review
9. Notice of Motions
10. Other Business
11. Adjourn





# Development Council Meeting



January 17, 2014  
Radisson Downtown Hotel, Winnipeg

## Proposed Structure Agenda

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Review and Discussion – last meeting notes
3. Development Council's future/purpose
  - Importance of regional reps
  - Role of Council
4. Coach Education
  - NCMP/Specialty Clinics, new training & mentors
  - Certification program & updates
  - Checking clinics
5. Future Stars program – discussion, philosophy etc.
6. Director's Cup Prospects program – Changes, logistics
7. Officials – issues/concerns for discussion
8. Parent on-line program
9. Recruitment & Retention – 100<sup>th</sup> year plans, free hockey to new players, other areas
10. Other



# Senior Council Meeting

January 18, 2014  
Radisson Downtown Hotel, Winnipeg



## Existing Structure Agenda

1. Call to order and adoption of agenda
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Chair & Director Reports
4. Notice of Motions
5. Senior Provincials update
7. Senior AAA discussion
8. Other Business
9. Adjourn

# President

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the Board to our Hockey Manitoba Semi Annual Meeting. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable festive season and I wish you the very best in 2014.

We have a very busy agenda in front of us this weekend. As we move forward with our governance changes we'll have meetings in both the old and new formats. Notices of Motion will be dealt with at the semi annual for changes that will take effect June 1, 2014. This is also new and I'd like to thank the staff, executive and all board members for your patience and guidance as we move through the process.

Peter and I met with Ron Robinson. Highlights:

- Wants to review WHL branches agreements
- With changes to U-17 program, U-16 becomes the premier event in Western Canada
- WHL would like to make \$15,000 per year available to our branch development programs with \$5,000 going towards Bantam AAA
- Would like to have in face meetings with all partners to rework MB development model
- WHL is interested in running Provincial Skills Camp targeted at Bantam age players.

I attended the Pembina Valley Fall Board meeting in Miami and Brenda and I were at the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame banquet. I attended Steve Maryniuk's funeral in Arborg on behalf of the branch.

I travelled to Montreal to attend the Hockey Canada Fall Board meeting. Chairman Jim Hornell asked me to represent the Branch Presidents in Junior council.

Highlights:

- Each Jr. rep talked about how they are involved in recruitment in their branch
- Safe Talk is a program started in Ontario with the involvement of Jr. aged players and support people. Suicide Prevention is the main topic
- Keystone Cup Jr. B Westerns will be in Abbotsford, BC
- Western Canada Jr A Championship in Dauphin, MB
- Discussion about outlaw Jr A leagues in Ontario. 18 teams this year and projected 28 next year
- Big push from Jr. council to open borders for 17 year olds
- MOU is being put together for USA teams applying to play in Jr A leagues in Canada

Dale, Peter and I travelled to Toronto for the Hockey Canada Semi Annual meeting. Keynote speaker was Donald Fehr.

- Committee struck to review violence in the game, abuse and harassment issues and sanctions for such
- CWHL motion 1) maximum of 4 USA players per team 2) maximum of 2 non-American players per team
- Governance presentation by Al Matthews and Nancy Orr. By laws were passed.
- Ryan Jankowski head scout for U-17 with regional scouts to be named. Will stay an 8 team event, 3 Canadians and 5 world teams
- Brad Pascall made an Olympic Men's team presentation, overview and preparations, with team to be named first week of Jan
- Mel Davidson presented on behalf of Olympic Women's team
- Adam Crockett made the presentation for sledge hockey at the Paralympics in Sochi
- Canadian Olympic hockey jersey sales will be split 50 – 50 between hockey and all other sports
- Grant Fagerheim stepping down as chair of Hockey Canada Foundation
- Kamloops will host the 4 Nations Cup in Nov, 2014
- Female refs will now be able to achieve Level V status
- Hockey Canada 100th birthday Dec 4, 2014. Celebrations being put in place.
- Vote on Quebec Esso Cup issue. They asked to compete as they did last year. Motion was defeated.
- motion to make it mandatory for Head Coach of Atom, Peewee and Bantam teams to complete the Hockey Canada Checking Skills Clinics for the 2014-15 season

- I was in Winnipeg to help with assistant coach interviews for the U-16 male and U-18 female teams for the upcoming Canada Games teams.

While we were in Toronto, Peter, Dale and I attended a Western Branch President's meeting. Highlights:

- Review by ED's of Western Regional Events Hosting Manuals
- Talked about possible rotation of U-16 into MB and BC
- TELUS Cup will remain open bid on regional rotation
- Adoption of Hockey Canada Sport School Guidelines and quality assessment to follow.

Congratulations to our Manitoba U-16 male team which earned a bronze medal in Calgary. Our U-18 female team ended up winning fifth place this year. Good job and both teams represented our branch well. As I write this, our U-17 male MB/SK team is in Cape Breton, NS playing in the last U-17 with this format.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and our entire membership, I would like to welcome Palmer, Michelle, Dustin and Kara to our office staff. Dustin replaces Kayla who resigned to concentrate on her Masters. New positions have been created and with our 100th anniversary of Hockey Manitoba coming up next season, all will be kept busy with planning and events.

We look forward to the upcoming Manitoba Winter Games in Winkler and Morden. All the coaches for 2015 Canada Winter Games are in place and their scouting process will start with our Manitoba games.

All clinics are complete. The online portion of coach and ref clinics seems to have added some confusion this year. It seems that deficient coach numbers are down, however, and that's a good thing.

The new year is always busy and we go through all of our year end events before we get together again at the Hockey Manitoba AGM:

- 1) Directors' Cup
- 2) Manitoba Winter Games
- 3) Development programs
- 4) Scotia Bank Girls' Hockey Fest
- 5) League and provincial playoffs
- 6) Interprovincial play
- 7) Hockey Manitoba Cup for adult rec and senior league champs tourney
- 8) Reebok Skills camp
- 9) Extended season program

Dauphin Kings will be hosting the Western Canadian Junior "A" Championship tournament this year. The top 2 teams will move on to the Royal Bank Cup, Canadian Championship.

Our 100th anniversary for Hockey Manitoba is 2014 – 2015 season, so many plans and events will be rolled out soon. It would be great to have all associations involved in some type of celebration that we can be involved with.

Our Hockey Manitoba AGM this year will bring with it a different format with the new governance model. The elections will take place for the executive and their duties will start June 1st.

Again, I'd like to thank everyone for your patience and involvement as we move through the governance process. It's a very busy time in the hockey season and I wish you productive deliberations this weekend and the very best throughout the balance of the season.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Whitehead

## Vice President

Since our September Season Opener, I had the opportunity to attend both Hockey Canada's Fall Council and Semi Annual meetings. At the Fall Council, I sat in on Senior Council where the main topic was the upcoming 2014 Allan Cup in Ontario. The 2015 it is in Newfoundland then Manitoba's turn in 2016. This was my first experience with Senior Council and I found them to be very focused not only on their event but on all competitions offered by Hockey Canada.

At the Semi Annual meeting of Hockey Canada in November, the two main topics were advancing the governance changes and of course Canada's preparation for the upcoming Sochi Olympics. Motions were passed to move the main elements of governance along to the point of complying with federal regulations and the direction discussed many times in the past two years.

