

Natick Comets Hockey Club

Board of Directors

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Nathan Joyal, Joe Marashio, Jonas Geiger, Michael Byrum, Aaron Souza, Teddy Efstathiou, Sean Stevens, Dave Hoffman, Jeff Schneller, Andrea Smith, Nancy Midura, Luke Carapezza, Sara Grossman, John Smutko, Lindsay Newall, Dave Mangan

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 7:09 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes

- A. Board of Directors Meeting Minutes from February 20, 2023 - amend no pucks otherwise approved

III. Treasurer's Report

Dave mangan - nothing unexpected

IV. Voting Items

- A. U14 Girls Varsity Players Reimbursement (Nathan Joyal)

The Registrar confirmed that players are precluded from playing for the Comets if they make the Varsity team; it is written in the bylaws. Players will receive prorated refunds automatically; they just need to email the Registrar. No vote was required.

- B. Natick Comets Scholarship (Dave Mangan)

Recognize graduating players going to college, obtaining certification for professional programs, or entering workforce (inclusive), up to 1K as a suggestion. Application will ask for what purpose they will be using the funds. Intent is to celebrate what it was like to grow up as a Comet. A suggestion was made to call this the David and Sarah Hoffman Scholarship. Applications

tentatively due end of April for May graduation. A vote will be held at the next meeting.

C. Expense approval for year end awards (Jeff Schneller)

The year end gift will be skate towels instead of pucks. The Director of Events is working on pricing. A motion to approve up to \$4,000 was seconded and unanimously approved.

D. Comets Year End Event (Nancy Midura)

1. Expense approval

Need to nail down teams and times. Tentatively, Mites will be Saturday, 4/1, all six teams. Squirts will be 4/2 but one team may have a game. U10, U12 and Peewee will be 4/8.

V. Non-voting Items

A. Practice Scheduling

1. VHL playoffs must be manually entered:

playoff games will not feed into Crossbar. Michael will give coaches instructions as to how to do it based on brackets. They can call Michael if there are problems.

2. Ice planning for next season

Looking at potentially 30 teams. Need another three sheets per week to stay at the same level (number) of practices per week. A discussion followed about

formalizing Breakfast Club with an associated fee and possibly adding a Saturday 6am timeslot. Three coaches would subcontract out through Driscoll, which we could bring to the program.

3. Ideas needed for extra ice time for the last two weekends. This presents a possible fundraising opportunity, perhaps to fund scholarship. Another idea is Coach games. Michael will reach out to coaches for other ideas. The ice is available all day on 4/9 (Easter Sunday).

B. Spring/Summer Skills sessions (Jeff Schneller)

Parents are asking if the Comets want to do anything. Possibly send out a list of opportunities.

C. Alternate Goalies (Jeff Schneller)

May need an alternate Bantam rostered on lowest team that could be available when needed. The question was raised, do we want to offer alternative goalie slots and do we want to charge them anything? We will monitor through tryouts and then make a determination at the May meeting.

D. Nomination Committee for Board slate for Annual Meeting (Jeff Schneller)

The President is drafting an email. Many volunteers are needed. We also have positions listed that are no longer valuable. The Director of the Girls Program, the Director of Communication, and the Vice President of Operations will assist.

E. Restructuring of VP Player Development & Director of Coaching positions (Luke Carapezza)

The Director of Coaching presented an idea to orchestrate a committee of directors at each age level and announce to members this spring that this is the Club's new model. Age-level Directors would then get in touch with members at each level. The Director of Coaching would outline age level coordinator responsibilities. The idea was discussed and debated at length. The appropriate sequence of events for implementation was reiterated to be: (1) formation of the Board, (2) positioning of all roles on the Board by vote, (3) nomination of age level coordinators, and finally (4) Board vote.

F. Long-term development of Girls Program (Nathan Joyal)

Next meeting: Monday, April 17th, 7:00 PM, Natick Police Station

VI. Adjournment