

# UVHA Annual Board Meeting Minutes



March 16, 2016 ~ 6:00 PM

Kinney Pike Insurance, White River Junction, Vermont

1. **Attendance:** Amy Aher, Kathy Roberts, Kylie Curtis, Linda Trombley, Sarah Morlock, Matt Maher, Ryan Ray, Justin Barwood, Alex DeFelice, Roger Gillies, Bill Mann, Jason Gramling, Justin Montebianchi, Mark Cromwell
2. **Meeting called to order:** 6:02 PM
  - a. February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were unanimously approved (motioned by Ryan, seconded by Alex).
3. **Monthly Reports:**
  - a. **Webmaster-**With the April 1<sup>st</sup> preregistration upcoming, web content will need to be made current. Thanks to the cooperation of Team Parents, Sarah Morlock has compiled a complete association email list. That has been forwarded to Kelly who will work toward merging non-SportNgin registered member emails into the system.
  - b. **Coaching Coordinator-**Alex and Jason felt that the coaching application process was an overall success. They would like to see that continue. Matt asked that a call for coaches be posted on the website. Bill recommended that the coaching application be uploaded and included with the other forms. Alex is considering holding an end-of-season coaches' meeting to debrief and look ahead to 2016-2017. Alex shared a concern for the validity of complaints regarding coaches stemming from players. Based on a number of instances this season, he felt that, for the sake of resolution, players should be present at meetings so that communication between players and parents, parents and coaches is more direct and free from the inherent he-said, she-said issues. The Board agreed that players could be asked to be present for such meetings on a case-by-case basis, if appropriate.

- c. **Equipment Manager**-Jersey return will be Monday through Thursday evenings next week at WABA. This information has already been disseminated to the association. A new Equipment Manager will be elected this evening.
  - d. **SafeSport Coordinator**-Kathy stated that she did not receive any official reports of SafeSport violations this season. However, she was aware that SafeSport monitors were inconsistent in fulfilling their responsibilities. Kathy would like to be sure that next season each team has at least two monitor volunteers. She suggested that a meeting be held prior to the start of the season to detail duties.
  - e. **Treasurer**-Ryan distributed a detailed report of the UVHA's financials, including the association's net worth. He noted the June 1<sup>st</sup> start of the association's fiscal year. To date, the UVHA's income (from June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 to March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016) totaled \$128,411.70. Expenses totaled \$86,014.50. Of those expenses, more than 68% was accrued making ice purchases and referee payments. Matt asked that we work toward building a budget for season planning. Ryan stated that the UVHA's financials have steadily grown healthier over the past three years due greatly to fundraising revenue. Matt pointed out that while we haven't yet secured the recommended nonprofit cushion of one-and-a-half times annual operating expenses, with continued fundraising, we are on track to soon do so.
  - f. **Fundraising**-Sarah distributed a detailed fundraising report, including Skate-a-thon expenses and sponsor contributions. The Skate-a-thon net \$7,063.53 from pledges, raffle ticket, chuck-a-puck and t-shirt sales. To date, 2015-2016 fundraising efforts net \$34,689.17, far exceeding the \$15,000 fundraising goal. An additional capped donor match is also anticipated. Sarah will finish and mail VSAHA and NHAH reports and write and send donor thank you letters. She will also recognize fundraising volunteers in an association-wide email.
  - g. **Registrar**-Kylie noted that a couple of delinquent payments still remain. Those will be addressed in Executive session. She shared that a total of \$3,578.25 was awarded in scholarships. All 2015-2016 applicants received aid. She also pointed out that all applicants were Vermont residents this year. Sarah and Kylie are working to revise the scholarship application and award scale, taking into consideration the best practices of other organizations, such as Hartford and Lebanon Parks and Recreation Departments.\*\*\* Pre-registration will be live April 1<sup>st</sup> and will be an online-only payment format.\*\*
  - h. **Scheduler**-Bill made every effort to schedule games cognizant of time and parity this season. He will continue to do so going forward. Bill stated that Mark, our referee-in-chief, is undecided about returning for another season in that role. This will likely remain unclear for the next couple of months.
  - i.
4. **New Business:**

- a. **Equipment Manager Election**-Roger Gillies withdrew himself from consideration for Equipment Manager. Linda Trombley was present and voiced her interest in the position. Following this, Sarah nominated Linda for the position of Equipment Manager. Bill seconded her nomination. All voted in favor.
- b. **Vermont State Representative**-Matt nominated Roger Gillies for the position of Vermont State Representative. Ryan seconded his nomination. All voted in favor. Justin Montebianchi was willing to assist in fulfilling the duties of the New Hampshire State Representative. However, as a coach, it would be difficult for him to attend the weekend meetings. Roni suggested that this be a shared position. The Board will revisit this idea following further discussion.
- c. **Planning Strategy for 2016/2017 Season**-Justin suggested appointing a subcommittee to evaluate projected player numbers by team and the consequent ice needs for next season. While growing interest in the UVHA is positive overall, a surge in new registrations would pose some inherent problems, such as the likely need for additional teams and the purchase of ice to accommodate them. It is imperative that the Board have a better understanding of the potential absorption of players from neighboring associations, including, in particular, Twin Valley. Those families who have explicitly expressed the desire to register their players with the UVHA need to be informed of the registration process and the status of rosters (i.e.-open, closed, wait-listed). Justin will schedule a meeting, inviting involved parties such as Dan McGee, Kelly Park, and John Morlock, to get a better understanding of potential numbers at the Squirt and Peewee level. This sub-committee will report back to the Board and be responsible for communicating with these potential transfer families.\*
  - i. Girls Hockey: Kylie brought up her ongoing interest in a UVHA Girls Program. Matt shared that there has again been discussion with Twin Valley regarding this. Kylie would like to give UVHA girls the opportunity to play in a girls-only forum, envisioning a limited practice schedule, playing ten games and a couple of tournaments. Following the evaluation of the association's existing ice needs, this will be explored further.
  - ii. Mites: Justin Montebianchi expressed his concern with the experience level of the 2016-2017 Mite players. This led the Board to discuss the value in coaches guiding parents to register their child at a level that is most appropriate for the child's development.
- d. **Recruitment Effort for Mite and Termite Coaches**-Matt held a Mite meeting last night at WABA to discuss the state of the Mite program next season. He shared that there was an expected dip in Travel Mite numbers, with 15 players moving up to Squirts. With them, many coaches will be moving up as well.

