

WHA Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, November 13th, 2023

Location: Fieldhouse Conference Room

Time: 7:00pm Board Meeting



BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeremy Johnson, Allison Mathews, Todd Randall, Amber Dahl, Adam Sullivan, Eric Skott, Kris Dorneman, Nate Shuller, Travis Young, Matt Engen

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Adam Lalim

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES: Lucas Deutsch, Karen Gromis, Tori Simon, Tonya Holien, Jenni Wirkus, Molly Randall, Aaron Roberts, Casey Shuller, Juliane Lloyd, Collette Krueger

Call to order 7:04pm

AGENDA for November 2023: Nate Shuller moved to approve the November agenda, seconded by Jeremy Johnson. Motion carried.

MEETING MINUTES for August 2023: Eric Skott moved to approve the September meeting minutes, seconded by Nate Shuller. Motion carried. Motion carried.

1. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Allison Mathews presented Balance Sheet & Profit & Loss Statements. Meg Sunde will not be playing the remainder of this season due to injury. In year's past, registration has been returned. Nate Shuller made a motion to refund the Sunde family, seconded by Adam Sullivan. Motion carried. Molly Randall brought forth moving CD funds into a higher interest rate CD. Eric Skott made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Travis Young. Motion carried.
2. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. BIN Pledge Forms & Radiothon – still collecting pledge forms.
3. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. **Special Event Sanction Forms:** Any hockey activities where there is risk to our players or a WHA event is hosted outside of the rink, in the public (i.e. golf tournament, Alumni game, homecoming parade, etc.), a form requesting the event must be completed and approved to be a sanctioned hockey event. This form must be completed no less than 14 days prior to the event. There is also tournament sanctioning with fee through the district. Sanctioned events will have an asterisk placed on the Calendar of Events so Registrar knows to sanction the event.
 - b. **Neck Guards/Protective Gear:** USA Hockey will be formalizing rule changes for protective gear. Lucas has checked into neck guards for the younger levels. Neck guards are difficult to secure right now with demand. Lucas has 50 guards locked in (Bauer Kevlar) roughly \$20/guard through Hockey Headquarters. There are cheaper versions for \$10. Question was posed if we as an association want to require neck guards. Nate Shuller made a motion to approve Lucas in determining whether to purchase the lot of 50 neck guards to be sold by the WHA. Seconded by Amber Dahl. Motion carried.
 - c. **DIBS Points Review for Board/Volunteers:** Discussion on one-time projects will be awarded additional DIBS points if approved by the board. Varsity games Chuck-a-puck and Security

needed to be added to DIBS. Discussion adding Security to the nominating committee duties to find some prospects. Motion made Nate Shuller to approve proposed DIBS positions, seconded by Adam Sullivan. Motion carried.

- d. **Alumni Gun Raffle & Marketing:** Alumni Foundation asking for support from the WHA to share on social media. Venmo and paper ticket options for sales.
- e. **Stick It to Cancer (SITC) Jerseys:** Jenny Wirkus would like to do SITC again this year. It is not a cost to WHA. Last year, we raised more than \$7,000 for Codington County Cares. New jerseys are needed and would like to have Boys/Girls jerseys matched. Approximate cost would be \$50/jersey or ~\$3,000. Jenny Wirkus proposed a Santa Bingo event with a date of December 8th, 2023, at the Elks. SITC night is tentatively scheduled for January 20th, 2024. Motion by Amber Dahl to order jerseys, seconded by Jeremy Johnson. Motion carried.
- f. **SafeSport & Locker Rooms:** Discussion held on a Safesport-reported situation where visiting team didn't follow process with having supervision. Lucas Deutsch will have written instructions WHA on obtaining locker room keys. Karen Gromis will send locker room policy to the Team Coordinators.
- g. **Update on Big Bear Tournaments:** Many discussions had following the Cedar Rapids, IA tournament with Big Bear. The hotel rooms were a point of contention as families were supposed to book through a tournament link. The rooms were more expensive than communicated through tournament director. Due to WHA not having enough rooms booked through the link and having less player numbers than originally planned, the association was charged ~4,700. More unfolding with the KC tournament. JV/Varsity program for KC folded. JV will be going to Brookings to play December 15-17, 2023. Another tournament found in Wisconsin for Boys Varsity same weekend of KC. Devon is moving forward with a bus trip. The tournament is \$500 less. Hangup is whether we send PW and Bantams to Kansas City. Aaron Roberts is confident we can find something the same weekend at a discounted rate. Karen will send out correspondence to the association for those that booked through the link.
- h. **ABC Fundraising Opportunity:** Molly Randall presented information on ABC Fundraising laundry detergent, which is an opportunity for players to sell laundry detergent. Player would receive the per bag kick back of \$7/bag, which would offset their registration costs.
- i. **State Tournament Committee:** WHA is looking for volunteers to be on a state tournament committee to document and improve state tournaments in the future. Nate Shuller made a motion, seconded by Eric Skott, for Jenny Wirkus to put together a committee. Motion carried.
- j. **Open Skate Responsibilities:** Discussion held on who's responsible for open skate.
- k. **Medical Coverage for Varsity Games:** Todd Randall will work with Dot McAreavey, Director of Rehabilitation Services & Wound Care at PLHS to determine what dates we need a medical trainer prior to January 1st.

