

# WATERTOWN HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

## MEETING MINUTES

Location: Watertown Municipal Ice Arena, Watertown NY

Date: 09/21/2022

Time: 6:00 PM

### Board of Directors:

<p>Vega Nutting, Board President Michael Ledoux, Board Vice President (not in attendance)</p> <p><b>Board Members</b> Samantha VanBrocklin, Ice Coordinator Chris Nethers, Learn to Play Liaison Tim Esposito Tom Eiss Adam Nyitray (not in attendance) Thomas Brown John Terry</p>	<p><b>Additional Elected Positions</b> Brian Nutting - WHA Treasurer Angela Keegan - Secretary Michelle Rist - WHA Registrar Dan McAloon - Ace Coordinator *Amanda Gregory - Equipment Manager Lori Felder – Tournament Coordinator *Not in attendance</p> <p>Public attendee: Hannah Sherrill</p>
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### Agenda Items

*Meeting called to order 6:05 PM*

#### August Meeting Minutes Review:

Samantha VanBrocklin motion to approve minutes from 8/18/22 meeting, seconded by Tom Brown, no one opposed, motion carries.

#### Treasurer's Update:

- Bills paid - \$425 for 16U ice rental
- \$26,095 received in registrations
- \$2600 fundraising, golf tournament. Total fundraising will be reflected in September's report. ~ \$6,500.
- \$3500 for each team for tournaments.
- \$500 for each team for additional ice or training
- \$2510 for 16u for additional ice (in addition to \$500/team)
- \$6600 for legal fees for the trademark issue
- Increase in referee fees by 30%
- Increase in Snowbelt fees
- \$1500 goalie training
- \$500 for referee training (lunch for clinic)
- \$17,000 expected in fundraising revenue
- Robbie Glantz Power Skating Clinic is pretty much a wash but I had to put it on there so I can track the registrations coming in and what we spend.
- \$596/player is true cost but fundraising assists with that, hence the lesser registration cost

Tom Eiss; what is the process of tracking the spending of \$500/team? Brian: last year teams didn't come close to using it.

## 16U Additional Funding:

Chris Nethers: 16U TB will be done before A Bay ice will go in.

- Requesting \$1,000 more for ice to get to the backside of Varsity. For PPS on Friday nights \$185/2 hours; includes PPS ice at WHA from 7-8pm, then move to PPS for another hour. Chris is looking for 9 slots: \$1665 total for 16U TB only. 16U TB will rent ice at TI when WHA Friday isn't available.
- John Terry comment: we are now adding additional to the 16U TB that already has additional budgeted and the season hasn't started yet; we are going budget heavy towards 16U. \$3495 for 16U TB with all additional money requested for ice.

**Goalie Training:** Coach Roch said he'd come to WHA, would train 12 goalies (10U and up), \$280/session. Chris Nethers also spoke with Coach Roch; 3 goalies at a time at PPS for \$150/session once per month. Chris motions to double the budget for goalie training to \$3,000. Board agrees to increase budget to \$2,250 for goalie training.

**Motion to approve updated budget by Vega Nutting, seconded by Sam VanBrocklin, all in favor, motion passes.**

## Committee Updates:

*Bylaw Committee:* updating moving up policy and will be emailing out for approval. Sam to email out tomorrow.

- Try to get bylaw committee together, can split up and focus on certain sections. Suggestion from Vega Nutting to tackle disciplinary as one of the first sections.

*Fundraising Committee:* Golf tournament was a great turnout. Jess Eiss is interested in helping on the committee; Karen Dalin was previously appointed Fundraising Director.

*Coaching Committee:* Coaches committee voted on and pass by unanimous decision via email on September 8th, 2022. Committee now made up of Jordan Reber, Josh VanBrocklin, Brian Nutting and Elton Hammond. ACE update: talked to coaches, needs to talk to Adam Nyitray. Evaluation suggestion is let multi-sport athletes get a few practices in before evaluations. Suggestion is first week of October, starting the 2<sup>nd</sup>, pick 3 days. John Terry plans to start next Tuesday Sept 27<sup>th</sup> and go through Columbus Day, will give 8 sessions to be able to evaluate multi-sport athletes.

