

**Helena Area Youth Hockey Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
December 10, 2018  
5:30 pm at Helena Ice Arena**

HAYHA Board Members:

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

Guests:

Bob Richards – Coach-in-Chief  
Jon Flynn – House League Coordinator

Absent Board Members:

Robert Whited – Bantam Rep

**Meeting Call to Order 5:41 p.m.**

**Amendment to the Bylaws**

Kurt passed around the official amendment that was passed at the previous board meeting. All board members in attendance signed it. Judy will scan and email to Robert Whited to get it on the website with the bylaws.

**Minutes**

Lance moved and Ryan seconded approving the minutes with two changes:

1. Amendment to the Bylaws section: Needs clarification that we approved the Amendment to the Bylaws giving the board disciplinary authority. Separately, the Disciplinary Policy review and discussion of comments received was tabled until April 2019.
2. Division Updates: Ryan received suggestion that coaches call or visit with all players, not just bubble players, at the next practice following tryouts so kids can learn what they need to work on.

The board passed the motion.

**Rink Update**

Kurt asked everyone to remind their locker room monitors to keep locker rooms clean. Also, the rink wants all divisions to end their practices on time to keep the tight schedule. Judy asked that the timeclock be back permanently for use during all practices. Kurt said Adam Senechal had talked to Stan and the timeclock is back for our use.

### **Coach-in-Chief – Bob Richards**

Bob touched base with all coaches to see if they have any questions or concerns. Adam Senechal asked when the Tryout Committee was getting together. Kurt said Judy was heading that up in the spring after busy season duties ended. Bob said Adam was hoping to get on it sooner. Judy said she will call a meeting sooner than spring between Bob, Shawn, Adam and her.

Ben Tiller, Head Mite Coach, and Miles Wacker, Head Termite Coach are evaluating a number of termite players to move up to mites second session. Ben said the majority are 2010s, the oldest 8U birth year. Traditionally we have moved all oldest birth year termites up to mites since next year they will have to move to squirts. However, there are two 2010s that neither Ben or Miles feel are ready to move up to Mites. They want kids to be challenged but not overwhelmed. And they feel that staying at termites will be best developmentally for these players. The board supports the coaches' decisions on who to move up and who to keep at termite level for player development. Ben also expressed concern over the lack of penalty calls at the 8U level. Judy seconded that concern and explained a scenario from the Butte Tournament the previous weekend where a Missoula player knocked over three Helena players before the referee called anything. Ryan suggested that Ben write something up and send to Jason Manning, MAHA's Ref-in-Chief. Kurt suggested Mekell Lybbert, MAHA Rep, talk to Jason Manning. Mekell is going to give Jason Manning a call.

Bob said he didn't get to watch as many practices as he wanted. He liked what he saw at the Mite level with Chris Edmunds working on skating and edges. Bob has offered power skating practices to all levels above 8U and many are taking advantage of this. With the board's approval and support, Bob is going to book an hour of ice on a Sunday for working with goalies in all HAYHA divisions above 8U. Judy would like the 8U goalie coaches, Lisa Prescott and Denny Lester, to be invited to attend. January 6<sup>th</sup> is the tentative date.

HAYHA needs to book 4.5 extra hours of ice to make up for when the Zamboni was down early in the season.

### **Concussion Protocol & SafeSport – Scott Petersen**

Scott Petersen, SafeSport Coordinator, reports approximately 45% compliance across HAYHA coaches and board members on the two Concussion Protocol items that need to be turned in:

1. Concussion Training Certificates (online training that takes about 20 minutes)
2. Coach Concussion Acknowledgement forms

Scott said it would be a good idea for all managers to carry a few Concussion Medical Release forms with them to practices and games.

Board members were reminded to send Scott your locker room monitors' names, so he can make sure they are SafeSport certified. Scott reported that a concerned parent told him they walked into Squirt House practice and a bunch of kids had their phones out in the locker room. This is against the locker room policy. Judy will send Jon Flynn a copy of the locker room policy and ask him to remind all players, parents and locker room monitors of the rules.