4. **OFFICIAL COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS-** reports if any information

Scheduler, Jenni Wirkus: Team rosters must be loaded on SportsEngine for live scoring. Electronic platforms are being tested.

Coaching Committee, Adam Sullivan, Vice President, Lucas Deutsch, Staff: Coaching salary will stay within budget. We lost both girls (Tiffany and Katelyn) coaching staff to have locker room presence. Team has three moms who have volunteered and are Safesport certified. Ryan Linke can't commit to dryland this year. All league level coaches will be responsible for their own

drylands. There is another alum back in town that may be willing to assist. Adam discussed his desire to have coaching committee nominations in January or February to ensure the new committee could be present for Exit Interviews. Coaching committee also identified handbook revisions that are needed. Number of teams and player move-ups were discussed, specifically 3 move-ups from Squirts to PeeWee – split decision on coaching committee. With additional numbers, we didn't want to see players sitting on the bench. Player safety was also taken into consideration. Moves were made with development and numbers in mind.

Dibs/Volunteer Committee, Tonya Holien, Staff & Sabrina Welder, Chair: Jenny Wirkus has volunteered to manually make the changes for DIBS times. Training is available for new parents to ensure they understand responsibilities. DIBS write up needs to be revised. It was requested that we post DIBS Etiquette and DIBS process.

Registrar Update, Jessi Eidson, Chair: Jessi is documenting best practices to ensure handoff for next year. Jessi will send out sanctioning requirements and requests for the association.

5. GENERAL COMMITTEES

Marketing & Fundraising Committee, Molly Randall, Chair: Marketing and fundraising is being sold. Molly working with Jurgens Printing on season bookley. Increase will be 30 raffle ticket for a single family and 45 raffle tickets for multi-player family. 25 raffle tickets for mites. Checks will NOT be cashed until after the drawing. In-House is the only level exempt from selling raffle tickets. All travel leagues are required to sell raffle tickets. Extra ticket books will receive a credit for future registration fees or Hockey Headquarters or Chamber Bucks or options of \$100 for each 10 pack sold.

Nominations Committee, Kristina Suttan, Chair: no update

Grow the Game Committee, Aaron Roberts, Chair: Looking at structure for Summer Hockey that's affordable for all levels. Total ice time is around 32 hours for the summer.

Equipment Committee, Lindsey Stricherz, Chair: no update

Technology Committee, Jeremy Johnson, Chair: All gadgets are working and testing with Jim Lloyd this week.

6. STAFF UPDATES

Operations Manager, Lucas Deutsch: High School enrollment had grade check eligibility. All players are eligible to play. Whether a student is eligible or ineligible is what is shared, nothing grade specific.

Business Manager, Karen Gromis: Karen shared the Google Drive folders and setup board members. Karen can grant access to Team Coordinators, committee members, etc. Setup email is coming from "The Google Workspace Team". For those that have files, please upload them into the Google Suite.

7. **FACILITIES:** No report

8. **ASSOCIATION WIDE INFORMATION:** No report

9. **ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)**

ADJOURN – motion made to adjourn by Eric Skott, seconded by Amber Dahl. Adjourned at 9:59pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, December 11th, 2023, 7:00 pm, Fieldhouse Conference Room