

Date: September 25, 2019

Subject: Governance and Management of Ice Facilities at the Missoula County Fairgrounds

To: Missoula Board of County Commissioners

Cc: Emily Brock, Director Missoula Fairgrounds and Western Montana Fair

The Missoula Area Youth Hockey Association (MAYHA) Board of Directors is writing in response to the meeting with Commissioner Slotnick on July 22, 2019 in regard to the potential new ice facilities currently under consideration at the Missoula County Fairgrounds. Further, MAYHA is writing in response to the letter from the ice user groups sent to the Missoula Board of County Commissioners, dated February 20, 2019, and the email from Emily Brock, Director of the Missoula County Fairgrounds, dated Wednesday, May 15, 2019.

In the event the County builds a new ice rink facility funded with a General Obligation (GO) Bond, MAYHA recognizes the desires of the County and ice user groups to include greater community participation in the governance of the new facility. Should a new facility be built with GO Bond funding, MAYHA proposes that:

1. An organization is formed for the governance and financial health of the operations of such a facility. The mission statement and full details of the organizational structure and bylaws of such an organization will be determined in advance of the building of a new facility by a working committee of MAYHA board members, a representative from each current Glacier Ice Rink user group, and a county representative. However, the structure and bylaws of the new organization will include the following:
 - a. The Board of the organization will be comprised of nine voting members and one ex-officio non-voting County representative. The nine voting members of the board will consist of six MAYHA appointed seats and three community seats appointed by the county.
 - b. Anyone from the ice user group community or the general public may apply for open community seats recommended by the county. MAYHA seats will be recommended by the MAYHA board. All board seats will have staggered 3 or 4 year terms.
 - c. The voting quorum will require a minimum of 5 voting members present and any votes on motions by the board must be approved with at least one affirmative vote by a member from a community appointed seat.
 - d. The organization will enter a long-term agreement with the county to govern the operations of the new facility including running applicable public ice programs that have a drop-in fee (e.g. public skate, open figure skating, stick and puck, pick-up hockey, etc.).
 - e. The Board of the organization will hire a Director responsible for hiring staff, setting ice rates and schedules, and operating the facility and public programs in an effective, safe, and financially sound manner.
 - f. The Board will work to synergize ice sport user groups and raise funds for facility improvements that benefit all ice users and the community.

2. MAYHA will continue to exist and operate as a separate 501(c)(3) hockey organization.
 - a. Such operation will continue to include a membership elected Board to meet the organizational requirements of the Montana Amateur Hockey Association (MAHA) and USA Hockey.
 - b. MAYHA will contract to rent ice time from the new facility to run all MAYHA and USA Hockey sanctioned youth hockey programs, the Glacier Hockey League (GHL), adult *reserve* scheduled hockey programs, and MAYHA operated hockey camps and clinics.
3. Existing and future organizations (e.g. MAYHA, Missoula Curling Club (MCC), Missoula Figure Skating Club (MFSC), Women's Hockey Association of Missoula (WHAM), Missoula Junior Bruins, etc.) will enter into contracts to rent the new facility (ice time). Such contracts will be negotiated and executed by the Director employed by the governing Board.

Thank you,



Clarence Wildeboer, Board of Directors President
Missoula Area Youth Hockey Association (MAYHA)