

UVHA Board Meeting Minutes



July 19, 2017 ~ 6:00 PM

Kinney Pike Insurance, White River Junction, Vermont

1. **Attendance:** Sarah Morlock, Kylie Curtis, Mindy Dube, Nate Dube, Jason Spaulding, Ryan Ray, Justin Barwood, Alex DeFelice, Bill Mann, Josh Obar, Roger Gillies
2. **Meeting called to order:** 6:02 PM
 - a. The June 21st meeting minutes were unanimously approved (motioned by Ryan, seconded by Justin).
3. **Monthly Reports:**
 - a. **Webmaster**-Jason reported that the website was down for a few days due to an issue with the credit card information on file. The issue was quickly resolved when brought to Kelly's attention. Registration is up and functional once again.
 - b. **Coaching Coordinator**-Alex announced that USA Hockey has age specific modules ready. Coaches can access these through the USA Hockey website and complete the appropriate module at their convenience. Alex will email coaches to make them aware.
 - c. **Equipment Manager**-John inspected the returned jerseys, cross-referencing Linda's spreadsheet, and made a new inventory of the association's game jerseys. He confirmed with Jason the need to bill five families for and reorder jerseys that were damaged or in need of replacement. Based on this and current and projected registration numbers, John has recommended ordering 45 new jerseys, 20 sets plus five single replacement jerseys. The jerseys are \$52 each, for an estimated cost of \$2,340. Jason made a motion to approve the purchase of 45 game jerseys. His motion was seconded by Justin. All voted in favor. John will work with Bill to carefully select jersey numbers and place the order next week. John will also be working on a proposal for Mite jerseys, gathering quotes from multiple suppliers.

- d. **SafeSport Coordinator**-Mindy has yet to receive any emails with details/instructions regarding her role as SafeSport Coordinator. Roni will reach out to the State to be sure that we're not missing anything.
 - e. **Treasurer**-All outstanding bills are paid in full. Ryan will soon be working on the City of Lebanon fundraising request. His goal is to have it submitted before the end of August.
 - f. **Fundraising**-Sarah will gather data from Ryan and Kylie to include in a thank you letter/spending report for Mrs. Byrne. She typically shares scholarship award amounts, equipment purchases, internal fundraising successes and more.
 - g. **Registrar**-Kylie reported that there are currently 118 players registered for the 2016-2017 season. As of this meeting, there are two Peewee players on the wait list and one Bantam player on the wait list. She's received more scholarship requests to be reviewed in Executive session.
 - h. **Scheduler**-Bill recently received an email from the Dynamo association in regards to scheduling games. He reminded the Board that as soon as tier declarations are made, he'll be receiving these requests regularly and will need to be prepared with the UVHA's ice schedule and any special requests from coaches. Justin has yet to hear back from the Town with confirmation of ice purchase, but he will share as soon as it is confirmed.
4. **New Business:**
- a. **Peewee/Squirt Rosters**-To date, there are 30 Peewees registered, including two wait-listed players and one goalie. The Peewees are in need of another committed goalie. Jason informed the group that there is one registered Peewee-aged player whose family has requested that he instead practice with the Squirts, opting out of games, rather than play at the Peewee level due to his size and skill level. The Board approved of this request, given it wouldn't impede on Squirt players/practices. That move puts the Peewees at 29 players. The Board discussed team size and composition at length. Some voiced concern over the number of transfer players registered with the Storm and the effect their departure might have on their former associations. Their future commitment to the UVHA was also a question. According to the UVHA's Policies and Procedures, the optimal team size is 14. In accepting both wait-listed Peewee players, teams would be at 14 and 15. The Board was in agreement that this team size was essentially a non-issue, but acknowledged the possible, consequent shuffling of long-time UVHA members. Roni made a motion to accept both wait-listed players at the Peewee level and close the registration. Ryan seconded his motion. Six members voted in favor (JS, RR, BM, AD, KC, RG). Two opposed (JB, SM). Jason will reach out to these two families to inform them of their newly accepted registration

status. And in hopes of securing a second goalie at the Peewee level, Justin will reach out to one of the Peewee families to inquire as to their son's interest in playing goalie full time. Following Peewee discussion, Jason reported that registration has been closed at the Squirt level with 28 players. Any future registrations at this level will be wait-listed.

- b. **Bantam Numbers**-There are currently 21 Bantams registered, including two goalies and 19 skaters. One player has been wait-listed at this level. These numbers at the Bantam level are less than ideal. At this point in time, Jason felt that without recruiting new players to field two teams, the Bantams would be in a very difficult position. Kylie made a motion to accept the wait-listed Bantam player and keep registration open until further notice. Ryan seconded this motion. All voted in favor. Jason will reach out to two families who have yet to register but expressed interest in Bantam play. With their registrations, this would bring the Bantams to 24 players, 22 skaters and two goalies. Jason will also reach out to a former family in regards to their goalie player and his potential interest in moving back to the Storm.
- c. **Tier Declarations**-The Board discussed the expected performance of teams at each level to determine tier placement, with the understanding that tier movement is possible at the beginning of the season. Ryan cautioned the Board that movement up, while difficult from a scheduling stand-point, is far easier than movement down. Kylie made a motion to declare the Bantams at Tiers III and IV, Peewees at Tiers II and IV, and Squirts at Tiers II and IV. Justin seconded her motion. Seven voted in favor (JS, JB, BM, AD, KC, RG, SM). One opposed (RR). Sarah will reach out to Kelly with the determinations and ask that it be posted to the website. The Board will be open to feedback from coaches and the association body before making official declarations by August 12th.*
- d. **Meetings with Hanover, Woodstock & Kearsarge**-Jason and Justin have had productive and enlightening meetings and/or discussions with a number of neighboring associations. In order to best serve the needs of each association's membership, registration numbers were shared and examined. Of particular remark, Woodstock and Kearsarge both plan to field Midget teams, Hanover and Woodstock were both interested in working more closely with the UVHA to shape and schedule Mite programming, and all association Presidents expressed a desire to more formally discuss a future merger to form a collective Upper Valley Hockey Association.
- e. **Policies and Procedures**-Jason and Sarah have been working to update the current Policies and Procedures document to reflect current and best practices. Sarah will share a revised draft for comment and suggestion, as well as the

standing document for comparison. The goal is to have this document edited and approved prior to the close of the summer.

5. NH State Meeting Report:

- a. The next meeting is to be determined.

6. Meeting Adjourned: 7:57 PM

**7/20/17 Addendum-Some Squirt coaches expressed concern for declaring the upper level Squirt team at tier II. In light of this feedback, Sarah asked that the topic be revisited prior to Jason making the official declarations. Following further email discussion, the Board agreed to defer to coaches' opinion and instead declare the Squirts at tiers III and IV.*