

UPPER ST. CLAIR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting—REGULAR OPEN MEETING—June 9, 2019 (at Ice Castle)

Board Members Present

Brad Sileo
Pete Gialames
Dave Speer
Dan Sinclair
Erik Happ
Russ Ball
John McShane
Jesse Sweet
Amy Shegan Siniawski
Cormac McCarthy

Board Members Absent

Ed Gausa
Jake Ploeger
George Garces

Additional Attendees

Several members of the organization.

The Regular Open Board Meeting was called to order by President Brad Sileo at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Addition of 2019-20 Business Managers

- Brad Sileo recommended to the Board that three association members should serve as business managers for the 2019-20 season. They are: 1) Amy Shegan Siniawski for JV1; 2) George Garces for JV2; and 3) Cormac McCarthy for MS. Pete Gialames made a motion to accept the recommendation. Dan Sinclair seconded the motion. The motion passed and the new business managers were welcomed to the Board and Executive Committee.
- Brad noted that discussions are in process with potential candidates to be the business manager for the Varsity team. An update and vote will occur at a later date.

Team Updates

Varsity:

- Discussion was held regarding whether the team should play in the AA or AAA division in PIHL for the 2019-20 season.
 - Pete Gialames stated that PIHL will release the results of the competitive formula determinations soon, most likely on or about June 12. This information will determine whether the team is to be pre-placed in AA or AAA.
 - There will be an opportunity to appeal the placement recommendation.
 - Discussions have been held with Varsity Head Coach Justin Becinski. It was reported that Coach Becinski would like to see how the team performs in the PEOC tournament, which will be held June 20-23, before making a determination as to which division he feels is appropriate.
 - Additional discussion was held regarding whether the Board should make the decision on its own.

- It was noted that the likely timeframe for an appeal is around June 30.
- It was agreed that the Board could conduct any necessary votes via email, and will do so pending the results of the PIHL declaration, input from the coaches and input from members of the organization.
- The team will be participating in the aforementioned PEOC tournament at Baierl Ice Complex June 20-23. The tournament was offered at a low cost due to the fact that it is used to train officials.
- Additional tournaments that the team is committed to play in are St. Margaret's and Jamestown. Dates for St. Margaret's are not yet known. Jamestown will be held December 6-8.

JV1 and JV2:

- Both JV teams are going to play in the Franklin Regional Preseason tournament.
- Discussion was held regarding which tier in PIHL the teams will play in. JV1 Coach Dave Stock is leaning toward choosing tier 1. This issue will be decided at a later date.

Middle School:

- It was noted that due to the number of players who declined offers and the Mid-Am rule which caps at 25% the number of 07s who can play during the upcoming season, the organization can only field one MS team for the 2019-20 season.
- As was agreed at the prior executive committee meeting, those players who originally made MS2 were not cut, but instead were offered spots as platoon players on the MS1 (now only MS) team. Players who were originally offered MS1 spots will not be platooned and will be rostered as regular players for every game.
- There are 14 "regular" skaters on the MS team, along with seven "platoon" (former MS2) players.
- Discussion was held regarding how to manage the platoon players. Ideas included operating two platoons that would alternate for game participation, as well as operating one large roster with healthy scratches as needed.
- The consensus was that the MS staff would start by working with the platoon model, but would have the flexibility to change that model in the event of injuries, suspensions, etc.
- It was noted that the former MS2 players may only have the opportunity to play in half of the team's games.
- Dave Speer recommended that the MS2/platoon players be permitted to play for a fee of \$1000. Discussion was held. Pete Gialames made a motion to accept Dave's recommendation. John McShane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (with two abstentions by members with kids on the team).

Overall Team Numbers

- Brad Sileo updated the Board on the final roster sizes for each team. They are:
 - Varsity: 17 skaters, 2 goalies.
 - JV1: 11 skaters, 2 goalies.
 - JV2: 15 skaters, 1 goalie.
 - MS: 14 regular skaters, 7 platoon skaters, 3 goalies.
- It was noted that JV goalies will all be rostered on JV2 to allow for flexibility due to call-ups and conflicts.
- Brad stated that one player rostered on JV2 did not try out due to injury. That player will have the opportunity to try out in the fall and may be placed on JV1.

Treasurer's Report

- Dave Speer presented the Treasurer's report.
- Dave provided an overview of his proposed budget for the 2019-20 season. He said that he would circulate the details to the Board after the meeting.
- Board members will have an opportunity to study the proposed budget prior to the next meeting.
- A vote on the budget will take place at the next meeting.

Old Business

- Brad asked if there was any feedback on the tryouts that were conducted in May. Three comments were made:
 - 1. Three days of tryouts in a row is too close; the tryout dates should be spread out.
 - 2. Having 8th graders (rising freshmen) on the ice with 11th graders (rising seniors) is not a good idea.
 - 3. The drills need to be shortened and varied so that the evaluators have more information to base their rankings on.
- Brad stated that he would relay the feedback to Ed Gaussa and the coaches.
- Summer workout and mini-camp schedules were emailed to members of the organization.

New Business

- Brad stated that C.J. Murray, USC hockey alumnus and member of the 2011 state championship team, has agreed to work as an assistant coach for the Varsity team for the 2019-20 season.
- John McShane noted that the new shell for Varsity can only be ordered once a year because it's a custom item. John recommended that the organization order four extra shells at a cost of \$50 each to have on hand in the event that additional shells are needed. A motion was made to accept this recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed.

- Discussion was held regarding player physicals for the 2019-20 season. It was agreed that physical forms will need to be turned in to the school athletic departments as has been done in the past.
- Brad stated that he is tentatively holding September 10 as the date for the pre-season parent team meetings.
- Pete Gialames stated that all players with birth years 02 and older will need to complete the Safesport online training module prior to the season. This requirement comes from the U.S. Olympic Committee, which has jurisdiction in such matters.
- Pete also noted that USA Hockey is emphasizing proper enforcement of checking rules for the upcoming season. Referees will be instructed to call penalties for any contact that is not initiated by playing the puck.

The next meeting will be held at a time and location to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jesse Sweet, Secretary