

# UVHA Board Meeting Minutes



July 15, 2020 ~ 6:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

1. **Attendance:** Brock Barton, Josh Obar, Jay Zanleoni, Justin Barwood, Jason Gramling, Roger Gillies, Ethan McNaughton, Aaron Panitz, Will Meyer, Sarah Morlock
  
2. **Meeting called to order:** 6:00 PM
  - a. The June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved (motioned by Brock, seconded by Justin).
  
3. **Monthly Reports:**
  - a. **Coaching Coordinator**-No report.
  - b. **Equipment Manager**-No report.
  - c. **SafeSport Coordinator**-No report.
  - d. **Girls Development**-No report.
  - e. **Treasurer**-No report.
  - f. **Fundraising**-No report.
  - g. **Registrar**-No report.
  - h. **Scheduler**-No report.

4. **New Business:**

a. **Appointment of Positions**-Ethan motioned to appoint Aaron Panitz as Social Media/Marketing Manager and Will Meyer as Coaching Coordinator. Josh seconded this motion. All voted in favor. Brock will reach out to Alex to get the coaches' contact list for Will. Coaches need to complete their online registration and be sure they're prepared to hit the ice with credentials current.

b. **Jersey Return & Skate-a-thon Prizes**-Jason and Sarah have held two jersey return and Skate-a-thon prize distribution nights at Hartford High School. Jason has a list of those players yet to return jerseys (he estimates there are about 25 still unaccounted for). He'll finish assessing the jerseys' condition and report back to the Board. Sarah has about two dozen prizes remaining to distribute. She plans to mail them or make alternate pick-up arrangements for those families eager to get their prizes.

c. **Ice Time and Scheduling**-Josh reached out to Scott Hausler to learn whether the Town has a COVID-19 contingency plan for opening WABA in the fall. Scott communicated that a committee has been formed but no decisions have yet been made regarding the rink's operation this coming season. Scott did tell Josh that the UVHA should at least be aware that extra time will be required between sessions to allow for groups to move out of the facility and locker rooms to be cleaned between use. Vermont still has a set limit of 25 people for indoor gatherings. This clearly poses a challenge for the operation of practices. For planning purposes, the Board will continue to move forward with ice and scheduling as though the season will take place, as usual, fully expecting, however, that we'll need to be flexible given restrictions that are likely to come. Josh will inquire about ice rental at Thompson; he suspects this facility will be limited to Dartmouth use.

d. **Registration**-The group went through the current registration list by level to determine whether teams should be closed or have space to accept additional players. There are returning players who have expressed interest in again playing for the Storm, but have not completed registration as they work with the Executive Officers on an offline payment plan. Sarah and Kylie will work together to complete this process with these families. Brock will reach out to new players to inform them of the UVHA's new player wait-list status policy and to learn about their players' experience and their reasons for wanting to join the Storm. These players will remain on the wait-list until the Board is able to confirm the intent of returning players with official registration. With 32 players

already registered, the Bantam level is closed. At 36 players and hinged on whether there are three full-time goalies, the Peewees could support three teams and registration will remain open, for now. Brock informed the Board that Hanover has low numbers at the 12U level. He will have a conversation with Hanover's President, Adrienne Peraza, about their Association's numbers and report back to the group. There's a possibility that we may need to absorb players from that neighboring association. Finally, with 29 Squirts and three full-time goalies, the Squirt level is basically at capacity for two teams. With registrations pending, the Board still needs time to reconcile returning player and new player numbers before making a decision on wait-list players. Brock will explain this when reaching out to new families on the wait-list.

*e. Return to Play & Contingency Plan*-There simply isn't enough information at this time to move forward with any concrete planning. The Contingency Committee plans to talk with both NHAHA and VSHA, as well as refer to the Town of Hartford and State of Vermont guidance. Some members urged the group to consider an alternate plan for the season sooner than later. Understanding that there will very likely be conflicting regulations between Vermont and New Hampshire, the UVHA will not likely enjoy the simplicity of a GSL season as usual. Josh suggested the Board consider playing as an independent association. Sarah agreed that this might provide the UVHA with the most flexibility to salvage a season if Vermont's travel restrictions include GSL team counties. Brock will be back in touch to schedule a special session meeting in a week or so to discuss what Contingency Committee's findings and to move forward with 2020-2021 season planning.

*f. UVHA/HHA Merger Discussions*-No update.

*g. Policy 11.1(a)*-Taking into consideration Board input, Ethan made changes to the original language of the new policy he drafted pertaining to player registration (see below). Ethan motioned to accept the proposed policy 11.1(a). Brock seconded his motion. All voted in favor.

### **11.1(a) UVHA Player Registration**

*Submitting a player registration application to UVHA does not guarantee a player will be accepted into the UVHA organization. All applicants who were not a UVHA member at the conclusion of the previous season will be reviewed by the Board of Directors for entry into the association. The Board of Directors shall have sole unfettered discretion as to whether to admit any player into the UVHA*

*organization each year irrespective of whether the player is a returning player or new to the UVHA organization.*

5. **Meeting Adjourned:** 8:15 PM