

**Helena Area Youth Hockey Association
Board Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2019
Helena Ice Arena @ 5:30**

HAYHA BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sarah Garcia, Darryl James, Jon Flynn, Allison Dale-Riddle, Lance Wilson, Scott Petersen, Kurt Moser, Ryan Lilletvedt, Randy Boysen, Mekell Lybbert.

ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS: Judy Merickel

OTHERS PRESENT/GUESTS: Stan Senechal & Bob Richards

Meeting Call to Order 5:34 pm

Minutes

Ryan made motion to approve the minutes with the one emailed update/correction that was sent to Judy (cc'd to all) from last Board Meeting, Lance seconded. Approved.

Public Comment

None

Election of Officers

For President – Scott nominated Kurt Moser, Sarah seconded. Approved unanimously.

For Vice President – Kurt nominated Ryan Lilletvedt, Lance seconded. Approved unanimously.

For Secretary – Ryan nominated Judy Merickel, Lance seconded. Approved unanimously. (if Judy accepts as not in attendance)

For treasurer – Kurt nominated Sarah Garcia, Scott seconded. Approved unanimously.

Rink

Stan indicated that we can use new scoreboard for ALL practices & games. He asked that we either buy our own controller for the scoreboard or that we pay a deposit to rink that gets returned at the end of the year if controller is undamaged. He indicated that controllers are approximately \$400 and that they have had to repair the last one multiple times. Ryan suggested deposit vs HAYHA buying own. Rink has two (so now has a backup one also). Sarah discussed/asked what other users are using timeclock besides youth hockey? It was discussed that Bighorns and men's hockey also uses. After discussion, Mekell suggested that HAYHA pay \$100 deposit that gets returned to us at the end of the year. Stan indicated that sounded great and that he wanted us to help in caring for this controller. Mekell made motion that "HAYHA pay \$100 deposit at beginning of the season that will be returned to HAYHA at the end of the season if controller undamaged by HAYHA". Lance seconded. None opposed. Motion passed.

Kurt reminded Stan and Board of new equipment room and the terms previously approved. Stan and Randy have moved most of the HAYHA equipment into the new room. Randy will work with Stan on getting new keys and returning keys from old room. Mekell asked Stan to review the Rink's current Carbon Monoxide protocol and if the same recommendations that HAYHA previously made a few years back was still being followed. He indicated they were. He indicated

that Carbon monoxide levels are checked (with handheld device) after every zam. Mekell asked if they were still recording these in logbook. He wasn't sure. Mekell asked him to follow up on. He indicated that they leave fans on for 15 minutes after zam is done, and that levels are checked after those 15 minutes. Mekell indicated that she would like to follow up with other towns/Rinks affiliated with MAHA this next season to see what we can do together to work on this area and improving conditions in our rinks. Stan agreed important. Discussed rink fee agreement for next year and Stan indicated he had taken the practice times (Ryan submitted) and entered them into their system and that ice fees will remain the same this upcoming season as last. As soon as he receives agreement from Kurt with hours, we are ready to go. Discussed half ice boards and Stan indicated that we can store the boards in the rink and that he has agreed to store 2 sets or whatever we need. Will probably store in the far corner. Mekell emailed Stan & Board a link with info on sample boards / dimensions so he could review. Sarah asked him about grants and if approached Helena Honda. Bob Richards indicated he would follow up with Helena Honda as they sponsor bighorns on possibly helping sponsor these Boards? Stan asked that we update our HIA contact to include Brandon Vonada and that we email/invite him to attend HAYHA Board meetings. Kurt will update when he sends out reminders and invites. Stan also asked if Randy (or equipment manager) would give him a list of who is authorized to get into the equipment room so they can keep this list in the zam room in case they need to open occasionally. Randy will work on once those individuals determined.

Conflict of Interest Policy

Kurt asked all to sign either today (distributed) or prior to next Board meeting. Scott recommended we keep on file and it was discussed that maybe we start a goggle doc or some way of storing these HAYHA files? Kurt asked everyone to think about and discuss next meeting.

Treasurer Report

Balance \$94,956.28. Last year this time of yr was \$72,999. Sarah indicated she has finished issuing coaches reimbursements. Will issue payment to the rink for storage room. Renewed CD @ Valley Bank. Need to transfer this to someone new. Has paid universal athletics for 8U tournament apparel balance. Will pay \$593 for non profit liability insurance premium renewal. \$1000 grant received from MAHA. Received some funds from Collections re: outstanding balances. Sarah needs to meet with Dustin & accountant and begin working on taxes. She indicated she needed to pay CIC as this has not been paid yet, and was missed in error. She will get issued promptly. She indicated we needed to address CD and who is listed on as still listed JoAnn Mohar & Amy Sassano and she recommended we determine someone on Board with longevity be on it, and that this get switched/corrected. Sarah suggested we possibly consider investing a portion of CD in something beyond this. It was discussed that Darryl & Allison work on a strategic plan for budget/financial plan (investments – if allowed by non-profit etc) and that they present to the Board some options this summer. Kurt appointed Darryl & Allison to a sub committee to work on this area. Kurt asked Sarah to talk to JoAnn Mohar and begin working on switching names on CD.

