

**Helena Area Youth Hockey Association
Board Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2018
7:00 pm at Helena Ice Arena**

People Present

HAYHA Board Members:

Kurt Moser – President and Squirt Rep
Sarah Garcia – Treasurer and High School Rep
Lance Wilson – Registrar
Ryan Lilletvedt – PeeWee Rep and Vice President
Robert Whited – Bantam Rep
Scott Petersen – Member at Large and SafeSport Coordinator
Justin Steckelberg – U8 Rep

Guests:

Bob Richards – Coach-in-Chief
Shawn Schroeder – last year's Bantam Rep and Coach
Wendy and Kevin Cook

People Present via telephone

HAYHA Board Members:

Mekell Lybbert – MAHA Rep
Judy Merickel – 8U Rep and Secretary

Call to Order at 7:04 pm

Minutes

Scott made a motion and Sarah seconded it to pass the August 1st minutes. The board passed the motion. Judy will post to the website.

Public Comment

None

Practice Schedule

Per Judy's request, Robby has moved the House League practice to earlier slot on Monday (6:30) and PeeWees to the later spot on Monday (7:30). Stan is meeting with the figure skaters tomorrow and then we will know if we can have another 4:20 slot for U16 or High School practice.

Disciplinary Policy

Kurt worked John Bloomquist's concerns and feedback from last board meeting into the policy and made some fundamental changes including who makes up the disciplinary committee (4 board members – Safe Sport Rep, Registrar, MAHA Rep and VP), the committee would handle

all Level 1 issues but Level 2, 3 and 4 the committee would hold a hearing and then recommend a proposed action to the entire board. Judy asked to clarify that the policy isn't removing authority from the coaches. Kurt explained that the policy still expects coaches to handle all on-ice disciplinary matters the way they always have including sitting/benching players who exhibit repeated poor behavior at practices and games. The disciplinary policy is meant to support coaches when behaviors become so repetitive that they need the committee and board's help to address. A question was also raised about the language "behavior that would result in a minor or major game penalty". Kurt, Mekell and Scott indicated that the intent of this behavior description was for practice situations and the language could be clearer. After further discussion, Kurt is going to incorporate suggestions from tonight, then send to John Bloomquist (Attorney and former HAYHA Board President) and the board will have a quick conference call on Monday to review the policy again.

Bylaws Changes – Kurt

Kurt created a proposed blurb to be added to our bylaws as an amendment that will allow us to have disciplinary authority to carry out the proposed disciplinary policy, should it pass. He is going to have John Bloomquist review this amendment as well.

Codes of Conduct and Handbook

Robby asked that the tobacco language be removed from the Codes of Conduct since we have players over the age of 18 and parents who are legally allowed to consume tobacco should they choose. He has concern over using subjective terms like "vicinity" regarding Code of Conduct and Disciplinary policies. He would like to see clearer language or definition of "vicinity". Sarah Garcia also confirmed how hard it is to enforce smoking laws outside the front of buildings so inside the facility made sense. Kurt said that we don't need to worry about regulating smoking because the facility has its own rules and MT Law already regulates this. Mekell is going to update the Codes of Conduct. Kurt is also sending the Member Handbook to Mekell so she can update it with a short paragraph about the Disciplinary Policy, update season dates, board members and any other necessary changes.

Website and Coach-in-Chief

Robby has made further changes to improve the website and is working with Bob Richards on the coaching application online. They have updated the coaching application to list all the coaching requirements set forth by MAHA. Judy asked that the HAYHA policies be put back on the website and Robby indicated that they were there, but you might have to be logged in to view them. Robby made permission changes during the conversation to open all the sub-menu items under the HAYHA tab. He tested and confirmed it was working as requested.

Jerseys

Paula Holland, long-time jersey person, has agreed to order the practice, game and tryout jerseys again this year and handle the game jersey numbering. In the past, she has ordered

online from ProJoy, but this year she has received a cheaper quote from Sleeping Giant for practice jerseys and suggested sending families there to purchase practice jerseys. Lance motioned to send players requiring a set of practice jerseys to go to Sleeping Giant Sports to purchase them instead of having 8U and House Reps sell them in-house. Justin Steckelberg seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Mekell voice her concern that HAYHA should still purchase bulk and sell them to members via the organization as we have done in the past. Judy wants to talk to Paula about sizing for house league jerseys and get quantities of sizes figured out for both 8U and House League. No final decision was made during the meeting, however, Kurt instructed Judy to work with Paula to get sizes and quantities figured out.