- All evaluations need to be turned in by October 10<sup>th</sup>.
- September 16<sup>th</sup> Jon Rose stepped down from Head Coach of 14U due to a severe injury suffered by his son that would keep him out for most of the season. John Terry to take over as head coach, Jon Rose would assist as needed.
- 16U TB team approved via email on September 13<sup>th</sup> by WHA board and coaching committee.
- Coaching Education Dan McAloon; CEP only have to be done by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Need safe sport and background check to get on the ice. Age specific modules.

## Robbie Glanz Skating Clinic

Power Skating clinic December 4-6<sup>th</sup>. 10U tournament is the same weekend at WHA as Robbie Glanz, the hope is to have 10U done by 5pm to do the clinic at WHA. Could do consolation games in Alex Bay if that is needed.

- \$135/player: Dec 5<sup>th</sup>: 6-8:30pm, December 6<sup>th</sup> would be 5:00-7:25pm. Would like to grow it next year.

- Snowbelt/Gold Division Update:** New Gold division snowbelt program, 10U will be part of that division. Annual meeting is October 13<sup>th</sup>, they want tentative teams declared at that time. Rates for Snowbelt have increased.
- Logo Update:** Watertown Hockey with the Wolf is being trademarked. Cost of government filing \$350, register with clothing makes it \$700, in connection (logo on other products, like mugs) \$1050. Legal fees \$3,000, \$1500 for prep and filing of application. Wolves were going after PPS but WHA was directly affected and dragged into legal battle by PPS. **Vega motioned to pay attorney group to trademark all of it, Tom Brown seconded, all in favor, motion passes. As long as we use our trademarked logo, we will own it forever.**
- Tournament Costs:** \$1,000 for each team except mites. Mites to be \$300 for 1 day tournament, 2-day tournament \$400, 3-day \$500...**Tom Brown motioned, Chris Nethers seconded, all in favor motion passes.**
- Discussion of PPS contract continued:** Chris Nethers: Working with PPS, figure out how to utilize their facility for our different programs. Mite side, spoke with Hannah Sherrill; approached by Mike Spaulding and he is trying to support Hannah on coaching, Paul Trimper offered Thursday night slot. He would open 4 hour slot to accommodate all mites 3v3 tournament on Thursday. No need for coaching, PPS staff would accommodate coaches. Mites future: get them on the ice more, budge issue to pay if board votes to pass.
- 16U level to get another slot, talked to PPS about using their Friday slot at WHA, 2 hr practice. Break into small groups on small ice and off ice training. They do not hold ice every Friday, don't want to do this all season for pre/post. If both 16U teams are on the ice, it is difficult to accommodate with the number of players.
- Chris (Learn to Play Liason): Put a contract in front of Anthony Netto and Paul Trimper at PPS to mull over, we want to support Learn to Play but we have the rights to the kids as a feeder program. If we don't rent ice with them, they will run programs that conflict with WHA. Chris wants to protect our kids to stay with WHA but Paul has a business to run.
- Ice Shortage Discussion for future WHA teams:**
- WHA: what does the relationship look like with PPS, after last year and the legal battle, WHA is apprehensive.
    - Hannah Sherrill: hesitates to have an affiliation with WHA and PPS because Paul has a business to run regardless, seems like a conflict of interest to have a partnership with them, he sells various other team gear and has no other contracts with other associations.
    - If WHA and PPS can't come to terms, we need to bring Learn to Play back to WHA.
    - **John Terry and Vega want Paul Trimper to come to the next board meeting to discuss; WHA members support PPS, they purchase goods and utilize facility. Chris to reach out.**
    - Chris wants a future vote of what to do with Learn to Play. Hannah says her affiliation is basically at PPS already without a contract. She did Try Hockey for Free there over the summer.
  - Not enough ice; 8 hours a week for hockey, 11 hours for figure skating. If we get 2 16U and 18U teams then we won't be able to accommodate at WHA.
    - Dan McAloon: would like to see mites on full ice at Alex Bay or TI, not at PPS. Later times not conducive to mite age groups.

