



March 20, 2024

CYHA Board Meeting

Board Members Present: Phil Passarelli, Chris DaBaldo, Casey Marshall, Angela Brady, Ryan Blair, JC Gaskins, Justin Pence

Board Members Absent: Mike Jannace

Guests Present: None

Call to Order: Phil Passarelli called the meeting to order at 6:58 pm.

Secretary Report: Motion to approve the BOD Meeting Minutes from February 28, 2024, was made by Justin and seconded by Casey. The motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer Report: Casey presented the financial report to the groups which included a summary of accounts. The Player Enrichment account has been replenished, bringing it back up to our preseason balance. Spring league payments are beginning to be received. There are currently 85 players who have paid for spring league. Accounts Payable is up to date pending the 12U End of Season tournament fee, 16U Nationals fee, and a few other minor expenses.

The 12U A team did not play in the End of Season tournament due to the Coaches decision to withdraw. This has resulted in a \$745 balance owed to the ACHC for the withdrawal from the tournament. The board approved for this fee to be paid out of the remaining funds from the team budget. After discussion, the board agreed that language will be added to the coaching contract to prevent teams for cancelling games or dropping out of mandatory events without prior approval from CYHA leadership.

Registrar Report: Angela reported that we currently have 85 players registered for Spring League. The current player breakdown by age groups is as follows:

18U: 4 players
16U: 12 players
14U: 16 players

12U: 15 players
10U: 26 players
8U: 12 players

Committee Reports

Travel Commissioner Report: JC provided an update to the board on the season end activities for our travel teams. All Travel teams have finished the season. The 16U team is preparing for the Nationals tournament. JC is in the process of finalizing the 2024-25 season details. He is also in the process of developing a play for tryouts this season. Tryouts for the 18U team will be held at the same time as the other age divisions this season. We will also work to better balance the number of players on the ice across each session by age group this year. The cost of tryouts will be \$75 and will be held over 3 days.

House Commissioner Report: Justin provided an update to the board on the end of season activities for our House teams. We had a successful season this year. All teams had fun with the end of season tournament. The end of season party and awards for each age group went well.

Hockey Director Report: Ryan provided a summary to the board on coaching candidates for the 2023 – 24 season. We have prospective candidates in each age division. If we are able to field a 12UB team this season we will identify a coach at that time. The synthetic ice to be used for dryland training has been purchased and will be delivered in the next 2 weeks. The space behind the Ice Palace will be cleaned up and better secured so that it can be better utilized by out teams.

Player Development: Ryan has arranged for several upcoming development opportunities for our players over the spring and summer months.

- **Hockey Concepts Clinic:** Scheduled for Mondays throughout April
- **Pre-Tryout Checking Clinic:** Scheduled for various dates through-out April
- **Pre-Tryout Skate:** Scheduled for 5/7 and 5/10 leading into tryouts. Ryan will lead these on ice sessions. Any CYHA coaches assisting with these sessions will not be assigned to their prospective age groups
- **Power Skating:** Scheduled for Tuesdays this summer from June through August. This program has been moved under the Hockey program this year. Ryan has arranged for a skating skills coach to lead these sessions this year
- **Total Hockey Development:** Hockey skills development lead by Ryan will occur Mondays and Wednesdays this summer from June through August

Growth: Nothing to report

Grievance/Disciplinary: Nothing to report

Fundraising/Scholarship:

Coordinator Updates

- **Marketing/Outreach:** Nothing to report
- **Safety Coordinator:** Nothing to report

- **Safe Sport Coordinator:** Nothing to report

Old Business

- **2024 – 24 Travel Season**

- **Program Details:** JC has developed a informational packet with the 2024 -25 program details for each age division. The intent is to make these available to the players this year. He would also like to post these on the CYHA webpage. We intend to offer skills and goalie sessions again next season. We are also working to include skating skills, conditioning, and dry land training this season. There was a general discussion among the group about the need to build in more full ice practices for the lower age groups. Players at the 10U level as well as those in the Mites program have limited exposure to full ice concepts. Phil voiced the need to have some full ice practices spread out throughout the season to help with player understanding of game play. The groups was in agreement with this and discussed several ways this could be achieved without sacrificing other areas of the program. We will look to add 3 full ice sessions early in the season (September through November) and will also utilize the ice slots later in the season when no skills sessions are scheduled.
- **Budget approval:** JC and Ryan have worked to add several added items to the program this year. We will have an increased game and practice count, the addition of dryland training, increased specialized coaching, and the addition of a mini-camp next season. JC has provided the 2024 – 25 season budgets to the board for review before the next board meeting.
- **Tryout Readiness**
 - **Evaluations Discussion:** The group discussed the goalie evaluation process for tryout and if separate sessions are needed for the goalies. It was determined by the group that separate sessions were not need since shooting drills will be part of tryouts. This would provide evaluators with the opportunity to observe our goalies over the 3 sessions for their respective age groups.

