

# PAHL Membership Meeting – August 2024

## Meeting Minutes



**Date of Meeting:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024  
**Meeting Location:** virtual meeting  
**Presiding Officer:** Dave Fryer, Executive Administrator

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### CALL TO ORDER

The Executive Administrator called to order the August 2024 Membership Meeting of the Pittsburgh Amateur Hockey League at 7:02 PM. The PAHL Secretary is recording the minutes of the meeting.

#### Roll call of members present (24)

- Allegheny Badgers: Mindy Ulyas
- Altoona Trackers: Aaron Makowiecki
- Artic Foxes: Alicia Genco
- Armstrong Arrows: Mike Heilman
- Beaver Badgers: David Symanowicz
- Crawford County Flames: Greg Beveridge
- Erie Junior Otters: Giovanni Duchini
- Indiana Chiefs: Leanne Smith
- Johnstown Warriors: Vinnie Cannizzaro, Jody Gustkey
- Lawrence County Lightning: Mike Chornick
- Mon Valley Thunder: Frank Lopresti
- Morgantown Blades: Hillarey Young
- Mt Lebanon Hornets: Dino Taylor
- North Pittsburgh Wildcats: Brian Hornyak
- Pittsburgh Aviators: Jeremy Parker
- Pittsburgh Huskies: Ryan Patrick, Collin Cyprowski
- Pittsburgh Predators: Frank Buonomo
- Pittsburgh Yetis: Jon Langer
- Pittsburgh Vengeance: John Kohler
- South Hills Panthers: Glen Siniawski
- State College Icers: Pete Brumberg
- Westmoreland Eagles: Amy Roberts
- Wheeling Nailers: Caitlin Rodocker
- Youngstown Phantoms: Chris Huziak

#### Roll call of members absent (1)

- South Pittsburgh Rebellion

#### Roll call of others present:

- Officers: Glen Scholze, Ron Michalak, Crystal Ochwat, Courtney Iaccio, Jill Harmon
- Staff: Dave Fryer
- Guests: none

### Previous Meeting Minutes

- The minutes from the PAHL May 2024 Membership Meeting were presented by the Secretary.  
**Motion by North Pittsburgh, seconded by Predators:  
Approve the May 2024 meeting minutes, as presented.  
Motion passes via unanimous consent.**

## REPORTS OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

### Report from the President

- The September membership meeting will be in person. The league is looking at options and wants membership feedback. It is tentatively scheduled for September 10<sup>th</sup>.
- People coming to our meetings need to be engaged in what we are discussing at the meeting and communicating those items down the line. The PAHL Pulse is the primary source of relaying information from the league to its members, but it does not communicate all meeting topics.
- Tabled from our May meeting was the discussion on a DVHL 12U Tournament in March. We have received no new information, so this item remains tabled until we have information to discuss.

### Report from the First Vice President

- Ron is working with Jill and Dave to get the new team rosters to resolve infractions from last season.
- The way discipline is reported and processed is being streamlined for this season.

### Report from the Second Vice President

- The placement game assignments are posted on the website for U12 through U18 teams. Virtual scheduling is underway, and instructions for entering schedules are in the PAHL Pulse.
- An online game report form will be used this year for all placement game reports from the coaches. The form can be found on the website and needs to be submitted within 24 hours after each game.
- Registrars should continue to do roster updates through MAPS. We will accept player additions freely through September 15 after which we will implement the weekly approval cycles.
- Placement slotting for 10U will be done at the end of the month and published in September.

### Report from the Treasurer

- There is currently \$103,644.34 in our checking account and \$100,067.04 in our savings account.
- There are a few associations that owe funds from last year. Organizations with outstanding dues will not be able to schedule any of their teams for this season.
- A budget proposal was presented and will be emailed to the presidents for internal discussions before a vote on it at the September meeting.
- Budget items and accompanying options covered specifically were season/playoff banners, playoff medals/awards, the new championship weekend event, and referees/referee mentors.
- The file with the budget will be emailed to the Presidents and they can send it down to their boards to discuss.

### Report from the Secretary

- Dates of most meetings and upcoming events for the entire season are posted on the league website. Deadlines for the scholarships and academic awards are included on the "important dates" page.

### Report from the Executive Administrator

- We are +1 team from last season overall. We have gained at the older co-ed divisions and in our younger girls' divisions. We are down a bit at 14U and 12U, and flat at 10U.
- The new Game Manual is now going into effect, and its purpose is to improve the overall experience for our players. Please be sure coaches and managers read through the manual.
- We are considering publishing some stats on our website, primarily for the older age groups. Statisticians are still listed in our budget for this purpose.
- A new naming scheme for our divisions is being implemented. The major/minor and black/gold/white designations are being replaced by A1, A2, A3, etc.
- Submissions through our online form for "bad debts" need to be made by September 1 so we can have those situations addressed before the regular season starts.
- Four virtual Townhall sessions are scheduled over the next several weeks. Managers and coaches are encouraged to attend at least one and come with their questions about the new Game Manual.
- Act 15 clearances are required of all adult officials, but we do not seem to be in full compliance. Please work with your assignor to ensure this is being checked.
- Please work with your assignor to ensure that new referees are paired with an experienced official for their first games because there was no ice session with referee certification this year.
- The expectation is that all games have 2 officials assigned at the non-checking levels. We agreed to put forth a better effort this season to avoid games that intentionally have only one official assigned.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Administrative Policies

- The document is intended to contain all the administrative items previously listed in our playing rules that then did not fit within the scope of the Game Manual.
- The draft needs a second pass through with the board before it gets presented to the membership, at which time the proposal will be sent to the presidents.
- Most of the proposal consists of existing policies, not new changes.
- We agreed at our May meeting that there should no longer be a restriction on the number of times teams can play each other in the regular season, ensuring that all 12U and up teams get a full slate of 20 games. That change is reflected in the proposal.
- We do need to consider changes to what we expect and require for our membership meetings. Several associations expressed concern that not all associations were represented at the annual meeting in May, where we conducted elections and voted on rules. There is also a concern that some of the voters are not versed enough on the motions up for vote. Our policies can help guide us to getting better meeting participation.

The meeting was adjourned by the Executive Administrator at 7:58 PM.

**Minutes recorded by:** Crystal Ochwat, PAHL Secretary

**Minutes approved on:** September 15, 2024