



Menomonie Youth Hockey Association

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2021

Mission: To provide youth in the greater Menomonie area with the opportunity to learn, play and compete in the game of hockey with an emphasis on growth in the areas of skill development, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Vision: Pursuit of the model USA hockey organization following the American development model.

Ground Rules: Mutual respect, be timely – start on time and end no later than 9:30 p.m. Come prepared. Allow enough time to make decisions and stand by your decisions. Communicate, conduct yourself and make decisions based on what's best for the entire association versus just your child.

Call to order: Stacy calls the meeting to session 19:06

Roll Call/Quorum:

- Stacy Hintzman, President - Present
- Kris Wilkens – Concessions Co-Director - Present
- Gary Messerschmidt, Treasurer - Present
- Bob Weir, Hockey Operations Director- Present
- Dave Schwedler, Growth & Retention - Present
- Mike Jax, Tournaments & Scheduling Director - Present
- Brent Pember, General Operations Director - Absent
- Troy Wilkens, Concessions Co-Director - Present
- Adam Wamboldt - Absence
- Kelley Gowling Equipment Director - Present
- Heidi Dowd – Fundraising Director - Present
- Kate Kramschuster – Secretary - Present

Open Session

Member comments:

1. Scheduling Concerns and Expectations

Concerns expressed about the scheduling process and amount of games played at the Squirts and above levels. Many families new to this level may not be aware of the time commitment and number of games that their child will be playing. Would like to see clear expectations about role of Team Managers in scheduling, and improved communication around weekends we play, especially around holidays.

- Why don't we communicate scheduling more clearly at registration?
- An idea for improvement there and reasons why it is needed
- We need scheduling guidelines.

- After Mike schedules it gets passed to a team manager to schedule.
- They should have very specific guidelines to follow.
- Specific to the weekends of hunting and Thanksgiving
- Suggestion for a solution for families that travel out of state
- What about moving games to Tuesday night (and/or Thursday for hunting weekend), and having practices and skills for those levels on the weekend?

Board discussion:

- Have a process to inform members of the changes that occur between Mites and Squirts. Make scheduling expectations clear to protect the TMs as well.
- It is not new to play holiday weekends. Typically, we will play Thanksgiving and Christmas weekend (not Christmas Day). Thanksgiving weekend is easy to find games to play, Opening hunting weekend is difficult to find teams to play. If a family needs to travel, it is acceptable to miss one of these games.
- There are 2 home, 2 away tournaments plus 30 games. 2/3-3/4 of the games are scheduled by the time tryouts happen. There are around 40 games in a season for Squirts, may hit 49 with playdowns and State
- Discussed the process for how and when games get scheduled, and that we should be transparent. The registration says 30 games with 3 tournaments. Need to be more clear that it is an estimate, and that tournaments and playdowns aren't included in the 30 game number.
- The number was purposely left vague so that the TM and coaches can do what is best for the team. Team managers can schedule games, the board can make recommendations, but does not mandate no hockey weekends. Previous no hockey weekends cost the association over \$20,000 in open ice fees and lost concessions hours. We pay for all ice time, even when it isn't being used.
- There are also limits on ice time that are a factor, so sometimes the choice is not up to us on days and times when we will have to travel.
- **Action items:**
 - Update the registration form to provide clarity about the amount of games schedule. (Keep this on the task list until we get a scheduler)
 - End of season meeting at Mites level to discuss what to expect meeting for Mites going into Squirts
 - Gather member feedback regarding no-hockey weekends using the end-of-season survey.
 - Team Manager meeting – can Cassandra construct guidelines for Team Managers when scheduling? How can families provide feedback when games are added to the schedule?
 - Look at attendance policy and provide coaches and TMs an update (coming at next PDC meeting)

2. 8U Girls hockey opportunities

WAHA organizing programs for the 8U girls. There are opportunities for girls to sign up to be placed on teams, girls could play any weekend.

Board Discussion:

- Is there concern about the boys not getting the same opportunity?
- The WAHA programs is set up for girls-only teams, but not for co-ed teams. Do we need to look at getting an 8U all girls program? Eau Claire has an 8U program that the girls could do instead of the Menomonie Mite program.
- This is just letting them know about the opportunity that is out there.
- There is an opportunity for the representative from the CFM program to do more legwork to promote girls hockey, rather than just going to the meetings. This is a WAP earning position.
- **Action items:**
 - Find someone to sit on the committee and advertise the girls' programs.
 - Continued conversation about whether there should be a separate girls' 8U program.

Consent Agenda:

Secretary: Heidi Dowd

- Minutes from September 27th meeting, October 7th Closed minute meeting, and October 24th Closed minute meeting.
 - Motion to not approve minutes. Hintzman will email a motion to approve the consent agenda, Heidi will finalize any revisions.

Growth and Retention Director: Dave Schwedler

	2020-21	loss	Non-LTS Adds	LTS	Regular	Registered	% change
2018	0			3	0	3	NA
2017	2			15	2	17	750.00%
2016	9	4		6	6	12	33.33%
2015	10	3	1	7	8	15	50.00%
2014	15	3	2	1	14	15	0.00%
2013	11			1	10	11	0.00%
2012	16	1	1	4	16	20	25.00%
2011	18	3	1	2	16	18	0.00%
2010	19	1		1	18	19	0.00%
2009	10	1	4		13	13	30.00%
2008	7		2		9	9	28.57%
2007	14	5			9	9	-35.71%
2006	7	7	1		1	1	-85.71%
2005	2	2			0	0	-100.00%
Total	140	30	12	40	122	162	115.71%

REGULAR AGENDA

President's Report: Stacy Hintzman

- Board Positions
 - Jeff Accepted PDC Position
 - Kate Accepted Secretary of the Board Position

Hockey operations director: Bob Weir

- Still some coaching to finalize.
- Need to pay Mike for the Powerskating and other coaching, need to send that information to Gary.
- Bob to align with Gary on payment of non-parent coaches
- Reorganizing PDC, there is a disconnect between getting people excited but gap in next steps. Bob accepted a position assistant coaching for the HS team. A way to build connection between the programs?
- Final draft of attendance policy – will be discussed at PDC meeting Wednesday
- Breakfast club – will be discussed Wednesday night
- Impact testing – done

Growth and retentions director: Dave Schwedler

- Girls coop board member – need to find someone who will be involved and committed to growing the program.
- Banner raising – Dave has 3 Squirt State Tournament banners.
 - Have them raised with a celebration at a MHS game. Could have a pre-game gathering in the community room before.
 - HS Coach suggested a game when there is not a JV game, as that would allow for more time.
 - Recommendation to have HS Coach work out logistics for school district approval. A weeknight game would be best so that our MYHA players will be in town.
 - There are Styrofoam replica banners – could use this as a fundraiser. Bill's can do printing, this is part of their
- Try hockey free – Saturday, November 6th
 - Working out logistics with new registration system. Trying to figure out how to email them for sizes so we can be prepared
 - Three people registered.
 - Equipment is low on very small and larger hockey skates. Need more helmets. Kids can wear bike helmets. There will only be a few kids, seeing much smaller numbers since we started the free LTS.
- Girls' hockey weekend – will get scheduled. Looking at a Girls' Hockey night out.
- LTS – 40 skaters, which puts us at 162, a first for MYHA.
- UW Hockey game brought in \$487 for the organization.
- LTS movement of older players
 - Would like to get this standardized in the organization with a documented process in place.

- This year there are more older kids than there has been in the past.
- Suggestion to have older kids move up, starting with Mini Mites on Wednesday. The process is to have them go through Mini Mites, then Mites, then go up to Squirts. However, any of them can register for Squirts if they are Squirts age, just need to register before they start to play.
- Need to meet with families to make sure the families understand the details of the cost, schedule, etc.
- Fees would be pro-rated to the date they start. Normally, they would do the 2nd fundraiser, however we aren't doing a 2nd fundraiser this year. They will still have 8 hours of concessions and other volunteer requirements. MYHA already paid for their USA hockey memberships.
- **Action items:**
 - PDC meeting at the rink on Wednesday will discuss the process
 - Stacy and Dave will meet with the families on Thursday.

Fundraising Director: Heidi Dowd

- Fundraising budget - Businesses are not donating as much as they used to. Support from board to have a fundraising budget, since we have full tournaments. Money can be spent on filler items, baskets, wrapping, etc., but want to encourage members to donate as well. Can we look at trading WAP hours in return for raffle items?
- Motion for \$500 for raffle basket budget - approved
- Fundraising committee is gaining membership, and now has 3 people
- Wreath sales were up this year with positive initial feedback about items offered
- Purse bingo:
 - Scheduling with the Blue Line Club, and will be November 20th.
 - Looking for raffle items.
 - MYHA responsible for the food, beer, setup, tear-down.
 - Blue Line club gets money from 100 tickets, MYHA gets money from 100 tickets.
 - Need to apply for Bingo License and Raffle License (expired).
- **Action Items:**
 - Provide dates when we want to sell beer and wine for the liquor license. It would be helpful to know them all at once.
 - Apply for Bingo and Raffle Licenses

Tournament and scheduling Director: Mike Jax

- Outdoor Mites tournament – no date

Concession stand Director: Kris and Troy Wilkens

- Need to start looking for a replacement so they can shadow this year.

Secretary: Kate Kramschuster

- Will look into ways to get the minutes out and approved more quickly

Equipment Director: Kelley Gowling

- Gear for LTS.
 - We had some shortages
 - In the process of seeking out additional gear
 - Going to do an equipment drive
 - Need to plan out with Play it Again to get new helmets. The cheapest ones are fine.
 - There are extra ball caps to provide to coaches so they are representing MYHA
 - Look into purchasing more caps, hats, and blankets for concessions.

Player Development Committee: Bob Wier

- PDC Communication surrounding tryouts
 - Courtesy calls – should those go out, and what is the purpose? Provide feedback and make the news easier to receive.
 - Discussed process of assessors not knowing kids and felt it was more subjective. Didn't give the benefit of the doubt to older kids because they didn't know them. Looked at hustle, aggressiveness, etc.
 - Need to be open to continuous improvement, need to communicate
 - MYHA Policy says we need to get results out in 48 hours
 - **Action item** – update the policy so tryout results do not need to be published within 48 hours.

General

- COVID Protocol – locker rooms will be open, need to have monitors, recommend social distancing. Open 30 minutes before game day, 15 minutes before practice. Alternate between 5/6, and 1/2. Motion passed. Update: on November 5th, the board determined via email to delay opening locker rooms for practices, due to a higher number of COVID cases.
- Process for opening the building. Coaches have access, should check to make sure front door is unlocked.
- Questions regarding camera access, who can view and access the videos.
- Visiting teams need to provide a penalty box for home games.
- Open Skate – Motion to delay decision and revisit in December - passed
- Open board positions – may need to appoint a director of operations, so that there isn't too much turnover at the same time. Heidi and Kate will look into finding term limits, will vote at next meeting.
- Stout game on Friday – need someone in the concessions stand.
- MYHA Venmo – needs to be set up to go to the MYHA Account. Venmo not a recommended option for the wreaths, but it worked very well for the LTS tournament. Will need to test it at a tournament to see how it works. Gary will do some research.
- Coaches and TM approval.
 - Motion to approve all coaches and Team Managers on coaching document, with the addition of Squirt B team manager.

- Pictures – will be done on the ice for younger, will be done by the tunnel for older kids.

Next Meeting: November 29th. 6:00 Stout Craft Co