

Billerica Hockey Association (BHA)

General Meeting Minutes

December 2nd 2019

Opening

The general meeting of the BHA was called to order at 7:30 PM on December 2, 2019 at the Hallenborg Rink by Tony Medeiros.

Present

Tony Medeiros President
Rachael Sheahan Treasurer
Edward Peterson Secretary
Tony Caterino Member
Joe Normant Member/Registrar
Chris Sheridan Member
Terry O'Leary Member/backup Secretary
Dan Matarazzo Vice President
Mike Cataldo Member
Paul Penti Member

Absent

Gary DaSilva Member

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting 11/27 were unanimously approved as distributed.

Business of the general meeting

Review Financials

We currently have about \$135,000 and all bills have been paid up to date. All families are paid in full.

2019/2020 Season

Skills

Goalie skills end 12/18 and TC's skills has ended as of 12/2.

Schedule Update and Ice Time

With high school teams (Billerica, Shawsheen Tech, and Girls high school teams) starting up, the ice time will be going down starting in December through the end of February 2020. We need to express to teams to attend any practices they get as they are few and far between.

Valley league updates

The league released final schedules for the 2nd half of the regular season. USA Hockey is enforcing its rules on heavy hits, hits to the head, and excessive abuse of officials from both parents, players and coaches. So far 500 misconducts have been given this year compared to 150 misconducts in total last year.

Fundraising Updates and Parents Committee

BHA had a few events accumulate some great income for the program, below is a summary.

Snack Shack: \$2300

Parent's night out: \$6372

Night out at Newtowne Grille: \$250

Total: \$6852

BHA is also planning the mite tournament, maybe more "night out" at other restaurants, and an awards night for the end of the season sometime in March or early April.

March Mite Tournament

The proposal to have a mite's only tournament in March as been approved. Board members Chris Sheridan, Tony Caterino, and Terry O'Leary will work on organizing this tournament. BHA needs to apply to Mass Hockey to have the tournament. We are working on figuring out costs per team to enter as well as other events to have during the tournament like raffles, a 50/50 raffle, and snack shack availability.

Questions from the parents

At the end of the meeting the BHA opened up the floor for questions from the parents who attended the meetings:

1. What can we do for the coaches? They volunteer a lot of time and there is no discount at all. Maybe offer no requirement of snack shack (\$200) or some type of discount
2. Away jerseys, Should we make a survey for all BHA parents at the end of the season to offer options of what to offer for the upcoming season?
3. Review of TC's and StopIt for next year? Send out another survey to parent to get feedback on what they liked or didn't like.
4. Why was TC's \$18K for skills? 90% of the coaches were Billerica. Why was last year longer? Because it was bi-weekly into March and started later in the season.
5. Snack Shack, any way to get online purchases instead of cash only?
6. Open snack shack times during practices? Feel free to do so, just call Tony M to open it up. Next year add it to the available volunteer times.
7. Tryout formats to change and how? Suggested to have an independent evaluator team make the picks, don't pick head coaches until the teams are picked. How does the format change by vote or survey?
8. Who is the corporate member according to the by-laws? Parents
9. Please look into the by-laws for contradictory statements

10. Alternates, there are usually only 2 or 3 alternates allowed per team, why were there more than that on 1 team. Players actually signed up full time for more than one team and are making the other team a priority over Billerica.
11. Should there should be a checklist of skills assessed by coaches to parents?
12. Can the next general meeting be at Garrisons?

Agenda for next meeting

- Fundraising earnings - should we put a survey out to the BHA parents on what to do with the money? Such as a white hockey jersey, sweatshirts, hockey pants shell, jump suites? All needs to be priced out beforehand.
- Awards night – How should this be pursued and how do we let all BHA know about it, emails, social media, coach notifications, etc. Part of the fundraising will need to go to this as well.
- Alternates – This current process needs to be corrected. All alternate players play as much as the full time players and needs to be changed to make it fair.
- Head coach interviews for 2020 –
 - Should parents be able to vote for head coaches?
 - Teams should be picked before the head coaches are picked?
 - Make a tryout for head coaches?
 - A head coach should not be interviewing for a specific for a team (i.e. peewee 1, mite 2)
- Tryouts for 2020 –
 - Should there be an independent evaluator from outside of the BHA for tryouts that picks the teams based on the previous head coaches' rankings of players who are registered for tryouts?
 - Should the current coaching staff pick teams for different divisions? For example, the bantam 1 coach picks the peewee 1 team, then the squirt 1 coach picks the bantam 1 team, then the peewee 1 coach picks the mite 1 team and the mite 1 coach picks the squirt 1 team.
 - Cost for tryouts?
 - Update contracts for all members
 - Try to make the tryouts as early as possible to the end of the season

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by 8:30 PM by Tony Medeiros. The next meeting will be held on TBA.