

Meeting Minutes

Jaguar Hockey Club Board Meeting

October 21st, 2024

The Meeting was called to order by Secretary/Registrar Melisa Kochniarczyk @ 7:03 PM

▪ Roll Call

Present: Lauren Walsh, Mark Karkoska, Eric Scott, Melisa Kochniarczyk, Colleen Krol, Sean Mikos, Melissa Reese, John Wirkus, Kristin Dondlinger, Mike Lazarri, Elyce O'Sullivan, Ryan Melling

▪ President's Address

Lauren Walsh

- o Officials - Please remember we are in an official shortage. We need to remind ourselves that nothing you say or do is going to change a refs call. Yelling at a ref will only make matters worse. If you are asked to leave any game it is now a 5 game suspension. Also, please remember that most officials are kids, please be patient and understanding.
- o Inwood - we are officially back at Inwood! There will be a phase 2 which will not impact our ice usage.
- o Tournaments - we have started to charge for team tournaments on Crossbar. If anyone has any questions or concerns please let me know.
- o Please make sure your family participation, Rules & Ethics, tournament policy & injury policy are completed in Crossbar.
- o CUHL Seeding round has finished as of yesterday. Seeding rounds are double edged sword Sometimes games are lopsided. While those situations are not fun, it does help the league place those teams accordingly in the regular season. As a rule of thumb, usually a bad seeding round leads to a good season. In the end, what we want to see is our players developing. Development is our ultimate goal.
- o Fake emails have been going out with my name on it, but email address is not mine, I will NEVER send a message asking you for money or gift cards. I generally will also text if I need to speak to you and not send an email asking you to call me or if you have time to talk.

▪ Approval of Meeting Minutes

- o Motion to approve the September Minutes was motioned by Sean Mikos and seconded by Colleen Krol. Motion Passed.

▪ Treasury Report

Tracy Miranda/Griff Schiele

- o No report submitted

▪ Vice President of Hockey Operations

Mark Karkoska

- o Black out gear should be on Squadlocker
- o We closed the Holiday Store for purchase yesterday, 10/20. Items from the store are guaranteed to be delivered before Christmas. Once the store has been finalized, a club credit will be applied to our Jaguar account with Pure Hockey.
- o We received our 1st Check from SquadLocker last month for \$127.98 WE have sold \$6033.47 in total sales year to date.
- o I will continue to refresh and update items for purchase on squadlocker. If there are additional items of interest please reach out to me so they can be added to the website.
- o Now that we have completed both our bulk order and online store we will be able to use the money toward club purchases; ie development & coaches equipment. Please see me for additional questions.
- o Cemino's at the Park - I had a conversation with Mark @ Cemino's about their interest in working with us. They are excited to partner with us this fall season. The camera above the West scoreboard is being set up to broadcast and stream practices and games inside Inwood. The park district is actively working on setting that up.
- o Cemino's also interested in setting up a "Mug Club" for alcohol discounts. More on that once available.
- o Cemino's is also interested in staffing around our game schedule, if we can provide them with an Inwood game schedule they can make sure they have adequate amount of staff available for our games

- o On Ice Music - we had a wireless dongle that was being stored with the game clock that has gone missing. Previously we could play music wirelessly inside the ice rink, now that it has gone missing only older iPhones or Androids with an iPhone jack have the ability to connect & play music for games. If anyone knows anything about the wireless dongle please let me know.
 - Lauren Walsh purchased a new dongle/cable for newer iPhones/Android phones for music. Not wireless but will have to make do.

▪ **Vice-President of League Affairs**

Eric Scott

- o NIHL
 - Remember 5 Game suspension - there has been a spike in racial slurs
 - 2 parents have both been suspended for 1 year each for numerous offenses/suspensions
 - Numbers are down for refs - still
 - Managers must get scores recorded in NIHL immediately, there is a \$300 fine that will be the managers responsibility, and the team will take a loss for the game.
 - Saturday Nov 2, the brackets will be posted on the NIHL website. Kristin will be sending out your home slots, please create a signup genius for those games. Once you have your bracket, look to see who is coming to you and email those managers. You will find their contact information in the NIHL portal. You can also reach out to managers and ask them to send over their home slots for games that you will be going to.
 - All home games must be posted no later than 11/5 in the NIHL portal.
 - Please be sure to send Kristin ALL games for your season and Ken Zschach your home slots.
 - There are many teams traveling for tournaments this weekend so please be prepared with Blackout dates - tournaments ect.
 - NIHL games of the week have to be paid for by the team
 - Peoria rule is done at scheduling only, not after the game. We generally try not to use this rule on opposing teams.
 - Parents should not be contacting any of the leagues on their own. They must go through the league rep. NO league will talk to parents, they will get sent to the club rep.
- o NWHL (Melisa Miller-Kochniarczyk)
 - Poll is going on regarding Jets wanting to put a Squirt team in the league for this current season that has already started. This doesn't affect any Jaguar teams, however after speaking with Coach Stormy and others that the Club should vote yes for them to be allowed into the league.
 - Midget in person scheduling is November 17 @ 10:30 AM - Season begins 12/2/2024
 - The club is set up on Crossbar with NWHL using the registrar email, now that they have fully transitioned over.
- o CUHL (Mark Karkoska/Eric Scott)
 - CUHL is adding a new team - Decatur Jr. Sparks. They have 2 teams - one that is approx a mid-low D2 team & one that is mid-low D3 team. If you have any interest in setting up some scrimmage games with them we highly encourage you to do so. They are willing to travel north.
 - CUHL is currently looking for officials. Prospective officials should contact Bob MacPherson for details on how to get started. Please log into CUHL for more information. Minimum age is 14 years old.
 - CUHL has had numerous phishing attacks on its website recently. All CUHL email come from Jordan Mann directly. jordanmannskating@gmail.com

