



February 28, 2024

CYHA Board Meeting

Board Members Present: Phil Passarelli, Chris DaBaldo, Casey Marshall, Angela Brady, Ryan Blair, JC Gaskins, Justin Pence

Board Members Absent: Mike Jannace

Guests Present: None

Call to Order: Phil called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

Secretary Report: Chris reminded the group of the working session scheduled for February 29, 2024, at 8:30pm. The focus of this meeting will be to review proposed policy updates, bylaw updates, coach and player contracts, and other operational items for the governance of CYHA.

Motion to approve the BOD Meeting Minutes from January 31, 2024, was made by Justin and seconded by Ryan. The motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer Report: Casey presented the Treasures report to the board with the current statement of accounts. Currently there are no past due accounts. He will be depositing \$10,000 to the Player Enrichment account to replenish funds that have been used to support activities this season. Currently only the February expenses are pending. He anticipates the Mark expenses will be minimal as the season wraps up. Casey plans to close out the books for season as quickly as possible to have a clean break between the 2023 – 24 season and next season. The group discussed leveraging any funds over our expected operating expenses to help offset the costs of next season for our members. The group will revisit this discussion once the books have been closed out for the season.

Registrar Report: Nothing to report.

Committee Reports

Travel Commissioner Report: JC is actively working on the budget and program details for the 2024 – 25 Travel season. He will have this ready to present to the board at the next meeting. He updated the group on the status of the end of season playoff scheduled for this upcoming weekend. There was general discussion among the group regarding the tournament schedule. Several games do not align with the USA Hockey recommendation of a minimum of 4 hours between games. This recommendation is in place to reduce the player injury and fatigue.

House Commissioner Report: Justin provided an update to the group on the 14U / 16U age group. Since rebalancing the team rosters the games have become more competitive.

The arrangement for the End of Season party for the teams has been finalized. The Ice Palace will provide the food for the teams. The menu will be like that which was planned from the original vendor. He is coordinating with the coaches to identify recipients of the end of season awards. These will be based on the previously awarded Honor the Game award criteria.

Justin is working to finalize a sponsor to provide T-shirts to our players this season.

Hockey Director Report: Ryan reported that the Little Rays will be participating in a 6U jamboree in Columbia. This is the first jamboree that the Little Rays have participated in. There are 27 players who have signed up. Additionally, the Little Rays have their end of the season games at the coliseum scheduled.

Player Development: Ryan, JC, and Hunter have met to plan out program details for next season. Ryan discussed several opportunities that he would like to offer next season such as continued skills sessions, power skating, and dry land training sessions. He presented a proposal to purchase several shooting boards that could be used in the area behind the Ice Palace for shooting and stick handling. He proposed that the cost of the shooting pads be split between the ice palace and CYHA. The board was in favor of this proposal and asked Ryan to provide a quote at the next meeting for formal approval. Other proposals included the addition of video sessions next season, off-ice conditioning, and increasing the number of goalie coaches available to the teams.

Ryan also provided an overview of the upcoming development opportunities that he has planned. He will be hosting a Hockey Concepts clinic on Mondays in April. He has also scheduled a Pre-tryout Checking clinic for rising 14U players to focus on angling and body contact. These clinics will run this spring leading into Travel Tryouts.

Ryan will also be leading several clinics over the summer. The Total Hockey clinic will take place on Monday and Wednesday through the summer. Power skating will also be offered again this summer. Ryan is also exploring the possibility of adding mini camps to focus on Goalie development, defensive concepts, and an all-girls clinic.

Growth: Angela provided an update on the current grants that have been awarded to CYHA this season. We still have funding left for the following grants, Grow the Game, Girls Development, and CAPS. Additionally, we can apply for additional grant money from CAHA to support our Girls Hockey initiatives. The deadline to apply for the Girls Development funding is April of this year. Angela will work to submit this request to CAHA.

