

UVHA Board Meeting Minutes



August 19, 2020 ~ 6:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

1. **Attendance:** Brock Barton, Kylie Young, Jay Zanleoni, Justin Barwood, Jason Gramling, Mark Bean, Justin Montebianchi, Roger Gillies, Ethan McNaughton, Aaron Panitz, Linda Snow, Will Meyer, Felipe Calderon, Stacy Barton, Tom Daniels, Dan Hall, Les Drent, Dawn Frenzel, Joe Desimone, Sherry Dube, Sarah Morlock

2. **Meeting called to order:** 6:12 PM
 - a. The July 15th 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. **Survey Results & League Declaration Discussion**-Brock reported that 127 families responded to the league preference survey. Of those who responded, 63% expressed their preference to play in Vermont and “green” New Hampshire counties this season; 14% of participants responded with the preference of remaining in the GSL. Brock explained with home ice at WABA, the membership would be required to adhere to Vermont laws and guidelines. Currently, Vermont’s travel restrictions state that players visiting a yellow out-of-state county would be required to quarantine for 14 days or quarantine for seven days and then be tested for COVID-19. These requirements pose a unique challenge for the UVHA which is composed of both Vermont and New Hampshire residents. Tom Daniels shared that he’s spoken with many parents of players at the 12U and 14U levels; most aren’t concerned with where the Association plays, his understanding is that parents simply hope to play a competitive season, even if it is against the same few times over and over again. Justin Montebianchi asked if that same quarantine rule would apply to coaches who are required to travel to yellow or red counties for work. While Vermont does have specific guidance for essential-worker travel in quarantine counties, the Board will have to look into this further; the UVHA’s position will align with that of the State and Town of Hartford. With so much to consider from a safety and liability standpoint, participation in the GSL would be more than likely be problematic. There was general agreement that limiting travel to play Vermont teams and “green” county teams was the best path forward. Joe Desimone pointed out that the CDC deems traveling outside of one’s immediate geographic area as “high risk”. Whatever the Board’s final decision, Joe asked that the expectations and rules be made very clear so that there’s no room for interpretation, thus keeping play as safe as possible. Brock made a motion to not play in the GSL during the upcoming 2020-2021 season. Jay seconded his motion. All present voted in favor; noone opposed or abstained.

b. **Town of Hartford Update**-The Town has yet to establish its rules for operation this coming season. Scott Hausler anticipated that, in the least, additional time would be needed between teams to clean the locker rooms and common areas. There will certainly be restrictions to the number of players on the ice and in the facility. And there will likely be COVID-19 screening and mask wearing protocol in place. The group worried that the UVHA would be

responsible for screening and enforcing the use of masks when, in a typical season, locker room monitor volunteers can be hard to come by and less than dependable. Without this information from the Town, the UVHA can't move forward with operation planning. Josh will continue to stay in close contact with Scott and report any new information to the Board as he learns it.

c. **Midgets**-Thompson is closed to non-Dartmouth group affiliated operation due to COVID-19. Therefore, the UVHA will not be able to procure ice at this facility for the Midget team. Justin suggested that 16U coaches meet to plan for changes. He'll reach out to the collective group to make arrangements for this discussion and report back to the Board.

d. **Refund Deadline**-Executive Officers received notice from NHAHA for players declaring that they would be dual-rostering or playing as an alternate on another team. Participation on a second team that plays in quarantine counties would conflict with Vermont's rules. Brock will draft a letter to the membership explaining the State of Vermont's travel restrictions and the necessity of the UVHA's adherence with home ice at WABA in Vermont. Families who know or foresee that they aren't able to adhere to these regulations will have the opportunity to have their registrations refunded in full if they request a refund by August 28th. This will be clearly communicated in Brock's Association-wide email.

e. **Locker Room Dress Policy**-Jay proposed that new language be added to the UVHA Locker Room Policy to make explicitly clear the expectations for player dress and conduct in the co-ed locker room. His goal is to eliminate problems resulting from distracting attire, personal items and behavior. Jay will share this proposed language with the Board via email to be considered for vote at the next meeting.

5. **Meeting Adjourned:** 8:45 PM