The assembled group received detailed presentations on Canada's Olympic team preparations. The resources committed are truly amazing especially for the Women's and Sledge teams. We were updated on the changes to the Under 17 program which will reduce the number of Canadian teams from five to three. At the just completed Under 17 event, Team West finished in ninth spot which is certainly disappointing. However on a positive note, Manitoba was represented in the Gold Medal game when Justin Verhaeghe was selected to officiate. Congratulations!

In our Branch, we also will be moving our governance changes along with the presentation and hopefully acceptance of our motions. This has been a two year journey. Thanks to Bill, Peter and Scott for undertaking and leading us through this challenge.

Our next major event is the Manitoba Games. This is a huge task to co-ordinate both locally and across the Branch. I would like to extend a sincere "thank you" from myself to Past President Brian for his time, talent and patience.

The new format for the education of officials and coaches has had its challenges. More detail on this will be covered in Peter's report.

As we move forward into a very busy 2014, I wish to acknowledge all those that participate in the administration of hockey so that kids can play!

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Fossay

# Executive Director

## Action Bulletins

1. 14 - 1	May 17, 2013	2013 – 2014 Fee Structure
2. 14 - 2	June 14, 2013	AGM Motion Results
3. 14 - 3	June 17, 2013	Hockey University Officiating Program
4. 14 - 4	August 22, 2013	Coaching Program facility Costs
5. 14 - 5	August 26, 2013	Hockey University and Training Programs
6. 14 - 6	Sept. 5, 2013	Season Opener and Fall Council Meetings
7. 14 - 7	Oct. 8, 2013	Dodge Caravan Program
8. 14 - 8	Oct. 8, 2013	Notice of Motions
9. 14 - 9	Nov. 25, 2013	Administration Transition Period
10. 14 - 10	Dec. 12, 2013	Semi Annual Meeting

## Appeals/Hearings

Date	Name	Type of Appeal	MHA	Result
Sept. 4, 2013	Eric Kreklewetz	Registration	St. Eustache	Approved
Sept. 4, 2013	Jack and Ryan Young	Registration	St. Eustache	Approved
Sept. 4, 2013	Sam and Beck Mollot	Registration	St. Eustache	Approved
Sept. 4, 2013	Liam and Ella Kletke	Registration	St. Eustache	Approved
Sept. 5, 2013	Rylan Hudson	Registration	St. Eustache	Approved
Sept. 5, 2013	Keenan Couchaine	Registration	St. Eustache	Approved
Sept. 5, 2013	Kirsten and Joshua Masters	Registration	St. Eustache	Approved
Sept. 5, 2013	Alex Brown	Registration	St. Eustache	Approved
Sept. 7, 2013	Braden Krahn	Registration	St. Eustache	Approved
Sept. 11, 2013	Jessiah and Allaiya Bennett	Registration	MacDonald	Approved
Sept. 11, 2013	Kenzie Robinson	Registration	Yellowhead	Denied
Sept. 11, 2013	Sky Brown	Registration	Yellowhead	Denied
Sept. 19, 2013	Sky Brown	Registration	Yellowhead	Approved
Sept. 11, 2013	Conor Dewar	Registration	The Pas	Approved
Sept. 12, 2013	Demelash McKay	Registration	Hockey Winnipeg	Approved
Sept. 17, 2013	Gillian Laninga	Registration	MacDonald	Approved
Sept. 17, 2013	Jeremie Goderis	Registration	Pembina Valley	Approved
Oct. 17, 2013	Avery Bridges	Registration	Rock lake	Approved
Oct 20, 2013	Brad Wither	Discipline	Eastman	10 years
Oct. 28, 2013	Blaise Borrer	Discipline	Winnipeg Twins	Jan. 1, 2014
Nov. 28, 2013	Matthew Audino	Discipline	River East	5 games
Dec. 21, 2013	Brody Sutherland	Discipline	Maples	5 games
Dec, 28, 2013	Donavan Tanner	Discipline	Norway House	10 games
Dec. 30, 2013	Corinne Schroeder	Registration	Pembina Valley	Denied

Hockey Manitoba has processed **517** (2012 - 2013 total - 505) incoming and **608** (2012 - 2013 total - 479) outgoing Inter-Branch transfers to the following Branches.

**Incoming:** **British Columbia** 35 Junior - 19 All, **Hockey Alberta**, 17 Junior – 50 All, **Saskatchewan** 54 Junior – 155 All, **Hockey Northwest Ontario** 18 Junior – 34 All, **Hockey Eastern Ontario** 3 Junior – 9 All, **Ontario Hockey Federation** 10 Junior – 37 All, **Quebec** 3 Junior - 8 All, **Hockey North** 3 Junior 6 All, **New Brunswick** 0 Junior - 10 All, **HNS** 0 Junior – 9 All, **Hockey Newfoundland** 0 Junior - 1 All, **PEI** 0 Junior - 0 All, **QMJHL** 0, **OHL** 0 Juniors **WHL** 15 Juniors - 20 All. (**Total Junior** 142 **All** 375)

**Outgoing:** – **British Columbia** 18 Junior - 62 All, **Hockey Alberta**, 32 Junior – 123 All, **Saskatchewan** 30 Junior – 172 All, **Hockey Northwest Ontario** 20 Junior – 31 All, **Hockey Eastern Ontario** 2 Junior – 21 All, **Ontario Hockey Federation** 8 Junior – 28 All, **Quebec** 6 Junior - 18 All, **Hockey North** 0 Junior - 0 All, **New Brunswick** 0 Junior - 2 All, **HNS** 1 Junior – 11 All, **Hockey Newfoundland** 0 Junior - 5 All, **PEI** 0 Junior - 1 All, **QMJHL** 0, **OHL** 0 Juniors – 0 others **WHL** 3 Juniors - 14 All. (**Total Junior** 120 **All** 488)

**Please Note:** Although the numbers of outgoing players is typically higher than the incoming players to our Branch a large majority of them are youth players that are transferring with their parents who have moved for

employment opportunities primarily to the provinces of British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The number of junior players moving in and out has remained relatively constant however a truer indication and comparison can be made once registration is completed in February. The above totals are as the middle of December.

## **Executive Director's Updates**

1. After a fairly lengthy process the office renovations began in the middle of December and are expected to be completed by the final week of January. The work has been forced to be executed in 3 separate phases in order to minimize staff and work disruption. With the addition of 2 new full time staff members this was a necessity and will allow us to be more productive in the delivery of our program.
2. This weekend our membership will have the opportunity to make a significant decision as to the future direction of our organization with the adoption of a new Governance structure. Although the roles of our Board may change I am confident the new format will allow greater discussion and input from all members which I believe will be more valuable for the overall health of our organization. The game of hockey is important to members and Canadians and the dynamic role of the volunteer administrator is critical to the growth of our sport both provincially and nationally. The front line volunteer is an essential component for the continuing development of our program and it remains our responsibility to provide them with the essential tools, programs and resources to maximize program delivery for the welfare, benefit and enjoyment of our membership.
3. The last week of November I attended the Risk and Safety meeting in Calgary. The agenda was fairly complete and consisted of E-Learning, Body checking, mouth guards, flavored tobacco, cyber bullying, concussion, billeting, AED's, helmet sensors, criminal record checks and harassment manual. These are significant discussion topics and Hockey Canada continues to provide sound leadership in the education, packaging and delivery of programs to assist membership satisfaction. Unfortunately we live in a very litigious society so it is important that we are not only aware of the risk exposure of members but provide them with a level of comfort in order to safely participate in the game.
4. Due to the significant challenges with the introduction of Hockey University for both coaches and officials we had anticipated an above average number of deficiencies this season. Despite circulating bulletins and directly contacting all minor hockey associations coaches and officials continue to wait until the last minute to take the online course, and since they are not allowed to register for the in person course until the online course is complete we have been forced to cancel clinics due to low enrolment. In anticipation of late registration we strategically back loaded a number of clinics to address this occurrence. In total the deficiency list includes 69 coach, 5 Dev. 1, 43 IP, 69 RIS and 22 Safety. These numbers are manageable and Ashley, Esther, Michelle and Dustin have done a good job in coordinating this program.

