

LIHA Board Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2024

Board Members in Attendance: Kate Holman, Matti Roinila, Shelly Tyser, Mike Todd, Dave Shipperbottom, Dane Todd, Nate Henke

Non-Board Members in Attendance: Eric Alexander, Spencer Peery, Michelle Bellamy

Open Board Meeting

Closed Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm.

LIHA Meeting Minutes:

Dane made a motion to accept the February 5, 2024, minutes into record, Mike T., all in favor.

Financials

Spencer reviewed the financials as of February 29, 2024.

Mike T. made a motion to accept the financials into record, Dane 2nd, all in favor.

Only item outstanding is a the girls program sponsorship.

Committee Updates:

By-Laws: Board application went out on 2/28 as per the ByLaws.

Coaching: Kate asked Winberg to work on reimbursements but Spencer hasn't received anything. Matti will take over reimbursements. Coaching applications are out for Travel, due 3/6. House coaching applications will be due 4/3. Evaluations are due 3/8. Need to look at Travel/Select Sharing practices.

Concussion: Will not need to do screening next season. Will need to remind families that they can go see whomever they want, we just provide resources on options.

Risk Management: No report.

Disciplinary: Dave updated everyone on current and past disciplinary items.

Equipment: Check in after 8U end of season party. Do we need new goalie equipment at any age level?

Girls Program: Nate reported that it was moderately successful this season. Ice time didn't work for Girls on Travel Teams, etc.

Goalies: Need to get a Goalie Coach to work with our goalies on a regular basis. Dave will work with Luke T.

House/Select: House season is done, Joust tournament hosted 6 games in Lincoln. Shelly has asked Managers for feedback.

Ice: Some time reserved for the 2 tournaments weekends, Ice Box is not currently willing to reserve any ice.

LSHL: Grif would like to move from 2 divisions to 3. Additional discussion needed.

Lincoln Stars: Kate will schedule a post-season meeting.

Marketing: Pushing out Board Apps, Coaching Evals, Coaching Apps and sharing tournament results.

MWAHA: No report.

Officiating: MW is getting several phone calls about reffing in Nebraska every weekend. Dave wants to have a committee Nate and Mike T would like to be involved with Ref meetings and changes going forward.

Program Expansion: We are at our max with the ice we currently have available to us.

Rules: 2025 is a rule change year, should get changes at the MWAHA meeting. Neck guard rule goes in to affect 8/1.

SafeSport: No report.

Scholarships: No report until next season.

Team Managers: No report.

Tournaments: Trying to get ice for tournament weekends.

Travel: No report.

Hockey Director: Eric wants to work on how to make things better for the coaches next season.

Anonymous Contact Form:

- I wish there was some actual goalie coaching at 8U, not just throwing the kids in any pair of leg pads and calling it good. It is in fact not good, the goalie gear is old and needs replaced. We as an organization need to do a better job introducing the kids to playing goalie and protecting them with gear that is in good condition.
- We feel more could be done from an association level to guide the philosophy and expectations for each level of play (house/select/travel). While this year's balance was good, based on our past experiences and observation, there still seems to be too much subjectivity in what level of competitiveness and commitment is expected at each level. We believe the travel level should offer a competitive level of play and we feel more pre-registration communication of expectations would assist in ensuring coaches are held to that standard and that kids and parents understand and are committing to the appropriate level of play.
- I wish there were more parent volunteers at 8U; there are only a handful of coaches volunteering their time and there are dozens of parents sitting around on their phone the whole time - most of these parents could probably be helping in some capacity, like setting up the ice, or helping get training aids (pads, boards, nets, etc.) to the ice to speed up setup/teardown and give the kids that much more time for practice/games.

Locker rooms were also an issue throughout the year: the board/tv were not always on the right day, and they were often wrong even if on the right day. Highschool teams that had the ice before 8u kids on Sundays often took more lockers than they were allotted, and that messed up locker rotations for not only 8u games, but also LSHL games after them.

- Goalies need a coach in LIHA.
- It would be nice to see coaches receive some basic training in concussion evaluation, in order to keep player safety at the highest priority. (multiple requests)

Responses:

- The Board continues to look for a Goalie Coach that can provide coaching to all goalies within the organization on a regular basis. Goalie equipment that is supplied by LIHA is there for players to try, especially at the 8U level. Equipment is fairly new and meets the needs of the 8U level where all kids are encouraged to try all positions. Once players decide to play as a Goalie parents should be investing in their own equipment.
- The Hockey Director is working on a Coaching Manual that would help aid in consistent coaching philosophies between levels and across all age groups. Will also continue to work with Coaches during the Coaching Meeting(s) and during practices. The Coaching Director will be instrumental in these efforts as well.
- Coaches and Managers need to recruit parents who can skate to help out on the ice during 6U/8U practice. LIHA welcomes any and all volunteers.
- LIHA will address the locker room issues with the Stars organization at the season end meeting.

- A concussion clinic will be scheduled in conjunction with the Coaches Meeting, Dr Caze will attend Coaches Meeting.

Other Items:

Jr Stars Tryouts: Last week of June (Eric will talk to Luke this week)

Next Meeting:

Annual Meeting

Wednesday April 3rd, 2024

6 p.m.

TBD

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Items via Email Prior to April 3rd, 2024 Meeting:

N/A

Elected

2024: Gale, Holman, Swain

2023: Roinila, Shipperbottom, Tyser,

2022: Henke, D Todd, M Todd

Tournament Weekends: 10U & 12U Hocktoberfest Oct 19th
14U Weekend of January 11th