▪ **Secretary/Registrar**

Melisa Kochniarczyk

- o All permits for the next two weeks have been purchased and sent to the manager
- o All tournaments have been paid for & receipts put in the tournament folders
- o All AAU numbers have been submitted to CUHL
- o If you are having issues with AHAI please let me know.
- o All but 1 assistant coach are on rosters
- o Coaches have been signing up for coaching classes to keep them from being red-lined and compliant with USA Hockey.

- o Still have to get to Inwood for In-House/ADM coaches - to review they have necessary items to be on ice. Plan on doing this after November 1st
- o Will be working on a manager tournament doc - will list places to go & not to go in certain cities. Just a friendly document for managers to share & give ideas while in different cities for tournaments
- o Will be working on a manager check off list with Ryan Melling
- o Noise makers such as air horns - or horns attached to drills are not allowed. A ref can kick you out of the game for excessive use - this will result in a 5 game suspension. It's just not worth it.
- o U16 Mom - Elise Stadler has sent out an email regarding shirts being made, she also makes personalized items, not just Jaguar apparel, if interested, please reach out to her - estadler@sbcglobal.net - facebook - Craft Therapy for Elise. She is a mom and does have a full time job, please give her just a little bit of time to respond, she will respond and get your orders handled!
- o Managers when scheduling games, please remember the first weekend in January is our memorial weekend Please try your hardest to schedule a home game on the day Kristin has assigned for you.
- o Continue to send in Injury reports.
 - Mono does need a doctor's note. If the child goes out and gets hit in the spleen it could possibly harm the child even more. There was a child who passed away a few years ago after being hit. We just want to look out for the safety of all children on the ice.

• **Development Coordinator**

Colleen Krol

- o 1st session for pre & little Jaguars just ended
- o Still in session for ADM & In House
- o All going well

▪ **Chairman of Rules & Ethics**

Sean Mikos

- o Parents/Coaches - if any misconduct is happening in team chats, managers will send screenshots to me for further investigation & disciplinary action will be taken
- o Alcohol consumption shall follow the rules of the rink. Inwood has a no alcohol policy inside the rink.

▪ **Director of Fundraising**

Melissa Reese

- o Dominos's Pizza Card Fundraising was a success! The club sold 164 cards. Each family earns \$10 per card that they sold. The whole fundraiser earned \$1,640.00
- o Wreath fundraiser has started & we have about 2 weeks left to sell items. As of this moment 15 families are participating and 61 items have been sold. All orders need to be entered into their online stores & money turned in by Nov 3rd.
- o Banner sponsorships are open for families to renew and/or get new sponsors. All banner requests need to be turned in before Feb 1st 2025
- o Direct sponsorships are open for families to utilize. This fundraiser is open all year round, not deadlines for this program. I have received a few sponsorships so far this season.
- o Fantasy Hockey is going well. I have handed out over 400 tickets to be sold. Had to request more tickets for distribution. The fundraiser ends December 1 when all ticket stubs, money and unsold tickets need to be turned in. If you have tickets that you know you are not selling please contact Melissa to get them back to her as other families are still looking for some to sell.
- o I have worked directly with Lauren & Tracy to make sure credits have been applied to player accounts from past fundraisers
- o Some sponsors have informed me that their logo/ink is not working on our website after the switch to Crossbar from Sports Engine. I am working on getting those issues corrected.
- o I have been working with Dan Hienz to make sure all of our sponsor banners are on display inside the rink. He is rearranging the wall to accommodate all our banners. He has been amazing & patient with all my requests and corrections.
- o Working on fundraising communications to keep families informed and updated. Should be sent out soon.

o **Concessions**

John Wirkus

- One Event left scheduled event is 11/3
- We are missing payouts for August & September from Huntington Bank & all of our events from Alpine Valley, there were less than 5. Once all commissions are received we will be able to finalize the hourly rate and make another drop to participants crossbar accounts

▪ **Director of Marketing**

John Wirkus

- o I have looked into yard signs & have a quote from Fast Signs. I just need to put together an order form & get that distributed to families.
- o I have started looking into the entrance way for Inwood. Looking at getting frosted decals, but I need to get measurements to get the ball rolling for a quote.