There was a general discussion by the group on the need to standardize the drills used at tryouts across all sessions. The group agreed that this was necessary. A follow up meeting was scheduled for April 10, 2024, for Tryout planning.

There was a general discussion by the group regarding players who wish to try out for both goalie and skater positions. While the group felt this was worth discussing, it was determined that the organization will continue to follow the previous precedent of having goalie prospects register and tryout for that specific position. This also aligns with the tryout models used by other organizations across the country.

- **16U / 18U tryout process:** Angela asked for guidance on the registration process for the 18U tryouts. She noted that there may be some players at the 16U level who were eligible to play at the 18U level and interested in doing so.

This is allowed by USA hockey guidelines but is not something CYHA has had a specific policy for in the past. There was general discussion by the group regarding the organization of tryouts and team selection. Phil expressed the need to prioritize the playing opportunities for our 18U players while still affording the opportunity to eligible 16U players by limiting the number of slots offered to 16U players.

Chris made a motion to apply the following guidelines for the 18U team selection process:

CYHA will limit the number of 16U players on the 18U team to a maximum of three 16U players. All qualified 18U players must be offered a spot before any offer can be extended to an eligible 16U player. Players at the 16U division must register and participate in both the 16U and 18U tryout sessions to be eligible for the 18U team. The cost will be \$125 to attend both tryouts.

The motion was seconded by Justin with Phil, Chris, Casey, Angela, and Ryan voting in favor and JC voted against.

- **Tryout Planning:** A work session has been scheduled for April 10, 2024, to finalize the tryout structure and organization for the 2024-25 season.

- **Spring Season:** Justin reported that we are on track for the start of Spring League with the first games scheduled for April 10, 2024.

- **Summer programming:** Phil is continuing to work on summer tournament opportunities for our members. Ryan has planned several development clinics throughout the summer through the Ice Palace.

- **First aid training:** Angela is actively working with the Red Cross to identify dates this summer to provide training for our coaching staff.

- **CYHA Coaches locker room:** Ryan and Brandon are still in discussions regarding a yearly lease versus limiting it to only the season.

New Business

- **House League**
 - **Mites' Program:** Justin updated the group on the growth of Mites (8U) level hockey across other organizations. He notes that in many organizations outside of our region Mites have become a standalone division like our other travel divisions. He made the recommendation to the board that we consider transitioning our Mites program out from under the House League umbrella over to our Travel program. Angela noted that we were unable to do this due to restrictions placed on CYHA by CAHA. Per the CAHA directives the Mites team is a House League extension team. This means that players on these teams but participate in the House program. CAHA has also placed travel

restrictions on the Mites division which prohibits the players at this level from traveling out of state without prior approval from CAHA.

- **Scorekeeper solutions:** Justin shared his frustration with the scheduling of Scorekeepers this past season for House League. We had several games that did not have a Scorekeeper assigned. We also have incidents where the scorekeeper failed to show up when scheduled. Additionally, he has received pushback from the agency when they were asked to use Sports Engine for scorekeeping as this is the platform the CYHA House League uses. Angela mentioned that as a score keeper she has access to a spreadsheet that contains the scheduled games and assignments for all scorekeepers. This enables her to see her assignments by month to know when she will be keeping score. Angela offered to reach out and ask if access to the spreadsheet could be shared with Justin next season so he would have visibility into the game assignments.
- **2024-24 House League Registration:** House League registrations for players and coaches will be opened once Travel tryouts have been completed and team selections are finalized.
- **2024 Girls Skills sessions:** Chris shared that he would like to see the on-ice sessions for the Girls Skills program run on a more structured formation this season like the skills sessions that Ryan runs for our House program. Ryan supported this structure and wants to help move this program forward. Chris and Ryan discussed ways that we could use the Girls Skills session to help CYHA transition this participation into a permanent program within our organization.

CYHA was awarded a shared grant from CAHA this season to support our girl's hockey program and for goalie development. We plan to use half of the grant for the Girls Skills sessions this season. Ryan and Chris will schedule a meeting with a few of our members who are interested in building a girls' program to work out the details. Additionally, Ryan will work with Brandon to schedule ice time for these sessions. Angela noted that we would create a registration link on the CYHA page once the ice times have been scheduled.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:57