

VYHA BOARD MEETING 2.12.25

ONONDAGA NATION RINK

In Attendance: Jessica Allman, Marissa Maines, Greg Bliss, Jamie Moran, Mike Foley, Becky Brightman, Paul Casinelli, Kevin Burns, Christina Hawelka, Tony Polhamus, Mike Wheeler, Craig Schwartu, Brad Brechler

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to approve the January meeting minutes – Becky B. and Greg B. – All voted yes – (Motion carries)

Discipline Report –

- Nothing to report for February 2025

Registrar Report –

- Only issue currently is we are missing 9 players birth certificates.
 - All are in IP and First Goals
 - For next season, we need to figure out a way to keep them off the roster or not seeing the schedule until the

AHF Conversation –

- Youth Travel League AA – Atlantic Hockey Foundation
 - It is similar to the NGHL. Would be willing for us to join the National division.
 - It would include 2 showcases, 4 additional league games (can play more if want). This would qualify for playoffs
 - It would give the Non Tournament Bound teams a “championship” to play for.
 - It would be open for any of the levels (travel). But it would be up to the coach if they want to participate in it.
- What kind of commitment do they need?
 - Mike advised they are very flexible with how many teams we can have participate.
 - Link and map to be added to the meeting minutes.
- Cost per team is \$1,200. No declaration date but would like it sooner rather than later. March would be best to declare.
 - Is there an association discount?
- Would Major teams be able to do both NYSHA and AHF –
 - Yes and they would be understanding that if teams made states, they would go to that.

Motion to allow travel teams to sign up for AHF league if they want to. They must declare before tryouts to allow families to understand the commitment that would be coming. – Brad B. and Christina H. – All Voted Yes (Motion carries)

Treasurer – Financial Report

- Only outstanding fees are all allocated and figured out on payment plans
- Travel Tryouts – 25-26
 - Credit Card Fees are being paid for by Valley
 - Look at next year eating the fees on behalf of the families
- We are paid up on ice into January at both Nation & Meachem

Motion to accept the financial report for January 2025– Marissa M and Tony P – All vote yes. (Motion carries)

2025 – 2026 Coaching Appointment

- We need to decide overall if we are a birth year organization or if we are willing to combine the birth years at struggling levels.
- 8U Coaches – appoint a Mite Coordinator/Head Coach of the Program
 - Matt Richardson
 - Matt Kinsella
 - Brian Stinson

Motion to appoint Matt Kinsella & Matt Richardson as points of contact for 8U program. – Brad B. and Christina – All voted yes (Motion carries)

- **10U –**
 - Mixed birth year travel team?
 - Only 18 – 2015 birth years at the squirt level
 - At this point, we do not have a concrete option for 10U
 - 10U Travel Team – Head Coach John Sacks
 - Other coaches pending conversations

Motion to appoint John Sacks 10U travel coach – Greg Bliss and Mike Wheeler – All yes – motion carries

- Email motion to appoint Eric Badeau as 10U Travel coach in replacement of John Sacks, who is willing to step down. Motion by Tony P. and Paul C. – All voted yes (Motion Carries)

- **12U Travel Coach–**

Motion to appoint 12U Major as Mike Foley – Marissa M. and Brad B. – All voted yes – (Motion carries)

Motion to appoint 12U minor as Derek Hawkins – Tony and Marissa – All voted yes – (Motion carries)

12U House – Head Coach Roet – Greg and Jamie – all yes – (Motion carries)

- **12U Girls –**

- Kevin Ronan, Garth Coviello, and Eric Badeau
- Kevin Ronan as head coach and Eric Badeau as associate head coach
- In meeting Kevin Ronan was voted as head coach. After the meeting he rescinded his application.

Email motion Feb 13, 2025 – naming Garth Coviello as head coach of the 12U Girls team.

- **14U Girls –**

- No head coach currently selected
- Advertise we are looking for a head coach

- **14U Travel –**

- 14 Minor coach – Mike Thomas

Motion to name Mike Thomas as head coach of NTB – Brad B. and Kevin Burns – all voted yes – (Motion passes)

- **14U Tournament Bound –**

- 2 applications: Melisa Bliss and Mike Platt are both applicants

Motion for Melisa Bliss to be head coach – Jamie M. and Mike Wheeler. – all voted yes (Motion carries)

- **16U Girls –**

- Dylan Pensabene – current assistant coach

Motion to name Dylan Pensabene as head coach – Kevin B. and Brad B. – all voted yes – (Motion carries)

- **16U tournament Bound –**

- 2009 Derek Dunford

Motion to name Derek Dunford as the head coach Craig S. and Mike Wheeler – all yes (Motion carries)

- **16U Minor – 2010 Birth Year**

- Chris Szulwach –
 - With Jim Zullo as the assistant coach

- **16/18 – Midget RAP team that exists from Nov – Feb**

Motion to make Chris Szulwach head coach of 16U Minor by Becky B. and Tony P. - all voted yes. – (Motion carries)

- **18U Tournament Bound – 2008 Birth Year**

- Pete Thompson, Jason Potter and Chris Armbrust
- Problem is that Jason Potters – player is a 2009
- Chris Armbrust has never been a head coach and taking this over for the first time.
- Pete Thompson has not put in an official application

Motion to table the discussion – Jamie M. and Marissa M. – vote does not pass.

Motion to allow Ethan Potter to play at 18U tournament bound, if he makes the team. – Tony P. and Brad B. – 9 yes and 2 no – (Motion passes)

Motion to make Jason Potter the head coach of the 18U Tournament Bound from Tony P. and Christina – 9 yes and 2 no – (Motion passes)

- **19U Girls –**

Motion to name Mark Mackisoc as the head coach Jamie M. and Tony P. – all vote yes – (Motion passes)

Motion to make Pete Thompson 18U independent – Kevin and Tony – all voted yes (Motion carries)

- Tryout Dates – coaches work directly with Steve
- 10U and 12U can start after March 4th.
- Reinforced with Steve that tournament bound teams should have at least one tryout before the minor has a tryout.

Board Announcement –

- Treasurer will be in the voted this year
- Board positions will be posted

Scheduling –

- Scheduling needs to be a month out. It needs to be posted sooner or we are going to lose several parents.

Snowbelt Jam –

- Snowbelt Jam meeting is tomorrow 2.13.25
- Red or White JAM

Speedskills/lves –

- Changes for next year moving them back to the same weekend

Crossbar –

- As the transition continues, we will keep everything moving over to crossbar.

Jerseys and Merch –

- Figures attached to the notes
- Fitting days
- Continue the conversation at the next meeting.

Motion to end the meeting 8:35 pm – Craig S and Brad B – all voted yes Motion carries