
Windermere Valley Minor Hockey Association

P.O. Box 2848, Invermere, B.C. V0A 1K0

Minutes

Monthly Meeting April 9, 2025 at 6:00pm Eddie Memorial Arena, Minor Hockey Room

Attendees (x) / Regrets:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gregg Walker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danielle Galloway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trina Wolfenden
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aldene Atkinson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Kipp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stephanie Botterill
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christine Banham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kari Saunders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jean Bourbeau
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Botterill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Vernon	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Dubois	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lainey Wilson	

1. **Call to Order:** Gregg Walker called meeting to order at 6:03pm
2. **Approved Agenda:** Add new board members and update the policy regarding funding for provincials. Trina Wolfenden will provide details regarding the policy. Agenda approved based on the additions all in favour.
3. **Meeting Minutes:** Approved by email review and posted online Thursday, March 27, 2025. Link: <https://www.windermerevalleyminorhockey.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/1819/2025/04/031225-Minutes.pdf>
4. **Correspondence:** No correspondence brought forward.
5. **New Business:**
 - a. Fair Ice Time Policy Review: Suggested that it may be too restrictive and proposed under the current policy to change *"under no circumstances will skill be a deciding factor on playing time"*. Amend to reflect *"in the last 10 min. coaches have the flexibility to make adjustments."*
 - To be added back to the agenda in July. Mike Dubois to provide a draft of the suggested change once some feedback has been provided from coaches.
 - Christine Banham to add the fair ice time policy to the first parent meeting outline.
 - b. Whitefish and EKMh league game location requirements.
 - EK is looking at some parameters for associations due to concerns that families may not want to cross boards and at the present time the federal government is suggesting we do not cross borders. We will follow up with EK at the AGM in May for further clarity.
 - c. Board members insurance coverage & risk exposure mitigation. This was brought forward due to an article from CBC outlining a minor hockey association lawsuit, CBC Link: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/boy-parents-lawsuit-hockey-association-vp-1.7484835>
 - Directors Liability Insurance can be found on Hockey Canadas website. Currently these details can be found under the following link: <https://www.hockeycanada.ca/en-ca/hockey-programs/safety/essentials/insurance>
6. **Old Business:**
 - a. Annual AGM:
 - Fire Hall Meeting Room, Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at 6:30 pm.
 - Details AGM notice has been added to WVMHA website. In addition, we will send out 2 separate association emails and post on social media following the awards ceremony. A motion was made by Gregg Waker to put an ad in the paper. This was not seconded or supported.
 - Christine Banham to update the constitution with the approvals from the 2024 AGM and submit a request to change advertising to social media.
 - A review of all vacant and end-of-term positions will be reviewed, and a communication will be sent out to all association members requesting nominations.
 - b. Annual Year End Award Ceremony:

