

PAHL Membership Meeting – October 2024

Meeting Minutes



Date of Meeting: Tuesday, October 15, 2024
Meeting Location: virtual meeting
Presiding Officer: Dave Fryer, Executive Administrator

CALL TO ORDER

The Executive Administrator called to order the October 2024 Membership Meeting of the Pittsburgh Amateur Hockey League at 7:03 PM. The Executive Admin is also recording the minutes of the meeting.

Roll call of members present (23)

- Allegheny Badgers: Mindy Ulyas, Josh Fajt
- Altoona Trackers: Shelby Hott, Aaron Makowiecki
- Artic Foxes: Erin Bunda, Alicia Genco, Jason Figley, Jim Carlowski
- Armstrong Arrows: Lee Grafton, Jim Rearic, Tim Morando, Faith Colen
- Beaver Badgers: David Symanowicz
- Crawford County Flames: Greg Beveridge
- Erie Junior Otters: Gio Duchini
- Indiana Chiefs: Leanne Smith
- Johnstown Warriors: Jody Gustkey
- Mon Valley Thunder: Frank Lopresti, Jennifer Jennings
- Morgantown Blades: Hillarey Young
- Mt Lebanon Hornets: Kari King, Tanya Carpenter, Elizabeth Bartley
- Pittsburgh Aviators: Jeremy Parker
- Pittsburgh Huskies: Collin Cyprowski
- Pittsburgh Predators: Frank Buonomo
- Pittsburgh Yetis: Jon Langer
- Pittsburgh Vengeance: Michelle Graham, PJ Lynd
- South Hills Panthers: Glen Siniawski
- South Pittsburgh Rebellion: Lauren Leeper
- State College Icers: Pete Brumberg
- Westmoreland Eagles: Rachel Lute, Amy Roberts
- Wheeling Nailers: Caitlyn Rodocker
- Youngstown Phantoms: Brad Patterson

Roll call of members absent (2):

- Lawrence County Lightning
- North Pittsburgh Wildcats

Roll call of others present:

- Officers: Courtney Iacccio
- Staff: Dave Fryer
- Guests: Paul Day (MidAm), John Karolcik (MidAm), Biff Cummings (MidAm), Kathy Santora (MidAm), Jim Weaver (MidAm), Renee Loftspring (MidAm), Howard Smith (MidAm)

REPORTS OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

Report from the President

- Crystal has been dealing with a family emergency and is currently on hiatus from her PAHL duties.
- Minutes from September and October will be presented for approval at our next meetings.
- Anyone needing something that normally goes to the Secretary should be directed to Dave.

Report from the First Vice President

- All scoresheets with discipline now simply go to scoresheets@pahockey.com, including non-league.
- Teams no longer send those scoresheets to Ron, but all disciplinary questions still go to Ron.
- Ron processes scoresheets every Monday, so even non-league scoresheets with discipline on them need to be submitted on the same day as the game.

Report from the Second Vice President

- Many scoresheets are missing from 10U games. They have either not been submitted or were submitted incorrectly. A score not posted to the PAHL website is due to not having the scoresheet.
- 12U and above have done much better with submitting scoresheets since communications at the scheduling sessions, but 10U lags behind and needs to get caught up for placement purposes.
- Game reports are needed from both teams within 24 hours of each placement game. These cannot be late on the final weekend, so please have those reports in by Monday morning on October 28th.
- Also with game reports, many reports from the same game have shown conflicting information, such as differing scores or scores that are inversed. Extra attention to detail is simply needed.

Report from the Treasurer

- We currently have \$120,013.21 in our checking account and \$100,072.04 in our savings account.
- Invoices for the 2nd installment of per player fees have been sent.
- Courtney will contact associations who still owe their first installment or lingering fines.

Report from the Executive Administrator

- Procedurally, the first set of scheduling sessions went quite well, but a lot of the feedback cited many teams coming with very little availability and flexibility. The purpose of our in-person scheduling is to allow teams to work around their conflicts, but those must be restricted to only situations where the team is truly not available, such as a tournament weekend. This approach needs to be recalibrated, which works best if our association leaders communicate to their individual teams.
- We must re-emphasize the requirement to honor game commitments, including the rules we put in place to reduce the number of related issues. Due to the high costs related to the game, our rules are now designed to address these more effectively, for everyone's sake. A change the week of the game needs to come only to the league and needs to be a legitimate circumstance for the game to be rescheduled. With that, the minimum player policy is not designed to be a way for a team to cancel a game without consequences.
- Representatives on the call are asked to take the topic of game commitments back to their association board meetings for further discussion. We need compliance first, and then we can discuss any changes and adjustments, where needed. We also need to establish a consensus on our level of tolerance when these situations arise.

NEW BUSINESS

MidAm Program Education

- Several representatives from the Mid-American District of USA Hockey were guests on the call to give their annual presentation to the PAHL membership.
- Topics covered in the presentation included: registration, SafeSport, locker room monitors, referees, discipline, diversity, girls' hockey, disabled hockey, risk management, player safety, growth initiatives, and recent changes.
- A PDF of the slides presented during the presentation will be distributed to the membership via an upcoming PAHL newsletter and is available now on the PAHL website under Admin Forms.

The meeting was adjourned by the Executive Administrator at 8:53 PM.

Minutes recorded by: Dave Fryer, PAHL Executive Administrator

Minutes approved on: January 21, 2025