



Mission: The “Upper Valley Hockey Association” mission is to introduce the youth of our area to and promote the game of hockey, so that every child in the program can enjoy a positive experience through encouragement, skill development and character building while creating a passion for the game

UVHA MEETING - Agenda
October 16, 2023 8pm Virtual only
UVHA Board Meeting

Attendees: Will Meyer, Dana Wright, Josh Obar, Brock Barton, Jen Callahan, Tom Daniels, Allison Mancuso, Jessica Laperle

Meeting called to order at 8:01 pm.

14u Update - Josh shared that the 14U group started at Union last night. They were missing 8-10 kids but that’s usual due to fall sports. Jay and Erin were there to evaluate goalies and the couple skaters that needed to be evaluated. Gary and Josh Obar have sorted out equipment for use at Union. We still need to sort out an iPad to use out at Union to this was discussed among the 14U group. Brock will bring one to Gary to use for this weekend because he thinks he has one. Jess spoke up that Woodstock has an equipment fund and could purchase an iPad. Brock said that he could look into purchasing a refurbished iPad and put it on the shared 14U tab so that we could share the costs half and half. Everyone agreed to move forward with this plan. Josh also added that Gary asked about first aid kits and Obar told him we are in the process of obtaining these and will get him one. Jess said that WYH have a first aid kit for the 14U team as well. Gary has the practice jerseys, helmet stickers and jerseys for the skaters who weren’t there on Sunday. Jess also shared a text from a parent that thanked the board for all their work (practice jerseys & stickers) to bring the team together.

Approval of Minutes - Jen did not finish the September minutes. She will send them out to be approved via email. *Updated 10/20/23- Jen sent the minutes to the board via email. Dana motioned to approve. Josh seconded. Minutes were approved on 10/19/23.*

Monthly reports and committee updates were as follows...

Coaching Coordinator/Registrar – Allison said that she didn’t have a lot to update. All the rosters have been approved except for the Board of Directors and locker room monitors. She is still waiting for one coach but he’s not a new coach. Allison said that just locker room monitors need the background check, team parents do not. She will have to update the two 14U rosters and one 12U roster once tryouts are finished so that we are ready for the weekend. Brock and Will stated that roster updates need to be made 2-3 days prior to games if possible so that there is time for the roster changes to be approved by Roni.

Safesport Coordinator - Will is going to make sure Terence has access to the email address.

NH State Representative - Will is going tomorrow to the state meeting. He is going to make sure to find a time to talk about tier movement and the need to finalize the logistics of the 8U full-ice for January (i.e. rostering, rules, scheduling etc). Allison asked about student coach rostering and how that is supposed to work. She also reported that USA Hockey said rostering these volunteers is not working and now the ball is in Rogers court to make it happen. Tom asked what needs to happen to bring the high school kids on the ice this season as he plans to begin the community hockey connection building the board set goals for in the spring. The board had a discussion about how we want to handle volunteers on the ice and how to get them registered with USA Hockey. Finally, Josh asked Will to ask NHAHA for a weekly tier update for changes so that we know what’s going on from week to week on our schedules.

Girls Development - No update.

Fundraising - Jen asked if we need to bring back a holiday fundraiser again. Brock answered that we don’t really need to do another fundraiser if we keep fundraising like we have been at the Skate-a-thon. He believes that we may be doing so well with the Skate-a-thon because we aren’t just coming off a holiday fundraiser. The Board agreed to move forward this season without adding in a second fundraiser. Tom brought up having a concussion stand for Saturday and Sunday morning games. Jen enthusiastically agreed this was a great idea and something we had thrown around in the spring when we hosted the state tournament. Brock also suggested having a vending machine in the lobby that we could profit from. Will Meyer was

going to reach out to Hartford Parks & Rec and ask if a vending machine would be possible and if we can potentially operate a concession stand on the weekends. Once Will has an answer, Jen will work with Cherry and Megan to get this off the ground.

Scheduler - Dana reports there are a few changes he is waiting on but things have been pretty quiet on the scheduling front. Will asked if people were taking advantage of the open ice time. Dana hasn't heard anything from Amanda or Gary about using extra ice. Josh cautioned that we shouldn't fill up our slots past Thanksgiving because we will need flexibility for tier movement as that begins to occur with other associations.

Equipment Manager - Will recovered access to the equipment manager email. He handed out most of the practice jerseys and is still waiting on one jersey that was a late order. He has a name plate coming for Andrea. Will asked Josh about Woodstock paying for the 14U coach jackets and Josh asked Will to check about an order for seven jackets. Will reported pictures are confirmed, he is still waiting for the order form. Will also reports that we have distributed a lot of our equipment in storage and are running out of helmets and skates to give out. This is a great problem to have and we have been able to help so many families outfit their players this season.

Treasurer - Brock states the NHAHA grant is due this Friday 10/20. They were sticklers last year with the requirements; 25% growth and DEI requirements. The Lebanon grant isn't due until November. Allison asked that we buy quick change GK pads and Jen reported the Travel mite coaches were asking about quick change pads too. Will is going to look into these.

Marketing/Social Media Manager - Tom felt it would be great to post some start-up pictures of practices and WABA opening.

Safety/Concussion - No Update

In other new business that was discussed...

The scheduling platform for officials has been a big lift for Will. It's going to happen but it won't be ready for this weekend. Will says that for this weekend, we will do it the old fashioned way and hope to be able to use it for next week.

Brock gave a synopsis of the planning that has gone into the 3v3 tournament and shared a potential email to go out to the public as the dates we have reserved are just over a month away. Josh and Brock have feelers out to organizations and are looking into players signing a waiver to be able to use the ice. Josh Obar reported that Central VT bought supplemental insurance for the weekend just in case when they did their tournament so that is an option. Brock asked the group if we want to open it up to all ages. The board agreed to start with 10U and 12U and go from there. Tom will do a graphic for social media.

Will reported that Amanda still has to decide about a tournament for her team. Everyone else is all set. The 8U's decided on BAHA and Ike Lee.

Brock Barton shared his new draft of the playing up policy. He reminded the board that the former policy was that anybody could request to play up, it didn't have to come from the coaches. New policy would be that the play-up request would have to come from the players coaches and be brought to the board. Josh suggested we add an age column to the table. This table would need to be updated each year but the new age column helps to provide more clarity if the years haven't been updated yet. The Board voted unanimously to approve the play up policy. **Will Meyer** will get it posted on the website ASAP.

Someone reached out about training for the scoreboard and Game Sheet. The board discussed ways to help new members and younger 10U families with getting up to speed on these in-game responsibilities. They decided Tom would make a how-to video that could be shared with team parents. Brock says there are videos for Game Sheet and he will find them. Josh also noted that if Allison makes a change on a USA roster, you also have to change it in GameSheet. They can easily add on Game Sheet but it still must be approved by Roni on the USA roster. Tom is going to do a 10U training at 6pm on Thursday for parents that want to learn the scoreboard.

Dana Wright has all the First Aid Kits ready to go and they will be distributed this week. Dana is willing to meet with all the coaches and show them the bags, like a "What's in the Bag". He also offered to do a training but we need to figure out a time that would work for this. He numbered the kits 1-9 and we can keep track of them with the USA Hockey numbered corresponding rosters. Brock sent this list of assignments via email. Tom asked if it makes sense to have one that just lives at WABA. The board agreed to buy two more, one for House mites and one to live at the rink. Brock has a reimbursement check for Dana and will get it to him at practice this week..

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm