

# PRINCETON YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

“Team First – Integrity – Grit – Engaged – Respectful”

Monthly Board Meeting Agenda / Minutes

August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ 6:30 pm

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1. **CALL TO ORDER:** - 6:30 pm
  2. **ATTENDANCE**  
Brittany Stearns, Tara Gann, Craig Ballensky, Chris Gadacz, Ryan Baker, JT Marchiafava, Corey Murphy, Amber Wilkinson, Ben Heath, Dylan Sweeney, Zach Welding, Becky Krueger, Joe Hostrawser, Jeremy Uhrich, Melissa McAlpine, Nick Schuett, Nikki Elton
  3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF GAMBLING REPORTS** (*Amber Wilkinson, Gambling Manager*)  
Finish Line materials are being moved over to Clydes which should be up and running the first week of September. Raffle tickets ordered on 8/27/24 and will be ready and available at Preskates and tryouts. Ben Heath motions to approve LG1004, Becky Krueger seconds. All in favor, motion passes. Brittany Stearns motions to approve transfer of \$20,000 for bills, Corey Murphy seconds. All in favor, motion passes.
  4. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES** (*Brittany Stearns, Secretary*)  
Jeremy Uhrich motions to approve July meeting minutes, Ben Heath seconds. All in favor, motion passes.
  5. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF TREASURER REPORT** (*Jeremy Uhrich, Treasurer*)  
Becky Krueger motions to approve the treasurer’s report, Dylan Sweeney seconds. All in favor, motion passes. Corey Murphy motions to approve the Haga Kommer proposal, Brittany Stearns seconds. All in favor, motion passes.
  6. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT** (*Joe Hostrawser*)  
Association needs list (i.e., short players or extra players) and communication between association presidents underway.
  7. **VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT** (*Becky Krueger*)  
No online feedback forms received this month. One parent has been sending direct complaints to VP, Becky Krueger. Apparel Store 1 will be open from 9/3/24 – 9/17/24 and Apparel Store 2 will follow in October or November. PYHA Logo reveal will happen on 9/1/24 and website updates will follow. Players participating in the 5K/10K Puck Challenge have until Saturday to complete and send Hockey Share certificates to Becky Krueger.
  8. **ARENA/ADVERTISING MANAGER REPORT** (*Missy McAlpine*)  
Cleaning is on schedule, preparing to turn on chillers. Tiger Sports was a success and has received positive feedback. There will be a carnival for the kids in the final week. BBL has new ice schedulers so they are meeting with Missy to ensure they understand the process of obtaining ice and then scheduling events. Peewee/Bantam A Jamboree is full and we have a waitlist. Missy and Daulton have met with SCR. Immediate needs: Cooling Tower (being covered under warranty) and West Rink Dehumidification system. Unfortunately, the manufacturer no longer makes our model and parts can no longer be sourced. Quote of \$175,867.00 received for removal and replacement and everything in between. Production lead time is currently 40-42 weeks. SCR has been a good partner to PYHA for years but we are losing our main SCR contacts and would like to shop around for others who specialize in ice arena/rink refrigeration.
  9. **DISTRICT 10 REPORT** (*Joe Hostrawser*)  
Nick Schuett will attend the upcoming MN Hockey Directors Conference on 9/7 and 9/8. D10 Mite Meeting scheduled for 9/11. The new D10 Coach in Chief is Sarah from Pine City. The D10 annual golf tournament is Friday 9/6. Waivers list sent to association presidents. The only waivers signed by PYHA at this time are for girls going to 15U in Elk River and one 12U trying out for an A team, if she does not make it, she will return to PYHA and play 12UB1. Initial team declarations due on 9/6/24.
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10. **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**
    - **Away Tournament Coordinator**, *Becky Krueger/Brittany Stearns* – nothing new to report
    - **Communications Coordinator**, *Becky Krueger* – recent communications and social media posts have gone out for: registration, Mite Jamboree, Coaching applications and requirements and a Goons 4 Good thank you. Becky is working on an interactive newsletter to go out mid-September as another form of communication.