▪ **Director of Technology and Communication**

Denise Spreeman

- o Managers thank you for sending pictures of teams. Please keep them coming - 630-201-6625

▪ **Ice Scheduler**

Kristin Dondlinger

- o There have been quite a few games rescheduled this year across all 3 leagues. Great job to the managers of those teams who almost all had to deal with difficult negotiations & the managers of opposing teams overcomplicating things that would be simple. You were confident & prepared to advocate for the right thing & that helps so much.
- o The practice schedule is done though 11/8. Please keep in mind with things like game reschedules & emergency situations (Like broken zamboni), that the schedule is always fluid.
- o As we roll into November & the holiday's, our ice gets a little light because of rink blackouts. Teams in the weekend tourney are prioritized over other teams, so there are times you may only see 1 practice for the week.
- o That said, if something looks off for your team please just ask! There is a method to the madness but I'm human & occasionally make mistakes.
- o After some negotiation with Canlan, you will notice our Wednesdays are currently 30 min earlier & on Rink 2 instead of 3. This will continue until 12/18 & will be determined then if it can continue for the remainder of the season. This change is pending their YHL registrations
- o CUHL regular season scheduling will begin tomorrow 10/22 & is being done via grid like we did for seeding. Mite managWHL regular season scheduling will be Sunday 11/17 @ 10:30 AM in Franklin Park.
- o Managers, talk with your coaches & confirm blackout dates & tournament plans if you still haven't finished registering for those. I can only work with the information I'm given, so please keep that line of communication open with me. If your roster is on the lighter end, ask families if they have travel plans for holidays or school/religious events that may impact your bench for a game. Knowing that info ahead of time avoids last minute game rescheduling
- o On that note, consider the home location of your opponents in your divisions. The deeper into January & February we get, the more likely it is that you or your opponent will be driving during snow events. If you can negotiate games that require long distance travel to earlier in the season that will reduce chances of rescheduling.
- o Jaguar Memorial Game Day is Saturday 1/4/25. Teams given a home ice slot that weekend need to move mountains to make sure those get filled. This is a very important event for the club & Jaguar Alumni.
- o Senior game is scheduled for Saturday 3/15/25 @ 6 PM at Inwood

▪ **Equipment Manager**

Elyce O'Sullivan

- o Nothing major to report - ordered more tyke socks
- o All practice jerseys have been passed out

▪ **Manager of Managers**

Ryan Melling

- o Sent email out today regarding first aid kits
- o Get blackout dates for coaches / players
- o Medal of Honor sports gear by Elise Stadler - reach out to her to get order done
- o We will revisit the shirts for the Vet game
- o Parent conduct in the stands is zero tolerance - if you need help with parents please let me know and I will get to a game or have another board member there

- o The new mail boxes are hung in the office - we are working on getting labels put on
- o **Team Updates**
 - Mite 1 - Doing great on the Front end - leave for a tournament in Grand Rapids next week
 - Mite 2 - Seeding round done finished 3rd in their division looking forward to the rest of the season
 - Mite 3 - team is struggling in seeding round hoping to get placed in the appropriate division for regular season - Lauren Walsh also informed that sometimes a bad seeding round leads to replacement and a great season.
 - Squirt 1 - Playing tomorrow in Vernon Hills - currently 2-2 in the PSL division. Good little team. Played in Grand Rapids a few weekends ago and had some good competition - team played great. Headed back up there in 2 weeks.
 - Squirt 2 - Done with seeding round. Did fairly well. Headed to Grand Rapids in 2 weeks
 - Squirt 3 - Seeding went fairly well finished 5-1
 - Squirt 4 - Won 1st game over the weekend - headed to Nashville this weekend
 - PW 1 - PSL rough go - 1-4-1
 - PW 2 - 3-1, 2 games left headed to Grand Rapids with others
 - PW 3 - 1-3-2 - small roster but doing ok.
 - B1 - Back to back games in Peoria this weekend coming up. Played a 2011 central states team and won. CCM in two weeks and then Headed to New Jersey next month for a showcase.
 - B2 - Doing well 4-3 headed to nashville this weekend
 - Midget 3 - Currently 0-2 in seeding round. We have three home games this Thursday, Friday & Sunday. Our last seeding round game will be in Shaw in Milwaukee. Melisa is looking into new tournaments - Companies - location - dates for this team.
 - U16 - currently 2-1 in their regular season - Headed to Philly this weekend and CCM next weekend

- **Member at Large**

Mike Lazzari

- We have received 0 scholarship applications. Will extend this until 11/15/2024. Managers please let your team know this is a paid scholarship for their skaters for this year's hockey fees. It is open to travel hockey players & is encouraged to fill out. The younger players can reach out to Mike regarding grades and volunteer work.

- **New Business**

- o Parent Craig Frase inquired about setting up a partnership at Grundy County - Melisa and others very interested told him to go ahead and set up and schedule
- o Parent Craig Frase - inquired about making payments early on crossbar - Lauren informed if someone is wanting to do an early payment let her know and she can set it up on the back end
- o Kelly Mendoza inquired about scoring games on App - looks like we can only do on website - Lauren informed that Crossbar is working on updates, hoping maybe this is part of it.

- **Old Business**

Meeting was called by Lauren Walsh at @ 8:25 PM