

Butte Amateur Hockey Association (BAHA) Meeting

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Call to Order

Dale Kingrey

Jess Ball

Laurie McGree

Jaki McCarthy

Cory Whitmore

Taryn Yelenich

Zach Woods

Stephanie Stodden

Brittnay Hintz

Dan Blando

Travis Barry

Dave Tuesday

Luke Davis

Kristi Wilson

Bill LaVelle

Guests: Josh Coulombe, Andy D'Amico, Davonna Ryan, Garrett St. Aubin, Ciana Dale, Cyndra Fulton, and Jody Ryan

Start – 6:00 PM

Approval of Last Meetings Minutes

Zach makes a motion to approve the last meeting's minutes, Dan 2nd – **PASSED**

Unfinished Business

1. Bantam Roster – Roster needs to be finalized by 12/31/22. The board does not want to upset any parents, and it shouldn't be solely a coach's decision; the board should be the decider of this issue.
 - a. Laurie says that there is a waiver for cross-roster kids, but mainly applies to girls cross-rostering or medical. She says it is very important for the board to make a decision and she thinks that the Butte kids should be given priority.
 - b. Jody says that the coach did not communicate with the Butte players before inviting in all the Billings families. Jody says that the Billings kids that came here were 'problem kids' and they got kicked out of their organization. He says that if Jacob is removed from the Bantam team, that all 3 of his kids will not play for Butte moving forward.
 - c. Cyndra says that we will have to reimburse registration fees and jersey fees for the cut player.
 - d. The board agrees that if we cut a Butte kid, we will ultimately lose a Butte kid for the future. Everyone agrees that a Butte kid should stay. Either it would come down to the last Billings player that registered through SportsEngine, or the Billings player that played the least number of games. Luke makes a motion to have the last Billings player to register get cut, unless someone volunteers to step away, Jess 2nd – all in favor except Cory, who says Bill should be included in this decision. – **PASSED**
2. Mites and termites have about 10-11 kids per team per tournament. A few kids have moved up to Squirts, and they would help with numbers to play with the mites/termites when they are available. This is another instance of problems with skaters moving up age groups.

New Business

1. Reimbursement for coaches or refs for any of their fees?
 - a. People will get 2 hours of volunteer time for doing their background check.
 - b. Coaches and refs can turn in receipts for training for reimbursement.
2. Roller Derby renting rink during summer – most respondents opposed this in email. They can present a proposal to the board, but Dave says that insurance has been the issue with this.

3. Putting new locks on boxes – Alicia said they are around \$10-15 each. Alicia can replace the locks on these boxes.
4. Game Puck issues – Game pucks should be kept in the ref room freezer so they don't go missing.
5. Ice issues outside – 2 people have slipped and gotten minor injuries. Cory will seal the gutter on the corner where the water is dripping. Use 'Floor Dry' or kitty litter for traction on the outside ice.

Treasurer's Report – Dave Tuesday

1. Current status of BAHA account(s) – Dave passed around a balance sheet.
 - a. Total Available Funds – \$13,000 available, \$22,000 for SARTA. Money from raffle tickets was not included in this, \$12,000 was recently deposited. Money from Chick Sanders still out there.
 - b. Accounts Payable (bills to pay) and Receivable – 15 bills to be paid. Zach read off all the checks going out.
 - i. M/S/P to pay bills – Taryn makes a motion to pay bills, Dan 2nd – **PASSED**
 - ii. Outstanding invoices – check to see if NA Prep and the Royals have paid for their ice time.
 - c. 1099/ref thoughts – Dave just wanted to throw in his input to try to make the accounting easier for ref fees. Half of the clubs in the state 1099 their refs, half do not. It is a violation of the IRS code if refs are making over \$600/year. To date, we have paid over \$4,000 in ref fees this season. Dave suggests that we give Mark the money to pay out the refs and he can keep track of it. Dave will talk to Mark about this.
 - d. There is only a balloon payment for the loan at GMB due in December (\$46,083), no monthly payments.

Safe Sport Coordinator – Jess Ball

1. All volunteers have done what they need to. Remember, we need same sex locker room monitors for respective rooms. Kids using locker rooms with multiple genders (mite/termite) should be wearing a base layer.
2. She will post rules on the locker room doors.

Committee Reports

1. Grant Writing Update
 - a. SARTA fundraising update – no update. Luke asks if the ice plant plans have been drawn up yet. Luke also voices his frustration that we aren't getting information that we need because people haven't been showing up to the meetings. They were voted in, and need to be here.
 - b. Markovich grant – Mike Lasher will work on this. There is no due date, and the amount we are requesting is \$25,000. They will review our application next quarter.

Fund Raising and Other Events

1. Meat & Gun Raffle Update – Handful of families (about 10) still need to pick up tickets. Tickets and money due to Cyndra ASAP. Invoice the families \$250 if they are not selling raffle tickets.