- **Equipment Manager**, *Dylan Sweeney/Jeremy Uhrich* – began cleaning up and taking inventory of equipment room. Getting rid of old/outdated equipment that cannot/should not be used. Working to schedule Mite Equipment handout dates, PYHA needs mite goalie sticks. Planning on holding a gear drive during Preskates/tryouts for gently used small gear for mites/tiny tigers.
- **Fundraising Coordinator**, *Corey Murphy* – Goons 4 Good – final meeting to discuss PYHA proceeds is happening soon. Goons said the Princeton Prowl was one of the biggest, if not the biggest, inaugural Goons tournament they have done and if we continue annually, it should only grow from here. Discussed 24-25 winter fundraising ideas and moving towards online stores, eliminating the need for pickup days for most fundraiser items.
- **Game Sheet Coordinator**, *Brittany Stearns* – iPad updates needed and Gamesheet needs to be removed from each iPad and then reinstalled for the new season. Brittany will plan time to get to the arena and get this done or it will be worked on during Preskates/tryouts.
- **Girls Program Coordinator**, *Becky Krueger* – Optional preseason parking lot dryland has started for 10's and 12's and participation has been good. Becky and Joe are working with Rob and Nate from BBL to strengthen the PBBL girls co-op. Some BBL girls who skated with the boys last year, are not returning to hockey this year. We need to understand why.
- **Hockey Director**, *Nick Schuett* – next HDC meeting on 8/27/24. Tryout logistics discussed during the July meeting have been relayed to the HDC. The HDC is actively recruiting tryout evaluators and a non-member to enter evaluators results. Head Coach interviews will begin soon. Post tryout Board and HDC meeting, to review tryout results, form teams and select head coaches will happen on Sunday 9/29/24 at 6:00 pm. This meeting is a closed Board/HDC meeting.
- **Home Tournament Coordinator**, *Corey Murphy* – Peewee/Bantam A Jamboree – full and waitlist started
- **Mite/8U Coordinator (On-Ice)**, *Ben Heath* – Mite Preskates will happen on Saturday 10/5 at 1:30 and 2:45 pm and on Sunday 10/6 at 3:00 and 4:15 pm. Mite assessments will happen on Tuesday 10/8 at 5:50 and 7:00 pm, Thursday 10/10 at 5:50 and 7:00 pm and on Saturday 10/12 @ 3:00 and 4:15 pm. Ben and Zach will work with Nick and the HDC to find non-parent/non-coach evaluators. Reviewed mite assessment plan. Brittany will send Ben and Zach the Mite/8U registration list as well as Mite Coaching Applications once registration closes.
- **Mite Jamboree Coordinator**, *Danielle Murphy* – did not attend
- **Mite/8U Coordinator (Off-Ice)**, *Zach Welding* – nothing new to report
- **Outdoor Ice Manager**, *Jon Stenslie* – did not attend
- **Recruitment Coordinator**, *Dylan Sweeney* – Last Learn to Skate was in August and there were approximately ten participants. Advertised with local daycares and on the “This is Princeton” FB page. Had participants interested in signing up for hockey and participants who had never even stepped foot in our arena.
- **Referee Coordinator**, *Joe Hostrawser/Jeremy Uhrich* – email sent to fourteen youth referees’ from the 23-24 season. Seven have responded that they are interested in returning for the 24-25 season. The ideal number of youth referee’s is 12.
- **Registration/Team Manager Coordinator**, *Brittany Stearns* – Discussed SE system glitch intermittently telling families their payment is past due when it is not. A ticket has been opened with SE and is currently being triaged. As of 6:00 pm on 8/26/24, PYHA had 23 of the 42 projected Bantams registered, 12 of the 29 projected peewees registered, 11 of the 25 projected squirts registered, 11 of the 17 projected 12U/13U registered, 3 of the 10 projected 10U registered, 8 of the 12 projected 8U registered and 31 of the 41 projected Mites registered. List of unregistered players shared with Board so reach out can be done. The board roster is about complete so it can be submitted on 9/30/24. Personalized LRM emails are not driving the participation as hoped. Families need to understand that without three non-coach LRMs per roster, rosters will not be signed off by D10. No D10 registrar meeting scheduled yet, typically happens in August. Discussed IIHF process with player from Spain as well as move ins and new players from communities w/o youth hockey.
- **Scheduling Coordinator (Practice)**, *Joe Hostrawser* – nothing new to report
- **Scheduling Coordinator (Games)**, *Missy McAlpine* – nothing new to report
- **Tiny Tigers Coordinator**, *Zach Welding/Nick Schuett* – see new item below
- **Volunteer Coordinator**, *Corey Murphy* – DIBS for the 24-25 season has been built, HS games will be loaded soon. Brittany sending Corey the list of approved LRMs for Preskates/tryout DIBS.

