

Minnesota River Bulldog Hockey Association
September 12, 2023 at 6:30pm

Board Members Present: Brielle S, John W, Andy B, Greg W, Lindsey W, Joe k, Jill S, Mary T, Kari B,

Non-Board Members Present: Emberlie T, Sarah C,

Call to Order and Roll Call-

- Approval of Agenda/Minutes- Greg Motion, Andy 2nd

Committees Reports

- Association Team Coordinator
 - Nothing to report -
 - Question: Creating teams in the Website - Can Sarah be set up as Admin on the website. Greg and Jeremy to help.
 - Also looking into having coordinators to be team admins
- Registrar-
 - Updated Numbers - 152 registrations as of 9/13,
 - Need to address new players to Squirts and Older for them to receive jerseys - Brielle
 - Jill is rostering the players
 - John to call on unregistered players Thursday/Friday
 - Tent to be at tryouts for Jill to hand out jerseys.
 - Jill to evaluate how many jerseys we have for evaluations
 - John to put together jerseys for evaluations - to be different numbers and colors
 - No-need to paper windows - SQ and U10 Parents to be out 10 minutes prior to their player's scheduled session.
- Fundraising- Raffle tickets have been ordered. Waiting on practice schedules further out to schedule fundraising dates.
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- Volunteer -
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- Marketing-
 - No updates
 - Questioned asked about the dasher boards - waiting for an update from Scott
 - Scott mentioned he was waiting on an update from Marketing
 - Need pricing information
- Concessions-
 - Steve is setting up concessions in the next few weeks - Consider Christina Graf for the position - waiting on who wants to sign up for
- Referee Coordinator - Not much going on. We should start seeing some officials who have completed their requirements and are ready for the season. Stacy will start compiling our list of officials. Stacy is requesting the meeting minutes be sent out after the meeting and again with the next month's agenda.
- Ice Scheduler-
 - Mary Tews - Share the wealth with the late practices?

- Concerns about wearing on the kids by the end of the season.
 - Opening for morning practices
- District Rep -
 - We received 2 district tournaments.
 - Prices are fixed \$1,500 for Bantam, \$1,350 for 2 C
 - Budget \$100 for next season for Game Sheet
 - Waiver concerns addressed switching
- Tournament Committee Chair-
 - Position is still open
- Equipment- nothing new to report. Had questions about Equipment Rental and Try Hockey for free.
 - Emberlie to re-evaluate try hockey for free dates based on closed evaluations.
- Clothing-
 - \$14,000 in revenue - we get 10%
- Website-
 - No updates.
- Gambling
 - 6 people applied for open positions -
 - Mike Schaffer
 - Christina Graf
 - Michael Kurvers
 - Amber Hagenmiller - to handle deposits
 - Missy Daschner -
 - Request for 2 auditors for gambling - volunteer and fundraising
 - Niesens has been continuing to grow.
 - Approval for 2 auditors - Christina Graf and Amber Hagenmiller
 - Mary Tews Motion
 - John Welch Second
 - Greg requested for a cumulative cash flow request
 - Kari to provide report
 - Motion to approve report & taxes -
 - Jill Stenrud motioned to approve
 - Joe Kane second the motion to approve
- HOC -
 - Funding request to increase goalie fees for Vaughan Ahrens
 - Brielle motion to approve
 - Greg 2nd
 - Greg motion to moving forward to purchase more ice time at UNRL
 - Joe Kane motioned seconded to approve
 - John to provide details and schedule to the board for review
 - Schedule Zoom meeting
 - Recommendations for board to require parents to be lockerroom monitors -
 - John to put together details for lockerroom monitor policy
 - John to send our survey to see what days work for people to meet in the next 2 weeks.
 - Lockerroom monitors to be determined for evaluations

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Old Business-

New Business-

- Marketing Chair Position
 - Having an assistant for the committee chair,
- Mites
- Try Hockey for Free
- Hiring of new auditors

Officers

- President-
- Treasurer-
 - Greg motion to approve budget
 - Brielle to 2nd the motion for approval.
- Gambling-
- Hockey Operations Committee –

Motion to adjourn meeting

John Welch motion to adjourn.
Joe to second the motion

Open Forum-

Next Meeting Date and Adjournment-

MONTHLY RECAP

Committee Activities

Committee Name: HOC

For Month End: August

The biggest 'win' for your committee last month

(ie. Every volunteer showed up for their shift, All equipment was returned, etc..)

