



DECEMBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Time & Date: 12/08/17 @ 6:30pm

Location: Goodwill - Community Center, Geneseo, NY

Meeting began @ 6:36 pm

1. ATTENDANCE

Jeff Curry	Shannon Agosto	Dick Baumgardner	Amanda Cayouette
Mike Dale	Molly VanWyk	Aaron Utberg	Lee Sargent
Judy Keysa	Ken Claud	JoBeth Rath	Karyn Lipome
Kristen Felix	Dan Craun	Brenda Melead	Julie Matthews
Dave Wong	Cory Fitzsimmons	Jodi Deming	Jason Bonsignore
Johnathan Bennett			

2. READ/REVIEW/REVISE/APPROVE PRIOR MONTH'S MINUTES – Shannon Agosto, Secretary

Discussion of previous month's Minutes (if any): There was no Board Meeting for November, so the Minutes being approved are October's.

Corrections/Revisions that need to be made (if any): None

Motion made by Molly VanWyk and seconded by Mike Dale to accept October meeting Minutes as is. Passed unanimously.

3. OFFICER REPORTS

President – Jeff Curry

Report:

- Discussion was had regarding a serious locker room incident that occurred at the Bantam MOHL practice. A Bantam player, undressing in the locker room (in the presence of all team members and various parents), threatened to slice another player's throat w/ his skate, while holding the skate in his hand in a menacing manner. Since both the President (Curry), Vice President of Hockey Relations (Craun) and the ACE Coordinator (Dale) were all at the practice, they immediately suspended the player indefinitely from all team related events until the Board could meet and make a decision about what action should be taken. Curry spoke with the parents of the player and they agreed to stay away from the rink until they hear from the Board. Curry spoke with the following people regarding this incident: teammates, parents of team members, the alleged victim, the alleged victims' parents, University Police Department, the Sheriff's Department, the Safe Sport Coordinator & the West Section President. Upon recommendation from those contacted, Curry followed up with University PD and filed an incident report, advised all parties involved (team members & their parents) that they have the right to pursue charges if they want (at this time nobody is looking to pursue any criminal charges) and advised the team coaching staff to write down all issues with this player leading up to this incident as well as all details of this incident, if needed for future reference.

- When questioned by Curry at the time of the incident, the player said that he was mad because a teammate was in his way during a “battle drill” (the whole point of the drill). The player also alleged that he was being bullied prior to this. Curry advised the Board that when the coaches of the Bantam MOHL team first became aware of the alleged bullying incidents prior to this incident, he and the coaches immediately questioned team members and on every occasion, found that none of the bullying allegations held merit.
- There are a lot of background issues with this player, both from his prior club and allegations from the MOHL team since practices started in August. Since the player is on the Bantam MOHL team, for which the VP of Hockey Relations (Craun) is the Head Coach, the President (Curry) is one of the Assistant Coaches, the ACE Coordinator (Dale) is another one of the Assistant Coaches and the son of the League VP (Keysa) is on the team, and in order to avoid the perception of impropriety, Curry is seeking Board intervention to sever ties w/ the player.
- Discussion was had regarding what would happen if we gave the player his Release...whether or not we had a duty to advise other organizations about what happened or not. Nobody on the Board was readily versed on the protocol, so the Board decided that if the player was released that we would not offer any information to other organizations (which is standard protocol when a player is released...for whatever reason).
- Discussion was had about what would happen if we released him from our organization and whether or not that would affect his USA Hockey eligibility to play somewhere else this season.
- Discussion was had regarding regarding whether or not the player in question has paid in full for this season or not. Amanda confirmed that the player has paid in full for this season. We further discussed whether or not we need to provide the player with a prorated refund or not, if we release the player. We decided that if we gave the player his Release, we wouldn't offer a refund, but if they asked for one, the Board would decide on that at a later date.
- Curry was advised by the West Section President (Brownstein) that the Board doesn't need to hold a hearing for the player, and that the Board is empowered to decide how best to handle the situation.
- After all discussion, a motion was made by JoBeth Rath and seconded by Jodi Deming to suspend the player indefinitely from our organization, effective immediately, and to pursue follow up w/ Safesport & USA Hockey (if any is required). Keysa, Craun & Dale all abstained from the vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Vice President League – Judy Keysa

Report:

- No Report

Vice President Hockey Operations – Dan Craun

Report:

- No Report

ACE Coordinator – Michael Dale

Report:

- Mike advised that he is holding a coaches' meeting on 12/17/17 to make sure that everyone has all of their certifications up to date as Rosters are frozen by the end of the year.

Treasurer – Dick Baumgardner

Report:

- Not Present, but Jeff gave his report with up-to-date account figures, all bills have been paid and there are no outstanding Invoices due and owing at this time.
- Utica reimbursed our organization \$400 from the ice bill that was paid back in September, 2017.
- Two of the Red Wings teams have fines from WNYAHL that must be paid shortly - the Red Wings teams have been notified.
- IRS issue update:
 - o September Update: After filing the taxes on-time the first time and then filing them again b/c the IRS said we didn't file them, they have now been filed a third time...now the IRS is saying that we filed late and that we need to pay a fee. The Accountant is working on it and Dick will keep the Board advised.
 - o October Update: As of October Board meeting Dick reports that he hasn't heard anything from the Accountant on this issue (maybe no news is good news)
 - o December Update: As of December Board meeting there was no update on this issue as Dick was not present at the meeting (we'll follow up next month)

Registrar – Amanda Cayouette

Report:

