

DOVER YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

6:00 PM – DOVER ICE ARENA CONFERENCE ROOM

JT Fortier – President

Steve Gahan – Vice President

Josh Hersey – Treasurer

Steeve Wintle - Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: The September 9, 2024, Dover Youth Hockey Association-Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM in the Conference Room of the Dover Ice Arena.

The following board members were present: JT Fortier, Steve Gahan (remote), Josh Hersey, James Blouin (remote), Shannon Kennedy, Zach Cobb, Steeve Wintle (remote). Brett Ricci – Director of Hockey Ops, Mike Young – Previous Director of Hockey Ops. Absent: Ken Burlage.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Jake Avery joined the meeting to discuss concerns about his son's current team and requested his son be allowed to play up to a more senior team. An open discussion ensued about the specific team in question, and the idea of having players play up to more senior teams in general. The Board took the commentary from Mr. Avery under consideration and agreed to discuss further later in the Board meeting.

TEAM UPDATES:

The Board discussion the request from Mr. Avery, and more generally the question about roster compositions of the Squirt teams. The Board reviewed the roster status of all the teams in the Squirt/ PeeWee age range to re-assess whether there were adequate player numbers for all of the teams.

The Board discussed having the coaches of the various teams meet in the subsequent day or two to discuss the team rosters, and how best to manage and adjust the situation for the betterment of all of the players, coaches and teams.

MEETING MINUTES: A motion to approve the 8/19/24 minutes was tabled until the next Board meeting as the meeting minutes from the prior meeting were distributed late and not all Board members were able to review prior to the meeting.

FIRST SHIFT: Discussion about planning for First Shift program, timing, dates, equipment, etc. Discussion about ways to support Blouin in preparing the upcoming season. Scheduling of the uniform fitting was discussed, possibly for October 2nd & 6th, but still to be determined.

HOUSE LEAGUE ROSTER/ READINESS: Discussion about how to address potential rule changes with House league and communicating with coaches. Discussion on how to keep House League program as close to Major/Minor travel teams to have players who move up be prepared for PHL/ GSL league play. Strong interest in parent coaching for House League.

APPAREL COMMITTEE: Committee to meet soon, discussion about when the Board would like the next store to open, ahead of the holidays, potentially in October.

FINANCE UPDATE: Hersey provided the following updates:

- a. Poker night results - \$17,918 for the second 5 night session, \$39,154 overall.
- b. Bingo - Results pending for recent bingo performance. Gilpatrick toured the new facility, which is approximately 2/3 the size of the facility in use today.
- c. Financial results – Data updated and available for Board member review, including bank balances (Operating & Savings accounts totaling approx. \$580k).
- d. Confirmation that Fred Strum has accepted the Coaching Coordinator position.

FIRST AID KITS: Kennedy provided status update on first aid kit bag composition. Kennedy agreed to put together 20 kits (one for each team).

OPERATIONS:

Ricci provided a number of updates:

- 1) USA Hockey reference numbers for Board members.
- 2) Purchase of two intermediate nets for Mites to augment the four currently on hand to accommodate multiple practices at the same time. Approximate price of \$2,000. Potential for combining orders with order teams to reduce freight cost for each net.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

- a. Hersey – None.
- b. Ricci – Parity weekend upcoming, USA hockey numbers for players/parents/coaches & board members.
- c. Young – None.
- d. Fortier- None.
- e. Wintle – None.
- f. Gahan – None.
- g. Kennedy – Follow up about medical kits.
- h. Cobb – Online glove store. Discussion about glove availability, most members did not have an issue. Concern about the correct colors to be used.

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:30 PM