

Minnesota River Bulldog Hockey Association
October 18, 2023 at 6:30pm

Board Members Present: Leslie H, Brielle S, Joe K, Lindsay W, Mary T, Jill S. JohnW. Andy B.

Non- Board Members Present: Sarah C, Robin H, Steve, Kari B, Kari F, Crystal F, Ember Shelly T,

Call to Order and Roll Call-

- Approval of Agenda/Minutes- Mary/Joe

Committees Reports

- Association Team Coordinator- no new updates. Need volunteers for the first 5 mite practices. Sarah will send out a schedule.
- Registrar- see report below.
- Fundraising- We handed out roughly 1500 raffle tickets. 18 families have confirmed selling softener salt. 2874 bags of salt sold. \$8522.05 profit. Board approved ordering a drop box for deposits.
- Volunteer- not present.
- Marketing- see report below. Will order sign for Bingo at Niesens. Looking for 2-3 members to help with Advertising. Andy, Brielle and Lindsay will help.
- Concessions- see report below (ADD REPORT) Looking for another open/closer. Looking at opening concession stand on Saturday mite practice.
- Referee Coordinator- see report below. Waiting for more information on the mentor fee. Motion to approve \$15 travel fee. (Joe/John) Would like a copy of fee schedule.
- Ice Scheduler- see report below
- District Rep- see report below
- Tournament Committee Chair- Andy gave report. Andy will order trophies and medals. Andy will talk with Greg and Emily re: website. Motion to make this a critical position. Board approves. Motion Mary and John second.
- Equipment- see report below. Ember is looking for board approval to have a key group of people to help with equipment check out and no longer provide DIBS for this. Will start this next season. Motion approved (Mary made motion and Joe second)
- Clothing- opening another window soon.
- Website-

Old Business-

New Business-

- Approve special meeting minutes
- Do we want the gambling reports in the minutes? We do not add the treasurer report.

Officers

- President- Brielle gave update.
- Treasurer- report reviewed. Motion made to remove Eric from checking account and add Brielle and John. Jill made motion and Joe second. Motion approved.

- Gambling- report reviewed. Motion to approve expenses for September 2023 and tax forms G-1, Schedule B-2, C, E&F. . Brielle made motion and Linday second. Motion approved.
- Hockey Operations Committee – see report below.

Open Forum-

Other Items: Brielle writing policy for locker room monitors. Each head coach and coordinator will decide how many monitors each team will need. Will send to board.

Will look at writing policy for move up requests and costs.

Discussed the U10B2 team tournaments. Due to loss of registration fees due to move-ups at the U10 level it was recommended that the U10B2 team play in only 2 tournaments and that only one of the tournaments will be association paid.

Next Meeting Date and Adjournment- Wednesday November 8, 2023. Joe made motion to adjourn meeting. Leslie second.

MONTHLY RECAP

Committee Activities

Committee Name: Officials' Scheduling
For Month End: October

The biggest 'win' for your committee last month

(ie. Every volunteer showed up for their shift, All equipment was returned, etc..)

1st game of the year is scheduled! A few officials already have all of their requirements completed for the 23-24 season!

What can be improved for next month

(ie. Sending reminder emails earlier, Creating a posting plan, Being more timely with submissions, etc..)

It will be good to get rosters set so I know of any players who can't be reffing siblings, etc.

What is your focus for next month

(ie. An event, A website launch, Picture day is happening, etc..)

Continue compiling officials for the season, get initial games into Arbiter, start scheduling

What are the revenue & expenses for last month

**if applicable*

N/A

Do you have any requests for your committee, or items that need approval?

These following two items had been sent to the board earlier. I saw in meeting minutes that my question about how many games player officials would need to officiate in order to get registration fees reimbursed. Maybe these items had been addressed as well and declined, but there wasn't anything in meeting minutes about them...so maybe they haven't been discussed yet? Anyway, here they are...

-Other associations offer some monetary compensation to a select group of veteran officials to act as "mentors" to new(er) officials. These mentors could be on the ice with them for their first few games giving them tips and tricks and suggestions. I think it would also be beneficial when some of our 2nd/3rd year player officials are getting more comfortable and may be ready to make the leap into a head referee in a 3-man system. Having a mentor for those first few games when they are scheduled as head referee could help take the pressure off and make them feel more comfortable in that role. Would this compensation be something our association would be willing to commit to? Are there thoughts on "qualifications" to serve as a mentor if I'd get a small list of officials in our area that are willing to serve in that capacity? -Please create a list of possible mentors and make a suggestion to the board on what compensation would look like. I have not contacted these officials to see if they are interested, but based on experience, here are the ones I'd consider: Brad O'Keefe, Brayden Weyenberg, Brendan O'Keefe, Grant Preston, Connor Bjorling, Ethan Hathaway, Mark Zallek, Dylan Schutz, Sam Preston. The compensation question is more challenging, as we need to make it worth their time to be there. I think I'd say \$30 for squirts, \$40 for PW, and \$50 for Bantam.

