

Alexandria Area Hockey Association Agenda
June 26th, 2024
6AM - Runestone Community Center

Monthly Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Brittney Thoreson, Josh Hills, Getty Johnson, Taylor Hayes, Melanie Belsheim, Ben Vangsness, Joel Loveland, Matt VanBruggen, Amber Blakesley, Rebekah Summer, Kelli Drapper, Andrea Nyberg, Cory Oberg, Apryl Putnam

Absent: Brian Klimek

- **Call to order:** 6:01am
- **Approve Agenda:** Loveland/Vangsness: motion carried
- **Approve Minutes – May 2024:** Hills/Loveland: motion carried
- **Approve Annual Minutes-May 2024:** Loveland/Hills: motion carried
- **Financial Reports:**
 - **Gambling (Rebekah)**
 - Additional details for Gambling reports are reported to the board members from financials submitted to the Gambling Control Board. These reports are available upon request to the membership.
 - **Gambling Site Updates:**
 - Hired temporary Asst gambling manager – this has been a difficult position to hire due to the hours
 - Request to increase pay for Asst gambling managers to \$20/hour: Hills/Loveland: motion carried
 - Request to approved Budget: \$38,810: Putnam/Nyberg: motion carried
 - Request to use Haburn for annual audit: Hills/Loveland: motion carried
 - Still seeking another Asst Gambling Manager
 - **AAHA Financials (Kelli/Ben)**
 - **Reviewed Profit and Loss Statement**
 - Reviewed April and May financials
 - Goalie Scholarships - \$17,500 paid out this year, comparable to last year
 - Volunteer buy out fees - \$2,500 paid back
 - Game Expenses - \$80,000 paid out to refs this last season which is about \$10,000 more than last year due to higher wages
 - Donations - \$3,000
 - Explore Alexandria - \$17,500 came in from this grant, another \$17,500 should come in by the end of the year
 - Ice Rental costs are our biggest expenses - \$159,000 to the RCC this year and \$214,000 overall including Northstar
 - \$33,000 paid out in this current fiscal year for the upcoming 2024-2025 season
 - Coaches expenses are down due to not having nearly as many non-parent coaches

- \$9,300 in banquet expenses were paid out. Costs continue to increase so we may need to reconsider something new/different next year
 - AAHA YTD financials (\$52,433) that does not yet include gambling revenue
 - Home Tournament revenue appears way under budget, to date, but a large portion of that revenue will come in the month of June as teams are registering for our tournaments. Same applies to the expense line item for away tournaments.
 - Healthy cash balance – donation for the rink is being held in our checking/savings bank account.
 - Motion to approve the April/May financials: Putnam/Blakesley: motion carried.
- **Committee Reports:**
 - **Vice President Report (Joel)**
 - Hockey Committee met last week
 - Met with Jason Lattimer and went over contracting for RCC and Northstar with the goal of keeping current ice expense the same as last year
 - **Communications (Andrea)**
 - Fall Development League registration awareness
 - Push to have registration open on August 1st
 - League to start the first part of September
 - Registration date goal for the season
 - Non parent coaches posting to social media
 - Going forward –
 - advertising the golf tourney on September 15th
 - beginners clinic
 - **Tournament/Team Manager (Amber)**
 - Tournaments- All are full with waiting list except 3 openings for 12A (Possibly 4)- fastest year to fill over 80% full in 30 minutes
 - Slushie vouchers have been made
 - Should we consider tokens instead of vouchers that we can reuse year after year and easier for tracking?
 - Connected with WinningEdge for a quote for a photo backdrop for the tournament
 - Hotels are booking fast and very thankful for AAHA
 - Looking at Best Western as a hotel option as it has been remodeled and they are interested
 - Need to order helmets for the tournaments
 - **Volunteers/DIBS Coordinator (Apryl)**
 - Will have to wait on registration numbers to confirm total DIBS counts per skater
 - Will evaluate how DIBS are distributed across all roles
 - **Concessions (Josh H)**
 - Need to meet with the City and find out what plans look like for concession stands.

- Need to review and discuss the concession manager position as it relates to tasks and duties
 - Discuss what budget needs will be for the upcoming season.
 - We will need to revisit the DIBS allocations and we will be opening in September and have tournaments that will run into March this season
 - Will be looking at inventory as we stock new stand that will include a small monthly fee.
- **Sponsorship/Fundraising (Getty J)**
 - Met with Josh Waldorf to learn role
 - Looking at sponsorship levels and what that looks like going forward
 - Working on golf scramble
 - Looking at jersey process and going away from having sponsor on the jersey due to the expense it costs to maintain them
- **Equipment/Rink Rookie (Melanie B)-**
 - Finished organizing the closet
 - Started a list of items that are needed
 - Needs smaller hockey bags
- **Retention/Recruitment (Taylor H)**
- **Director of Hockey/Hockey Committee-**
 - Working on some slight restructure of the mite program
 - House league teams – previous 12 teams of 8 caused issues with attendance so will be transitioning to 8 teams of 12 kids
 - Will be moving from 1/3 ice to ½ ice
 - Jamboree Teams will be tiered for those tournaments
 - Fall Development League transition to 2 days/week and it will run a little longer
 - Planning for tryouts and tryout clinic
 - Working on scheduling a body contact clinic with MN Hockey.
 - Tournament updates
 - Working on finalizing an addendum to the handbook for the hockey committee
 - Request made to approve purchase of Ice Hockey System. Motion approved: Hills/Loveland: motion carried.
 - Request made to clean up old materials on the website. Old documents and registration are making it difficult to find information.
- **Old Business:**
 - RCC expansion
 - Explore Alex
 - Submit 2024-2025 by June 28
 - Charitable Gambling Committee Application
 - Crossbar vs. SportsEngine
 - Due to timing, the goal would be to consider Crossbar for next year and continue with Sports Engine for this season
 - Policy on Posting to the Website

- Consider a sponsorship level that would grant website access
 - Review this at the next board meeting
 - If it's directly competing with AAHA, have policy around this
- Request for approval to have Cutting Edge as part of the fall-development league: \$150/session. \$100 for the hour on the ice and \$50 for the half hour of off ice. Summer/Blakesley make motion: motion carried.
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- **New Business**
 - Request for approval of RCC Contract 2024-2025 with no changes from last years costs: Hills/Loveland: motion carried

Motion to adjourn meeting: Hayes/Loveland: 8:19am

Next Board Meeting- Wednesday, July 24th 6am

Location – RCC

Mission Statement

The Alexandria Area Hockey Association (AAHA) is committed to providing a quality environment for youth hockey players to learn and enjoy the sport of hockey.