It is difficult to accurately measure the overall deficiencies due to the ability of teams to release deficient members prior to the December 1<sup>st</sup> certification deadline. Although we can cross reference the numbers it would be time consuming and I am not confident the total figure will provide a clearer picture on how to ensure certification compliance.

A continuing concern is the number of team officials who register to take a coaching course whether that is online or in person but fail to be placed on a team roster. Hockey Manitoba feels the certification and education of members is extremely important in helping to ensure the safety and well being of our youth. One of the few methods Hockey Manitoba has in monitoring registration totals is through the registration of official team rosters and if a member fails to be placed on a team roster no registration fee is collected placing the individual and program in peril.

Hockey Manitoba invoices all participants \$50.00 who registered for an online course whether that is Coach/Intro Coach, Safety or RIS if they are not on a roster. We do allow a grace period up to the middle of February to be placed on a roster but if they fail to pay the fee or register as such we place a note on

their file preventing them from registering on a team in the future until the fee has been paid. The totals of individuals that registered for a course this year but have not been placed on a roster are coach/intro coach – 160; registered for Hockey University 293; or took Respect in Sport 591. These numbers are very significant and represent both a registration revenue shortfall and membership risk of exposure which would include no injury and liability insurance coverage.

5. The 100th Anniversary preparations are moving along smoothly. August 12, 2014 is the confirmed date for the Golf Tournament; May 9, 2015 for the Gala Dinner. The leadership group is meeting regularly with Kara who has taken over from Palmer on a contract basis to review our plans. The plan is to focus on 2 other major events along with supporting current Hockey Manitoba programs. Palmer has replaced Brit Hergesheimer who resigned in October we were forced to review our strategy and have assigned Kara Cardiff who worked part time with Hockey Manitoba 2 seasons ago has been appointed as the project coordinator for the 100th Anniversary. Kara will work part time for the time being with a more defined role as the 2014 – 2015 season approaches.
6. The Hockey Canada Skills Academies continue to grow. Hockey Manitoba has approved 10 Academies this season and the number is expected to grow by a couple of more next season. This is a great opportunity for players to be exposed to a good program which will assist in their development. The Hockey Canada Molson summit that was held after the 1998 Olympic Games identified skill academies as one of the major focuses and the program continues to complement the current hockey delivery system. It is important that we continue to review and evaluate our current traditional programs to ensure that the current delivery model is consistent with the changing family dynamics and respective needs.
7. The Dodge Caravan program continued to be a strong success with a final total participation of 115 teams. Hockey Manitoba was able to successfully lobby to raise our original allocation from 86 to 115 which is the highest total we have achieved in 6 years. We will review the program to see if we can continue to expand with the assistance of program partners Dodge and the OHF.
8. Hockey Manitoba continues to explore the opportunity to initiate player registration for the spring. The office intends to initiate discussion with all MHA in the coming weeks for the current information and dates that each member association holds their registration as well as their preference and position of moving it to the spring time frame. Debbie Harms has indicated that this is her final year as a Zone Registrar so this is an opportune time to evaluate our registration delivery model. Certainly the advantages of getting all members registered in the system prior to the start of fall tryouts is attractive as well as getting all members to accept the technological advantages of online registration. The long range goal is to have members register through an online system however the immediate goal needs to be directed at an early registration opportunity.
9. Hockey Manitoba is pleased to host George Kingston this weekend to make a presentation to our Board semi-annual meeting in January. George is a coaching veteran of over 40 years at the University, NHL and European levels and has a strong message on the how minor hockey should be organized and how to maximize development. I have personally known George for a number of years and Bill Whitehead had the opportunity to attend the Hockey Alberta Summit in August and was very impressed with his presentation. He will be dynamic, entertaining and have a strong message. It is exciting for Hockey Manitoba to be able to attract a person of George's caliber to address our group.
10. Wayne McNeil remains interested in discussing the Parent Program and what steps we can take to implement it in our branch. Hockey Canada has not confirmed their position but the Branches that do support this program are very pleased with the delivery and content and the positive impact it has had on their membership. It is Hockey Manitoba's understanding that Hockey Winnipeg will introduce the Parent program next season. The initial step for the management of this program is to ensure all members are registering online which is required to effectively monitor membership compliance.



11. All Hockey Manitoba board members are required to complete an updated Police Record check. The response has been limited. All Board Members are reminded to complete and submit their checks to the office to ensure they are in compliance with our Constitution.
12. Hockey Manitoba continues to promote Team Hub which is a communication and management tool for all teams to organize and coordinate team rosters, activities, and player availability, team schedules etc. The goal is for Hockey Canada to achieve 10% of the total number of teams to utilize the system. Hockey Manitoba currently has 125 teams registered. 150 teams would represent 10%. Our goal remains to try and surpass this total. As of December 17, 2013 Hockey Canada had achieved about 75% (2350) of their stated goal of 3000 team's country wide. With the registration of all new players scheduled to receive their cards in the mail in next few weeks it is anticipated that the projected numbers will be achieved.

Club Hockey Canada activation is 33% which Hockey Canada is generally pleased and anticipating further growth with the distribution of new members that will receive a mail out in January. The activation goal for Canada is 39%. Activation levels are good but have not increased base items on the Hockey Canada online store and the program is still not driving members to the store that were anticipated. The concept remains positive. Sponsorship engagement has been positive with one good offer per month directed as a benefit to members. Again with new packages going out in January these figures should spike country wide.

13. Bernie, Dale and myself met with representatives with Sport Manitoba to review the Sport delivery system in rural Manitoba and how they can assist our program. The meeting consisted of a series of questions and will be followed up with survey to specific regional members. Sport Manitoba is reaching out to a number of major/key PSO's. A final report is expected to be made available in June.

# Financial Report

It is an extremely busy time in the office leading into the second half of the hockey season. We have been working diligently to keep our financial records up to date, although it continues to be more time consuming with the increased amount of online payments, credit card/debit terminal transactions, etc. The addition of Michelle in the office has certainly assisted with the day to day transactions which seem to be ever-increasing.

We have included the financial statements for the month ending December 2013 for information purposes, however the more important document we have submitted is our initial financial forecast for the fiscal year end May 31, 2014. At the time of writing the report we do not have the results of this forecast, however we will present and note a few items of significance leading to our forecast. We should point out that a balanced budget was approved last year by the Board of Directors.

Our investment balance as of December 31, 2013 is \$920,823. There will be a deposit into the investment account shortly as fees are collected. As per policy, this investment will be into GIC's through our RBC Investment account.

