

WATERTOWN HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES

Location: Fairfield Inn, Watertown NY
 Date: 07/27/2022
 Time: 6:00 PM

Board of Directors:

<p style="text-align: center;">Vega Nutting, Board President</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Michael Ledoux, Board Vice President</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Board Members</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Samantha VanBrocklin, Ice Coordinator</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chris Nethers, Learn to Play Liaison</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tim Esposito</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tom Eiss</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Adam Nyitray (not in attendance)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thomas Brown</p> <p style="text-align: center;">John Terry</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Additional Elected Positions</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Brian Nutting - WHA Treasurer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Angela Keegan - Secretary</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Michelle Rist - WHA Registrar</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dan McAloon - Ace Coordinator</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Amanda Gregory - Equipment Manager</p>
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Agenda Items

Meeting called to order 6:07 PM

June Meeting Minutes Review and Approval:

Michael Ledoux motion to approve minutes from 6/22/22 meeting, seconded by Brown, no one opposed, motion carries.

Treasurer’s Report 2022 Budget

- No treasury financial records kept until 2020
- Sports Engine does not itemize any online stores, looking for suggestions on different fundraising options
 - Tom Brown suggested [squadlocker.com](https://www.squadlocker.com) for online store fundraising, can set prices
- Interest rates on CD’s on rise, suggests moving account funds to CD to earn money. Brian to check rates on CD’s.

- Bank Account**
- Checking/Savings/Concession approx \$195K
 - Blair Harff Funds - Michael to reach out to family to discuss where that money can be spent, approximately \$100K
 - Brian wants additional signer for checks, Michael Ledoux was suggested

Tim Esposito motioned to have Michael Ledoux added to checks and have Dan James removed, as well as Brian Nutting and Michael Ledoux to both have debit cards and ability to write checks, John Terry seconded the motion, no one opposed, motion carries, all approved.

- Budget/Registration**
- Set approximate registration numbers, looking to increase 16U/18U, Registration to release August 1st.
 - Ice contract hasn't changed, locked in until September 2024
 - \$315 Mites, \$395 16/18U and all others \$550 in between.
 - Increase Tournament fee from \$800 to \$1000
 - 2 forwards and a goalie from Wolves to do training weekly, \$200 each time, 2 slots once a week.
 - 8/10/12U and 14/16/18U
 - Per ref rep, ref fees are to increase \$5-\$10 per ref, per game
 - HS/Adult hockey wants more ice, may have ice available elsewhere

John Terry made motion to approve all registration fees and budget, Samantha Vanbrocklin seconded, no one opposed, motion carries.

Committee Formation

Bylaw Committee: Board to go over bylaws:

Create a committee to go over bylaws:

- Brian offered to rewrite bylaws pieces that get us into a bind, Tom and Sam willing to be on the committee to rewrite bylaws and send out markup to look at prior to board meeting.

Motion by Vega Nutting for Bylaw committee of Brian Nutting, Tom Eiss and Samantha VanBrocklin to update outdated pieces of bylaws, John Terry seconded motion. All in favor, motion passes.

Fundraising Committee: Golf tournament is current fundraiser, home tournaments are additional.

- No committee established at meeting

Coaching Committee: Dan McAloon to reach out to John Terry and Tim Esposito for candidates prior to the start of the season. Committee must be non-biased and follow procedures and bylaws. Recommended to get committee submissions together and email out to board prior to next board meeting.

- Assists in determining evaluators for various levels, 2-3 outside evaluators along with division coaches to grade kids, evaluations to go to committee then brought to board for approval.
- Committee lays ground work for evaluations
- Ace coordinator needs to be for accountability of coaches, resolution issues and development, not complaint department. Coaches committee should fall in line before ACE.
 - Bylaws state issues should go from Team Manager, to president of the board, etc. ACE coordinator is not first.
- - Dan McAloon to draft some guidelines for coaches.

Golf Tournament Update

- All set with food, donated from Renzi's. Willowbrook, kid in all goalie pads, with a foam ball. Ton of Sponsors. Taking registrations for tournament.

Home Tournament dates

8U Mite Jam: 10/22/22

14U: 11/11 - 11/13/22

10U: 12/2 - 12/4/22

12U: 2/3 - 2/5/23

8U Jam: 3/4 - 3/5/23

Scott Weller Director of Parks and Rec, talking about tournament weekends

- Talk to Hannah about 8U, problems filling jam last year

Robbie Glanz Update

Robbie Glanz – December 4-6th – 2 sessions per day. Each session can accommodate 35-40 kids.

- Setup Registration for WHA first and pay Robbie. If it cannot be filled then promote/open to other associations.
- Close it to Mites due to the level of skill, if any mites are invited, limit to 2014.
- Tom Eiss to see how much Robbie's fee is and how soon we can open it up.
 - Would like to open mid or end of September in case we don't fill it then we have time to open to other associations.
- May have to relocate games to Alex Bay for that weekend to make room for Robbie.
- What to do about practice Monday and Tuesday for kids not attending Glanz sessions.

Trademark - Logo Update

Vega spoke with attorney: Wolves came after PPS for using PPS to print. An attorney stated that it was not copyrighted, we are getting Watertown Hockey with the wolf but does not say Watertown Wolves. PPS will be happy to know that we have it trademarked and anyone can sell what we have trademarked. Waiting to hear from Byron.

Spring Tryout Committee Update

- Idea is after state tournament to do spring tryouts.
 - Reason why, players are already committed to other associations before our registrations
 - Pick top 8 players and offer the opportunity to fill it in the fall
- Michael Ledoux - does not like the idea of early tryouts in spring, being compared to teams out of our league. Doing this at 14U/16U/18U sends a message to players that didn't make it that they aren't good enough, this message sticks with kids. Unity challenging fielding single A teams that can compete with the pool of kids around our area.
- In the spring, there was no indication that there would be 41 Bantams signing up at Watertown last season.
 - Suggested June/July/August tryout instead if we move it up.

Tabled to come up with better ideas.

Scheduling/High Level Hockey

Tom Brown - indicated lack of early schedule like others in high level hockey. Rebuttal was that we are not in that league and there are many others scheduling at the same time as we are and Snowbelt schedule is decided together for those teams.

- Discussion of building a better system for training managers to schedule and how to handle tournaments
- School sports starting delays opportunity evaluate with ice coming in 3rd week of September.

Open Agenda:

- Open House in September - equipment swap, coaches there for meet and greet. Past; Fort Drum did advertising, great opportunity for new kids to try equipment on and registration could be completed there. Provide Pizza or food, street hockey? Do on a weekend.
- Land Trust; asked for support from WHA, need signed letter stating we support their project, no money needed. Looking for grant money from state. May offer opportunity to negotiate for first choice on ice.
- Nethers: IHC tough position with at 3:30 time slot, hard to accommodate time slot. Can we negotiate with Alex Bay and TI for ice?
 - Samantha: Midget ice is limited, maybe 4:30 practice would be good or later at night. Contact Alex Bay/TI to procure other ice.
- Ledoux: Build a JV team since AD at IHC has no intentions to cut any players (38-40 currently)
 - 16U solution: HS tryouts select 20 kids, whichever kids not selected can play on IHC Hockey Club team. Any player 9/10 grade regardless of school, could play on it if not chosen for HS. 3 times on ice per week, 14 games is a win.
 - Players would pay to play, possibly \$150.
- Ledoux wants to foster a girls program at WHA, 14U to start.
Tabled to discuss later.

Meeting Adjourned 8:27 PM

Vega Nutting motioned to adjourn, seconded by Tim Esposito, all in favor, meeting adjourned.