

**Helena Area Youth Hockey Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
August 20, 2018  
6:00 pm CONFERENCE CALL**

**People Present**

HAYHA Board Members:

Kurt Moser – President and Squirt Rep  
Sarah Garcia – Treasurer and High School Rep  
Lance Wilson – Registrar  
Robert Whited – Bantam Rep  
Scott Petersen – Member at Large and SafeSport Coordinator  
Justin Steckelberg – U8 Rep  
Mekell Lybbert – MAHA Rep  
Judy Merickel – 8U Rep and Secretary

Not Present:

Ryan Lilletvedt – Vice President and PeeWee Rep

**Call to Order at 6:04 pm**

**Minutes**

Lance moved to approve August 14 minutes with Kurt's change. Sarah seconded. Motion passes. Judy will make Kurt's change and post to the website.

**Public Comment**

None

**Disciplinary Policy**

Kurt sent another draft of the Disciplinary Policy to the board yesterday. This draft included suggestions from the last board meeting and also incorporated John Bloomquist's feedback. Under each level of discipline, Kurt changed "Applicability" to "Applicability Examples" and added a sentence stating these examples are not intended to be binding. Ryan wasn't present during the phone call but did send feedback to the board via email. The board discussed and approved his suggestion to change "blatant and intentional" to "malicious" so the policy now states "any malicious action that would result in an injury". The board discussed Judy's suggestion of clarifying meetings versus hearings and added the sentence "The discipline committee may also hold meetings as necessary to discuss reported incidents and investigate." Hearings include the player and their parents and are held for level 2, 3 and 4 issues. Finally, a long discussion ensued surrounding Judy's suggestion to add that incident reports be provided to Head Coaches in addition to Division Rep and Disciplinary Committee members. Judy felt Head Coaches are the players first point of contact and have the most influence on their behavior and therefore head coaches should know what issues are occurring. She stated that

last year there were coaches who felt like they didn't know enough of what was going on to get the full picture of repeated behavior issues. Mekell agreed and said the head coaches who helped write the first disciplinary draft from scratch felt strongly that coaches should be informed. Robby disagreed and felt like a Head Coach doesn't need to know every reported incident, especially if it doesn't fall under his realm of control either on the ice or in the locker room. Sarah suggested erring on the side of caution when divulging information from reported incidents to head coaches. She feels only elected board officials should be privy to confidential information of this nature. She also said that it is up to the Division Board Reps to use their best judgement whether to inform their Head Coaches or not. Scott felt incident reports should not be forwarded on to head coaches before the disciplinary committee members investigate. Lance felt that coaches don't want to know everything because it might taint the way they treat the player on the ice. Kurt feels discipline matters that reach these levels are our burden to bear as elected board members. Scott made a motion to approve the disciplinary policy adding Ryan's changes but eliminating Head Coaches from being informed of Incident Reports. Lance seconded. Judy made a motion to amend Scott's as such: approve the disciplinary policy adding Ryan's changes and including Incident Reports be provided to Head Coaches if alleged incident occurred under their purview. Mekell seconded. A vote on the amended motion occurred with Judy and Mekell voting "yes" and Robby, Justin, Scott, Lance and Sarah voting "no". Amended motion fails. A vote was then held on Scott's original motion. Robby, Justin, Scott, Lance and Sarah voted "yes". Judy and Mekell voted "no". Motion passes.

### **Codes of Conduct and Handbook**

Kurt suggested we remove "I will abstain from illegal substances" from the parent and coaches Code of Conduct since MT law already regulates this. He said it should stay in the player code of conduct. Ryan passed along suggestion via email which was to change the words "mannerisms that are offensive to other persons" to "I will not use profane language or inappropriate gestures". He felt this was less subjective. The board agreed. He also wanted to see the word "maliciously" used to in our examples under the player safety category. He'd like it to read, "This includes but is not limited to maliciously slashing, fighting, pushing, punching or striking another person in anyway with any part of the body or physical implement". The board agreed. Lance moved that the board pass these three codes of conduct with Ryan and Kurt's changes. Sarah seconded. The motion passes.

### **Registration**

Lance will put the codes of conduct and disciplinary policy into the registration process and make it live as soon as possible, hopefully by August 22. Robby moved that parents have to check a box that they have read both Codes of Conduct. The Player Code states parents must review this with their children. Mekell seconded. Motion passes.

### **Jerseys**

Judy met with Stacey at Sleeping Giant to get style and sizes figured out and has numbers ready to order. Lance moved that HAYHA purchase no more than 100 practice jersey sets to sell to kids in the 8U and House programs. Sarah seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Lance is going to work with Stacey to order additional tryout jerseys for expected increase in squirt age kids trying out. Justin suggested purchasing numbers for kids to put on their own jerseys to save money. Mekell said the reason the board did jerseys in the past was to keep kids more anonymous to the evaluators. The board decided it wanted to still use plain blue and white tryout jerseys.

**Game Jerseys**

Mekell said that last year 8Us were encouraged NOT to order game jerseys but a few still did and a duplicate number was issued. She feels that the board should refund one of those families since it was our fault the duplicate number was issued.

The board discussed not allowing 8Us to purchase game jerseys. Board members feel it is a right of passage into squirts and it is too confusing for the numbering system to guarantee families the number they choose. Robby made a motion to not allow players to purchase game jerseys until they reach squirt division. Lance seconded. Motion passed.

**Volunteer Policy**

Robby made a motion to keep the volunteer policy the same as last season. This requires each family to volunteer 4 hours per registered child. Lance seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

**Next Meetings**

September 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm at the Helena Ice Arena.

October 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm at the Helena Ice Arena.

**Meeting adjourned 8:59 pm.**

Signed by President: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_