

Eastern Shore Hockey Association
Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2022

I. Call to order

Michael C. called to order the regular meeting of the ESHA board at 1745 on February 7, 2022 at the First Wesleyan Church, Easton.

II. Roll call

Michael C. conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

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| President – Mike Corner | Chief Manager – Dave Levasseur |
| Vice President – Dave Connolly | Communications Director – Stephanie Kevan |
| Secretary – Amy Grier | CCHL Rep – John Schwaninger |
| Treasurer – Vince Allen | CBHL Rep – Dave Finlay |
| Hockey Director – Rob Wefelmeyer | EJEPL Rep – Mike Watson |

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Meeting minutes from January were submitted for approval. Motion for approval by Michael C., Seconded by Dave F., All in Favor.

IV. Director and Officer Reports

- a) President – Sponsor T-shirt order has been placed. Funded by donations to 10U. Should arrive in 2 to 3 weeks. Gretsky quote on the back. 247 shirts total ordered.
- b) Vice President – Nothing to report. Covered in New business.
- c) Secretary – Nothing to report.
- d) Registrar – Not present.
- e) Treasurer – ~\$250,000 balance. Other topics covered in New business.
- f) Hockey Director – Nothing to report. Covered in New business
- g) Scheduler – Not present.
- h) Communications Director – (To be updated once I hear back from Stephanie)

- i) 8U Director – Not present.
- j) Chief Manager – Nothing to report.
- k) CCHL Rep – Not much new. Games are caught up. Nothing missing or from the league this week.
- l) CBHL Rep – There will be a rules meeting at the end of the month. Dave F. proposed addressing the old suspension rule. Mike C. questioned rule with CCHL that goalie cannot play for CBHL and then go back to play CCHL again. Rob W. stated that rule is no longer in CCHL guidelines. Roanoke has asked to come into the league. In regard to the end of season tournament, we could submit to host, but would need parent volunteers to run it. Could be an option in the future. Dave F. will discuss with CBHL about pre-season tournament to evaluate for placement of teams to ensure it is competitive.
- m) EJEPL Rep – Nothing new to report. Positive feedback from teams/parents involved in EJ league. Kids are getting higher level of play experience.

V. Old business

- a) ESHA Bylaw Review – Mike C. suggests between now and the March meeting everyone look at/edit the document in Teams.
- b) Election Communication to Organization – VP and Treasurer – sent out. Mike C. will let everyone know if anyone applies. Dave C. suggested that a nomination committee be created as per the bylaws to encourage people to get involved.

VI. New business

- a) Locker Room Monitors/Policy for Prevention of Unsupervised Locker Rooms – There was an incident that involved unsupervised players in the locker room. We must abide by SafeSport requirements. USA Hockey has a policy document that could be used and modified to work for ESHA. Rob W. suggested using the locks for the locker rooms. Mike C. states we need to have a policy in place prior to the 2022-23 season. Need to get a SafeSport liaison to ensure we abide by rules. Dave L. is willing to take on the role of SafeSport liaison. Rob W. will see about getting something added to registration for parents and/or players to acknowledge the rules.
- b) Compensation for Coaches – Vince A. discussed with Rob W. about increasing compensation for Head Coach role. Only two 8U head coaches would get compensation for coaching. Discontinuing ESHA paying for tournaments could fund increased compensation. Average is \$500 to \$1000 for coaches in other organizations. Dave F.

suggests \$500 minimum and teams doing fundraising to pay for tournaments. Rob W. is sending out email to coaches and need to know amount. Max compensation would be for 1 Head coach and 3 assistants for 12 teams. Ice costs are likely to go up. Bowie is \$425/hr for ice. Talbot is \$300/hr now. Preston says he will be raising ice fees next season, but needs to determine what other rinks are charging. Increase in \$25/hr will put ESHA in the red ~\$26,000. Vince A. will talk to Preston to discuss a proposal of small incremental increases in payment for ice over next 5 years. \$750 and \$200 not to exceed 1 players tuition. 8U only 2 head coaches \$750. Dave F. makes motion \$750 per head coach and \$200 for assistance coaches up to 3 assistant coaches funded by discontinuation of paying for tournaments, Mike C. seconds, all in favor.

- c) 2022-2023 planning – Fee Increase Justification – see above.
- d) Tryout Schedule and Process – 3/9 and 3/10 – play up games 10U through Midget group. Coaches from upper team to observe lower players moving up. Rob W. will make up schedule. Try out date at Piney Orchard 4/30 12:10pm 10U through midget. 3/14 slot is booked for our end of season meeting.
- e) 8U and New Hockey Parent Education for Next Season – Rob W. wants to talk with 8U coaches to mentor and a meeting with parents at beginning of season. Wants to do check-ups with them throughout the season. Rob W. suggests raising minimum age to 5 years old instead of 4. Mike C. not in favor of raising the minimum age to allow kids to get early access to the ice. Need additional communication between coaches and parents. This season there were 8U coaches out on the ice that weren't vetted and approved by hockey director.
- f) Caps LTP – Planning to do it again. Plan to communicate early about plan for LTP program and bringing players in. Discuss with 8U kids registered regarding LTP plan.
- g) ESHA Culture – Rob W. wants to improve ESHA culture by increasing compensation to coaches and in turn holding them more accountable. Need to attract additional coaches that are not just here for their own player. Also, need to change culture between Red and Blue teams. Coach selection and head coach decision will assist with culture change. Skills training next year will be by skill level instead of age group. This will require more collaboration amongst coaches across age groups.
- h) Female Player Changing Area Options for Next Season – There was no plan for locker room for female players after mini jam recently. Skipjack Room had been the plan previously. Vince will ask Preston about options moving forward.

- i) Misuse/Abuse of Mini Warm Up Area – Has been padlocked. No helmets. Whoever has rented the ice has control over the area. Needs to be supervision from the parents.
- j) ESHA Funded Tournament Reimbursement – Addressed above – discontinued for 2022-2023 season. Was only meant to be offered for 1 season, but was continued. Costs have been steadily increasing for tournaments.
- k) Scheduling of Next Board Meetings – 3/14 annual meeting – Mike C. requested that Vince get a roll up of costs this season and details on fee increase.

VII. Adjournment

Michael Corner adjourned the meeting at 1956.

Minutes submitted by: Amy Grier

Minutes approved by: Michael Corner

Action Items:

The Whole Board will:

- Review and make revisions to the Bylaws in Teams

Michael C. will:

- Create a working copy of the Bylaws in Teams for review and modification.
- Send an email out looking for volunteers for – discipline, nomination committee, and Fundraising

Dave F. will:

- Address old suspension rule and possibility of a pre-season tournament with CBHL

Rob W. will:

- See about adding an acknowledgement of locker room rules to the registration process
- Send an email out to coaches including the new compensation
- Make up schedule for play up games 3/9 and 3/10

Vince A. will:

- Talk to Preston and propose small incremental increases in payment for ice over next 5 years
- Ask Preston about options moving forward for girls locker room
- Put together a roll up of costs this season and details on fee increase