- HOC met on 9/6, discussed and finalized several changes for the 2023/2024 season:
 - Improved & optimized schedule for Skating Clinics with Laura
 - [MN River Bulldogs & Laura Mitchell](#)
 - Revamped Scheduled for Goalie Clinics with Vaughan Ahrens
 - In Lieu of separate Monday-night goalie clinics, we are having Vaughan Ahrens (GAC Men's goalie coach) attend all 3 practices on Tuesday Nights to work with our goalies - for roughly the same amount of investment for goalies in previous years.
 - Discussed and are implementing a plan for the rollout of Ice Hockey Systems to our coaches/association.
 - IHS Topics discussed:
 - Presentation/Demonstration at our fall coaches meeting (9/20 @ 7:30 pm)
 - How to designate logins

- How to utilize the communications within the app to foster a tighter coaching community
- How do we address coaches who choose not to utilize IHS?
- What is the best way to create practice plans for coaches - while still ensuring that coaches are learning
- Coach Development - How can we better build our coaching culture?
- Utilize Tommy's Monday nights (5 Minutes) to discuss the "nuts & bolts" of practice plans - what is and isn't working, etc.
- Lockerroom Monitor policy to be approved and enforced by the board

What can be improved for next month?

What is your focus for next month?

- HOC is set to meet on 9/17 to discuss and approve/deny move-up requests.
- HOC to conduct fall coach's meeting on 9/20.

What are the revenue & expenses for last month

N/A

Do you have any requests for your committee or items that need approval?

Request 1 - Goalie Coach Fees - \$6,375 (+240.00 increase annually)

\$6,375 in funding to be approved for goalie clinics - an increase of \$240.00.

(Details Below):

Current issues with previous goalie clinic:

- Pricing - we are paying about \$470 per hour (\$275 to Des / \$195 for ice)
- **\$6,135 for 13 Sessions**
- Ratios - when all our goalies attend it's at best a 10 to 1 player-to-coach ratio.
- Finding Shooters - while we were promised by the HS to have shooters attend it has been a struggle on the follow through.

Proposed Solutions:

We have been in touch with [Vaughan Ahrens](#) - who works with [Attitude Goaltending](#) and is the current goalie coach for Gustavus. He finishes working with the GAC goalies around 6 pm on Tuesdays and is willing to come to Le Sueur to attend and work with our goalies at each of our practices.

Benefits:

- Better Ratios - At most our players will have a 1 to 5 player-to-coach ratio.
- Pricing Information:
 - Rate: \$125 to \$150 per hour (only time on ice - he doesn't require pay for travel/resurfacing time)
 - Total Cost: **\$6,375 for 51 Sessions.**
- For nights there are conflicts with the HS Schedule (about 9) we will either work to reschedule for a separate night of the week or we will have Vaughan do training in the dryland facility with our goalies.
- Coach Development: Having a goalie coach attend our practices will allow HOC and the necessary coaches (ie Tommy) to learn proper/update goalie training drills/mindset/techniques and further disperse that knowledge to our association.

HS Goalies:

Matt, Dustin & Chris have received funding from the HS boosters to have the St. Thomas Academy goalie coach to attend HS practices on Mondays. HS Goalies are also approved to attend the Bantam goalie practices on Tuesdays for additional development.

Request 2 - Additional Ice Time at the Pond (\$8,800 initial investment - \$6,800 total by EOS)

\$8,800 to lock in 4 hours of ice time on Fridays at UNRL Arena in Mankato.

Proposed Scheduled:

December 1st through February 16th. (11 Weeks)

6:00 to 6:50

7:00 to 7:50

8:00 to 8:50

9:00 to 9:50

This increases our ice touches by 44 over the course of the season.

****Mite Addendum****

If the association is to approve the purchase of the blocks of time I will propose to our mite 4 and 5 parents to purchase the 6:00 to 6:50 time slot to use for Mite games. ***This will decrease the total investment of the association from \$8,800 to \$6,800.***

Request 3 - 2 Hockey Full-Sized Hockey Nets (\$1,400 +/- Shipping Costs)

With our plans to incorporate weekly/bi-weekly cross-ice game play on Mondays, we will need a 3rd set of nets. Heartland Sports in Rogers MN can provide 2 game-ready nets for +/- \$1,335.36

Request 4 - Lockerroom Monitor Requirments

As we've received more input from MN Hockey we need it to be made a requirement that we have parents assigned as lockerroom monitors. In years past we've had head/assistant coaches in place as the locker room monitors - we request that parents are to be assigned for this position.

