

Eastern Shore Hockey Association

Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2025

I. Call to order

Dave L. called to order the regular meeting of the ESHA board at 6:00pm on January 13th at Talbot County Community Center.

II. Roll call

Dave L. conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

President – Dave Levasseur	Communications Director – Louise Howie
Vice President – Jonny Brown	8U Coordinator – Tom Crotti
Secretary – Angie Broll	Chief Manager – Alison Toepfer
Treasurer – Patty McNeal	CBHL Rep – John Schwaninger
Scheduler – Paul Sullivan	CCHL Rep – Jeff Simmons – not present
Registrar – Natalie Holmes	EJEPL Rep – Shawn Miller

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Meeting minutes from December were submitted for approval. Motion for approval by Jonny Brown, 2nd by Paul Sullivan., all in favor, none opposed.

IV. Director and Officer Reports

- a) President – Not much to discuss that won't be discussed further in the meeting. He has been working tryout sessions, booking the dates and working on the tryout form. Dave also has been working on things for spring hockey.
- b) Vice President – will address in the closed meeting. Jonny voiced that things that were discussed in the closed meeting in December have been taken care of.
- c) Secretary – nothing new to report at this time.
- d) Registrar – nothing new to report at this time.
- e) Hockey Director – The December skills session after Christmas really went well. He addressed that he enjoys doing these clinics and making great use of the ice. There has been a lot of help for the 10U red team, Jeff Simmons has really stepped up and help to

lead practices which has been great. Not much feedback from the 10U red parents since but Sam thinks it is going well. Sam's plan for the rest of the season, is to reach out to the individual head coaches to see where he can help them more. He also wants to attend more red and white games as he has been making a lot of the blue games, but not much of theirs aside from practices. Sam was approached about coaching 16U blue next year by some of the players and looks forward to helping.

- f) Scheduler – nothing new to report at this time.
- g) Chief Manager – nothing new to report at this time.
- h) Treasurer- We currently have \$313,455.35 in our checking account. We currently have \$19,578.88 in donations that have been made. We still have \$21,600 in our checking account to cover the projected expenses from spring league which is a projected amount of \$13,000. Leaving us with a current total of \$293,876.47. Our expenses to date are currently at \$122,147.04. Taking all that into account it leaves us with a balance of \$171,729.43.
- i) Communications Director – Louise has been updating the website and made separate tabs to be able to access the meeting minutes and other board documents. Dave made a suggestion to email the organization after they are ready following meetings.
- j) 8U Director – Tom addressed that he is going to be talking with Paul the scheduler so that he can work out dates for various programs to help the 8U program. Paul stated that he has time blocked off for Try Hockey for Free and for the Caps program.
- k) CCHL Rep – not present.
- l) CBHL Rep – John sent in a complaint to SHOA with some concerns. He is also waiting for a complaint from the Chevy Chase game regarding no lines on the ice for a 16U game. All our teams are fine and eligible to playoffs.
- m) EJEPL Rep – playoffs are February 7th and 9th. 10U is currently in 3rd place and their playoffs will be in Middletown NJ. 12U is currently in 6th place and their playoffs would be in Ashton PA. 14U is currently in 3rd place and their playoffs will be in Aston PA. All EJ playoffs are on 2/7 – 2/9.

V. Committee Reports:

- a) Disciplinary Committee – nothing new to report at this time.
- b) Fundraising Committee – We recently held a fundraiser at Chipotle and it raised \$170 with very minimal work.

- c) Bylaw Committee – nothing new to report.
- d) Rostering Committee – nothing new to report at this time.

VI. New Business

- a) The Polar Bear Plunge- so far we have a 10U player that has raised \$120 in sponsorships. Now that the holidays are over we are going to really start pushing this within the organization.
- b) No issues with the Swag store currently and people have been receiving their products that they have ordered and like having the store.
- c) Assessment dates: 10U & 12U : March 17th 5:30-6:30pm and then 7:00-8:00pm, March 20th, March 22nd 5:30-6:30 and 7:00-8:00pm. 14u and older April 26th and 29th from 5:30-6:30 and then 7:00-8:00 and May 1st from 5:30-6:30 and 7:00-8:00pm.
- d) Last season many parents wanted the turn around time about team placement to be faster. It has been recommended that the board reach out to the blue teams first to let them know about their team placements. Blue teams will be given 48 hours to secure their spot. A few days later we will notify the red teams and they too will be given 48 hours. Sam suggested that the tryouts go as follow: all players come the first night and then if you're secured after the first night you wouldn't have to come to the next night of tryouts.
- e) Tom asked if a player comes in later from a different program or didn't make the evaluation dates, if they still were required to pay the fee. Regardless if they make it to assessments or not, the player is required to pay this fee, it will be added to their registration.
- f) Patty asked if we were still ordering jerseys this year for assessments. We will need to order these and Jonny offered to sit down with Patty to help assist her with this.
- g) There is a suggestion to order new pucks. Dave has already ordered pucks for 8U and will order another box of them for the teams. A suggestion of just having a bucket for all the teams with the pucks might be a little easier.
- h) Our current goalie coach is trying to find a replacement. He is having to step down due to the fact he is moving. The board addressed that we have to find someone because the goalies in our program are really benefiting from this.
- i) The rink is hosting a valentine skate in February so we will need to cancel practice on those evenings. The skate is on Wednesday and Thursday.

- j) Tom suggested that we discuss our stance with EJ prior to assessments taking place. Coach's option vs team option vs it being mandatory. Shawn stated that we should make it mandatory for 12U and 14U at the very least. He suggested that it be at the coaches discretion at 16U and 18U due to there not being a lower level within the EJ league.
- k) We are currently at 177 players in the organization.
- l) The rink is increasing rates this year by \$25 an hour.
- m) John stated that SHOA is up for negotiations for their fees this season as well.
- n) Dave emailed Emily at the rink today regarding practices for our spring program. Tom is suggesting that there may need to be a tryout for spring teams as in years past the teams were not very even. Dave is going to send out an interest form for this so that we can get this going sooner than later. It will be practices and attending traveling tournaments. There is more interest for just having a spring season where they just play "in house". There is a lot of ice open in June and July as of now. Sam plans on doing a camp early on in the summer as well. The crabs spring teams will get 8 practices with their tournament fees. Natalie suggested that we poll our organization as well as looking for coaches for these teams. It's also been suggested that we pick the tournaments so that the teams and players know where they are going to help get more interest in this program.

Adjournment:


We did not have to move to a closed meeting.

Dave F., motioned to move to a closed meeting at 7:21pm. Shawn Miller., 2nd, all in favor, non opposed.

The next meeting will take place on February 10th from 6-8pm at the Talbot Community Center.

Louise is going to add that we are looking for a new goalie coach to the CBHL website online. She will also upload December's board meeting minutes online.

Angie will complete the meeting minutes for January. She will also book the room for the next meeting taking place in February.



Dave is going to order more pucks for the teams. He is also going to send out coaching registrations. He will continue to work on the registration process for the 2025/26 season.

Jonny and Patty are going to work on ordering the jerseys for assessments as well as for the goalies so that is finalized.

Patty is going to start working on the budget for the next season so that she can present it to the board.

Next meeting is February 10th from 6-8pm at the Talbot County Community Center.