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- Theresa Wood collaborated with a group of parents along with Gregg Walker to organize the award ceremony for 2024/2025 season.
 - Taking place Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 6:30pm. The Venue is Columbia Valley Center.
 - The awards are currently underway. We request all players, families, and friends to join us in sharing an awesome 2024/2025.
 - c. Evaluation/Team Splitting Policy: Drafted update was submitted to the board. Changes/feedback to include the divisions be combined U11/13/15/18 and define who makes the decision. Further feedback is to be provided and an additional draft to be submitted to the team.
 - d. Board Member Code of Conduct: Gregg & Trina have an outline and will provide details to the board prior to May's meeting.
- 7. Approval by email:**
- a. **First Shift:** Gift cards for coaches, Approved by 6 board members.
- 8. Reports:**
- a. **Ice Coordinator:**
 - i. Monthly goalie training to be booked in Canal Flats.
 - ii. Canal Flats ice will be submitted for August
 - iii. Invermere Ice will be requested May 1, 2025.
 - iv. Mezz to be booked for dryland purposes.
 - v. Canal Flats offered ice availability January 9 to 11, 2026; WVMHA will take this allotted time and mandate a showcase and or tournament at this location to lock in a weekend of ice for future years.
 - b. **Fundraising:**
 - i. Fundraising Bond:
 - Motion made by Lainey Wilson to keep the fundraising bond exactly the same as the 2024/2025 season of \$100.00 / player for a maximum of 2 players per family in lieu of charging an additional \$100.00 registration fee. Laura seconded the motion and all in favor.
 - ii. Mountain Home Productions provide WVMHA with fundraising opportunities to try and keep this relationship. Aldene to draft a Letter to thank them for their ongoing support and efforts.
 - c. **Equipment Manager:** Practice Jersey and game sock quote to be provided in May, as a possible option to include within registration.
 - d. **Referees:** No Updates provided
 - e. **Treasurer:**
 - i. U18F \$300 Fine. Due to admin errors; This was paid for by the association.
 - ii. Bank Account at CIBC and Kootenay Savings and update signers – Tabled to July.
 - iii. Budget for 2025/2026 was approved and will be looking into applying for the Gaming Grant.
 - f. **Website/Advertising:** No Updates provided
 - g. **Coach Coordinator:** No Updates provided
 - h. **Registration and Carding:**
 - i. 2025/2026 Registration target date May 15, 2025
 - Include within registration: "Does your player plan on participating in all, or nearly all of the events?", Hockey Canada and parent consent forms.
 - Practice Jersey's and socks (as per the equipment section).
 - Medical Form to be included. Christine Banham noted that some of the associations in the lower mainland are using an app for this. To be investigated further and provide feedback for the next meeting.
 - i. **Risk Management:** No Updates provided
 - j. **Discipline:** No Updates provided
 - k. **Female Hockey:** No Updates provided

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- I. East Kootenay Minor Hockey Association (EKMHA) Update:** Coeur d'Alene – Requested to join the EK League at U13, 15 and 18. Currently play in the WK league, and the assumption is they are looking to play more equal teams. Distance is 180 to 500 (Golden) km away. And some families are concerned about driving to the US currently.
 - i. We support that Coeur d'Alene be a part of the EKMHA; however, would like to see some stipulations on game times or showcases events and the concern regarding travel advisories to the US today as per 5. New Business (B).
- m. Zone Update:** Meeting is being held tonight, and further details will most likely be provided at the EK AGM on May 3, 2025.
- n. Manager's Update:**
 - i. Manager's meeting March 13, 2025. – To be tabled for May meeting.
 - ii. Manager Handbook to be updated. – To be tabled for May.
- o. Programs Update:**
 - i. First Shift:
 - Last Sunday (April 6, 2025) hosted the last practice. 16 players participated in the program with approximately 8-10 interested in joining hockey for 2025/2026.
 - Overall, the program was fabulous with participants age range: 5 to 12.
 - Columbia Valley Rockies had 2 playoff games with first shift players as Little Rockies.
 - Recommendation is to host this program every 2 years at the end of the season.
 - Thank you to all coaches, Aldene and the volunteers that made this happen!
 - ii. Power Skating: Lexi and Jonah will be running the program for the 2025/2026 season. The feedback on having both on the ice was positive. We may need to look at future instructors for the program in 2026/2027.
 - iii. Goalie Sessions: During the mid-season review 100% in favour of goalie sessions. To lock in ice availability for 2025/2026 season.
 - iv. Dryland: Approximately 70% voted they like to see dryland. The approach and communication to be reviewed when putting together the 2025/2026 program.
- p. U7 Team Report:** No report.
- q. U9 Team Report:** No report.
- r. U11 Team Report:** No report.
- s. U13 Team Report:** a Thank You card was given to the board for their support. All 3 games played at provincials were competitive. Congratulations to U13 for winning the "Fair Play Award".
- t. U15 Team Report:** No report
- u. U18 Team Report:** No report
- v. Female Team Report:** No report
- 9. Agenda Additions:**
- 10. Next Meeting Date:** May 7 at 6pm; Location TBD
- 11. Meeting Adjourned:** 8:15pm adjourned by Gregg Walker