- Advised that she is following up on some outstanding balances from three midget families and confirmed that they wouldn't be allowed to play in States if they didn't pay in full before then.
- With regard to the family that didn't pay for last year, Amanda confirms that she is working with them to make this year's payments first.
- Rosters will be frozen as of 12/31/17, so she's following up with some Mite player's that still need to submit Birth Certificates.
- There was some discussion regarding Jason Bonsignore's son (and Jason as a coach) being rostered with one of the Red Wings teams before Rosters are frozen, but Curry thought that since he's already played a bunch of games for the Utica Jr. Comets at the Tier I AAA division, it might present a problem to now have him rostered with the Red Wings, which is considered Tier III A Division. Amanda already has Jason's and his son's releases from Utica and Curry will follow up with Jason directly.
- Dale reported that the cost per player for the Mite travel team is \$60 each. That money covers the cost of jerseys, socks and referee fees. Amanda will Invoice the Mite travel team parents as soon as possible.

Equipment Manager – Lee Sargent

Report: Not present – No report

EAHC Representative – Ken Claud

Ken Claud is the EAHC Bantam Commissioner – therefore Bantam playoffs will be held at our rink.

Report: Not present – No report

WNYAHL Representative – Chandy Kemp

Report:

- Not present - Sent Report (list of WNYAHL Fines & Emails regarding Fines) to Shannon, who distributed them to the Board
- Chandy is able to attend the 12/19/17 meeting, so no coverage is needed for that meeting.

Ombudsman – JoBeth Rath

Report:

- JoBeth discussed getting goalie help from the Ice Knights team (via Coach Schultz) and will work directly with him to get that set up (probably on Squirt &/or Pee Wee Skills practice nights).
- Apparently there may be some players from the High School team who are also interested in working with the goalies as well. They will attend Squirt Skills practice nights (Mondays) when available.
- Also regarding all levels of goalies, Dan will touch base with all coaches to make sure that they are “working with” their goalies during practices and spending time on goalie specific drills.
- Advised that roughly 15 Ice Knights have already come out to help with the Beginners & IPS during Saturday skates.
- Reported some questions/concerns from parents re: playing time equality. Some discussion was had regarding this issue and the competitiveness of the game and the different levels of play.

Director of Communications – Dave Wong

Report:

- No Report

Ice Scheduler – Molly VanWyk

Report:

- Molly reports that the ice bill was \$14,000 for Oct. and that the November bill hasn’t been submitted yet.
- Reports that she’s been working well w/ the JV team and no Blues teams are losing any ice time due to their practices and/or games.
- Aaron Utberg brought up a question re: since we’ve combined Beginner & IP (sharing ice), can we arrange for several (maybe 4 times) of individual practices for the IP’s and Beginners to begin in Jan. through the end of the season? The rationale is that since those practices are combined, there should be more than enough money to cover the additional sheets of ice and it will benefit the players by allowing them to utilize the full ice. Molly will look into if the ice is available and Amanda will run the numbers to determine if this is something that can be done & report back to the Board & Aaron.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget Committee – Amanda Cayouette, Molly VanWyk & Kristen Felix

Report: No Report

By-Law Review Committee – JoBeth Rath

Report: No Report

Grow the Game Committee – JoBeth Rath, Cory Fitzsimmons & Aaron Utberg

Report: No Report

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Lawsuit: At this point we are just awaiting the following item:

- money from the insurance company (if applicable)
- o October Update: Dick reported that Jeff received an email from one of the insurance companies that they paid one of the other insurance companies and we still haven't been reimbursed, so Jeff is going to look into this.
- o December Update: Jeff hasn't received anything in a while, so he will be following up.

B. Red Wings Report – Jason Bonsignore &/or Brenda Melead

- Brenda advised that the old Invoice was paid (see Treasurer's Report) and that they are aware of the fines from WNYAHL for their teams and will be paying them (see Treasurer's Report).

C. Mites – EAHC – Red, White & Blue League

- See Registrar's Report for invoicing to Mite travel players in the amount of \$60 for jerseys, socks & referees.

D. Coaching Clinics & Requirements

- See ACE Report for updates

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Parent Concerns (if any) – NONE

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH'S MEETING

Nothing at this time.

8. SET DATE FOR NEXT MONTH'S MEETING

- Shannon will send out a Doodle Poll to set the date for the next meeting as we ran out of time.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mike Dale and seconded by Jodi Deming to adjourn meeting @ 8:05pm. Passed unanimously.

Next Board meeting: TBD

Next WNYAHL meetings:

Dec. 19, 2017 @ 6:45pm (Christmas Dinner) @ Millennium Hotel, Buffalo, NY

Jan. 2018 - No General Meeting

Feb. 13, 2018 @ 6:45pm @ Millennium Hotel, Buffalo, NY (Walden & Galleria Drive)

Next EAHC meetings:

Dec. 11, 2017 @ 7:00pm - CANCELLED @ Bill Gray's Iceplex, Rochester, NY (conf. room opposite Rink #3)

Jan. 08, 2018 @ 7:00pm @ Bill Gray's Iceplex, Rochester, NY (conf. room opposite Rink #3)

Feb. 12, 2018 @ 7:00pm @ Bill Gray's Iceplex, Rochester, NY (conf. room opposite Rink #3) **Primary Topic: Playoffs Scheduling (all Commissioners should have these finalized by 12/31 but only the dates are released until standings are finalized, game times are released once standings are finalized) and Questions**