The group had a general discussion regarding the Girls Skills clinics and ways to improve in past years. Chris and Angela agreed that better scheduling or ice times would be helpful. Chris recommended running the sessions as a true skills clinic with focused drills and coaching. Angela suggested that we bring in some of our 18U players to help with the clinics as well. Angela will work with Brandon to book ice times for this season.

Grievance/Disciplinary: Nothing to report

Fundraising/Scholarship: Angela reported that the Golf Tournament will not be held this year due to continued challenges in organizing this event. As an alternative we will explore the possibility of hosting an event at Top Golf. There was a general agreement among the board that the amount of funding the gold tournament provides is worth continuing to pursue this in future years. Due to this we will explore hiring an event planner to assist the organization with the Golf Tournament next season.

Angela has received marketing materials from other organizations in our area that we can use to help develop materials for our organization. Angela will work with Casey, Phil, and Justin on this effort.

We have a spirit night fundraiser at MOD Pizza scheduled for March 6, 2024. Angela is actively working to arrange another spirit night during Spring Leage. Try hockey for free is scheduled for February 24, 2024. Ryan will send out an email to the coaches asking for volunteers to help on the ice for this event.

Coordinator Updates

- **Marketing/Outreach:** Nothing to report
- **Safety Coordinator:** Nothing to report
- **Safe Sport Coordinator:** Nothing to report

New Business

- **Electronic Voting Software – Simply Voting:** Chris presented an electronic voting option through a company called Simply Voting that could be used for future board elections. In the past electronic voting has been a challenge due to the structure of our organization. Currently, there is one vote allowed for each child registered with CYHA. Additionally, each coach is allowed one vote. Historically, voting software ties each vote to a single e-mail address which limits the multiple votes ties to a single address. The group expressed interest in exploring this option. Chris will set up a demo election for the board members and send out additional information to the group.
- **CYHA Coaches Locker Room:** Ryan made the group aware that Palace locker room 5 is available for use and is being offered to CYHA to lease. This space would remain a locker room to be used for CYHA coaching staff each season. The cost of the space would be added to the existing lease CYHA has with the Ice Palace. The current proposal would be an 8-month lease for the locker room to cover the length of the season. The preference of the board would be to lease the space for the entire year. Rayn will work with Brandon to determine the cost and terms of the lease and present it to the board next season.

- **End of Season Coaches Feedback:** The group discussed the annual membership survey that is sent out each season. Ryan stated he is planning to send a survey out to the coaching staff to gather feedback for next season as well. There was general discussion regarding what information we would want to gather this season from these surveys. Additional discussion will be needed to finalize the surveys.

Old Business

- **Spring League:** The registration page has been updated for this season and the link is ready to be sent out to our members. The games will occur on Wednesday nights with a few Sunday dates again this year. The jersey order will be finalized and submitted to ensure it will be ready in time for the first games.
- **Summer Programming:** The CYHA will offer playing opportunities such as tournaments over the summer this year. These may be coordinated with Ice Palace or other groups depending upon the specific tournaments selected. Phil is working to organize this effort on behalf of CYHA. Phil will provide an update at our next meeting.

Phil also made the board aware that some parents are in the process of arranging summer tournament teams independently. The board recognized that as this was outside of the USA Hockey season and does not fall under CYHA to govern.

- **2024-25 Travel Season:** Planning is underway for the 2024-25 Travel season. The board will schedule a separate work session dedicated to season planning. The final details and budget will be presented at the next board meeting to be formally approved. Chris has scheduled this session for March 6, 2024.

The group discussed the structure of Travel Try-outs. These will occur over three days. The cost for tryouts will be \$75 again this year. Angela will send out an email to our membership the first week of March with save the date information.

- **First Aid Training:** A follow-up discussion from the last meeting was had regarding providing first aid training and supplies to a coach from each team. Angela will reach out to the Red Cross to see what options are available through them. Additionally, she indicated that CAHA has grant money available to facilitate the purchase of first aid kits for our organization.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 pm