- Chris Nethers: 56 kids on the ice at the same time is a lot, they take a lot of help and need to keep them moving so they aren't making snow angels. Focus on smaller groups.
- John Terry suggests getting the student coaches group going; allowing coaches to focus on skills.
- Sam VanBrocklin suggest 7-8am for 6U practice slot since they don't have games, 8-9am 8U to allow for games to be played.
- \$500/mites ice stands for now, can discuss at a later date with Hannah if they need more.
  - John Terry; it is a lot of commitment for mites to be at practices, it fluctuates a lot with turnout. John cautions committing to an extra ice slot anywhere; survey parents about it. Difference between 6U and 8U, 6U doesn't need 4 slots but maybe 8U does. – Wait and see how mite practices go for the next month and Hannah Sherrill can evaluate ice and bring to the board as needed. Cost of \$85hr for full ice slot, need 2-3 hours needed at PPS, may not weigh out for ice cost.

**Bulk Ice Pricing with TI:**

Ice Shortage; Charge 16U more money next year, don't have enough ice for 2 16U teams and potentially an 18U. TI run by Mark Natale. Sam would like to volunteer to look at it. Table this for next month's meeting. Rotation of every level at TI.

**OPEN AGENDA:**

- 1) Thank you very much from Coach Hannah Sherrill for the student coaches. 10 kids already want to do the student coaching this season. Need USA hockey student coaching info form. Need class that Hannah runs. What it is to be a coach and what it means, encouragement of the student coaches to get volunteer hours, Hannah signs off on it. Dan McAloon; wants student coaches to sit in on the coaching clinic and any education they want to have these student coaches continuing education. Have to be at least 13, 18 or older they have to register for a coach and will need safe sport.
  - Open student coaches to WHA association members first. Limit to 12 student coaches on rotation. 6 max student coaches on the ice at a time, 4 that did it last year get first dibs on student coach slots. If student coaches not filled, can open to other associations but will need head coach to sign off on it.
  - Mike Spaulding wants to join mites as a coach, needs background check, modules and safe sport, need certification by January 1<sup>st</sup>. Background checks taking a while to come back, coach cannot be on the ice until it's cleared.
- 2) 16U full season, Salmon River has 11 players and Watertown has 7, need at least 15 in either location to field a team. Chris has been talking with Salmon River.
- 3) Hannah and Ginger have been asked by USA hockey to do an initiative. USA hockey coaching breakdown for female coaches is 5.6% of coaches in the US. Player breakdown for females is 15% nationally. Some female coaches in this initiative have said female coaches don't get taken seriously, like females don't know the game. Hannah said she has not felt that at WHA and hopes it stays that way as they move up. Hannah would like to grow a female team and grow female coaches.

Ginger and Hannah are sitting in on national meetings to discuss female coaches. They would like permission to say they are a part of WHA and they are looking to grow female players and coaches. They are putting together a girls team at mites and want to go to a girls tournament and would like to budget for that. Would like to ask for earlier ice slots for extra skating, maybe 7am on Sundays.

- 4) Coaches closet is a mess. Suggestions to change code and give it only to head coaches/team manager. Goalie equipment to be taken upstairs. Hannah said she could come Saturday with Vega and help tackle it. If someone sees it a mess, say something. Coaches to keep it clean. For now, clean up and wait on changing the code. Andrew is getting what we need for first aid, pucks and scoresheets.

***Meeting Adjourned 8:40 PM for executive session.***