

# UVHA Board Meeting Minutes



December 9, 2015 ~ 6:00 PM

Kinney Pike Insurance, White River Junction, Vermont

1. **Attendance:** Amy Aher, Kathy Roberts, Sarah Morlock, Matt Maher, Ryan Ray, Justin Barwood, Jason Spaulding, Bill Mann, Alex DeFelice
2. **Meeting called to order:** 6:04 PM
  - a. November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were unanimously approved (motioned by Ryan, seconded by Alex).
3. **Monthly Reports:**
  - a. **Webmaster**-Kelly reported to Matt that we still are unable to merge non-SportNgin registered association members into our SportNgin email system. There is still no word from SportNgin as to when this feature will be functional.
  - b. **Coaching Coordinator**-Dave Pavlik has had to miss two scheduled skills sessions. Rob Day has missed one goalie clinic due to a cancellation with KUA. The association will not be charged for these missed sessions. Alex will check on Pavlik's and Day's availability to determine whether make-up sessions can be added to the schedule. Alex shared that, to his understanding, all coaches are now in good standing, having completed necessary background checks, CEP courses, SafeSport certifications, etc. Alex clarified that only officially rostered coaches are allowed on the bench for point games.
  - c. **Equipment Manager**-Kristen was unable to attend but asked that the Board remind families to bring jerseys to and from games on hangers.
  - d. **SafeSport Coordinator**-Kim Burgess reached out to Kathy Roberts, asking that she answer a number of SafeSport related questions. Kathy will respond and forward her answers to the Board, just for our information. Kathy informed the group that each team has two designated SafeSport Monitors.
  - e. **Treasurer**-Ryan distributed a financial report, detailing the association's expenses to date. Bill inquired as to whether or not we are charged a fee for credit card transactions. This needs to be clarified, and registration fees adjusted to account for this, if credit card transaction fees are, in fact, assessed. Kylie and Ryan will be spending some time to build team budgets. July 1<sup>st</sup> is essentially the start of our fiscal year.

- f. **Fundraising**-Jennie Harriman will be mailing the association our 50% cut of photo print/product sales, \$657. Shaw's has reached out to the association wanting to again make a donation to support the UVHA. We are awaiting word of awards from the City of Lebanon and VSAHA. The Christmas Tree Sale was a great success. Kristen Chapman will soon finish depositing coin drop monies and tree/wreath sale payments ASAP. Based on preliminary numbers, Sarah is confident that fundraising from this event will exceed \$3,600.
- g. **Registrar**-Kylie was not present this evening. However, she shared some notes for Board discussion. There remains approximately \$5,000 in unpaid registration fees. Kylie is working to acquire payment from the few families who account for this discrepancy.
- h. **Scheduler**-Tier moves continue to keep Bill busy with scheduling. There are potential Tier moves through Christmas. At the State meeting, attendees were informed that teams are supposed to have six league games in by the second week of December. Bill was previously unaware of this rule but will keep it in mind for scheduling next season. There was a discussion as to whether or not the association should buy ice immediately preceding or following the holidays. The Board agreed that ice time is a precious commodity and that those holiday slots help to support our standing as the majority ice purchaser. The Board also agreed that we have a responsibility to provide ice time for those players who are able to participate.

#### 4. New Business:

- a. **New Referee-in-Chief**-Mark Goodwin was kind enough to attend this evening. He's been involved with youth hockey for ten years, with the HHA and, now, the UVHA. As Referee-in-Chief, Mark's primary role is to schedule referees for both associations. He is also expected to grow the refereeing program, matching junior referees with mentors. Mark currently has 35-40 referees. He explained that, of those 35-40, only around five are high-level referees. The majority of referees are young, but qualified and capable. Mark volunteers 10-20 hours a week just scheduling referees for the weekend, cross-referencing referee availability with the weekend's schedule. Mark made a few recommendations to the association. He suggested a transition to a web data-base system, such as Arbiter. Doing so would ease processes of communication, scheduling and billing. Mark asked the Board reiterate and require appropriate game conduct from coaches. Hockey is an intense game, but Mark urged coaches and parents to remember that it is a child's game and that the adults need to set an example for good behavior.
- b. **Schedule Review**-Justin again shared the end-of-season weekend ice for February 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup>, March 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> and March 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>. Matt will work with John and Bill to reconfigure the House Mite game schedule to ensure better match ups for this group's level of play. Bill pointed out that if there is any interest in running a tournament, it needs to be declared right away and a tournament director needs to begin planning. Other than a Mite jamboree, no tourneys are on the schedule.

- c. **End-of-Season Tournament Interest**-The Pot-of-Gold Tournament will be March 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. This will be the UVHA's last weekend of ice. This tournament is open to Squirt, Pee wee and Bantam level teams. As the UVHA only budgets for one tournament fee per team, this will have to be a team-funded venture. The price for entry is \$1,050 per team. This would equate roughly to \$70 per player. To hold spots for the quickly filling Pot-o-Gold, Justin tentatively registered Squirt 1 and 2, Pee wee 1 and 2, and the Bantams. Coaches will be solicited for their opinion and asked to gauge player interest.
  - d. **Mite Jamborees**-The BAHA Jamboree will be February 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - e. **UVHA Advertising**-The Board discussed the vital importance of growing the program's Mite numbers. Sarah and Kylie will work to market the Termite and Mite programs through the Lebanon and Hartford Parks and Rec, elementary school flyers, and a February USA Hockey Try Hockey for Free event. Justin suggested organizing a UVHA hosted event in January, inviting Mite-aged kids to try hockey. The Mite program numbers are an indicator of the association's future health. Recruitment should be an ongoing effort.
  - f. **Hanover Hockey Association**-HHA would like to discuss a Bantam collaboration. There's no incentive to do so unless it proves to be beneficial to the Storm. The Board agreed that there would be no harm in engaging in a discussion.
5. **VT State Meeting Report:**
- a. Bill shared that the Grow the Game Grant awards should soon, if not already, be posted. VSAHA tried to award something to every association that made a request, favoring those who had not applied in previous years. Vermont would like a declaration stating that all Board members have passed SafeSport.
  - b. The next meeting is December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Comfort Inn in Montpelier.
6. **NH State Meeting Report:**
- a. The next meeting is December 12<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Concord.
7. **Meeting Adjourned:** 8:10 PM