

## GSL Meeting September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Meeting started at 7:01 p.m.

Present: Tim McMahon, Beth Gokey, Kelly Huard, Ryan Scott, Referee Supervisor Mark Sampson, Referee PV President Ron Briggs, and a representative from Amherst, Brattleboro, Capitals, FCHA, Holy Name, Keene, Ludlow, Nonotuck, Pioneer Valley, WTM

Absent: Kelly Wright, Enfield, Westfield

Meeting Agenda Topics:

- President's Report - McMahon
  - Dave Jones from the Springfield Thunderbirds shared a number of youth hockey experiences for team this season. Contact him at [djones@springfieldthunderbirds.com](mailto:djones@springfieldthunderbirds.com), 413-417-2289
    - They will also be looking to support the Parade of Champions at the end of the season
    - The Thunderbirds would also like to organize a Mite Jamboree at the end of the season.
  - Allie Levine and UMASS Head Coach Greg Carvel came to present youth hockey opportunities for Division 1 hockey.
    - October 7 is Youth Hockey Night at the Mullins Center
    - Contact Allie at [alevine@umass.edu](mailto:alevine@umass.edu), 413-577-7247
  - Jeff Brown, District 6 Registrar couldn't attend but asked to share the following:
    - All players and coaches are required to register with USA Hockey prior to stepping foot on the ice or going on the bench.
    - The Mass Hockey Annual Guide and Tournament Guide to 2016-2017 is available online at [mahockey.org](http://mahockey.org).
    - Roster exemption forms are required for rosters with 3 or more out of town players.
    - The State Championship Playdown application is available online.
  - There has been 2 serious safesport issues in the state already, 1 in our area.
    - It is required to have an adult monitor the locker room at all times. If coaching staff is unavailable another responsible adult must do so.
    - Team Reps or Managers are required to register with USA Hockey as Volunteer and complete safesport certification.
- 1<sup>st</sup> VP Report – Open
  - Brad Dakers has volunteered to support this role and completed nomination form.
- Schedulers Report - Huard
  - No Play Dates were due on the 9/12/16 for Bantams, some missing. No Play Dates for all other teams due on 9/19/16
  - A number of organizations have not submitted the required ice sheet information. If this information is not submitted by this weekend the start

of the Bantam season will be delayed causing the number of games to be decreased.

- Teams will not play on 11/25-11/27 and 12/24-25 however we will play on 12/31 and 1/1.
- Novice Jamboree Hosts
  - 11/20 – Open, still needs a host organization
  - 1/22 – Nonotuck will host
  - 3/12 – Ludlow will host
- Mite Jamboree
  - 10/1-2 – Ludlow is hosting
  - 2/25-26 – Nonotuck and another may host – Need commitment
- Treasurer Report - Gokey
  - Account Balances: General account \$36,356.22, Scholarship account \$1142.73
    - Bank now charging for paper statements so we'll need to switch to digital
- Statistician Report - Scott
  - The league is using new game sheet, USA Hockey game sheet.
  - A picture of the game sheet will be sent to [gslhockeystats@gmail.com](mailto:gslhockeystats@gmail.com)
  - There was one Major penalty and game misconduct issued the first weekend.
  - It is the coaches responsible to check game sheet, sign, and retain a copy. Further the coach is responsible to know and adhere to the League and USA Hockey rules. There have been several changes for this season.
- Secretary - Wright
  - The posted August 2016 Minutes were approved.
  - The Scholarship Committee still needs 2-3 volunteers
    - Sean Lavoine
    - Tim McMahon?
    - Kelly Wright?
- Old Business
  - GSL Stipend Review Committee Chaired by Sean Lavoine, FCHA and consisting of Sean Munster, Nonotuck and Jason Vedovelli, WTM presented the following proposal based on the workload and criticality of positions:

	Proposed	Current
○ President:	\$1,000	\$500
○ 1 <sup>st</sup> VP:	\$500	\$0
○ Scheduler:	\$2,500	\$2,500
○ Statistician:	\$1,500	\$2,500
○ Webmaster:	\$400	\$600
○ Treasurer:	\$400	\$600
○ Secretary:	\$400	\$400
○ Time Keeper Coordinator:	\$700	\$600
○ State Tourney Director:	\$300	\$300
○ Total:	\$7,700	\$7,800