Website Updates

Was discussed what to do this year and who would oversee. Lance indicated he would continue to oversee entering in tournament registrations. Lance is going to send out an email to

membership to see who might be interested in overseeing the website this year. Will see who might be interested and then decide how to proceed next meeting. Was discussed also looking at outside website companies to manage?

Coach-In-Chief

Since HAYHA has not renewed the CIC Contract for this upcoming season, it was discussed with Bob Richards and Kurt asked him if he was interested in applying again for next year. He indicated he was not sure if he would be interested in doing it again and whether or not he could do it effectively. He indicated that past December to end of year that he wasn't able to put in the time that he had wanted to. Bob indicated that he hasn't taken a paycheck since September. He indicated that sometimes he felt he had different views from the Boards. If he were to do it again he would probably want a better/updated job description he indicated. He indicated that he felt he had not been able to do it as effectively as he had wanted to and that to do it effectively that an individual would probably need to do 4 hrs/week. Discussed description of role and whether development was even part of CIC role? He felt like there were some areas like goalies where more development needed but not sure whether CIC best for that or coaches? Kurt asked him if he felt we should have a CIC and he indicated that he did feel it was important. Discussion amongst Board also agreed that this position was important to keep. Lance discussed placing coaching applications online again this year and Bob indicated he liked how we did that last year and recommended keeping the coaches application the same. Scott suggested possibly CIC having regular monthly meeting with coaches and that it might be more effective than attending practices regularly. Sarah discussed tryout policy being important this year and that tryout policy decisions shouldn't just fall on 1 persons shoulders and that we need to support CIC and have faith in the person that we place in this position.

MAHA

(previously emailed to Board this info from MAHA Annual Meeting in May 11,2019).

- HIGH SCHOOL - It was voted on & approved that there will now be two divisions within High School at MAHA level. "High School Varsity" team (will play State), and "High School B" team (will play Montana Cup). All players must be in High School (grades 9 - 12). For Varsity would include 20 game season, 8 teams participating in State (or less if appropriate). For HS B would include 16-20 game season, and may consist of teams trying to rebuild, 16U players/teams, or teams with players working toward Varsity.
- 12U & 10U - When only 4 A teams, there will only be 12 vs 16 game season. (Helena was opposed, but motion passed). We will have to discuss possibly paying for 1 tournament, or how HAYHA wants to address this with fees when only 4 A teams are in league and 12 vs 16 league games.
- We were reminded that 2018/2019 season was the worst for behavior issues since 2009. (Players, parents & coaches). To help address this year there will be Fair play points 10U & older (league play) - This being implemented to help reward positive behavior amongst teams. This will be worked on and discussed at Summit in Oct.
- 10U - Beginning in 1 year, MAHA has voted on implementing "half ice play for all 10U teams". Associations are encouraged to get half ice boards / possibly center net, & age appropriate nets this year. (Helena was opposed, but motion passed).

- 10U A vs B discussed and teams putting in 2 B teams discussed. Process this year will remain same as last yr where teams declare A or B. If they put in 2 B teams, they again are encouraged to do all they can to keep teams even. It is league commissioners call if one team is clearly not a B team, to then move them up to A level at State tournament. I made recommendations otherwise, and when teams have 2 "B" teams, that they should be required to have 1 as A and 1 as B, however this was not agreed upon as they feel there are associations where this is still required for building purposes. Associations designate teams 1 week prior to scheduling mtg when players /teams are not always determined. It was discussed that it is age divisions League Commissioner call if teams do not place appropriately.
- 10U & 12U personal stats will no longer be entered into Sports Engine. They are encouraging teams at these levels to focus on team stats, not personal stats.
- New Weather Call Policy. In past there has been no clear MAHA weather call policy for league/state tournament play. For outdoor rinks, when temperature drops to below 0 degrees, and when roads closed, there was no policy. Being updated with all specifics in MAHA Annual guide, and will address these two items that were voted upon.
- At High School Level, league games will now go into overtime/shootout. Won't end in tie. Also they will use bracket tournament vs pool play at State Tournament. Seeding based on regular season standings. Guaranteed 3 games.
- Reminder that High School Students turning 18 during season will be required to do Background check/safesport.
- This year there will be 1 MAHA Grant "Grow the Game" per association. \$2000 grant can apply for. Applications should be submitted prior to the Summit. Watch MAHA website for application info.
- MAHA Coach in Chief would like to work again with Helena CIC to schedule Coaching Clinic in Helena this year in the Fall.
- Reminder that Conflict of Interest policies need to be signed annually. MAHA reps will be required to sign again at the Summit.
- Tier 1 & Tier 2 - Final version will be presented and voted on at Summit. Was discussed and a few recommendations were made. Those items will be updated and it will be presented for vote at the Summit.
- Reminder of Coaches helmet rule. CIC / Div Reps need to remind ALL coaches that helmets must be worn by all coaches at all times while on the ice, and that they MUST be buckled! There was a death of a coach this year in another State and associations were reminded to please work with coaches on making sure this compliance is occurring.
- 14U State Tournament Issue /complaint was discussed. There will be no reimbursements. There is no 4 game guarantee per Annual Guide. Based on unanimous coaches decision to move tournament, and ice availability in Bozeman, this was the team/coaches choice and therefore there will not be a reimbursement. There will not be a refund of bond. Billings received bond \$, and for the games that were played in Bozeman, Billings paid for that ice with this bond \$. It was discussed that contingency plan be made by MAHA tournament director will all Division / City Tournament directors next yr prior to State tournaments.
- 8U State Tournament - Helena, Havre, & Butte Interested. Applications online, and must be submitted to LuAnn Rinebarger. Reminder that rules must be submitted with