## **Renovations**

We are in the middle of office renovations in order to accommodate new staff and these should be completed in early February. To date these have gone without major incident, and we are within budget parameters set forth by the Board at the AGM.

## **Sponsorship**

We are enjoying beneficial partnerships with all sponsors, most recently with Royal Sports as a new official partner. We have been working closely with them to work on all of the logistics surrounding this extensive partnership. There are a number of current agreements scheduled for renewal for next season which we will begin working on shortly, as well as a number of new possibilities we will address. Our sponsorship revenue should continue to steadily increase.

## **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

An update and brief presentation at the Semi Annual meeting will be made to everyone, and we will have a summary budget available. The costs associated with celebrating our centennial season are significant, although we will try to reduce this by way of sponsorship, fundraising, event revenues, etc. We will ultimately look for board support to move forward with plans as outlined in the presentation.

Other items of interest will be verbally reported on at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Franklin – Chair of Finance  
Scott Furman – Director, Business Operations

# Hockey Development Report

## "The Season of Change"

### COACH DEVELOPMENT

The entire coaching program is in an "upgrade" mode. Changes to the Hockey Canada Hockey University coach education program were in effect this season. A huge change as on line learning had to be completed before registering for an in person course (which was 4 hours and then a 1 hour on ice component). New regulations from the CAC will affect certification in the near future. Suffice to say the coaching program as we know it has changed.

We will also have major changes to our coach mentor Specialty Clinics, as they will be part of the changes to the coaching curriculum. Body checking clinics will also be discussed this weekend and a plan must be put in place moving forward.

### PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

- Hockey Manitoba Future Stars Program – Yellowhead, Brandon, Pembina Valley
  - April 11 - 13, 2014

Team West has just recently finished competing in the 2014 World Under-17 Championship in Cape Breton, NS. Team West had a tough schedule and a tough pool and finished ninth at this year's tournament. Thanks to all the players and coaches for representing Manitoba. Good learning experience for all involved. This will now end our affiliation with the U 17 program as Hockey Canada will take over all aspects of the program. Personally it's been an unreal opportunity for me over the years and experiences I will remember always.

Information for the 2014-15 season POE programs (U-16 boys & U-18 girls) is under way. The Manitoba Games has taken on a huge portion of our time and will continue to do so until the games are complete (March 2-9 in Morden – Stanley – Winkler). This will replace our Spring POE this year. POE Top 40 Camp will take place May 8-11, 2013 in Portage la Prairie.

We are in the fourth year of our Hockey Manitoba Reebok Skills Camps. The initial component of this program is the "High Performance Spring Skills Series", which again will take place this year in Brandon and Winnipeg throughout April & May 2014 with the focus on our future Bantam female POE players. The Spring Break and fall camps are also being run once again.

U-16 & U-18 Team Manitoba have both completed their events last fall. Both programs had successful Prep Camps during the fall. U-16 Team Manitoba (Male) finished third at the Western Canadian Challenge in Calgary. Meanwhile the U-18 female team finished 5th in Calgary, AB in November. A big thank you to all players and staff for their time and efforts! Canada Games staffs are in place for the 2015 event in Prince George, BC.

The Director's Cup Prospects Program will see significant changes in philosophy & delivery with the introduction of a 5-week standardized program across the province. The program will serve as an important stepping stone to the U-16 Program of Excellence covering important concepts & tactics required of players competition with Team Manitoba, Team West, and eventually Team Canada.

### OFFICIALS DEVELOPMENT

Official's clinics for the 2013-2014 season are now complete. We certified approximately 1650 officials.

Thank you to Director of Officiating Grant Heather and the ODC for working in the program this season. Esther is always keeping everyone on task – thanks Esther. As always there are many things going on and we continue to strive to support our young officials.

Hockey University included with Level 1 – 2 officials this year. Some issues but we move forward as best as we can to make the transition easy. Grant's report is included in the package as well.

Prepared by Bernie Reichardt and Kyle Prystupa  
Hockey Development Staff

## **Past President**

This season I have been heavily involved helping Bernie and Kyle with the hockey portion of the upcoming March 2014 Sport Manitoba Winter Games. I started such back in May 2013 and by December we had named male and female coaches for all the Sport Manitoba Regions. With the assistance of our Hockey Manitoba Scouts all regional coaches have selected their teams and, with the exception of one female team, have held orientation camps. The teams will not be together again until the games—March 2-8, 2014, in Winkler-Morden-Stanley. From these games our Team Manitoba Coaches will start the selection process for the Canada Winter Games Male and Female Teams.

Throughout the season to date I have also sat on various registration Appeals and Discipline Hearings.

I wish all a successful finish to the 2013-2014 season.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Franklin

## **Chair of Senior**

1. Plans had been underway for the Senior "A" Championship in April, however, a recent turn of events has cast a bit of a shadow on the event. Senior Council met in Brandon in early December to make several decisions with respect to the format for the Championship. Following that meeting we were informed that because of Easter the Hockey Manitoba Cup and Senior "A" Tournament would be completed on Saturday and not Sunday as was anticipated. The intent for this year was to add a semi-final series on Saturday and a final on the following day and a preliminary round would be played on the week-end prior, preferably hosted by a participating team. The intent was to provide several teams the opportunity to host an inter-league game and possibly profit-share so as to lessen the financial burden to attend the tournament at the Iceplex. I'm hoping that a conference call will be put in place in an attempt to solve these issues or the other possibility is to offer the entire format to a host site. More at the meeting???
2. Information for the "B/C" Provincials has gone out and will be dealt with early in the New Year.
3. The 2 Senior AAA teams will be starting to get underway in the New Year and I'll be continuing discussions with regards to the hosting of the Allan Cup in 2016. The Man/Sask. Interbranch will be held in Manitoba running from Mar.28 - April 1, 2014 .

Ray Brethour

# Chair of Junior A/OA

## Junior A

The new digital signage initiative launched by the MJHL has gotten off to a good start with the official launch in September 2013. All eleven huge digital signage units (one in each team arena) are operating and providing excellent advertising exposure for the league corporate partners. Sales to date are a little below what had been hoped for, but interest is beginning to grow and the league hopes to increase the sales level in year two.

League fan attendance is off about 3% over last year with some fluctuations up and down in a few of the team markets. Steinbach is up over last year which was expected due to their success last season. Also, the Virten Oil Capitals are enjoying a solid attendance run this season averaging about 1000 fans per game at the half way point in the season. League wide average per game attendance is 581 fans.

The standings to date this season indicate that there will be some fierce battles as the season enters its final third segment. There are three teams bunched near the top in the Addison Division (Selkirk, Steinbach and Portage) with five points separating the first and third place. In the Sherwood \division three point separate Virten (first) and Dauphin (second).

For the first time the MJHL will be incorporating a Survivor Series into the playoff picture this year. This means that the fifth place team in each division will play the fourth place team in the division in a best of three series. The winner of this Survivor series will become the fourth place seed for the remainder of the playoffs where best of seven series will be played to determine a league champion.

The 2014 Western Canada Cup (WCC) will be hosted by the community of Dauphin, MB during the dates of April 25 – May 4. This event is the second under the new HC regional playoff format after being hosted in Nanaimo, BC last year for the first time. The event Steering Committee meetings are underway on a monthly basis with Senior Chair, Ray Brethour representing the Branch on the Committee. The Dauphin Host Committee has the event plans well in hand and working diligently on ticket sales and corporate sponsorship to drive the success of the event. The budget for the event is approximately 550,000.