-Would the board be interested in setting a travel fee for officials from other districts/associations (not MN River or Mankato) that are willing to step in when we are in a really tight pinch? I've asked for approval to offer a travel fee a few times over the past 3 years, and I think I've only actually had to use it twice, but it would be nice to have that set-in advance as often these are last minute positions I am trying to fill and need to move quickly to secure an official. -Yes, please give a suggestion as to what this would look like. I'd suggest \$15.

MONTHLY RECAP

Committee Activities

Committee Name: District Rep
For Month End: September 2023

The biggest 'win' for your committee last month

- Fall Meeting occurred on 9/25 in Rochester

What can be improved for next month?

- Nothing needed for October

What is your focus for next month?

- Scheduling Meetings in October
 - PW/U12 & Bantam Game Scheduling Meeting will be on Sunday 10/15 at the Eagles Club in Rochester

What is the revenue & expenses for last month?

- None

Do you have any requests for your committee, or items that need approval?

- **INFORM – Ice Scheduler**
 - District 9 only ended up having 3 12UA team (MN River, Mankato & Rochester) so we will be participating with District 6

MONTHLY RECAP

Committee Activities

Committee Name: Registrar

For Month End: October

The biggest 'win' for your committee last month

(ie. Every volunteer showed up for their shift, All equipment was returned, etc..)

Weekly registration reports.

Coaches Reports

Organizing evaluation jerseys

Evaluations

Responding to parent questions on registration.

Rostering board members.

Rostering players to teams (ex: Bantam All)

Creating teams in USA Hockey

What can be improved for next month

(ie. Sending reminder emails earlier, Creating a posting plan, Being more timely with submissions, etc..)

What is your focus for next month

(ie. An event, A website launch, Picture day is happening, etc..)

Waivers – collect all needed and submit to USA Hockey

Weekly updates for registration

Working with Association Coordinator on team numbers (USA Hockey)

Evaluations: Grabbing jerseys, organizing paperwork for players to sign/ washing/putting away jerseys

Rostering teams after evaluations / posting the teams on the website

Register out of state tournaments with District 9 (do before event/ December)

Enter Coaches USA Hockey Number/Run reports

What are the revenue & expenses for last month

**if applicable*

Do you have any requests for your committee, or items that need approval?

First day of Evals went well overall. The squirt level is the hardest with signing players in/handing out jerseys then parents also asking questions to me about volunteer checks (all at the same time). Some parents struggled to understand why they couldn't go into the locker rooms to help take off skates/gear. I'm not sure if it explained to new squirt families how the rules change after leaving mites. Board members present did a great job helping out with some of the difficult parents. It would be helpful to have an extra person collecting the volunteer checks during this time.

MONTHLY RECAP

Committee Activities

Committee Name: Marketing

For Month End: September

The biggest 'win' for your committee last month

Opportunities:

Brianna Decker Endowment Fund Grant App – submitted and waiting to hear back if we are awarded anything.

What is your focus for next month?

- Registration and Recruitment
 - Mite Registration
 - Bingo Volunteers
 - Community Center – Dasher Board/sponsorship ideas
 - Possible MN Wild Program selling?

Posting for:

Registration
 Open committee positions
 Start of the hockey season

Transferring information to a flash drive to pass on to the next person for reference (ongoing)

Upcoming:

Sponsorships for ice boards/teams etc.
 New advertising signage
 Handouts

MONTHLY RECAP

Committee Activities

Committee Name:

For Month End: October

The biggest ‘win’ for your committee last month

(ie. Every volunteer showed up for their shift, All equipment was returned, etc..)

- 1st day of evaluations have been completed
- Evaluations will be complete by 9/15
- Great feedback from coaches with the changes to skating clinics

What can be improved for next month

(ie. Sending reminder emails earlier, Creating a posting plan, Being more timely with submissions, etc..)

- Develop and implement plans for Monday nights after skating clinics are completed.

What is your focus for next month

(ie. An event, A website launch, Picture day is happening, etc..)

- HOC is set to meet on 9/17 to discuss and approve/deny move-up requests.
- HOC to conduct fall coach’s meeting on 9/20.

What are the revenue & expenses for last month

**if applicable*

NA

Do you have any requests for your committee, or items that need approval?

- Both Shattuck & UNRL can make additional ice purchase available - do we have an update on our financial situation?

MONTHLY RECAP

Committee Name: Equipment

For Month End: October

The biggest 'win' for your committee last month

Had great success with Try Hockey for free. Lots of help, many registered and checked out equipment.

What can be improved for next month

I still feel like we need to find a way to make sure volunteers are fitting skaters correctly. I had them all watch a 10 minute video beforehand!

Hoping all the registered mites come to the equipment checkout on October 22nd.

What is your focus for next month

Recording the sizes of equipment that was checked out.

What are the revenue & expenses for last month

I used ½ of the Dick's Sporting Goods gift cards. Plan on using the rest of them by the end of the month.

I received another \$25 sanitation deposit. I plan on holding it till the next checkout in case I receive more.

Do you have any requests for your committee, or items that need approval?

We had a few parents ask to check out equipment that have children above the Mite level. I told them I'm happy to let them checkout what we have, but they needed to send in a request 1st. Please let me know if any requests are approved