

# Watertown Hockey Association

7/22/24 - 6 PM

## Meetign Minutes

Board Of Directors	Executive Committee
Vega Nutting Michael Ledoux Chris Nethers, Learn to Play Liaison Tony Felder Jordan Reber Shane Caswell Taylor Imhoff	Vega Nutting, Board President Michael Ledoux, Board Vice President Brian Nutting - WHA Treasurer Amanda Caswell- Secretary Michelle Rist - WHA Registrar Jonathan Rose - Ace Coordinator

- Quorum Present- (Majority of Directors)
  - Vega, Chris, Tony, Taylor, Shane
- Call Meeting to Order
  - 6:08pm
- Officer Reports
  - No Reports
- Directors and Coordinator Reports
  - No Reports
- Committee Reports
  - No Reports
- Old Business
  - Ice Contract (**Vega**)
    - Ice price was increased by 2% which is standard. We have same ice times at 2023-24 year. There was a request to review 7am ice times. Concerns were raised that early ice time at 6/8U might be a factor in people to leaving association. Vega will send Ice contract to board once it is received from city.
  - Open Positions (**Vega**)
    - Vega will send an email and Facebook post with all the positions needed to be filled.
    - A discussion about what positions need to be continued and removed from bylaws ensued. It was acknowledged that changes might be needed but no movement from the 2023-24 bylaws committee. Shane Caswell will go through bylaws and make recommendations to board. Board will take under consideration to make a change to bylaws. Review on how to make a bylaws change is needed as well.
    - A need for a managers committee was strongly encouraged to assure all managers were on the same page as the season progressed. It would also be helpful in training the new managers.
      - Vega: Motion to hold managers meeting 1 hour before board meetings
      - Shane: 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion to hold managers meeting 1 hour before board meetings

-Discussion: Hold hybrid meetings after 1<sup>st</sup> meeting to permit various modes of engagement for all managers.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

- Golf Tournament Updates (**Vega**)
  - More information will be provided at the August meeting. The tournament is in September.
- Safety coordinator position description (**Shane**)
  - Tabled until next meeting
- Proposal for WHA 8U & 6U with Power Play Sports for 2024-25 (**Chris**)
  - See provided additional information from Power Play that was provided. Continued discussion on proposal needed before a decision can be made.
- Appointment to Board of Directors
  - Randy Comenole is not interested in a position. The open position will be advertised to the association parents.
- Girls' Program Approval (**Amanda Caswell**)
  - Tabled until next meeting
- Registration Fees including update on 16/18U (**Vega**)
  - Fees will remain the same for the age levels
  - The coach for 16/18U wants to wait to decide if they will be just a pre/post team. 16U is to be determined when decision made. Registration will be open by August 1st for all other levels.
- New Business
  - Game Jerseys (**Vega**)
    - In the 2023-24 year 50% of jersey expense was paid by WHA. New jerseys for the 2024-25 season would be \$160 if players need them. If kids outgrow, they will need to purchase new or if current jersey fits kids can wear again. If there is a conflict with a number assignment, the older player gets to keep their number.
    - Vega: Motion to have kids pay full price \$160 for jerseys this coming year.
    - Tony: 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion to have kids pay full price \$160 for jerseys this coming year.
      - Discussion: Mites prices are TBD.
      - Vote Called:
        - Ayes: 5
        - Nays: 0
        - Abstentions: 0
    - It was suggested to Email to members about 50% being paid last year as many parents were not aware that the WHA paid for half of the jersey expense.
  - Budget Committee (**Vega**)
    - Mike, Bryan, Jordan, Vega

-Meet next week to prepare for next season. Information will be shared with board. It was discussed that the budget committee does not match the positions listed on the finance committee in the bylaws.

○ WHA Philosophy regarding player evaluations and approach to conducting them  
**(Shane)**

-A discussion occurred about age groups and how decisions are made about numbers at levels. Board members noted there is room for improvement in the evaluation process. Right sizing teams based on kid numbers should be considered to assure an optimal experience.

-The overarching principle in team selection: Put similar skilled kids together on teams.

-There was discussion about ways there can be a consistent evaluation process. Again it was acknowledged that the evaluation process might need improving.

-A concern was raised about sibling issues at 6/8U. Siblings should be together based on skill, no relation.

-It was expressed that John Rose the new ACE coordinator should be bringing a new vision and fairness to the process.

-Discussion ensued about the appropriate verbiage of head coach of level versus head coach of team.

-Chris: Motion to change the verbiage from head coach for each level to director of each level.

-Tony: 2<sup>nd</sup> motion

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

○ Red Level 8U team separate from 6U and 8U during practice **(Taylor )**

-The board will wait until a decision is made about Power Play proposal. Discussion tabled until next meeting.

○ Status of 16U & 18U refunds from last year **(Vega )**

-Michelle will issue refunds that will be completed next week.

○ Ice Time **(Chris)**

-A system to track ice time use and “giving back” to WHA for distribution is needed. Rules and policy need to be transparent regarding using and giving back ice. Coaches should talk with manager and selection of ice slots. System with Google doc was helpful last season. Chris will draft a policy for ice slots and present to the board in August. Concerns were raised about conflicts with ice schedule for varsity team

-Ice coordination will be run by Mercedes Nethers.

● Other Business

● Action Items:

- Chris will draft policy and procedures for ice time
- Vega will send out contract draft
- Budget committee will meet to create and then provide the budget
- Registration will open by August 1<sup>st</sup>
- Michelle will issue 16/18 refunds.

- Vega will send an email and Facebook post with all open board and committee positions asking for volunteers.
  - Shane will review how to initiate bylaws change.
  - Vega will send an email to the association parents explaining that WHA paid for half of the jersey expense last year.
- Meeting Adjournment
    - 8:14pm
    - Chris: Motion to adjourn
    - Tony: 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion to adjourn
    - Ayes: 5
    - Nays: 0
    - Abstentions: 0

Respectfully submitted by: Amanda Caswell, Secretary