The Steinbach Pistons have been nominated as one of the five teams of the year for 2013 by the Manitoba Sportswriters and Sportscasters Association. The MSSA will be holding their annual Awards Dinners in Winnipeg on Sunday, January 26 at the Delta Hotel.

## Junior OA

The 2013/14 MMJHL league play up to the holiday season break definitely has had a few surprises. There has been a much greater amount of parity in the league this year and it has the makings of an exciting 2<sup>nd</sup> half and finish to the season.

St. Boniface Riels are leading the league, which is remarkable, considering they finished in 7<sup>th</sup> place last year. The Riels have held 1<sup>st</sup> place since the beginning of the season and continue to play some exciting hockey.

The current reigning champions, the Pembina Valley Twisters are holding down 2<sup>nd</sup> place, followed by the Raiders Junior and the River East Royal Knights. There are a total of 12 points separating the remaining 6 teams, which in itself, is making for an exciting finish to the season.

The majority of the teams continue to be involved in various charity events in their communities, by volunteering their time and effort to raise money for all worthy causes.

The St. Boniface Riels will be hosting the 31<sup>st</sup> MMJHL All-star Event, kicking off with the dinner and introduction of the All-star players, Wednesday January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Jonathan Toews Community Centre.

The All-star game and skills competition will be played Saturday February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 at the Southdale Community Center.

Regards,

Kim Davis

## **Chair Junior B/C**

### Junior B

The KJHL has chosen to play in 2 Divisions, consisting of North: Arborg, Peguis, Norway House, and OCN, in the South: Selkirk, North Winnipeg, St. Malo, and Lundar. Ste. Rose has taken a year of absence this season. Regular season will finish on Feb.16 and playoffs will start on Tuesday, Feb. 18. North and South will play down within their own division. First round will be best of 5, 2<sup>nd</sup> or semi finals will be best of 7. Finals will be best 7, between Winner of South vs. North.

The Western Junior B championship games in Abbotsford, BC. this April, 2014.

There will be a conference call to finalize the schedule and an update for the schedule, will be submitted.

### Junior C

The Hanover Tache Jr. C league has 8 teams this year consisting of Steinbach, Grunthal, Springfield, Niverville, Red River, Lorette, St. Pierre, and La Broquerie.

The playoff schedule has not been announced.

Rod Gluck

## **Chair of Rural Minor West**

To date we have had 136 overages submitted in the West Zone. Just a friendly reminder that these players are ineligible for Regional Playoffs and Provincials.

We will be looking at getting the regions to rank the Bantam AAA teams shortly so we can draft the draws for Provincials.

The Provincial team placements were completed by conference call on January 3rd. Following this teams were given a week to withdraw. As of January 14 we were still dealing with a few teams.

It is apparent that we have a real disconnect between some teams, the local Associations and the regions. The communication is not always there. Teams not knowing they are entered in what division, not knowing who the host is, not aware they are still in when they asked to be withdrawn, or had requested a move but were not advised of outcome.

All regions were to have had a meeting or Conference call to approve their team placement, yet we had teams requesting being moved following the meeting. Team placements are approved by the regions and unless there was an obvious error then all changes were denied following that meeting.

As this was the first year of placing teams by conference call we had a few glitches, which were expected. Next year things will go a lot more smoothly with everyone's help.

With Provincials around the corner hope to have draft draws ready by the end of the month.

Hope everyone is now ready to get busy in 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Gladden

## Chair of Rural Minor East

On November 16<sup>th</sup> I attended Help us Fight Cancer Midget Female AAA game in Selkirk, a shout out to Dennis Park, Hockey Winnipeg and all the volunteers and fans that attended. It was a great event for such a worthy cause.

A number of calls were received regarding team placement and categorization of associations for provincials, as I am sure Scott and Ken had as well. The team placement conference calls on January 2<sup>nd</sup> went well. However since the calls, there have been a number of requests for change of category and teams withdrawing from attending provincials.

On January 7<sup>th</sup> I attended a meeting between Central Plains, Pembina Valley and MacDonald regarding their boundaries and development programs.

I have been contacted by a number of parents requesting information regarding the upcoming winter games, hopefully I have directed them to the correct individuals who may provide them with the appropriate information.

To date the following Overages, Player Transfers and Under10/Over 19 applications have approved;

Interlake OA – 45

Eastman OA - 33

Pembina Valley OA – 30

Central Plains OA – 15

Player Transfers – 39

Under 10/ Over 19 – 12

There have been a number of appeals and discipline hearings to date and I have participated in the ones that have fit into my schedule. It certainly has been a busy time and a demand on a volunteers' time never seems to end, which I am sure all of you can appreciate.

Respectfully,

Bert Dow



# President of Hockey Winnipeg

1. Governance - This weekend we will finalize decisions with respect to the resolutions before us to implement the New Governance Model. Hockey Winnipeg supports the implementation of the changes. Collectively our Executive sees this model as a good step forward and an excellent starting point for management of Hockey within our Province with new emphasis of the Female program and the Development side of our programming. Russ Cassidy has expressed an interest in the Development portfolio. With his extensive experience involving both Rural and Winnipeg teams and the implementation of numerous skill development initiatives we look forward to the opportunities that will be presented in June at the Annual Meeting.
2. Hockey Winnipeg Activity - The month of January is Hockey Month in Winnipeg. At the writing of this report the AAA All-star day on Jan. 11 and The Dianne Woods Memorial Peewee All-star and Skill competition on Jan. 12 were concluded. The balance of the events include: Jan. 18 – Female All-star day, Jan. 19 AA Male All- star day, Jan. 19 CJOB Subway Hockey Winnipeg Road show, Jan. 26 Ron Stamm Midget All-star days.
3. Parent Respect in Sport- Hockey Winnipeg has decided to proceed with implementation of this program for the 2014-15 registration season.
4. Non-Contact Program – Planning is underway to implement a Non-Contact Hockey Program for the 2014-15 seasons. Participation will include ages 13 to 17.
5. Capital Region discussion – Plans are underway to host a meeting of Hockey Winnipeg Executive members and Hockey Association within then Capital region of Winnipeg. Currently many teams play in the Winnipeg leagues. Further discussion on this topic for the betterment of the game is required. Feb. 10 at the Polo Park Inn is being planned.
6. U-18 Female National Championship was November 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> and my wife and I had the pleasure of attending the event in Calgary. Team Manitoba and the Coaching staff did Manitoba proud in their effort in all games played. Short one goal in a 3-2 loss to the eventual winners (Ontario Red) result in missing the semi finals and playing for fifth place against Team Atlantic. The Team was successful in the fifth place game. My assessment of our ability was we are in the top 3-4 in Canada. It is difficult to compete with Ontario as they enter two teams (Red and Blue). An interesting point is that Ontario does not draft the teams equally. My assessment is based on 3-2 loss to Alberta, 4-2 win over Saskatchewan and the 3-2 loss to Ontario Red. Team Manitoba was up 2-0 after the first period against Team Ontario (Red). They scored three goals in four minutes in the second period and we held our own the rest of the game. Two other observations:
  - We were a younger team compared to the other participants
  - We seemed to lose steam at the end of each period as if we were not in good condition. It may be a result of playing games right up to the days before travelling to Calgary. Some consideration of not playing a few days before the tournament might be a consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Don H. McIntosh

## Chair of Junior/Senior Female

As we reach the mid year of hockey and begin a New Year it gives one a time to reflect and a time to look ahead. The Fall meeting has brought us a renewed look at the proposed new governance model which includes a continuity for the female game from grass roots to top of the line skaters, the opportunity to discuss female hockey with all regions and with respect to all levels as well as hear of new developments. It was very refreshing and allows one an opportunity to enhance the game, "grow it" and to be more inclusive.

