



Thompson Minor Hockey Association

The Mission of the TMHA is to provide participants in our minor ice hockey program with fair and competitive hockey experience that focuses on the development of individual and team hockey skills, the practice of good sportsmanship and fair play and the opportunity to be challenged while having fun.

**Board Meeting – April 2nd 2024
7:00 pm Mary Fenske boardroom**

Call to Order: 7:05 pm

Adoption of Agenda:

Additions to the Agenda:

- N/A

Regrets:

- Evan - Equipment
- Judd - Tournament Coordinator
- Tasha - Female Director
- Martin - VP Admin
- Sean - Officials Coordinator
- Jenn - U11 Director
- Matt - VP Tech

Approval of minutes from: March 18th 2024 Cristy motions to approve minutes, Leslie seconds. 8 in favour, 2 abstain. Motion passed

Delegates:

- Calvin, Jamie Abele, and Doug Moose

Complaint 1: Good morning,

I am writing to you today to put in a formal complaint regarding an incident that took place at last night's house league game at 7:45pm. This incident involved player A and a child from the opposing team, player B. The referees in this game were Ref 1, Ref 2, and Ref 3. There was Coach A and Coach B on my child's bench and Coach C on the opposing teams bench. Also Time Keeper A in the time keepers box. I can also provide several witnesses to the incident if needed. The incident started when Player B was coming down the ice and Player A got in front of him and lifted his stick, this resulted in Player B falling down to the ice and knocking Player A over, they both went down. Player B got up and started hitting Player A with his stick and asking him "if he wants to go" meaning fight. I would like this incident investigated as no kid should be hitting another kid using his hockey stick several times as he was laying on the ice and trying to get up. I trust this incident

will be investigated and it's well known that this type of behavior has been displayed by this individual several times previously. Player A mentioned Player B had been yelling at the refs the entire game, and was already agitated previous to the incident. There is no excuse for this type of behavior and it cannot continue with Player B. He should not be attending any further hockey games/practices/tournaments until the investigation is completed and I would hope some sort of discipline. I would also like to add no coach asked if Player A was alright when he returned to the bench, nothing was said to him the game just continued like nothing happened. I don't believe Player B was given any type of penalty from what I could tell, it appeared like he walked off the ice on his own. I know the refs later told the coaches, Player B cannot come back on the ice. I want some sort of action/discipline for this incident and will pursue further action if nothing is done by TMHA. Thank you - Parents of Player A

Complaint 2: To Whom it may Concern:

Player A was chasing Player B for the puck. Player A lifted his stick and got in front of Player B. Player B fell over and yelled slash, as Player B was falling he knocked over Player A. Player B got up and started smacking Player A with his stick on his back, leg and back of his head. Player B was asking Player A if he wanted to fight. Refs kicked him off the ice. Player B continued yelling Fuck You as leaving the ice. The call for penalty was for 2 minutes. Player A has marks on his right shoulder blade and left of calf with clear stick marks. - Parents of Player A

- Was there an investigation done by TMHA? Only had a 2 minute penalty then was given a suspension with an intent to injury but was recorded as a match penalty on the game sheet. Currently this has not been investigated by TMHA.
- Hockey Manitoba, Tyler Wiwchar said that this player would be suspended from games from Rising Stars Norman went forward to Hockey Manitoba and petitioned to have this decision reversed so that he could participate in Rising Stars and serve his suspension in the fall. TMHA can discipline this child. He has received 3 game suspension from Hockey Manitoba which will be served in September. Why was TMHA not talked to from Hockey Manitoba when they decided to reverse this decision. Jessie has been asked to get this information about what transpired to reverse this decision
- Nothing has been recorded about past behaviour regarding this player in his HCR.
- This needs to go to discipline to be independently investigated. Will keep Complainants updated about decisions.
- We as a board should stand against violence as we are trying to make well rounded individuals. In house league there is absolutely no reason for violence. We also need to make a stronger statement about inappropriate behaviour and negative hockey culture.
- Complainants will be sending an email to Hockey Manitoba and the people involved in this situation so that potentially they can find reasons as to why this child is being allowed to play and what changed.
- Why was the U13 Director not involved in these emails and discussions regarding this child's behaviour?
- Discipline Committee: Michelle, Cristy, Tiffany, Colleen and Evan.

Correspondence:

- Parent Complaint

I am reaching out because I have serious concern regarding one of the Coaches (Coach A) for the U13A King Miner's team. This past Hockey season My Boyfriends son (Parent A) has home multiple times saying "Coach A yells at him, bullies him and benches him" often for what I feel are ridiculous reason. Player A has been benched for his skate coming untied and for pinching. I had never witnessed it before the Provincial in Carman Manitoba.

While in Carman for the provincials On Saturday March 9, 2024, the third game specifically in the 2nd and 3rd period Player A was benched 3 times. After the game Player A was upset stating that Coach A was being unfair saying he was pinching when he was told not too and therefore was bench in the second period and twice in the third.

Player A was discouraged and upset, and I was trying to pump him up but not really having any other information I went to find . I found him in the room that the coaches had rented for the evening for the hockey players. I went in as asked if he had a moment to answer some questions to which he said "No". I was taken back a bit because that is all he said and wasn't sure why he wouldn't be willing. I had to ask him why to which he replied. "I have been drinking and there is a 24hr cool down rule". He never asked me what it was regarding and found this ridiculous but responded with. "I am not angry but ok. When can I talk to you"? Coach A said "Tomorrow" I had to ask, "what time tomorrow"? He told me "11:15 am".

