

NCCYHA BOARD MEETING

February 16, 2023

7:00 p.m.
Fredonia Beaver Club

PRESENT FOR MEETING: Andy Davidson, Andy Hellwig, Nick Williams, Mike Whitcher, Mike Mead, Marissa Salemi, Brian Crawford, Danielle Hartson and Bryan Fabiano.

OPEN PORTION OF MEETING: LTPH and Mite Head Coach Adam Whitcher was present to go over issues involving those divisions. Included in the discussion, were the division of the Mites into Mites and Mini Mites given our increasing numbers. This division has been effectuated and has been successful. Also discussed was an end of the year banquet possibly to be held at the Point Restaurant with the cost of such and the revenue stream to pay for it, still to be determined. Also discussed was a modification of the LTPH program to possibly incorporate the Buffalo Sabres LTP Program or use it to supplement our own program. Adam indicated that he would be in touch with their representative after the season to discuss specifics. Also discussed were increased ice usage for next year to accommodate an increased number of players with additional 8 AM times and perhaps incorporating reversible jerseys to increase versatility and lower costs.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Andy H. with a second by Brian, to approve the minutes of the 1/5/23 Board meeting. All were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John Szydlo will have an up to date Profit and Loss statement as well as Balance Sheet for the next meeting. Nick reported that the ice bill has been paid up to December 31. The January and February ice has not been billed yet. Registrar Eddie Paluch has generously declined his stipend and is working completely voluntarily.

SCHEDULER'S REPORT: Andy H. reports that extra ice has been added to the Mite's schedule to accommodate their growing division. Several small modifications were made to the schedule to reschedule cancelled/postponed games. Varsity is out of the playoffs so remaining playoff hold ices will be given back upon the completion of the JV season. Andy H. will start outlining the 23-24 schedule with hopes to have it nearly complete by March's end. It is worth noting that Don Scott has been the best scheduler Andy has worked with at SUNY. He communicates well and helps when he can. The teamwork demonstrated has made this pleasant. This season schedule has run at 99.7% accuracy! (Approx. 360 scheduled ices with one discrepancy)

Beyond Scheduling:

Bauer warm ups were purchased, embroidered and distributed to our new coaches.

Andy proposes a standing dollar amount to be used for senior night. In his experience, he feels that \$300-\$400 would suffice. This may require a small registration increase but it gives our Seniors some consistency. This will save future groups from the stress of last-minute fundraising.

COACHING COORDINATOR REPORT: Mike Mead reports that he has been talking to Scott Hazelton and Andy D. on looking into a 16U team this year - looking at numbers and trying to see if there is an interest. Some teams are taking the older kids who are moving up an age division to show them what to expect when moving up. He has spoken to most of the coaches who are looking to head coach next year and working on planning ahead. There was only one Division where there was more than one candidate. In that case the other applicant indicated that he would be fine with acting as Assistant rather than head coach. Head Coach selections will be announced after all of them are notified. Mike M. also indicated that he has a reasonable idea of who all the Managers will be for next year.

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY: Brian Crawford reports the following: The Seniors left behind a good legacy for the younger players. Steve Olsen did a good job as Varsity Head Coach as did Shaun Fadale as JV Head Coach. Brian will be conducting exit interviews with both head coaches. As for next year, there are six Seniors leaving including a goalie. There will be 3-4 kids likely on the bubble between JV and Varsity. Brian and Andy H. recommend a Senior Night Committee for next year so there can be an equitable division of duties and to organize things well ahead of time. There is an upcoming meeting planned for parents of likely Modified team players. Registration is open for the team and Mike Mead will be the Head Coach. Danielle and Bryan will be the co-managers. Discussion also covered the WNYHSCHL rule that rostering goes by what school the high school the player attends and not by what School District the player might reside in.

WEBSITE REPORT: Andy D. reports that the Minutes of the last meeting have been posted. He advised that placing banners on the website identifying our sponsors, is possible and he will work on the details to get that up and running. The Modified registration has been activated.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Eddie reports that there are no changes to registration other than the LTPH players who have joined Mites without charge for the remainder of the season. The number stood around 25 – 30.

LTPH/Mites: Marissa reports as follows: The Mite Division has been split into Mites and Mini Mites. Everything is going well and thank you for the increased ice times to accommodate. Purchased goalie stick for \$40. We currently have: 28 Mini Mites 39 Mites. First Mini mites practice went great. Plenty of coaches and fun activities on the ice. Discussion was held on subject of Mite end of year party and gifts and what the organization Might be able to contribute. A Mite player who had not yet paid the registration fee has now paid in full.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Danielle reports that Amazon smile is no longer a thing. Amazon has decided to call it quits. She thinks we will get one small deposit at some point from it. She has removed reference to it from the fb page. She has emailed with Nicki Nearhoof of Hae Jude in Silver Creek for next year's swag. She is super open to doing an online store for us, but we need to come up with ten items that we definitely want in the store. We need to come up with a decision of what to sell together. We can have it open before season during summer and then again perhaps at Christmas time. She said generally they have one person do the pickup and we would distribute, or if we prefer people can pick it up themselves in Silver Creek or they can pay to have it shipped. Posting consistently on FB is growing our following significantly.

MARKETING REPORT: Bryan Fabiano has a number of suggestions:

Create a Welcome booklet for new families. Include info about ordering gear, discount at Buffalo sports, emails and phone numbers, org policies, league policies, etc.

- Registration signs all summer to promote next season
- Meeting with parents is a good step and providing them with as much information as possible. We got instant feedback at the 12U meeting about Facebook/communication and the fact that we were talking to parents first before making decisions.
- How will we frame the move to travel in most divisions. We have always sold the org as MOHL first. The idea/potential cost of travel could scare people away.
- Can we revisit the Street Hockey Tourney idea. Could be a great way to get kids involved and get our name out in the community.
- Spring cleanup service project?
- Booth/tent at upcoming spring and summer festivals?
- Summer picnic for hockey families? Chicken BBQ or Pig Roast were suggested - Keeps families in touch/involved in the off-season.
- Summer program similar to Howie's?

OLD BUSINESS: Tough as Steele Tournament has had a meager response so far. Cancellation is a distinct possibility. Tough as Steele tournament. Marketing info sheet & FAQ's. NEED DEADLINE FOR 2023-2024 season. HS Modified hockey, checking clinic. Andy H and Brian C collaborate on dates/times.

NEW BUSINESS: Try out dates – not selected yet. Alumni game at Holiday time perhaps – discussed. Modifications to next seasons registration form - Have one form for both travel and MOHL. Replace consent, code of conduct and social media forms upload with electronic version. Make sock purchases mandatory, but wrapped in with the cost. Allow jersey purchase as well. Make graduation year mandatory. Separate player and parent info pages? Number of ice times clearly spelled out. When to open registration – not finalized. Skating / shooting classes next season. Additional ice times or included with regular allotments. Price included with registration or extra – not finalized. Steger Award – need to decide when to present if there is no Tournament.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Made by Bryan with a second by Brian. All were in favor.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday March 2 at 7PM at the Beaver Club.