

February 2025 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order

Wayne Demers was present at the meeting. He took a few minutes to thank the group and give an update on his wife. The group expressed gratitude for all his years of service and wished both of them well going forward.

Melissa Sergio from USA Lacrosse was present (msergio@usalacrosse.com). She spoke about signing member agreements as well as certificates of Insurance. She reminded the group that bronze level is the minimum as far as USA Lacrosse is concerned in order to be a "parent helper". Individuals need to be Silver or above to be able to coach or assistant coach (in NH a parent helper is ok at 8U). Age verification will be required as of July 1. This will be done when the parent registers the child by using his / her birth certificate. As far as possible gender issues, USA Lacrosse allows kids to play where they want. NHYLA is allowing each town to make the decision on their own. Melissa urged all to check your coach's status and reach out to USA Lacrosse if any issues (Catlyn Kelly / good contact). She noted that an in person coaching clinic will be held in northern Ma. (exact location TBD) in 2026. They are working on having one in NH as well. Grants through USA Lacrosse were discussed (they usually open up in April).

January Meeting Minutes accepted

Festival: Amherst will be hosting again. Kona Ice will have a new coffee vendor there this year along with (2) trucks and a Richie's Slush. More on the festival next month.

Treasurer's Report: Insurance binders are due March 1. These need to be sent to Chris Day electronically (treasurer@NHILA.org). Beginning balance of \$53,101.11 – \$710.00 (\$650.00 board insurance, \$60.00 room fee & a \$3.00 bank service fee). Ending balance of \$52,388.11.

Boys VP: Mike reminded each program to check all your coaches CEP status now. Mike discussed how he and Jill need access to each town so they can check this as "admins". Make sure this is set up. Mike reminded all to always have a table set up at each game with someone to keep track of time, penalties and score.

Girls VP: Jill talked about rules interpretation meetings and how they are required. She talked about updating the cheat sheets for differences in NHYLA and USA Lacrosse rules (will be located online at NHILA.org).

Youth Officials: New trainings start March 9th. (35) persons are signed up as of this meeting. All meeting sites, locations and times are listed on the NHYLA site for reference. Jay mentioned that all returning officials are required to attend the annual refresher course in order to referee this season. He spoke about rules interpretation meetings and asked for those interested in hosting please reach out to him directly. He will then set them up (girls or boys). If hosting, you need to provide a location and pay the presenter \$100.00. There is no limit on how many people can attend. As these get scheduled, they will be posted online at NHILA.org for others to possibly attend. Exeter and Abenaki have girls' ones scheduled as of this meeting. Please note that one person from each town needs to attend a rules meeting in order for your program to be in good standing. NOLA officials will be scheduled through Paul D'Marino again this year. He charges \$10.00 per team. A NOLA official is required at the older kids' games. His information is located on our site for reference.

President: Kevin spoke about the problems with email blasts through the new website. Both Sports Engine and Teams Compete are working to resolve the issue. Dick's Sporting Goods NH Lacrosse Appreciation weekend is 2/28-3/3. 20% off coupons are located on our website. Please share them with as many people as possible as Dick's is our primary sponsor and the success of this weekend is tied to their financial commitment to our organization. Kevin talked about the Granite State Elite hosting a 7 v 7 tournament at the Hampshire Dome in Milford (boys and girls).

Player waivers were discussed. Waivers are granted by the board only and are a case-by-case basis. Each town needs to keep an eye on address's as they get registration information and look into anything that doesn't look right immediately. Team registrations are open now. Sign up soon. Field availability (grass vs. turf) was discussed. If you have a grass field and are concerned about availability, block off the first few weeks or rent turf now. Team registration was then discussed at length. If not sure about numbers, lean towards registering a team vs. adding later. Lines on fields was then brought up. Each field is supposed to be properly lined, however, if it is not, please try to get games in by doing the best you can.

North / South will be hosted by Laconia again. As always, this will be held over Memorial Day Weekend. More information next meeting about this.

Next meeting has a date change to **Wednesday, March 19th**. Please get the word out. This will be posted online as well. The competition committee will meet as soon as all teams are registered to start the process. Kevin reminded all to register your teams by March 1!!

A police detail was then discussed for the year end festival at Amherst. A discussion then took place between the board and Amherst representatives regarding who will pay for it. Concern that if an agreeable resolution isn't met than the festival in Amherst is in jeopardy.

Meeting Adjourned