tournament applications, and that rules cannot be changed after submitting proposals. Must follow USAH tournament/festival rules. Were reminded that 8U must follow festival format, and not tournament play for all State festivals & sanctioned events and that tournament play (vs festival format) is not permitted at 8U level.

- New - Parent Education Seminars. All parents will now be required to attend once every 2 years. (Additional info to come at Summit)
- Summit was awarded to Bozeman. Dates will be October 5 - 7 weekend.
- State Tournament Dates were determined. They will be as follows: 8U - 1st weekend in February, 10U Feb 28-March 1, 12U March 6 - 8, 14U March 13-15, 14U girls Feb 21-23, 19U girls Feb 28 - March 1, High School B (Montana Cup) Feb 21-23, High School Varsity March 6- 8
- Reminder that deadline for declaring teams will be 1 week prior to the scheduling mtg / Summit.
- Discussed everyone continuing to work on doing all they can to grow girls numbers, and looking to future with girls league possible 10U & 8U programs!

Discussion At HAYHA Meeting regarding these MAHA items – included discussion regarding half ice boards & High School options and how we are going to divide High School B & High School Varsity. Kurt suggested subcommittee to review all options in High School divisions. Named Sarah Garcia, Bob Richards, Scott Petersen and Shawn Schroeder to sit on subcommittee to review & presents options. Asked Sarah to contact all & begin reviewing these options and bring to the Board next meeting. Half ice boards were also discussed. Jon suggested possibly starting half ice this season with House squirts. Mekell recommended we wait one season and implement all squirts /10U at same time when we are required to do so (1 yr from now). She indicated that we needed boards in place, and that she had concerns since our House was not a 10U house program only, but included 12U players. She felt in 1 yr we would have enough players to divide 12U house from 10U house and then could do for 10U only. She did not believe 12U players in house should be playing half ice. Was agreed that we will discuss more next meeting.

UPDATE TO HAYHA HANDBOOK / FORMS –

Lance indicated that we need to add concussion protocol to coaches application form. We also need to update High School Coaches application form as we will now have two high school teams. We also need to update our tryout policy in our handbook. Was tabled – but will need to be discussed next meeting who will update these items in handbook. BYLAWS – Kurt discussed addendum last yr to bylaws. Need to add o website. Bylaws need o be changed to 11 Board members vs 9. Disciplinary piece needs to be incorporated into bylaws. Darryl recommended updated bylaws and Kurt named Darryl to look into them and work on transferring to format that can be edited. Darryl agreed to work on. These need to include something for those “failing to pay”. Also following USAH bylaw 10. It was discussed that we had agreed that people can be suspended for failing to pay previous balance (previous year), and that they would not be allowed to register this year unto balance paid in full for previous season.

Misc.

Randy agreed to start looking into half ice Board options & the cost of these.

Kurt indicated he asked for quote on insurance for \$30,000 of equipment (stored in equipment room) and will get back to Board next meeting with this proposed cost.

Kurt indicated that he will talk to people regarding Ref -In-Chief, Jerseys, Ice Scheduling, Ref scheduling and Cookie Dough.

EQUIPMENT

Randy reviewed equipment and indicated that we are going to need some additional equipment this year including some new helmets to replace those that have expired this season. Motion was made by Mekell that “HAYHA authorize Equipment Manager (Randy Boysen) to purchase necessary equipment up to \$4000, and that he put out for bids, and go with the supplier with the lowest price after receiving competitive bids on comparable equipment”. Lance seconded.

Approved. None opposed.

Next Board Meeting will be July 10th – 5:30 at Helena Ice Rink.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.