Although there were a number of parents who stepped forward at this meeting willing to coach, we will need to continue to recruit for coaches at this level. Matt asked that returning Mite-age players register by birth year. Player placement will be shuffled, as needed, after the examination of ADM skill/readiness guidelines.

- e. **State of GLYHA/HYHA**-Operating as two separate nonprofit entities requires the UVHA to maintain two separate Boards and tax identifications. The obvious remedy to these complications would be to merge the two associations and choose one state to affiliate with. Matt recently received decisive word that the GSL is unwilling to allow Vermont associations to participate in the league. The Board consensus is to play in the most competitive league for the sake of player development. Matt has been working with a lawyer recommended by our CPA to determine legal options for functioning under the umbrella of one association. In doing so, he discovered that both our HYHA and GLYHA state-level nonprofit status certifications have expired. Matt is working with council to pursue reinstatement. He will present options for a merger at a future meeting.
    - i. **Scholarships**: Justin requested that HYHA funds earmarked for Vermont player scholarships be utilized to reimburse the UVHA for the \$3,578.25 in 2015-2016 scholarship aid awarded to Vermont resident players.
  - f. **Interest in Hosting 2017 State Tournaments**-With annual meetings upcoming, Matt asked the Board to consider whether or not the UVHA wanted to host a state tournament. Kathy motioned to pursue a bid for a New Hampshire state tournament. Justin seconded her motion. Six voted in favor. None opposed.
5. **VT State Meeting Report**:
- a. The next meeting is April 12<sup>th</sup> at the Comfort Inn in Montpelier.
6. **NH State Meeting Report**:
- a. The next meeting is May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Concord.
7. **Meeting Adjourned**: 8:27 PM

*\*3/23/16 Addendum-Justin chaired a subcommittee consisting of Scott Christian, Dan McGee, Kelly Park, and John Morlock to examine growth at the Squirt and Peewee levels. Following two Planning Committee meetings and based on their assessment, Justin made an email motion that the Board adopt the Planning Committee's proposal (see below in bold). His motion was seconded by Bill Mann. Nine voted in favor, none opposed. Alex DeFelice abstained from voting.*

*The Planning Committee will continue to work on team development and ice scheduling, per the Board's request.*

*Planning committee has met once and had a phone conversation. Per Storm currently having 34 returning Peewee players and currently three potential additions; per Storm currently having 28 returning Squirts and Twin Valley sending eight Squirts to the Storm; the Planning Committee believes we should plan for three Peewee and three Squirt teams moving into the 2016/2017 season.*

*This is contingent on Twin Valley committing eight Squirts.*

*Attached is a rough/tentative practice schedule for the coming season. We would need three additional hours of ice at WABA, one during the week and two on the weekends to make this happen, per Scott/Town this is doable. We would continue to have two Skills sessions per week and Goalie Skills. Plan does include moving Termites to Saturday and Sunday mornings, or Fridays or Wednesday when we can get ice. Lots of options, but Termites would continue to get two skates per week, at a minimum.*

*\*\*3/29/16 Addendum-Ryan and Justin met to finalize the 2016-2017 season budget. The proposed program fee structure was formulated taking into consideration the estimation of players and teams. Subsequent ice, officiating, equipment, skills, and tournament fee costs were factored. Scholarship aid and pre-registration discounts were also considerations. Ryan made an email motion to the Board to approve the proposed 2016-2017 season pricing (see chart below). Justin seconded this motion. Nine voted in favor, none opposed. Kathy Roberts abstained from voting. Kelly was asked to build out next season's registration based on the newly approved fee structure.*

<b>2016 – 2017</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Early Registration / Pay Price</b>
<b>Termites</b>	\$175	\$175
<b>House Mites</b>	\$450	\$400
<b>Travel Mites</b>	\$595	\$545
<b>Squirt</b>	\$975	\$875
<b>Peewee</b>	\$1025	\$925
<b>Bantam</b>	\$1125	\$1025

*\*\*\*4/29/16 Addendum-Kylie and Sarah revised the UVHA's Scholarship Application, taking into consideration the best practices of other local nonprofit/public service organizations. Sarah made an email motion to the Board to approve the newly proposed scholarship application and require applicants to submit this form starting May 1<sup>st</sup>. Kylie seconded her motion. The motion received nine favorable votes, none opposed. Ryan was out of the country and unable to vote yea or nay. Kelly uploaded the new application to the website under the "Forms" heading.*

