

The Natick Comets Hockey Club

Board of Directors

Chase Arena

July 15, 2024

7:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: David Cogliano, Jeff Schneller, Nancy Midura, Mike Byrum, Meg Whalen, Glenn Soucy, Nathan Joyal, Teddy Efstathiou, Rose Schneider, Andrea Smith, Anthony Fireman and Michael Balcom, Meg Whalen, John Smutko

I. **Call to Order**

II. Financial Report Update (David Mangan via email)

Mr. Cogliano reported Mr. Mangan's financial update. The Club ended the season with about \$48,000 in a checking account and \$234,000 in a savings account. This represents 40% of the operating budget. Mr. Mangan further reported by email that scholarship applications are continuing to come in with a deadline of May 17, 20024 and a decision by June 7, 2024. Finally, the Finance Committee is going to convene in May or June to review the year's performance trend and potentially make recommendations on zero risk investments like cds.

III. Approve Teams and Coaches for 2024-2025 Season

Mr. Schneller led a robust discussion on the proposed composition of teams at all the levels within the Comets organization. The following teams (numbers of players per team) were approved by the Board: Mite, Squirt, Pee wee, Bantam, U10, U12, U14 and U19

- A. 6 Mite teams, which includes U8s. Five of the Mite teams will have 11 skaters and Mite 6 will have 13 players.
- B. 4 Squirt teams with roughly 13 players on each team. One squirt team will have 12 players. There is a goalie for each team.
- C. 4 Pee wee teams. Pee wee 1 will have 16 players and a goalie. Pee wee 2 through 4 each have 14 players. There are no goalies for Pee wee 3 and 4. Teams 16, Pee wees 2-4 have 14.

- D. 4 Bantam teams with 13 players. Bantam 1 and 2 have goalies; Bantam 3 and 4 are TBD with regard to goalies.
- E. U10: One team
- F. U12: One team
- G. U14: one team consisting of 22 players with one goalie. Five players will need to be selected as alternates for the State Tournament. It was decided that the the Comets would notify families in advance that five players would need to be selected as alternates for the State Tournament.
- H. U19 Team will have 23 players. The U19 Team will also need to select five skaters as alternates for the State Tournament.
- I. The Board discussed the Midget level and teams extensively. There was robust discussion regarding the impact of an influx of players on team composition, past practices and the impact of the proposed selections would have on the expectations for the players and families. The board determined that it would table a vote on the Midget program pending further discussion.

IV. Discuss Open Board Positions and Nomination Committee

Mr. Balcom encouraged Board members to apply for other open positions on the Board and encouraged members to recruit new members to the Board.

V. Family Meeting/Community Meeting

Mr. Fireman and Mr. Byrum led a discussion about the value and importance of holding a community meeting to explain the Comets organization and receive feedback from the larger community. The consensus was that such a meeting would be helpful to improve transparency and address any concerns that members of the larger community may have about the Comets. Further it was discussed that such a meeting would be a good opportunity to explain to the community all the good things the Comets do. some discussion, the Board agreed that it would consider holding such a meeting after the Annual Meeting schedule for later in the month.

VI. Practice Scheduling Season End Report

Mr. Byrum presented the year end scheduling report and the consensus was that it was well done and that Mr. Byrum did an excellent job performing the complex task of arranging schedules for the Comets organization.

VII. **Replace Tryout Pinnies**

Mr. Efstathiou informed the Board that the tryout pinnies needed to be replaced.

Purchase of new tryout pinnies was approved

VIII. **Annual Meeting**

The Board discussed the logistics around the Annual Meeting open to the community at large. Mr. Balcom encouraged participation at the meeting. The Annual Meeting is set for May 21, 2024.

IX. **Next Meeting: May 21, 2024**

X. **Adjournment**