- **Website Coordinator, Becky Krueger** – PYHA logo reveal happening on 9/1/24. Once the D10 and MN Hockey handbooks are updated for the 24-25 season they will be updated on our website. Working on listing the mandatory D10 Manager and Coach meetings on the website. Need to replace Tiger Code file on website. Cleaning up old photos and links.
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## 11. NEW ITEMS

- **Center Ice Logo Template:** Discussed via email on 8/13/24. Brittany Stearns motions for PYHA to purchase the Pounce Logo template(s) for center ice, Becky Krueger seconds. All in favor, motion passes.
- **Squirt #'s/Promo Program (first year free) – Ryan Baker:** Ryan proposed that the board consider a first year free initiative for kids entering 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade that are interested in trying hockey for the very first time. Prior to a couple of move-ins this year, our 2<sup>nd</sup> year Squirts and 10Us are one of the smallest years we have for participation. This would be free registration (a \$1000 value) and families would still be responsible for the jersey fee, dryland fee and USA Hockey fee (\$215.00). Any family interested would need to reach out to Becky Krueger for a special code and registrations would be allowed until 9/7/24. Ben Heath motions to approve a one-time 1<sup>st</sup> year free initiative for kids entering 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade that are interested in trying hockey for the very first time for the 24-25 season only, Zach Welding seconds. One nay, motion passes.
- **Easton Gadacz Registration (Goalie vs Skater) – Chris Gadacz:** Chris spoke to the board about Easton being on the fence about making a commitment to Goalie or Skater. Discussed his desire to register as a skater and play Goalie a percentage of time. Discussed a 50/50 registration option for Squirts/10U's starting in the 25-26 season, something Anoka has been doing that seems like it would be a good option for PYHA. Discussed the D10 rules around goalies/skaters at the Squirt/10U level. The board liked the 50/50 option and will consider implementing it for the 25-26 season. The board suggested that Easton register as a skater and once placed on a team, his desire to play goalie X% of the time will be shared with the Head Coach who will honor that request, regardless of if they have a dedicated goalie on the team.
- **Coach Consistency and Coach Meetings – Tara Gann:** Tara spoke to the board regarding the need for coaches to handle absences (excused and unexcused) consistently. She asked for clear communication from coaches to teams regarding this and asked for a 3<sup>rd</sup> coaches meeting, mid-season. There are 2 coaches meetings currently, beginning of the season and end of season. The board agreed that handling absences should be consistent amongst coaches and that a 3<sup>rd</sup> coaches meeting mid-season made sense. Nick will share this information at the coaches meetings and ensure coaches share this information at team meetings.
- **Tiny Tigers:** Registration will open 9/1. Starting with the 24-25 season, the program is moving to an arena run program. Zach Welding is working on the arena website.
- **Bantam Tryout Split Hour:** Finalized the plan for splitting up Bantam's for tryouts. 9/21/24 will be split alphabetically. 9/22 and 9/28 will be based on evaluators request of which jersey #'s they would like to see together. Nick will relay this information to the HDC as evaluators will have to be timely in telling us who they want to see and when on 9/22 and 9/28.
- **Finalize Tryouts:** Missy can do the evaluation data entry on 9/21. Still in need of a non-association member to do data entry on 9/22 and 9/28. Becky will create a Board Tryout and Preskate sign-up sheet. Typically, the equipment managers handle jersey handout, Corey will be onsite to hand out fundraiser information and sign out raffle tickets. Other board members will be needed for check-in and handing out tryout cards which will be created by Jeremy post registration.
- **Clemente Family Play-Up Request (Goalie):** This discussion began at the July board meeting and was tabled until the August board meeting when more registrations were in. The Squirt group is short on goalies. The board decided to approve the play up request with the understanding that if an individual tries out to play up as a goalie, finishes #1 and makes the team, they can only play goalie (same would go for a skater trying out to play up). They cannot skate out. Joe Hostrawser sent this information to Scott Clemente via email on 8/27/24.
- **Family Hardship Request – Closed Item (BOD Only):** The board received a hardship request and the request was discussed. Becky Krueger motions to approve the hardship request, Nick Schuett seconds. All in favor, motion passes.

12. **ADJOURN:** - 10:11 pm Ben Heath motions to adjourn, Corey Murphy seconds.