Division Updates

Justin mentioned that he and Judy were looking at ways to streamline 8U parent volunteers and track volunteer hours. Robby recommended the DIBS app through Sport Engine to allow online signup and tracking of volunteer hours. Justin is going to investigate that as an option to streamline 8U parents. There were no other updates from division reps.

MAHA Update – Mekell Lybbert, MAHA Rep

Listed below are Mekell's updates from last night's MAHA Board Mtg (8/13/18).

- MAHA has issued their grant applications for this season. I would suggest us applying for the "Grow the Game" grant for our new House program. September deadline.
- Safesport reminder / update - All coaches, Board Reps, Managers, locker room monitors etc will need to take new program this year. We need to get the word out. CIC to notify all potential coaches. Your 2 yr recertification will not be good this yr. All required to do new & updated program.
- Coaches - Before coaches step on the ice they are required to have 1. Safesport, 2. Background check, 3. Age Modules complete. Before December 31st all Clinic levels must be complete. CIC - Please follow up with all coaches regarding age modules as this now needs to be done prior to stepping on the ice.
- USAH new zero tolerance update for coaches regarding helmets. All coaches MUST have helmets on and MUST be snapped while on the ice at all times. Coaches can receive suspension of coaching for not wearing helmets. They are asking us to make sure all coaches know the new protocol.
- MAHA Summit will be in Bozeman, October 6th & 7th. Coaching clinics will be offered there also. Coaches need to register on MAHA's website. Level 1, 2, 3 will be October 6th only. Level 4 will include both days. Coaching clinics will be at the Springhill Suites offsite. There will be a Level 4 Referee Clinic at the Summit also.
- MAHA CIC Pete Kamman (petekamman@gmail.com) has offered to do a Helena Coaching Clinic. He would like to train a Helena instructor for future coaching clinics here. Bob Richards needs to contact him to set up and discuss options regarding this.
- Remind Coaches of new USAH app features. Encourage to use.

- This year TSL will do regional format for scheduling. Focus being on less driving where possible. Creative scheduling is going to be left up to teams. If you want to do festivals or play one team, both fine. Up to each team / age division to determine what best for their team.
- Age Division updates: 10 U will stay w/A & B format. 5 A teams, 10 B teams anticipated. 12U will stay w/A & B format. 5 A teams, 9 B teams anticipated. 14U will stay w/A & B format. 4 A teams, 10 B teams anticipated. 16U undecided, but MAHA encouraging programs to include. Bozeman & Helena committed, with 3 other cities possible depending on registration numbers, but highly likely. Cities don't want to commit until after registration done. HS - 9 teams anticipated. Only 8 will be allowed at State. Bottom one knocked off will receive bond back.
- Salmon HS team discussion. Each organization to respond by end of this week.
- Reminder that ALL HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE letter of verification that states all High School players are registered in High School. Will be required prior to rostering any HS teams this year.
- Affiliate Agreements on hold / working on. Should have by hockey summit to review.
- Sports Engine. Do not have additional info on training currently. Working on.
- Discipline. Majority of discipline issues this year occurred at adult level. MAHA encouraging organizations to work on disciplinary policies, and to restate that majority of incidents revolved this past year around abuse against officials. Continue to remind coaches & parents!
- 8U State Festival - Application on MAHA website. We need to apply. Have spoken with Judy regarding.
- Ray Tilman - Accepting submissions until August 31st for Ray Tilman Heart of Hockey Award. Applications on MAHA website.

USA Hockey Club Excellent Program – Robby

Robby discussed the USA Hockey's Club Excellent Program and how it could help us as a board with further education. After looking closer into the requirements, it came to light that the Vice-President of a club can also lead this endeavor. Kurt asked Ryan if he would take the lead on this due to Kurt's current Board workload. Ryan confirmed he would.

Registration

The board finalized dates to open registration – August 22nd – dependent on passing the Disciplinary Policy and Codes of Conduct. During the meeting, Mekell sent a message to Mike McIntosh, President of MAHA, to see if MAHA had set a team commitment deadline. She received word back that team commitments are due September 15th. Therefore, the board decided to close registration on September 14th. It was agreed that we would then keep registration open to allow late comers to get registered until the middle of October. 8U and House League registration will stay open until a week or two into practice.

Next Meetings

The next meeting is set for August 20th, 6:00pm call in meeting to discuss Disciplinary Policy and Codes of Conduct.

September 12th, 6:00 pm at the Helena Ice Arena.

October 10th, 6:00 pm at the Helena Ice Arena.

Meeting adjourned 9:20pm.

Signed by President: _____ Date: _____

Signed by Secretary: _____ Date: _____