

UPPER ST. CLAIR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

**Regular Board Meeting—March 24, 2019 (at Ice Castle)**

**Board Members Present**

Ed Gaussa  
Dave Speer  
Brad Sileo  
Erik Happ  
Jake Ploeger  
Dan Sinclair  
Pete Gialames  
Kevin McNally  
Jesse Sweet

**Board Members Absent**

Prashant Gosai  
Tara O'Brien  
Laura Schuster  
John McShane

**Additional Attendees**

Amy Shegan Siniawski  
Lisa McQuade  
Russell Ball  
Frank Buonomo  
Rich Conwell  
Cormac McCarthy

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Brad Sileo at approximately 7:00 p.m.

**Report of the Secretary**

- Jesse Sweet presented the report of the Secretary.
- A motion was made to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Board. The motion was seconded and passed.
- Frank Buonomo inquired as to why the association website did not include minutes from all of the meetings for the 2018-19 season. It was noted that the website was not up to date, and Erik Happ stated that he would make sure to publish minutes from all of the Regular meetings that have been held during the season. Discussion was held regarding minutes from Executive Sessions of the Board, but no Board action was taken.

**Team Updates**

- It was noted that the Varsity team won its division and made it to the Penguins Cup Finals, where it lost to the eventual AA state champion, Pine Richland. The JV team also won its division but lost in the first round of the playoffs to Baldwin. The MS1 team was recently eliminated from the playoffs. The MS2 team is still playing in its playoff bracket.
- Practice jerseys for the high school players, which were purchased by the Board at the beginning of the season, are to be returned for use again next season.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Dave Speer presented the Treasurer's report.
- Dave presented the current status of the association's finances. All bills are current and the budget is on track. Revenues are up 7% from the previous year. Expenses are up 1.1% from the previous year.

- Approximately \$74,000 is in the association's account, with no more revenue anticipated for the year. Several bills remain to be paid. The organization remains on track for a buffer at the end of the year slightly higher the one from the previous season.
- Due to the buffer, Dave recommended that the fundraiser for 2019-20 not be mandatory.
- Discussion was held regarding locating the organization's Articles of Incorporation from 1973. Consideration will be given to amending and restating the Articles to solve the problem.

### **Old Business**

- Planning for the annual banquet continues. The banquet will be held on April 7 at Valleybrook Country Club. Heather Gausa and Michelle Fisher are planning the event. Player jerseys are currently being collected for decoration. Brad is in the process of collecting photos that will be displayed on screens during the event. Varsity Head Coach Justin Becinski was able to reschedule a previously-planned vacation, and he will therefore be able to attend the event.
- Brief discussion was held regarding whether to try to field two JV teams for 2019-20. It was again noted that no decision can be made until registration is complete and the number of players for the season is known. Team declarations are due to PIHL in June.
- Ed Gausa announced tryout dates for the 2019-20 season:
  - Monday, May 20: 5:10 p.m. to 6:20 p.m. for goalies only.
  - Tuesday, May 21: 5:30 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. for Middle School; 6:50 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for Varsity and JV.
  - Wednesday, May 22: 5:30 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. for Middle School; 6:50 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for Varsity and JV.
  - Thursday, May 23: 5:30 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. for Middle School; 6:50 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for Varsity and JV.
  - All tryouts will be held at Ice Castle.
- Discussion was held regarding player fees for 2019-20. It was noted that the organization has not raised fees for several years, but due to better success with revenue collection via our automated system, as well as fundraising, revenue has increased slightly. Kevin McNally made a motion that fees remain unchanged for players at MS, JV and Varsity levels for the 2019-20 season. Pete Gialames seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Accordingly, fees for 2019-20 will be:
  - Varsity skaters: \$150 tryout fee, \$500 commitment fee, \$2,250 remaining fee (\$2,900 total).
  - Varsity goalies: \$150 tryout fee, \$300 commitment fee, \$1,150 remaining fee (\$1,600 total).
  - JV skaters: \$150 tryout fee, \$500 commitment fee, \$1,650 remaining fee (\$2,300 total).
  - JV goalies: \$150 tryout fee, \$300 commitment fee, \$850 remaining fee (\$1,300 total).

- MS skaters: \$150 tryout fee, \$300 commitment fee, \$1,150 remaining fee (\$1,600 total).
- MS goalies: \$150 tryout fee, \$150 commitment fee, \$200 remaining fee (\$500 total).
- Discussion was held regarding summer teams for the Mt. Lebanon league. Two MS teams have been registered, and games have started. For high school, 31 skates are currently registered. No goalies are registered yet. Efforts will be made to sign up at least two goalies to share the burden. The high school will probably field one team for the league.
- The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9 at the LGI in the high school. Emails have been sent to families in the organization seeking nominations for open Board positions. The election will be held during the Annual Meeting.
- Brad noted that he has not yet received a formal response from the USC Athletic Director to his letter seeking funding from the school district. The request remains under review.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- The organization's current vendor for jerseys (Pure Hockey) is offering fixed jersey costs for the next three seasons in exchange for agreement to not change vendors during that time, and to require that jersey fittings be held at the Pure Hockey store. The issue will be discussed further at the next regular board meeting.
- Ryan Malone is going to be inducted into the Western Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame. Ryan's father, Greg, contacted the organization to see if it would purchase an ad in the program for the event. The ads cost \$800 for a full page, \$300 for a half page and \$150 for a quarter page. Dave Speer made a motion to authorize the purchase of a half-page ad for \$300. Pete Gialames seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- It was noted that Anthony Petito went above and beyond in his role as an assistant coach. Anthony attended nearly every possible event, including Varsity, JV and MS practices and games, and always demonstrated a positive attitude. Due to one of the JV coaches not staying for the entire season, it was noted that the coaching salary portion of the budget has some excess for the season. For these reasons, Pete Gialames made a motion that the organization recognize Anthony's efforts with a \$500 bonus. Jake Ploeger seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-1.
- Discussion was held regarding end-of-season coaching feedback. Consideration will be given to holding meetings with parents to provide feedback. Coaches may be encouraged to offer feedback to players via email or one-on-one meetings. Some attendees at the meeting stated that attendance at practice by Varsity assistant coaches was poor at times. Attendees also brought up concerns with the call-up procedure at the Varsity/JV levels.
- Brad and Pete outlined rule changes that are being proposed by PIHL. Among the changes are age eligibility for varsity players (raising the maximum from 19 to 20), and clarifying rules relating to uniform compliance. Dave Speer made a motion to authorize the USC PIHL Rep to vote in accordance with the PIHL Executive Committee recommendations on all changes. Dan Sinclair seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Lisa McQuade raised an issue regarding controls in place for association finances in light of a large theft that occurred at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Brad stated that he would form a committee to review our controls.

**The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting, to be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Upper St. Clair High School LGI.**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jesse Sweet, Secretary