

## **GSL MEETING MARCH 14, 2018**

Called meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Tim McMahon, Brad Dakers, Kelly Huard, Beth Gokey, Kelly Wright, Ryan Scott, and a representative from Amherst, Brattleboro, Franklin County, Holy Name, Ludlow, Nonotuck, Pioneer Valley, Springfield Capitals, and Westfield

Absent: Enfield

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

- There are 4 Scholarship opportunities on the GSL website. The Wright Scholarship, The GSL Scholarship, The FMC Scholarship, and The Mass Hockey Scholarship. The deadlines are from March to April so now is the time to get them in.
- Alan Wright came to talk about the Scholarship Applications and they are online as well as copies at the Olympia. Make sure to fill out the new application because the old application has an incorrect mailing address.
- Parade of Champions at Thunderbirds is scheduled for March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- A President's meeting was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss home town rules to create a competitive league and reduce the loss of players to travel/independent programs. There are 5 primary organizations that get players from the same areas: Capitals, Holy Name, WTM, PVL, and Ludlow. If they'd like to work on some strategies together that would be appropriate. The outcome of conversations resulted in no proposal for rule changes in 2018-2019 season.

### **1st VP REPORT:**

- Playoff player eligibility is by your roster so it needs to be updated which you can get from your registrar.
- Players and Coaches will be required to sign-in for GSL playoffs.
- Suspensions have been served except for a Holy Name match penalty.

### **SCHEDULER'S REPORT:**

- End of Season Mite Jamboree will be hosted in Keene on March 17 -18. The schedule has been released.
- The last Novice Jamboree was held on March 11<sup>th</sup> hosted by Ludlow.
- GSL Playoff Trophies and Medals are all set and ready to go.
- Merchandise Vendor is coming to sell t-shirts on Saturday and Sunday.
- Volunteer schedule has been released. Two volunteers expected per slot.
- GSL will pay timekeeper and refs and invoice organizations for payment.
- Andy Lefleur is scheduled for all Championship games on Sunday.

### **TREASURER REPORT:**

- All organizations are paid up.
- As of 2/28/18 the balance of general account is \$45,581.83. The balance of the

scholarship account is \$1,143.59.

#### STATISTICIAN REPORT:

- The standings are finalized as of game sheets received 2/14/18.
- There are 12 missing game sheets but it didn't make a difference in the playoff seeding.

#### SECRETARY:

- The minutes from the February 2018 meeting were approved by acclamation.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- None

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Nomination Committee – Chair, Brad Dakers. If anyone wants to run for a position the applications are online.
- Rule Changes
  - Any ~~player or~~ coach assessed a second game misconduct in the same season will serve a 3 game suspension. Any ~~player or~~ coach assessed a third game misconduct in the same season will be suspended indefinitely.
    - Discussion: Greenfield would okay it if we take out the word player since calls to players can be inconsistent.
    - Decision: Table this amendment for further discussion.
  - In 18U Division, any player assessed a fighting major penalty (first occurrence) is suspended from league play for the remainder of the season pending hearing under Mass Hockey guidelines.
    - Discussion: Amended rule proposal to require hearing for suspension.
    - Decision: Amendment approved by majority, so moved.
  - Raise the call up rule minimum for 14U and 18U from 9 skaters to 10 skaters.
    - Decision: Amendment approved by majority, so moved.
  - Scheduling Rule Changes
    - **2. SCHEDULING**
    - (d) Any team wishing to reschedule a game must notify the League Scheduler in writing thirty (30) days in advance. The rescheduling of games will be at the sole discretion ~~if~~**of** the League

Scheduler if there is ice available to reschedule a game and if both teams consent to the request to reschedule the game.

- **If a game is successfully rescheduled, the team requesting the game reschedule is responsible for the cost of the entire ice fee associated with the new game.**
  
- (e) When a team gives written notice to the League Scheduler at least thirty (30) days in advance of a scheduled league game that the team wishes to forfeit the game, the League Scheduler shall cancel the referees and the time keeper assigned to the game. The forfeiting team and/or organization shall be responsible for payment of the full ice fee owed for the ice unless the League Scheduler is able to schedule another league game in the ice slot. If a team gives written notice to the League Scheduler at least five (5) days and less than thirty (30) days in advance of a scheduled league game that the team wishes to forfeit the game, the forfeiting team shall also be responsible, in addition to the ice fee, for the cost of the referee(s) and time keeper. The League Scheduler shall notify the non-forfeiting team of the forfeit and the non-forfeiting team will automatically be awarded the victory without having to show up for the game.
  
- (f) G.S.J.A.H.L. games will take precedence over games of other leagues to which member teams belong except in the case of State Play downs and Championship Tournaments. A limit of 2 games occurring in the same day will be allowed during the season. ~~All cancellations of games including inclement weather shall be at the direction of the League Scheduler.~~
  
- (g) **All cancellations of games including inclement weather shall be at the direction of the League Scheduler.**
  
- If a team chooses not to attend a game due to inclement weather, the team's Association shall have three (3) days to appeal to the Scheduler or Executive Board. This would allow time for the Scheduler to determine whether other teams traveled to or from that area on the same day.
  
- (h) The League Scheduler shall establish a reasonable schedule for the submission of all information necessary for completing the league's game schedule. The League Scheduler will not schedule league games during the weekend following Thanksgiving or during weekends containing the Christmas or New Year holidays. Up to four (4) No Play Dates for the Regular Season shall be turned in to the League Scheduler. A team may use two (2) additional no play dates for anticipated participation in a state tournament. **If No Play Dates are**

not received by the league scheduler by each season's established deadline, all No Play Dates are forfeited for that season. The League Scheduler shall post the regular season schedule within two (2) weeks of the completion of the evaluation games.

- Decision: The scheduling rule changes were bundled into one proposal. This amendment was approved by majority, so moved.
- Bylaw Changes – add 2 positions and remove 1 appointed position
  - **Marketing and Communications Director:** This position's primary role is to market our hockey league to our communities and define options, communication strategies and target local advertisement opportunities. This person would utilize local businesses, local newspapers and the league's website for communication and advertisement options.
  - **Registrar:** The Registrar shall have the responsibility for recording and confirming the registrations of all members, players, and coaches in the league, including obtaining all required forms. The Registrar shall maintain an active Player Member list, and ensure that all the guidelines and requirements of Mass Hockey and USA Hockey are met by the Members and the Associations. In addition, the Registrar shall act as the Board representative and liaison with all organization registrars to ensure that all procedures, policies, rules, reports and requirements are met throughout the hockey season.
  - Eliminate Tournament Director Role.  
~~**Tournament Director:** The Tournament Director shall plan, organize, and carryout State sponsored tournaments within the Mass State Guidelines. He/She shall coordinate said tournament with the District Registrar.~~
    - Discussion: Stipend for positions will need to be considered. The Communication and Marketing role is important and may warrant a higher stipend.
    - Decision: This bylaw amendment was approved by majority, so moved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Next meeting will be April 11<sup>th</sup>.