Perceived Benefits:

1. Increased time for coaches to meet and speak in the coach's room prior to practices
 - a. This creates and fosters a more collaborative environment for head coaches to discuss their practice plans - increasing ice-time efficiency
2. Increased accountability for parents
 - a. We recommend a rotating schedule (similar to home game positions) that parents are placed on for the season. This will require parents to not just drop off and pick up their players from practices.

MONTHLY RECAP

Committee Activities

Committee Name: Registrar

For Month End: September

The biggest 'win' for your committee last month

(ie. Every volunteer showed up for their shift, All equipment was returned, etc..)

Weekly registration reports.

Responding to parent questions on registration.

Rostering board members.

Rostering players to teams (ex: Bantam All)

Creating teams in USA Hockey

What can be improved for next month

(ie. Sending reminder emails earlier, Creating a posting plan, Being more timely with submissions, etc..)

What is your focus for next month

(ie. An event, A website launch, Picture day is happening, etc..)

Rostering the board – would like it submitted by October 1st.

Weekly updates for registration

Working with Association Coordinator on team numbers (USA Hockey)

Evaluations: Grabbing jerseys, organizing paperwork for players to sign/ washing/putting away jerseys

Rostering teams after evaluations / posting the teams on the website

Register out of state tournaments with District 9 (do before event/ December)

Enter coaches in USA Hockey – run reports for Taylor

What are the revenue & expenses for last month

**if applicable*

NA

Do you have any requests for your committee, or items that need approval?

When will I get the list of move ups. I've heard all last year mite girls are moving up, how should I roster them for now?

Try Hockey for free? Are we having one – if so, I need to register the event with USA Hockey.

Can I wash all the eval jerseys at the laundry mate and get reimbursed?

MONTHLY RECAP

Committee Activities

Committee Name: District Rep

For Month End: August 2023

The biggest 'win' for your committee last month

- Summer Meeting occurred on 8/28

What can be improved for next month?

- Nothing needed for September

What is your focus for next month?

- September will be a quiet month for D9

What is the revenue & expenses for last month?

- None

Do you have any requests for your committee, or items that need approval?

- No requests or approvals, but some things that people need to be aware of

Board

- **I'd like to discuss this at the board meeting to explain**
 - Lengthy discussion with Districts on waiver approvals and automatic approvals: **would like to get the MN River Board's perspective to share with D9**

Treasurer

- No fees for GameSheet this season, but prepare for \$100 per team in 2024-25
- Cost for D9 Tournaments
 - Districts Bantams - \$1500
 - Districts PW/U12 - \$1400
 - EOY Tournaments PW/U12/Bantams - \$1350
 - EOY Tournaments SQ/U10 - \$1250

Registrar & Tournament Director ?

- MN River was selected to host Bantam B Districts (2/15-18) & Bantam B2/C EOY Tournament (Our discretion from mid February to Mid March. Do need to let D9 know this fall.
- **Will need to set up in Sports Engine for teams to Register**

HOC & Ice Scheduler

- PW/U12 & Bantam Game Scheduling Meeting will be on Sunday 10/15 at the Eagles Club in Rochester (exact times per level will come out later)
- Sq/U10 Game Scheduling Meeting will be on Sunday 11/12 at the Eagles Club in Rochester (exact times per level will come out later)

MONTHLY RECAP

Committee Activities

Committee Name: Marketing

For Month End: August

The biggest 'win' for your committee last month

Opportunities:

Brianna Decker Endowment Fund Grant App – submitted and waiting to hear back if we are awarded anything.

What is your focus for next month?

- Registration and Recruitment
 - Press Release – send out after established Equipment check out and Try hockey
 - School flyer to send out
 - Flyer for Community centers/areas

Posting for:

Registration

Open committee positions

Start of the hockey season

Anything Sarah/Scott put out

Transferring information to a flash drive to pass on to the next person for reference (ongoing)**Upcoming:**

Sponsorships for ice boards/teams etc.

Learn to skate program.

Focus on Girl's Hockey/recruitment.

New advertising signage

Handouts