

Natick Comets Hockey Club, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, October 17, 2022

PRESENT: Chris Boyer, President, Sean Whalen, Treasurer, Lindsay Newall, Clerk, Jeff Schneller, Vice President of Operations, Sean Stevens, Vice President of Player Development, Nathan Joyal, Director of Girls Hockey and MYCGL Representative, Teddy Efstathiou, Director of Equipment, Peter Rovick, Director of Fundraising, Luke Carapezza, Director of Coaches and ACE Coordinator, John Smutko, Valley League Conference Representative, Michael Balcom, Director of Youth Hockey, Aaron Souza, Director of LTP, Michael Byrum, Practice Scheduler, Matthew Schneider, Natick Liaison, Dave Hoffman, Honorary Trustee/Advisor

The President called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September meeting will be approved at the next meeting.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank statements were distributed. No notable activity to report.

3. NON-VOTING ITEMS

A. Midget Select Update

The experience so far has been positive. The U16 team has twelve games, nine at home, and eight opponents, plus four tournament games. The U18 team has eleven games, five at home, and seven opponents. (By comparison Tier III VHL has eleven games, two at home (Wellesley), and eight opponents.) The select teams have Natick High support and better referees; players especially appreciate the Sunday ice time. On the down side, there are not enough teams in the league and no playoffs.

B. State Tournament Playdowns

The Practice Scheduler distributed an update showing results to date, games yet to be scheduled, and available times. In the discussion that followed it was noted that the Midge Select teams cannot enter the State Tournament due to sanctioning issues with USA Hockey. The Director of Youth Hockey will

discuss this further with the league next year.

C. SPARK Kindness

The upcoming presentation on Thursday, October 27th, 7pm, “Changing the Game,” hosted by SPARK Kindness, will be followed at 8:15 pm by a post-program virtual discussion for coaches and sports leaders. The 7pm session will be recorded; access is provided if you register. The post-program discussion will not be recorded. A reminder has been sent to all coaches.

D. Fundraising

Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza is hosting a dine in or take out event with 20% of proceeds donated to Comets. Two or three of these events will be held this year. (The fourth and fifth events held last year yielded diminishing returns.)

The importance of institutional memory was also mentioned. To that end, and thinking ahead to Board turnover at the end of season, the suggestion was made that Board members could write up descriptions of their roles.

E. Scheduling

As the high school season begins, we will be going down to one practice per week per team. We will be getting Rivers’ ice. Feedback on set practice times has been very positive.

F. Support for Boys and Girls Teams

The Comets recently made a donation to support the Natick Boys’ teams golf tournament. It was noted that we will provide equitable support for the Girls’ teams fundraisers.

The Board agreed that there were no further items for discussion, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:48.m.