

**Missisquoi Amateur Hockey Association  
Minutes of the Board Meeting  
Tuesday, May 16, 2017**

The MAHA By-Law meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Adam Fortin. The meeting was held at the Highgate School Library.

**Board Members in attendance:**

Adam Fortin, President	Carrie Bessette, Peewee Director
Marcy Stefaniak, Vice President	Amy Messier, Squirt Director
Karen Fortin, Secretary/State Rep	Dawn Lapan, Mite Director
Judy Laroche, Treasurer	Corey Fregeau, Bantam Director
Angela DeSanctis, T-Blade Director	Krystin Valenti, Girls Director
Joe Severy, Director of Coaches	

**MAHA Members in Attendance:** Mark Gilbert, Ty Choiniere, Josh LaRocque, Ashley LaRocque, Rob Tipper, Brian Fortin, Greg Farnham, Katina Farnham, Jeremy Valyou, Chrissy Valyou, Amy Trudell, Lynne Airoidi, Allen Atkins, Heather Atkins, Nola Gilbert, Justin Rainville, Jeremy Letourneau, Joel Jarvis, Laura Gilbert and Amy Parent.

Adam stated that he called this meeting due to the election process and the grievance that was filed against the board. He stated that the MAHA by-laws were updated May 2016. The statement "Governed by Roberts Rules" were added to the by-laws at that time. By doing this, the past practice of accepting proxy votes cannot be allowed.

Adam asked Lynne Airoidi to read the Grievance Committees decision. Please see attached.

-No new nominations

-No proxy votes

-Members not in good standings at the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting cannot accept nominations or vote.

Adam stated that the library has been booked for the re-vote to take place on May 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

Adam open the meeting up for discussion.

Mark Gilbert suggested to drop the "Governed by Robert Rules" or change to "Based not Governed" Jeremy Letourneau stated that Robert Rules should be used as a guideline only.

Adam stated that he would like to propose to change the elections to an application process. This way members know who is interested in being on the board and why. This way it doesn't become personal or controversial. Ty suggested the person interested submit a letter to the board. The MAHA board can hold an informational meeting prior to elections. Ty suggested voting by Australian Ballot at the General Membership meeting or on a separate evening. It was suggested that hold two voting times (example Friday evening and Saturday morning allowing more members to take part). MAHA could have a check in to vote so we know who is voting and if there are members not in good standings they will not be able to vote.

The question was asked how many votes per family? Jeremy stated that he talked to Keith Barret from New England and he said that USA hockey is moving to one vote per family. The question was raised what if there is more than one player or split families.

The by-laws should state that bills need to be paid prior to state tournament. It does state that in the handbook. The two should mirror each other.

Post the positions that are open with descriptions and responsibilities in January.

Ty Choiniere stated that he would like to see the Directors position and the State Rep separated. He also thinks there should be a requirement to be eligible for the State Rep position, you need to serve at least one year on the MAHA board before representing MAHA at the state level.

Josh LaRocque stated that he thinks there should be a limit on terms. Adam stated that SASA does not have a limit on terms and believes that VASHA does not have a limit as well. Jeremy stated that there is strength in knowledge.

Nola Gilbert stated that the school board had to set ground rules on how a member is to conduct themselves during a meeting. She stated that ground rules are stated on the agenda. Josh LaRocque added that the select board has a sign-in and members are called in order that they signed in allowing 15 minutes. If members want to be put on the agenda give them a time frame to put there issue or concern on the agenda.

Ty Choiniere also asked to have the by-laws changed to warn a MAHA monthly meeting at least one week or even two weeks rather than four days.

Ashley LaRocque asked why do we have to have the General Membership prior to March 30<sup>th</sup>, when most fiscal years end April 1<sup>st</sup>. Judy stated we must report any new board members to the secretary of state. It was suggested we could hold elections prior to March 30<sup>th</sup> and then the General Membership meeting after April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Adam ended the meeting by stating that this is all good dialog and the board will review the by-laws and work on putting a new election process in place prior to next March.

A motion to adjourn the MAHA meeting was made by Jeremy Letourneau. Seconded by Brian Fortin. All in favor motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by,

Karen Fortin  
MAHA Secretary