At our end of things we have two competitive women's leagues with that of Senior and Junior female and 14 teams in total. (\* Senior/ 6 Junior) Competitions and Tournaments lay ahead of us and this is where the real hockey takes place for the competitive player.

- The recent Provincial awarding of Brandon and Assiniboine College to host the Senior Female teams for 2014 (March 13-16) has resulted in 3 teams placed in the A pool (The Herd, Blazing Stars and the Manitoba Maple Leafs) and 6 teams in the B pool. They are Assiniboine College Cougars, Minnedosa Wild, Brandon Bandits and Devils, Rage and Aces of the WWHL;
- Courtney Lofto and Larry Shannon have collaborated to bring forward a very interesting schedule and exciting competition. Thank you both.
- The eventual winners of Pool A and Pool B will be representing Hockey Manitoba at the Western Shield in Red Deer, Alberta in April 2014. All Western Provinces will be there to battle for the Shield which represents Western Senior female hockey supremacy;
- The MWJHL will be hosting a "star studded" day on Sunday January 19<sup>th</sup> with a "kick off" to their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This is being hosted by the MWJHL and includes a fundraiser for both the charity of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the league. The JDRF poster girl is Meghan Stecher. The event name is Fashion Meets Hockey and will include Junior players in various roles from modeling, to act as Ambassadors to meet, greet and escort guests to tables and to assist with wardrobe changes as well as help with the Silent Auction and other activities. Right after the Show and luncheon (2-5 pm) some players will take to the ice to assist in an on ice skills camp for young female skaters prior to and the annual MWJHL All Star hockey game at 6:15 pm.
- The MWJHL is also hosting its 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Invitational Lieutenant Governor's Tournament Jan.30 – Feb. 2, 2014 and will include all six Winnipeg based Junior teams, Assiniboine College and Thunder Bay's Confederation College and Lakehead University for a 9 team competition;
- Playoffs resume in February and March 2014 for both leagues. It is also Hockey Manitoba's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Kirk Koppers

## Director of Brandon

As I am unfortunately unavailable to attend the mid-season meeting, my hope is that you all have a fruitful weekend and the meetings go swimmingly. Our region will be well represented by Sharon and Ramona.

My report, like my Jockeys will be brief. I have copied and pasted an email that I – and I'm sure all Directors – received. It speaks volumes on where we are presently, where we're headed, and some of the reasons why. I have removed the sender's name and team name to protect the guilty.

Have great weekend! See you all in spring.

Yours in hockey,

Glen Parker

*Hi Glen,*

*I am the head coach of the 2007 Team Blank and we are currently in the process of tryouts for spring hockey. I was hoping you could put me in contact with the 6U coaches from within your region. Is there an email list you could pass along to me? or even forward my email to them? We would like to invite any interested families from within your region. MB Team Blank draws players from all over the province as well as other provinces to play on our spring teams.*

## Director of Eastman

Another season is halfway over. Eastman is in provincial playdowns. League games are almost complete with playoffs to begin in February. Director's Cup and Pee wee Development are about to begin. Winter Games team is underway and ready to compete. It's great that there is a Bantam AAA League to develop more players for the Midget AAA Selects and the City Midget AAA teams. Eastman is proposing to have a Pee wee AA league for more development. Player and Coach suspensions have decreased, so far, for the 2013/14 season.

I would like to thank Bert Dow, Chair of Rural Minor East Zone, Debbie Harms, Registrar Hockey Manitoba, and Hockey Manitoba for all their help and advice thus far this season.

Sincerely,

Ken Kutzak

## **Director of Interlake**

We are now half way through our season and everything seems to be running smoothly. Hockey Manitoba play downs are well under way which is earlier than last season and the early start appears to be working better. There is not as much confusion with having to get more games done in a short amount of time.

Interlake also is quite happy with the number of players this year. Our numbers have risen as a whole. The only issue, as I am sure is everywhere, is that we cannot seem to find enough referees for the games.

Our regional teams are developing as the season progresses. Everything seems to be running as well as possible.

Our female program is progressing which we are very enthusiastic about. We have a Midget team based out of Stonewall, a regional Bantam team, a Pee Wee team and two Atom teams. We are very encouraged by the number of girls interested in developing these teams.

All in all our hockey season is off to a great start and we hope that the second half is just as good.

Kris Barrett

## **Director of Norman**

Norman Minor Hockey Executive has been very busy this season with new Hockey University format as answering many questions and concerns.

The new online registration for coaches and officials has really given us challenges in our remote communities and even large centers, to get them certified. The Hockey Manitoba staff has acknowledged our geographic challenges and we worked through it. Thank- you to our Facilitators Andre, Mike, Jamie, Jason and the Hockey Manitoba Staff.

Norman would like to acknowledge the efforts of Emily Easter of Easterville who reinstated Minor hockey in her community and has registered 7 teams in the community.

Norman has put in place a program to promote and identify future female players throughout the region; Female Fun Day. Norman held this event in Norway House and it was a great success with lots of good feedback. Norman is planning a couple more as well.

I also would like to thank my board members in Norman for their support. Thank you to the Hockey Manitoba Staff, Registrars and all volunteers.

Respectfully,

Ron LaRocque

## **Director of Pembina Valley**

Well, half of the season is already over. Everyone found a place to play it seems as we went through a lot of transfers and overages again. One big issue we are finding is having enough female goalies in all categories. With the no body checking in Peewee the suspensions are way down. On a good note, we had enough female Atom players (double rostered) to make 5 teams in Pembina Valley alone and are going to have four teams going to Provincials this year.

Our AAA Council has produced some good results as the four dedicated people are making the lines communication a lot better both ways. Teams and the regional executive seemed to better in sync this year.

The AAA programs are doing well and want to commend the coaching staff for their time and dedication to the programs.

Altona Minor Hockey for the second year is doing an Initiation Project. They are using all three zones of the ice to control the development of the players. In talking to one of the organizers the program started off last year with about 15 players and at last count for this year they are over 50 players. Congratulations to Altona Minor Hockey!

I would like to thank Bert and Ken, Hockey Manitoba Executive and Peter and office staff for their continued support in making the hockey season runs smoothly.

All the Best in 2014,

Jim Mutcheson

## Director of Westman South

Here we are well into the hockey season and at this point things seem to be moving along quite nicely without too many problems. At this time I would like to recognize the team of great volunteers that help make our region work:

Vice-Director and Female Rep:	Guy Williams
Vice-Director/ Secretary-Treasurer:	Jim Coughlan
Referee-Coordinator:	Dustin Brown
Coach Coordinator and Player Development:	Rob Thompson
Registrar:	Bill Lawson

At this time I would like to thank the office staff of Hockey Manitoba for their assistance during the hockey season.

Declining numbers are still at hand but communities are working well together to form our teams.

At this point of time in the season suspensions seem to be quite low which means that the guidance of players is working well.

