

Board Meeting - Minutes

September 24th, 2024 - 7-9pm
Echo Room, Minto Rec. Centre

Members Present: Claire B, Lisa T, Lisa C, Tracy F, Shawn R, Kim L, Rob S, Rob M, Lindsay W, Glenn B, Eric P.

Guest(s): Alysia Richler

Regrets: Estelle M.

President / VP Operations

1. Opening remarks – Called meeting to order.
2. Approval of minutes from August 27 – Received some comments. Send rest by end of week.
3. Paid help - There was a discussion about whether or not paid assistance could alleviate some of the workload from Board members by undertaking some of the more administrative and routine tasks.
 - **Action:** Members to document what tasks could be delegated to the 'employee'.
4. Women Non-Parent Assistant Coaches – We have nine (9). **Motion** to cap WNPAC at \$1k for approved expenses at regular season tournaments plus \$1k Provincials up to a maximum total spend of \$25k. Motion passed.

Competitive

1. Teams are all rostered and are travelling to tournaments.
2. AMPED & development sessions are going well.
3. U9 competitive team recently formed and as per the Goalie Pilot, a goalie has been rostered. Other kids will also rotate into the position and suggest that the Association stock U9 with a set of goalie gear.

Treasurer

1. Ice is paid.
2. Working on transition with past Treasurer.

House

1. House League sort outs were held over three weekends. Our U13 to U18 teams have been formed and have been on ice for practices. We are in the process of forming our U9 and U11 teams.
2. Pathways went very well.
3. Some challenges with withdrawals after sort outs (particularly at U18 level). This was the reason for the request to review the refund policy.
4. A U13 convenor has been identified. We are working with her to get her up and running for the season.
5. There has been some confusion/Issues over competitive teams' affiliating players from house league without following proper procedure, as house league players have not been rostered and therefore not eligible to be called up. We are working with the Competitive Directors to address these issues. Corrective messaging is to be prepared and distributed.

Administration

1. There was discussion on the merits of designing a standard track suit for all competitive teams that can be used over several seasons if they still fit. Other benefits could be:
 - Teams won't have to design their own each year.
 - It would differentiate the competitive teams and create a 'Brand' for our NGHHA girls.
 - Potential for cost savings to families.
 - Teams would still have the option to create a 'team hoodie' while maintaining a cohesive look.
 - Discuss further at next meeting.

Programs

1. Goalie Initiative

- Weekly "Goalie only" sessions being held Wednesday nights for specific levels. We have conducted training for U11, U15 and U18 so far, with U13 having their session.
 - Teams have commenced booking their own Goalie Sessions being held at their ice times. (U11B, U11AA, U13C, U13B, U13BB, U13AA, U15B, U15BB-Cosgrove, U18BB-Hall, U18BB Singer) Will start to push to Teams that have not booked any times to get this completed.
2. Player Development
 - Ashley Holmes Sessions have been well attended but certain levels are tricky due to practice schedules. This is being offered for both COMP and HL
 - Added 1/2 ice Apex Sessions on Wednesdays to maximize ice usage as AMPED Goalie Night is only using half the ice. Working with some levels to move practice schedules to allow their players to attend.

Policy

1. Policies reviewed and approval
 - Fundraising & Sponsorship
 - Refund
 - Hazing
 - Board members had reviewed the three policies, and they are considered approved. To be disseminated through Comp/House Directors and Convenors.

Any Other Business

1. Sub-committees
 - A discussion paper had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The concept is to establish a number of Sub-Committees/Working Groups to utilise the knowledge and experience across the hockey parent community, and to speed up the work that is currently only being done by Board members. General agreement on the concept of committees. House League already has a very effective committee that can be modelled. Policy Committee is the first out of the Gate.
 - Board members were encouraged to provide input to the working document.
2. Goalie Hub – Alysia Richler (guest)
 - An idea was presented to create an online community to support goalies and goalie development across the NGHHA. There was general support for the proposal because it would complement existing goalie development efforts. It was suggested to start with a House League pilot. **Action:** House League Directors to liaise with Alysia.
3. Standardise NGHHA IT infrastructure
 - Currently document development and storage is done using several separate Google Drives, which presents issues of access management and document sharing. There was a discussion about establishing a managed NGHHA information and document repository to consolidate the Drives into a centralised file structure with proper information management capabilities.

Date of next meeting: 15th October. (Moved to 22nd October.)