We arrived at the arena the next morning at 11:00 and I waited. When I saw Coach A walking along the side of the building at 11:12 am I got out of our truck and met him at the door. He then asked me if I had seen Coach B? Which had not, then Coach A said that "there had to be two of them to talk"! I told him this seemed like over kill and that I only had a couple of questions but said OK" He went inside to find him. About 10 minutes later Coach B and Coach A approached me in the lobby and suggested that we talk outside and include Parent A.

When we got to where Parent A was standing, I explained to them that Player A was very upset that he got benched, that he didn't understand why he got benched twice in the third period. Coach A did all the talking. He stated to us that Player A got benched in the 2nd period because he has been told before not to pinch and he did. When I pointed out to him that 4 other players (including his own daughter) were pinching, and they didn't get benched, but Player A did.

His explanation for that was that sometimes-pinching works out, but it never works out for Player A and that is why he has been told not to do it. I asked what about the 3rd period then, Player A was pulled off the ice twice to keep sitting when it should have been his rotation to play? Coach A went on a round about way to say that it was strategy and trying score points. So, I said Well Player A feels like he was being punished and that as a parent we don't go to the expense and time to travel down for these games to watch our kid sit on the bench. Coach A said that by now the kids should know that its about strategy. I told him, they are 11 and asked him if he could help pump up Player A and explain to him that it wasn't a punishment? Coach A said yes of course. He also said that the cool down period was there not only for the parent but for the coaches. That he was a passionate guy and when I came to talk to him, he was still reeling from the game earlier, and that he has a bit of a temper. I said I'm not like that but ok.

I left that meeting thinking that it had went well. Thinking that He would talk to Player A and pump him up but that is far from what did happen.

Less than 10 minutes after that meeting another player from the team came and found us. He said, "If Player A quits and doesn't play, I'm not playing either. Coach just came into the change room and told me and (another player) to get out and he just started yelling at Player A, we could hear him outside. He also said that the way that Coach A was yelling at Player A, that nobody should be treated like that, it doesn't matter that he's the coach".

Parent A and I were confused trying to find out from this player what was going on and then Player A appeared. Player A was so upset he couldn't even speak, he was humiliated and trying his hardest to calm down and keep from crying in front of everyone that was around, he could barely breath, kept pulling his hat over his face to keep people from seeing that he was crying. We had to take him off to a quiet corner and try to calm him down. He couldn't find the words to express what had been said to him, but he just kept saying That Coach A was screaming at him about he was told not to pinch. It took me about 15 minutes to calm him and get him to finish his tournament. I told him to stay away from Coach A and to get us if he needed.

I am absolutely disgusted by Coach A's behaviour, his favouritism. The way he treated Playr A is nothing short of child abuse and he should be held accountable for how he treats some of these kids.

I saw him yell a few times to a select few kids bending down to their level with his face in theirs. By the end of the tournament there were a few kids that were upset and no longer wanted to play. One kid was so upset with Coach A that he refused to be in the team picture because he got benched after letting in 3 goals while the other goalie let in 15 goals but never got benched.

Coach A plays favourites, some kids play time is less that 3 minutes before they are switched off, while others way longer. I know that we aren't the only parents who are questioning his ethics and behaviour. He needs to be removed from coaching altogether! Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Regards

- There were some positive things regarding how Coach A handled this situation with the 24 hour cool-down and having player A's parents and another coach present when speaking to this parent. However, abusive behaviour is unacceptable and this isn't the first complaint regarding Coach A.
- This has been referred to the discipline committee to investigate.

Reports (EVEN YEARS):

- Jessie, President - Need to start looking at policies before AGM. We will have an optional meeting on April 22th at 7 pm in the boardroom. Alison wi. Everyone will go through policy and come with policy they believe needs to be looked at with suggested changes.
- Matt, VP Technical: N/A
- Michelle, Secretary: N/A
- Allison, Ice-Operations Director: Sent out the whole extended season schedule. Allison will send
- Tiffany, U7 Program Director: N/A
- Jenn, U11 Program Director: N/A

- Oswald, U15 Program Director: We have 26 players and 3 goalies for extended season. Colleen has done a good job making sure each goalie has equal games. Tom is going to borrow the younger goalies as he is short U13 goalies.
- Tasha, Female Director: N/A
- Judd, Tournament Director: N/A

Old Business:

- N/A

New Business:

- Goalie Development: There are a couple associations that allow reimbursement for \$500 for goalie development camps throughout a calendar year. We discussed what The Pas does where if a player has purchased goalie equipment they can receive half off registration. **Cristy motions that Goalies with purchased goalie equipment to play part-time or full-time are reimbursed the full cost of registration in their division excluding U7. Michelle seconds the motion. 9 in favour, 1 abstained. Motioned carried.**

Standing Agenda Items

- N/A

Motion to Move into Executive Session at 9:04 by Michelle and seconded by Tom.

Motion to Move Out of Executive Session Allison at 9:46 seconded by Leslie

Next Meeting April 15th 2024

Adjournment 9:46