- A motion was moved and approved unanimously to accept this proposal for GSL stipends effective for the 2016-2017 season.
- New Business
  - 1<sup>st</sup> VP Election – Brad Dakers, Ludlow
    - Approved by Acclimation without other nominees
  - The following Medical Waivers were approved:
    - Capitals
      - Garib, Boy, 10U down to 8U
      - Rief, Boy, 12U down to 10U
      - Welch, Girl, 14U down to 12U
      - Shubrick, Boy, 18U down to 14U
      - Calabrese, Girl, 10U down to 8U
      - Arel, Boy, 12U down to 10U
      - Walsh, Boy, 18U down 14U
    - Brattleboro
      - Albright, Boy, 18U down to 14U
    - Nonotuck
      - Czepiel, Boy, 18U down to 14U
      - Fisher, Boy, 18U down to 14U
    - Amherst
      - Feldman, Girl, 18U down to 14U
      - Oullette, Girl, 18U down to 14U
      - May, Girl, 14U down to 12U
    - Holy Name
      - Laudato, Girl, 14U down to 12U
      - Thomas, Boy, 10U down to 8U
  - Officials – Mark Sampson, Referee District 6 Supervisor and Ron Briggs, PVIHOA President
    - Shortage of referees for games due to added the number of games added not loss of officials
    - They are working hard on mentor program to develop and retain new officials. They are requesting the leagues support.
    - Presented Items of interest from USA Hockey Seminar – Ron
      - The second misconduct to the same person equals a game misconduct – regardless of the infraction.
      - Major penalties are progressive suspensions. Each time a player receives a major penalty, he/she will receive an increase in the games missed. Again, regardless of the infractions.
      - Head contact has been and is a point of emphasis. Officials are directed that if warranted, the official should use the Head Contact provision of the rules. I.E. if an elbowing penalty results in head contact, this should be a major and game if the official feels the head is targeted.
      - Last year in Massachusetts, there were 630 game reports filed for major, game misconducts, and match penalties.
        - 69 or over 10% were Coaches incidents
        - 31 were Match penalties

- 1% were from Junior Hockey
    - 12% were Midgets
    - 41% were Bantams – most of the game misconduct and major penalties resulted from bad checking. Hitting from behind, boarding, charging. Players need to be taught how to check. The rule change preventing Pee-Wee players from checking has done exactly what USA Hockey hoped, with more players continuing after Pee-Wee on to Bantam hockey, and learning skills at the Pee-Wee level. But, once at Bantams players have a large size discrepancy and poor checking skills. This now falls to the coaches to work on checking.
  - Once a bench minor penalty has been issued, whoever persists in the penalized foul receives a game misconduct. For example, if the head coach receives the bench minor for arguing a call and he stops arguing, but another coach or player continues, that coach or player receives a game misconduct.
  - 3 major penalties in one game, regardless of infraction, means a game suspension for the head coach. He does not leave that game, but must sit the next game of his team. This will be important with the GSL rule about coaches who don't sit the appropriate game. No notation is made on the game sheet, so the onus falls to the coach.
  - Next week we will begin working newer officials into GSL games. At this time, it looks like they will be working primarily squirt level games, and will be paired with an experienced official. Please be patient. In some cases this could be their very first time stepping on the ice during a game. If anyone has ever tried officiating, you will understand the "deer in the headlights" look. A USA Hockey seminar cannot prepare someone for the sensory overload. Trying to remember where you are supposed to be, staying out of the way, watching the play, and calling infractions is extremely humbling. We are working on a mentoring program, as well as a supplemental instructional event.
  - 2017 – 2018 will be a rule change year. If coaches have any suggestions as to rule changes, they need to be submitted by November 1.
- Karen Skolfield from Amherst Hockey discussed and shared some successes with growing the game with initiatives specifically targeted at attracting female players
    - She would like to see competition in other GSL organizations and would like to work with anyone interested in learning what they did.
    - Girls Try Hockey for Free day is 10/8/16

- After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of 14U Evaluations have been completed a summary of the results and proposed divisions will be sent via email to board for approval. If necessary a meeting may be called.
- After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of 10U and 12U evaluations have been completed a meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup> will be held to finalize divisions.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm

The next meeting will October 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at Olympia.