

## Bluewater League Monthly Meeting

Location: WFCU Riverside Room Date: August 7, 2023

President - Shawn called meeting to order at 7:05 pm

### Previous Meeting Minutes

There was no discussion regarding the minutes from April 2023 Motion to approve Erie 2nd Windsor.

### Presidents Report:

Shawn report that the 2023 BWL season is about to get underway, and most components of the season have been organized. There were questions to Shawn from Centre Reps regarding season structure to which Shawn advised would be covered in "New Business".

### OMHA Report:

Derek sent his report last week and all centres advised they saw it and read it. There were no questions from any centres regarding his report.

### Treasurers Report:

All centres were asked to review Mario's team reconciliation document. Mario went around room and confirmed his numbers. Mario took notes on any corrections from each centre.

JP from BR – asked other centres about U21 and who was running that level. BR/Talbot/Erie/ and possible Riverside. Jay from Riverside advised that he needs until next meeting to see his U21 numbers. All centres were advised that U21 would have to have less games than other divisions. 4 teams were required to run this division.

BR asked about U18 C. Kent/BR/Talbot/Kent/Riverside advised that they are interested and could potentially have that level. All U16 cuts could play U18 C ... U16 can tryout up to 3 years above as per OMHA rules. Mario stated Team Fees are \$125/team

The finalized budget will be ready for approval in September 2023.

### Statisticians Report

Nothing to report as AM was absent.

Glenn Gervais – (Had information to add under Statistician's Report Glenn met with Alan Provost (WECRA President)

They discussed tryouts for next year and how refs will be assigned ... some games were WECRA and some centres sorted on their own.

WECRA does not care either way if centres handle on their own or it's assigned ... tryouts need OMHA refs but Glenn advised that they would like to work with BWL to come up with a consistent plan for next year.

Game changes were an issue in 2022/2023 ... need to reduce ... 7 day window will be enforced unless there are extenuating circumstances. Can't move games because of fatigue or suspensions! BE REASONABLE Only Ice Scheduler or VP of Travel can approve game changes.

Check the arbitor every week to ensure refs have game coverage.

The arbitor can be tracked if anyone is checking ... centre login history is viewed by WECRA and some centres do not check ... please check and double check your games weekly to ensure you've done your centres due diligence.

We can all help each other by checking. More eyes less mistakes. BWL is considering going to a 4-man system at U16.

Alan is doing well to work with BWL and we need to reciprocate sensible asks.

Glenn advised that AM is looking into the One DB's ability to show us that refs have been assigned ... AM had mentioned that it may be possible to link arbitor and One DB ... will get back to BWL Reps regarding this potential link.

Centres Reports

Amherstburg - nothing

Belle River – Season Structure ... U8

Erie – ice is an issue ... Erie has ice in Wheatly and a bit in Leamington for September and October. They are hoping for November 1, 2023. Erie asking for patience with scheduling meeting as changes are highly likely. They have no other options and are at the mercy of the construction schedule.

Kent – U9 ... asking who schedules their season ... Kent advised that in December AM schedules

... ½ ice exy until January 15, 2023.

Silver Stick tournament in Chatham was mentioned.

Lasalle – nothing Riverside – nothing

Talbot – home rink ... Essex and Leamington are home rinks. Teams are getting 1 and 1 alternating rinks.

Tecumseh - nothing Windsor - nothing

NEW BUSINESS –

AM sent out season structure last week ... see AM insert.

Discussion on AM insert during meeting. Shawn went over insert line by line.

AM to put U9 ½ ice rule on website. Must play ½ ice September 1 st to January 14 th . We want to eliminate teams from playing full ice on their own. Every centre Rep gets complaints each year that other centres are doing it.

Lasalle reporting that Tri-County not cooperating with them.

Riverside had to utilize Regional Reps to sort out their U18 BB team with Shamrock League last season. Jay suggested using Regional Reps may be required for Lasalle to get more cooperation.

Glenn advised Lasalle to get all games in prior to February 1, 2024, as they will likely be in playoffs.

Glenn advised Lasalle that they need to complete their Regular season in order to participate in Day of Champs. Day of Champions is on Easter ... Shawn looking for alternatives.

Jamie Fick suggesting April 7 th with Windsor hosting April 6 th . March 23/24 was also suggested but could conflict with Belle River HL Day of Champs.

Windsor and BR need time to confirm ice for either week prior or after Easter. OMHA championships are April 5/6 and April 11/12

March break is March 11-15,2023.

Erie questioned the need to do long series for 2 teams who already have births into OMHA Championships. In the event we get 2 births out of BWL at the "A" level (and Shawn felt we would), that we may have to revisit the length of the final series.

Discussion took place but nothing was definitive in terms of changing series length. The general consensus was to revisit this next meeting.

Glenn asked Kent to look into Silver Stick boundaries as some centres were told they had to be released from another boundary. Jim King will follow up with BWL to provide clarification through Kent.

Talbot asking about U14 A who is potentially entertaining AA OMHA path. This would change the impact of Lasalle U14 AA as 2 teams in a BWL division may eliminate the need to play Tri-County. Each Centre were advised by Glenn not to send more than 2 reps for scheduling meeting August 20 th . Development games are being scheduled by ice schedulers. Only regular season U10 and up with no U18 C will be scheduled on August 20 th .

Glenn Gervais – OMHA D1 clinics ... Kent/Lasalle still has open spots ... Belle River is currently full for D1 clinic.

Essex is closing centre for our meetings. Shawn wants to have each centre host with dates to host. Shawn will send email.

All-Star Game – Date suggestion Tuesday February 6 th . Glenn’s suggestion. Arrange dinner. This date is flexible and only a suggestion. Can be a Wednesday as well.

JP will ask about hosting ASG. Erie might be able to host ASG.

U9 Tournament – Tecumseh will come back with date next meeting.

Talbot – Motion to adjourn ... Riverside 2 nd

