

UVHA Board Meeting Minutes



April 12, 2017 ~ 7:00 PM

Kinney Pike Insurance, White River Junction, Vermont

1. **Attendance:** Sarah Morlock, Cara Toms, Mindy Dube, Kylie Curtis, Sarah Morlock, Jason Spaulding, Alex DeFelice, Nate Dube, Josh Obar, Bill Mann, Roger Gillies, Justin Barwood
2. **Meeting called to order:** 7:00 PM
 - a. Both the March 8th and the April Annual meeting minutes were unanimously approved (motioned by Roni, seconded by Alex).
3. **Monthly Reports:**
 - a. **Webmaster**-No report.
 - b. **Coaching Coordinator**-Alex shared level IV coaching clinic dates. The earliest level IV clinic will be held in Concord, June 24th-25th. Another will be held August 5th-6th in Hartford, Connecticut. Alex asked to have access to the end-of-season coaching surveys. Jason wasn't yet able to log-in to review the results of the surveys, but will do so as soon as possible and report general findings to the rest of the Board. Alex would like to email an association-wide call for coaches to allow ample time for coaches to be approved in advance of the season. Cara voiced her concern that there were too few female coaches and suggested that the Board make an effort to recruit women for coaching positions.
 - c. **Equipment Manager**-Linda was not present but held the final jersey return evening and secured the collected jerseys in the storage lockers at WABA. She shared a spreadsheet with John, indicating the jerseys not returned and those opting to keep and pay the replacement fee. Sarah will upload this document to the Executive shared uvha.org drive.
 - d. **SafeSport Coordinator**-No report.
 - e. **Treasurer**-Ryan wasn't able to be present. However, he sent an email update reporting that all cash and checks had been deposited as of April 7th. Ryan is

looking into securing a debit card for making UVHA business transactions, including paying post office box fees.

- f. **Fundraising**-Sarah filed the NHAHA ADM grant report, including receipts verifying purchases. The thank you cards she ordered arrived. These “fill in the blank” cards will be mailed to contributors. Sponsors will continue to receive a more formal written letter of thanks.
 - g. **Registrar**-Since registration went live at the beginning of April, Kylie reported that nine players are currently registered with the Storm. Everyone thus far has paid in full or is signed up for payment plans.
 - h. **Scheduler**-Bill shared that he spoke with Mark Goodwin, Referee in Chief, and Mark confirmed that he’s likely to again hold his position. Bill also informed the Board that The Ice House is open in Lebanon. This could be a resource for off-season training for players.
4. **New Business:**
- a. **Open Appointed Positions**-With Linda and Kathy resigning from their roles, the positions of Equipment Manager and SafeSport Coordinator need to be filled. John Morlock expressed interest in Equipment Manager. Mindy Dube was present and had interest in SafeSport Coordinator. Jay Zanleoni also informed the Executive Board of his willingness to fill either position. Kylie made a motion to appoint John Morlock as Equipment Manager and Mindy Dube as SafeSport Coordinator. Justin seconded her motion. All voted in favor.
 - b. **Registration Questions**-Two questions arose following the opening of the 2017-2018 season registration regarding preference for returning players and team caps. After some discussion, the Board agreed that returning players will be given preference until the June 1st early registration cut-off. Kylie will send individual emails to new families informing them of their wait-list status until returning member status is analyzed. A team cap will be determined following a review of registration numbers at the May meeting. An email will be sent to returning families as a reminder of the June 1st deadline, after which, discounts will no longer be granted and registration will be open to new members.
 - c. **Spring Tryouts**-Jason has received a number of emails and had multiple discussions with coaches and parents regarding the UVHA’s decision to hold tryouts in the fall. Many strongly voiced that a change should be made to hold tryouts in the spring instead, like some neighboring associations. Compelling arguments were made for both, but the subject was tabled until further discussion can be had with all coaches and implications for registration can be more carefully considered.

- d. **Reinstatement as NH Nonprofit**-Matt attended the New Hampshire hearing and was able to secure GLYHA's nonprofit reinstatement. After discovering a year ago that both associations were delinquent in filing necessary paperwork with each state, Matt has worked tirelessly, with advisement, to bring the UVHA back into good standing. Going forward, directions for filing will be made clear to incoming officers by outgoing officers as to avoid any repeat of this debacle. Matt reminded the Board, via email, that we'll still need to petition for an official name change from GLYA to UVHA. He was confident that this wouldn't be a costly or strenuous task. Great thanks are owed to Matt for his diligence.
- e. **Girls Hockey**-Jason felt there was value in having the group again discuss girls' programming. He pointed out that Hartford and Lebanon High Schools both have dwindling varsity hockey programs. As a feeder for these programs, Jason expressed that the UVHA should take some level of responsibility to ensure their health. Kylie and Josh shared that a stronger, mutual relationship once existed between the high school programs and the UVHA, with varsity players consistently giving time to coach/assist at Storm practices. After some conversation circling back to concerns over steering girls away from coed play and taking prime ice time away from existing teams, the Board agreed that attrition rates could not be ignored and that while girls programs were offered by Hanover and Twin Valley, the UVHA needed to better support girls. Justin suggested that there be a larger discussion, collaborating with outside associations, Woodstock and Twin Valley, in particular. There was agreement that the Storm need not to develop a fully competitive girls' program but give our girls an option of participating on a girls' team, at some level. An hour of ice will be carved out of the schedule and devoted to girls programming, whether as a regular ice slot or occasional is to be determined. Kylie and Jason will reach out to Twin Valley after the close of early registration on June 1st, sharing our girls' registration numbers, with the goal of brainstorming ways in which our associations can work together to offer girl specific programming. They'll share their findings back to the Board.
- f. **URL Donation**-Jason explained that a gentleman owning the domain "uvha.com" recently contacted him, proposing that the UVHA purchase his URL for \$4,500. Learning of our nonprofit status, he then reduced his asking price to \$500. Citing a number of reasons, the Board quickly opted to decline.
- g. **Executive Session Participation**-There was some question as to who/what constituted "Executive Session." The UVHA Policies and Procedures define "Executive Session" as a closed meeting of the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. However, when matters of a sensitive nature requires the

attention of the full Board, Jason and Bill explained that the Board does have the right to close the meeting to the public.

- h. **Mite Schedule-**As a Mite coach and parent, Josh brought up two topics for consideration that arose from this past Mite season. First, he'd like to see a shift toward a more predictable schedule for Mite-aged players. Second, he felt that the number of games played by Mites should better coincide with USA Hockey's guidelines. Josh reminded the Board that being cognizant of the developmental stage of players at this level will only help with acquisition/retention and increase skills. There seemed to also be confusion as to the distinction between the House and Travel Mite programs. It was decided that a group of Mite coaches and parents should meet to flush out and bring concerns/suggestions to the Board.
5. **NH State Meeting Report:**
 - a. The next meeting will be May 20th at the Holiday Inn in Concord.
6. **VT Annual Meeting Report:**
 - a. Jason attended the State meeting last night. He learned that, new this year, we'll need to file a form with VSAHA to maintain our allied association status. Jason will file this form once he receives it.
7. **Meeting Adjourned:** 9:49 PM