### **MAHA Update – Mekell Lybbert**

1. Tier 1/Tier 2 language discussed. Any input to be submitted on MAHA website by Dec. 14. Mekell forwarded to Board &CIC how to make any suggestions/input.
2. Reminded that organizations must have Conflict of Interest Policies (per Affiliate Agreement).
3. Reminder for teams/managers to get Concussion forms submitted asap. Coaches to take course.
4. Stressed parent/spectator acceptable behavior. Remind parents of codes of conduct. Need to adhere to!

### **Registrar – Lance**

Lance opened House and 8U registration on the website for second session. He is going to remove the USA Hockey Code of Conduct and the USA Consent to Treat forms. HAYHA has its own Player Code of Conduct that is more stringent than the USA Hockey Code, so that is what we are using. Lance is going to add the Parent/Athlete Concussion Acknowledgement Form. Justin is going to call Robert Whited to get something up on the website about registration being open for House and 8U second session.

Tournament registrations are going well. Managers and reps are using the Tournament Request Form and Lance is building the tournament registrations. Sarah Garcia said it is easiest for her if managers/reps send her an email with the address to send the tournament checks.

Lance reminded all divisions that he can print roster stickers to use for games. Just ask him for these.

Lance also said that the regional registrar is watching closely for coaches to be up to date on their CEP certifications. Judy sent a reminder to all 8Us who needed the class. The last chance class is on December 15<sup>th</sup> in Bozeman. Board members will follow up with coaches. And Lance will email Bob Richards, Coach-in-Chief, so he is aware and can stay on top of this as well.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Sarah Garcia reported \$132,827.79 in checking account. The December ice fee check to the rink has cleared. The board discussed a few outstanding balance issues. Sarah is going to send a notice to these parents stating, "per your online agreement with HAYHA, your fees must be

paid in full by Dec. 31". If they aren't paid, she will send another in January giving them one last chance to pay in full before the board sends them to collections. The board decided that prior to next season they will put a policy in place regarding unpaid balances and potential suspension of players for unpaid balances, in accordance with USA Hockey policy.

## **DIVISION UPDATES**

### **House League – Jon Flynn**

Jon reported House League going very well. The Holiday 3 v 3 tournament was a huge success. The kids loved it and it as extra playing time in the 3 v 3 format with all of the benefits that brings (more puck touches, fast decision making, etc.). Him and Annie Petersen, House League Coach, are hunting down more tournaments for the PeeWee age House kids to attend. House League kids participated in Great Falls Squirt B tournament, which ended up having a few Canadian Squirt A teams. The Helena House kids still had a fun, despite heavy losses, but learned a ton and kept their spirits high. They are heading to Kalispell next to play games against their House League. A few other optional travel tournaments are scheduled as well. Jon is really proud of the kids' effort and growth. Sisi Carroll is offering dryland training from 6:30 – 7:00 before practice and kids are taking advantage of this opportunity.

### **Squirt A**

Kurt reported Squirt A is very competitive with other teams. They took second place in the Missoula Tournament. They have three more tournaments coming up – Bozeman, Jackson and Missoula.

### **Squirt B**

Squirt B is also very competitive. They have played 10 games and only lost one. They have home games this weekend. Their state tournament will be in Butte.

### **PeeWees**

Ryan said each team has played four games. A is headed to Whitefish this weekend and B is headed to Great Falls next. They did refund for an injured player.

### **Bantams**

Robert Whited not here to give report.

### **High School**

Sarah Garcia reported High School is off to a good start. They have 4 wins and 4 losses.

### **8U**

Judy reported 8U season is going strong. Tremendous coaches and high number of coaches with 14 in each division. No new registrants for second session yet. She will send an email to families. Twenty-six players (2 Mite Teams and 1 Termite Team) head to Bozeman for Rinkin' in the New Year December 29 and 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Referees**

Scott Petersen brought up a concern that Bantam age kids are reffing PeeWee and Squirt games and he feels that sometimes they aren't calling what they should or standing up to coaches when they should because they are young and intimidated. Kurt will invite Rob LaChapalle to our next meeting to discuss refs. Scott suggesting asking him if we can assign one adult to two minor refs during the games.

**Next Meeting – January 14<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m. at Helena Ice Arena**

**Meeting Adjourned 7:45 p.m.**

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

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