Our regional meeting was held in December in Hartney and attended by each association. The main topic at this meeting was provincials and placement of teams. Regarding clinics (coaching and referees) have been attended to and everything in place.

The word has been put out in our region for coaches and managers for all Hockey Manitoba programs as it is not easy to find volunteers to cover all these programs. Questions being asked if there is any way or reason we could cut back on programs.

All AAA programs in the region (male & female) seem to be running fairly smooth due to the time and effort put into these programs by volunteer coaches and managers.

At this point as Director of Westman South I would like to thank the coaches and managers of all teams for their dedication and time spent with these young athletes.

Yours in Hockey,

Gord Agnew

## **Director of Yellowhead**

I am pleased to report that things seem to be running fairly smoothly in the Yellowhead Region. The first part of the year saw the registration committee deal with a number of overage applications and a few transfer applications. On behalf of the region, I would like to thank the Appeals Committee for their work. Our region and committee felt that they did a good job supporting us, our decisions, and the regulations.

The region is once again running four regional teams, which in a small region proves challenging. Thanks to the hard work of a number of dedicated people, all four teams are doing well. Both male and female players in bantam and midget are getting the opportunity to play at the highest level of hockey.

The associations in our region are gearing up for the end of the season and Provincials. It is an exciting time in our communities and around the rinks. I would like to thank the associations in our region who have stepped up to run a provincial tournament as it proves to be a very memorable event for the players, coaches, and parents alike.

As we enter this weekend, I am looking forward to the new format and am optimistic about the new governance model and I am hopeful it will allow us to better serve our members.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Coulter

# Female Vice Director of Central Plains

The Region held its Regional Camps in late August and early September for the Midget and Bantam "AAA" Programs. The numbers for these programs were good and maintained a similar level to the previous year.

- Conditioning Camp – Bantams/Midgets combined – 48 skaters and 4 goalies
- Midget Tryouts – Bantams/Midget Combined – 31 -skaters and 3 goalies
- Bantam Tryouts – 16 skaters and 2 goalies
- Total number of players involved - 52
- The Midget "AAA" Capitals took 17 skaters and 2 goalies.
- The Bantam "AAA" Capitals signed 15 skaters and 2 goalies.

The Midget "AAA" Capitals are in mid-season within the MFMHL . The "AAA" Midget team hosted their 2<sup>nd</sup> Preseason Showcase with 9 teams participating and 12 Registered University and College Coaches attending from CIS, NCAA and ACAC programs plus Hockey Canada's Regional Scout for the second year. NAIT (Northern Alberta Institute of Technology) made a presentation to players and parents with close to 80 players, parents and coaches attending and listened to the NAIT representative speak about:

- *Post-secondary preparation/ CIS, ACAC, US schools and the differences/Life balance away from the rink/ Life away from home/Costs/Post-secondary life in the local community/Reviewing the NAIT opportunity*

Central Plains will continue to host this Showcase as an annual event that will provide another venue for players within Manitoba and Saskatchewan to be scouted and evaluated by University Programs and Hockey Canada.

The Capitals along with the MFMHL continue to place players in quality University Programs and to date 2 Capitals have committed to the University of Manitoba Bisons while 9 MFMHL Players have already committed to Programs for next season at this time. Over the past 3 seasons the MFMHL has had over 60 players move onto Post-Secondary Programs not including the player commitments this season.

The Bantam "AAA" Program has participated in the Hockey Manitoba Showcases, has started the second half to the Hockey Winnipeg Female Bantam "AA" League and is registered to attend the "AAA" Provincials in March.

Peewee Female Hockey Teams took a hit as many players opted to play in the Male Programs with the removal of body checking from that age group. The total impact of this is unclear in regards as to how many female players then decided to quit hockey vs. playing within the Male Programs. In the Atom Age Group Central Plains will be sending two teams to Provincials – Portage is hosting the A/B while MacGregor will be sending a team to the C/D. As well MacDonald Minor which will or could have Central Plains players attending the A/B Provincials in Portage.

As in past reports a major concern at the Regional Level within Central Plains is the lack of ability for the Midget Capitals to actually use Midget Aged Players as Affiliate Players as they go the High School Programs in Portage and Sanford and therefore are not eligible to be involved if it is the only place they play as it is not Hockey Manitoba sanctioned. This issue has been brought forward on several occasions especially from families who have daughters that do not attend these 2 high schools as it now makes it almost impossible to form Bantam or Midget teams for these players to participate on within the Region.

Overall it has been a positive season to date within Central Plains and we look forward to moving ahead with our Female Programs.

Thank you, Ferdi Nelissen



## **Vice Director of Interlake**

Not much to report, it has been somewhat of a quiet season so far, with few complaints. As always there are issues that pop up but they seem to be few and far between and are corrected in a timely manner.

Issues that are of concern in our region are:

- What direction are the AAA programs going?
- Are Bantam AAA staying as is or are we heading in the direction of a provincial league?
- Is a provincial league going to be started for the fifteen and sixteen year old midgets?
- Where are we going with the Director's Cup Prospects, looking forward to some good discussion on these issues?

These are just some of the questions that are being asked in our region.

Dave Perron

## **Female Vice Director of Norman**

The 2013-14 season is well underway in the Norman Region. Female hockey in many associations is growing and well supported. A Female Hockey Skills camp that was held in conjunction with the Pembina Valley Hawks and Norman Wild games in Norway House in November was well received. The Atom/Peewee session had 34 female players attend and the session for the Bantam/Midget group had 38 players participate. The energy was high and the efforts and smiles were appreciated by the Norman Wild Coaches who ran the sessions.

A number of Female Fun Days have not occurred as hoped. The season is not over and the goal is to hold some weekend sessions before the ice is out in the spring. Norway House and Cross Lake have showed interest and plans are being firmed up to hold something in late March in those communities.

Female teams have been formed in many of our communities and players are getting the opportunity to move to teams if there is no team available in their home community. Norway House and Cross Lake have a very strong female presence with many players in all categories. Great job by these associations in supporting and promoting the female game.

The Bantam AAA season is progressing and this team is experiencing some success at the showcase weekends. Players have been added to this program from other regions to supplement the team. Once again good commitment from the players and parents supporting this program as well as the other regions.

The Midget AAA Wild are experiencing their best season in their team's history. The team ran into issues early in the season with the new Affiliated Player regulation. The Norman Region AAA female teams rely on the use of AP players for both Bantam and Midget. Without AP players, both programs would be challenged to ice a team. Thanks to Hockey MB and MMFHL for their support on the use of AP players. Breaks in the MMFHL schedule has been a challenge as other games are hard to coordinate with the team being so spread out.

The Norman Wild Midget AAA team visited Norway House in November and held their home games with the visiting Pembina Valley Hawks. Attendance and support from the community was outstanding. A community team meal was held with the Norman Wild and the Wild stayed in a school. Thank you to the Norway House Community for the outstanding support and hospitality.

Communication and distance between associations continues to be a challenge. Most association have been very supportive of female hockey. Ways to improve this are always being looked at.

As always, if you have any questions, suggestions for improvements, please feel free to call me at your convenience.

Yours in hockey, Andre Murphy

## **Vice Director of Pembina Valley**

As a new vice director for the Pembina Valley the learning has been like drinking water from a firehouse this year. Thanks to Jim Mutcheson, the good folks at Hockey Manitoba and the other regions for assisting when needed. I am looking forward to the rest of this season and keeping hockey growing and improving in Manitoba and the Pembina Valley.