Appointed Director's Reports

Rink Manager – Bill LaVelle

1. Bill arrives now and expresses his anger toward the board for making decisions regarding his team without him being there. He explains his concerns with the roster and that Jacob Ryan has missed 3 Bantam games so far this year, and if he misses any more games, he will be ineligible for State. Bill says that he wouldn't be able to get a waiver. He is playing on the High School team as well, and the HS State tournament is running the same time as 3 Bantam games. Cory makes a motion to revisit the previous Bantam vote now that the head coach is present. Bill is angry that these conversations have been happening without him being there, and that he has not received any communication about this. Luke explains that this has been on the agenda for the last 2 board meetings and Bill wasn't there. Luke tells Bill that the board has decided to cut a Billings kid, as to not create animosity amongst the Butte families. Bill says that there's no way that Jacob can make all the games to qualify for State. He then added that Noah Ryan is a 2010 birth year, so he should technically only be a Peewee; he did not petition to skate up. Bill says that a 2010 birth year is taking the place of a 2008 or 2009 Bantam. Bill says that he will remove himself and his child from the team and the problem will be solved. The Billings kids have nowhere else to play. Bill also says that the Ryan boys have missed more than 50% of the Bantam practices. Dan

thanks Bill, because now we have the entire story and not just one side. Now we have all the facts. Dave asks bill what his opinion is and Bill says he doesn't think that Jacob will make all the remaining games. Also, Jacob should prioritize the High School team for their State tournament, as they need the numbers and Jacob is an asset to their team. Bill says that the only waiver that will work for missing games is for Girls. Ultimately, Bill says that we have one to many players and we have 2 players that cross-roster to other teams.

- a. Zach makes a motion to rescind the previous vote, Cory 2nd – **PASSED**
 - b. Cory makes a motion to return Noah to the appropriate age group of Peewee.
 - c. Zach makes a motion to submit a waiver on Jacob's behalf to MAHA and see what they say. Kristi says that we need to protect our coach and our kids, and we will leave it up to MAHA. Stephanie 2nd Zach's motion to submit a waiver for Jacob. – **PASSED**
 - i. We need to look at a policy for the future for out-of-town players coming into our organization.
2. The city wants to rent ice over Christmas break for open skate. They will be giving us \$1000. We need to make sure we have volunteers from the 26th-30th.

Building Coordinator – Cory Whitmore

1. Tech kids will return in January to work on more projects.
2. There is a pigeon problem.

Age Group Representative Director – Kristi Wilson

1. Girls' team reps changed: Lacy Hubber 19U and Taryn Yelenich 14U.
2. Policy for reps' requirements and a deadline just like coaches so they can be added to rosters.

MAHA Representative – Dan Blando

1. No update

Volunteer Coordinator – Cheyenne Holbrook – ABSENT

1. Volunteer Hours Billing – Families were told to have 10 hours per month or be billed for hours not met. We will combine October and November hours this time and invoice accordingly.
2. Festivals (Squirts/Mites/Termite) should be treated like home tournaments because they take a lot of work.

Registrar – Jaki McCarthy

1. Everyone is up to date; JR Gustafson needs to complete modules. Anyone on the ice/bench needs to be on the official roster.
2. She still needs a few birth certificates for new players. She would like to have a spot on the registration page where parents can upload them.

Ice Coordinator – Luke Davis

1. Rented out a few spots here and there.
2. Need to have a waiver with rules and requirements for rentals.
3. We need a way to track to see who has paid for open skate and stick and puck. Wristbands?

Coaching Director – Travis Barry

1. Coaches must jump through too many hoops to even get on the ice. We need to work on simplifying the process so that it is not dragged out until December. Please voice these frustrations to USA Hockey and MAHA. We need to make it easier for new coaches and non-parent coaches.

Referee-in-Chief – Mark Ewanic – ABSENT

1. No update

Girls Program Representative – Laurie McGree

1. No update

Adult Program Representative – Dale Kingrey

1. Kyle will be responsible for adult hockey 12/12-1/2.

Tournament Director – Stephanie Stodden

1. Two tournaments down, 3 to go. Lots of people for the Chick Sanders and it went well.
2. Peewee tournament January 13; Squirts 2 weeks after that; HS March 10.

ADM Coordinator – Dennis Janecke – ABSENT

1. No update

Community at Large Representative – Mike Lasher

1. Google Benevity donation status.
2. Work on Markovich grant.

Final Thoughts

1. Kristi – would like to have our boards and banners organized better. Some aren't hung right. We need them to look better.
2. Cory – close to having exterior paint donated, we need to decide on a color.
3. Davonna – has concerns that we are targeting Jacob. According to the website, Mason F. has missed just as many games as Jacob. Bill explains that he is not targeting Jacob and that he has the option to play with the High School team. Davonna says that Bill cannot guarantee that Jacob will miss any more games. Stephanie explains that Jacob is an asset to the HS team and they need him and would be very happy to have him. Jody is very angry, and says that the board just does whatever Bill wants, and we don't have a backbone. Laurie tells Jody to calm down and we are going to remain civil. Zach explains the decision we made about rescinding the first vote and deciding to send a waiver on Jacob's behalf. He also explains that Noah is technically a Peewee and did not petition to skate up. According to our policies, what the board should decide is that Noah returns to the Peewee team. Bill says that we are not targeting anyone and we are only trying to give every kid a chance to play hockey. We will submit waivers for both Jacob R. and Mason F. to MAHA and go from there.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 6:00pm at Hops.

Meeting adjourns at 9:00pm.