

## **Comets Town Hall Summary (August)**

This is a summary of the Comets's first Town Hall Meeting conducted on August 21, 2024

### **Transparency**

- Clarify how the processes for members to register, get shirts, buy Comets merchandise, who they talk to about things, etc.
- Post the board meeting minutes (not done since 2022)
- Wants to know who we are? What are we trying to accomplish? What makes us different from club teams and why should anyone care? What does it do to support the program & community?
- People aren't acknowledged when they give feedback via email; it makes folks consider leaving the program.

### **Community Member Considerations**

- Non-comets players, yet Natick and supported community residents, want access to the Comets programming (Stick & Puck); parents sign a waiver and pay an entry fee.

### **Girls Travel Teams**

- Want to get younger girl's teams back, U8/U10
- Leverage social media groups (Natick Moms, Natick Talks, Natick Hockey Moms, and other sports?)
- Can we create a house or jr. house league team of girls during the next sessions?
- Joe Marashio's ideas

### **Goalies**

- Teams had trouble finding goalies - why people are leaving the organization. Other programs are offering discounts for goalies.

### **Uniforms**

- Can we standardize the uniform requirements? (helmet, jersey, pants, socks, gloves, etc. to present a professional organization) to build team cohesion.

- Amending the handbook to make it 'official' and not strictly enforcing the policy might be a start; start with Comets pants shells or helmet decals.

### **Director of Team Manager/Coordinator**

Parent Coordinator at the board level should:

- Drafts a stock email for coaches to distribute to player parents; provides an overview of responsibilities (tournament scheduling, team activities, etc.); asks for volunteers for their respective teams.
- Acts as contact for team-related questions and suggestions for “boots on the ground” parent volunteers.
- Creates a shared folder or drive that has resources for all teams to use such as:
  - Tournament lists
  - Recommendations for off-ice activities
  - Contacts for intermission skates/group ticket sales,
  - Swag bag ideas
  - After-season party ideas/locations,
  - Coaches gift suggestions, etc.
  - Various hockey organizations (Providence Bruins, Worcester Railers, and some college programs).

### **Skills**

A professional skills coach should hold skills sessions, not parent volunteers.

### **Younger Board Members**

Want parents with younger kids on the board.