Greg Ens

## **Female Vice Director of Pembina Valley**

Our AAA Female Midget Hawks are having another successful year so far capturing the 2013 MFMHL's League Banner; advancing them to Westerns versus the Regina Rebels. They had another intense weekend of hockey going to overtime both games, but were defeated with Regina claiming the 2013 Western's Banner and advancing them to Nationals. The Manitoba Female Hockey League should be proud of themselves with the representation all the teams have shown at all the tournaments they have attended this year.

After taking a year off for personal reasons I was able to get back in the swing of things this past July. I got back into things just as the two AAA Female Hawks teams were starting to prepare for tryouts. We are quite excited this year to be forming a female atom league with 5 teams from PV and 1 from CP. The girls in PV are double rostering playing with boys teams as well and it seems to be working out quite well.

Once again this year our Bantam and Midget numbers are down so we have joined with Eastman with five teams in both leagues. Unfortunately with the implementation of nobody checking at Pee-Wee level our female pee-wee league has seen a huge change. The girls that would usually change over to female hockey at pee-wee have now chosen to play male, which has resulted in no pee-wee league in our region. We were however able to form one pee-wee team just for provincials.

A huge thank you to Brian McElroy and Gary Smart for all the time and energy they put into the Developmental Programs that they offer throughout the region! Thanks to my counterparts Jim Mutcheson, Greg Enns and the rest of the PV board for taking on all the extra responsibilities when I was away it was much appreciated, and all that they do to help the kids in Pembina Valley play the sport that they love!

Respectfully Submitted,

Sherry Rutherford

## Vice Director of Westman South

Because of problems in the past with east or west teams sending regional provincial results to the Vice Director, this has been changed to have home teams send the result of the game.

It was approved to have our meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in December for the next two years. This has worked out good for this year. Our dates for region provincial play-off have been changed this year to meet the change of dates for the Hockey Manitoba Provincials.

For the purpose of Hockey Manitoba Minor Female provincial play-off competitions, teams will work with Guy William to approve categories for each team and then approved with meetings.

At our December meeting we set up a Referee and Coach Clinic rate for each town to help out the region to have more referees and coaches.

Only one team within our region has applied to play up a category.

1 in Atom

Our region has the following number of entries for the provincials.

Atom	12
Pee Wee	11
Bantam	7
Midget	0
Female	9

Jim Coughlan

## Female Vice Director of Westman South

Once again, the Westman South region, in partnership with the Westman Wildcats Midget AAA team, hosted a Female Jamboree in Hartney on October 12<sup>th</sup> for Pee Wee-aged and under female players in our Region. Over 60 young female athletes participated in the event this year. Players participated in both on-ice and off-ice activities, ate with the team, watched the team off-ice warm-up and were treated to a very exciting victory versus the Winnipeg Avros.

It was another wonderful event this year. Rave reviews were received. Thank you to the Wildcats coaches, management, and players for organizing this great day. Also, special thanks to our guest coaches, Tony Franklin and Laura Williams. We plan to do it again next year.

The Female Bantam AAA program has had a good start to the year. We have 13 players from our region and 5 from Brandon region. The team has participated in two Showcase tournaments this season and have a 6-2 record. They presently sit in 2<sup>nd</sup> place behind Pembina Valley.

Congratulations to Missy Hunt from Hartney on her participation at the U18 National Championships. Team Manitoba finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the event and had a very respectable showing.

Congratulations to the Westman Wildcats on winning the Mac's Tournament in Calgary over Christmas in triple overtime over the Fraser Valley Phantom. This is the first time that a Manitoba has won the championship in either the male or female category.

Thanks, Guy Williams

## **Female Vice Director of Winnipeg**

The first Female Hockey Fights Cancer fundraiser held November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Selkirk Rec Complex raised just over \$15,200.00 for Cancer Care Manitoba. Thank You to everyone that supported this event. Plans are already in the works for next year's event.

Our annual novice and Atom jamboree was held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the MTS Iceplex and over 300 young players took part, it was an exciting day for everyone that attended. Our Female All Star day for players in peewee through midget is taking place this weekend at the Jonathon Toews Community Centre in St Vital.

Hockey Winnipeg is moving forward with the amalgamation of their male and female AA and AAA programs for the 2014 2015 hockey season, this will give more stability to our elite female programs and allow us more opportunity to focus on the grassroots programs which continue to grow especially at the novice and atom levels.

In our Midget AAA program we continue to struggle with the unlevel playing field our teams are faced with while competing in the Manitoba Female Midget Hockey League, one issue in particular is what we consider the use of ineligible players, specifically goaltenders. We have put forward a motion that will shed some light on this situation and hopefully the rule will be put in place to make things equal within the league and protect the young goaltenders that are currently being affected in other regions.

Sincerely,

Dennis Park

## Director of Officials

The official's certification clinic season ended in November, and at last count we have 1642 officials certified throughout the Province. This slightly lower than in previous years, and is of concern to us. A big thank you however to all instructors! This was the first year that Hockey University e-learning was online. This allowed officials to do a large portion of their theoretical learning online, in self-study modules. This also contributed to officials coming to clinics better prepared with a beginning knowledge base. Hockey University was mandatory for all level 1 & 2 officials, along with level 2 officials who were advancing to level 3. This program, along with the content will likely be discussed in our upcoming national RIC meetings. Our Clinic Committee, led by Peter George, Manager of Officials – Certification, have had a meeting already regarding some of the good things & some of the areas of improvement from this year's clinics, and will be looking to implement some changes to better the delivery and structure.

The officiating program has had some success on the National stage this season. In September, Josh Ginter (Pembina Valley) & Karlin Krieger (Parkland) were selected to referee, while Jesse Smith (Winnipeg) was selected to line at the Western OPOE. At this camp, they officiated some hockey games, along with being provided feedback & on-ice sessions with Dave Smith of the NHL. In November, Cayle Hutlet (Brandon-referee) & Brett Thiessen (Interlake – linesman) were selected to officiate at the Western U16 tournament held in Calgary. Both officials had great learning experiences and worked the Bronze medal game. Also, Christine Durham (Winnipeg – referee) & Danielle McGurry (Winnipeg-linesman) was selected to officiate at the Women's U18 National Championship in Calgary. Danielle was selected to work the Gold medal game while Christine was selected to referee the Bronze medal game. Justin Verhaeghe (Eastman – linesman) recently returned from the World U17 Championships held in Nova Scotia.

In the fall, Hockey Manitoba received notification that Danielle McGurry had been nominated by Hockey Canada & selected by the IIHF to work the World Women's Group B Div II Qualifying tournament in March 2014 in Mexico City, Mx. Earning an international assignment is quite an honour.

We are proud of all Manitoba officials chosen to work at these events.

Also in 2013-14, the officiating program has continued with its increased focus this season on officials being mentored and coached. To date, we have seen an improvement in the number of minor hockey officials being mentored, and a larger number being completed in the high performance stream. This is especially important, in order to continue to send top officials to national events, but also to improve the overall quality of the game throughout the province.

The Official's Development Committee continues to work on process improvements, and in ensuring that we deliver the program efficiently, while maintaining our focus and effectiveness.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Heather

# NOTES

---

# NOTES

---