

SSMHA Board Meeting Minutes

Sunday October 22, 2023

Completed – Virtually Via Google Meets

Meeting was Called to Order – 8:40pm

Attendees – Paul McCallion, Jennifer Mason, Andy Selig, Sonya Brosha, Brad Murray, Stephanie Balcolme, Amanda Mosher, Travis Vaughn (HNS Designated Rep – Non-Voting)

Approval of Minutes from Monday October 16th – Jennifer Approved / Stephanie Second

Functionality of the Existing Board – Travis Vaughn has been designated by Hockey Nova Scotia to join the board in a non-voting / consultant role. HNS does want designated leadership from all MHA's and ideally, they would prefer the 2 vacant roles filled at some point. However, they also understand that the appetite from the existing board members, is not to bring in new bodies at this time, and the bylaws do allow for vacancies to be maintained.

Going forward, based on the HNS requirement for leadership roles, combined with the preference to keep the board at 7 members, respecting the wording in the bylaws, and seeking legal advice from JC Reddy; the consensus plan is to allow for both Jennifer (VP of Risk) and Paul (VP) to be dual VP's for the board and share the responsibilities of the vacant President role. From an HNS standpoint it is extremely vital that Jennifer, Paul, and all other members work together to guide this association in the right direction, and ultimately Jenn and Paul will be accountable for the direction and decisions made.

Motion Made by Jennifer and Seconded by Paul for the Board to operate in the above manner for the foreseeable future.

Directors Reports

Sonya – All moving well with roster submissions. Have been submitted for HNS Approval Friday October 20th. Email needs to be sent to Coordinators about the process for Affiliate players and the cut-off date to name AP's will be December 2nd.

Brad – If any managers move games, they are to email Brad to ensure officials are assigned. Never assume the system is going to pick up the change.

Amanda – All teams have their schedules for the season. Focus is on ensuring Grayjay is working for everyone in an efficient manner. Amanda is also working on the Fundraising Ticket template for board review.

Stephanie – RFP and Fundraising Letters have been completed and will be distributed.

Andy – Creation of a Manager's Budget Template – very simple to use and allows the board to track inflow and outflow of team funds for all association teams. Jerseys – mocks designs will be presented as soon as possible for review.

Paul – Tryouts are over, as any year there are always lingering questions about the process and decisions. The board will re-visit the sessions once other urgent issues are handled.

Jennifer – Manager’s Meeting – to be held “drop-in style” – Thursday October 26th at the LCLC. Suggested that lots of communication and reminders be sent to Coordinators and Managers. Following a potential Risk Management complaint from a U11 C parent who has also gone to the media. Meetings with the parent have been held and appears they now understand the process and are calm. Gary L Wentzell March Break Tournament – Flyers and Graphic ready to disburse to MHA’s. Chairperson has been approached. Continuing to Recruit Volunteers.

New Business

New Roles - Motion to Approve Josh Whynot (Technical Director) and Vanessa Bollivar (Communications Director) both unanimous selections in the eyes of the board. These will be non-voting roles.

Approved by Jennifer

Second by Andy

Legal Advisor - Travis to speak with JC Reddy about his intentions to remain as legal counsel for the SSMHA Board.

Hockey Nova Scotia Roadshow – board members invited to attend – October 24th – Queens Place. The event is a pre-determined presentation on various subjects that HNS feels need a bit more education for MHA’s. More of a listening event than a townhall style session.

Halloween Facebook Contest – Vanessa will be asked to distribute information on this event to try and bring some positivity back to SSMHA.

U15 Goalie Helper – the board was made aware of a U15 AA Goalie going on the ice and helping the inexperienced U15 A. All are fine with the plan; except they would like full gear for the helper.

** Amendment to this subject – upon learning that the helper will never be facing a live shot and will be monitored extremely closely by team coaches, the board agreed to allow the helper to wear normal protective gear for this type of activity and deemed full goalie gear was not needed. **

Removal of Equipment Before Leaving Ice – several players from U9 to U18 have been removing their gear prior to stepping off the ice after a practice or game – this action presents a major risk factor and also could result in a penalty against the player. Travis will issue a note to coordinators asking them to remind their team officials that the board has a zero-tolerance level for this behavior.

Equipment Needs – further discussion took place on what coaches require to help operate their teams and Paul plans to sit down with the new GM of the LCLC to discuss storage options.

Meeting Adjourned.