

EYHA Board Meeting
Essex Rink Classroom
February 20, 2025 7:00pm

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members Present: Helen MacAndrews Tracy O'Connell Joe Baird
Jen Villamil Tonra Riehl Mike Lorenz
Brianna Yarnell Kim Lassy Dave Alofsin
Sean O'Connell

Board Members Absent: Frank Parisi Chris McGinty Corey Labor
Jennifer O'Neil Renee Soutiere Mike Shaw
Dominic Cloud Rick Villamil

EYHA Community Members: Justin Chamberlain

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Sean O'Connell, President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.
2. **PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Motion to approve [January](#) minutes, **Corey Labor** motions **Jen Villamil** seconds. January minutes approved.
3. **EYHA Member Communication:** *(The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the general public an opportunity to address the board on matters that are either not on the agenda or are slated for action. Any discussion, if any, will be limited to determining next steps.)*
 - Justin Chamberlain, 8U, over the past month - only 4 scheduled practices in the past month. Lack of practices for the younger levels. Mostly at Waterbury and Gutterson.
4. **Previous Action Items:** *(The purpose of this agenda item is to provide Board members an opportunity to review previous action items)*

January

- **CALCUTTA:**
 - ~~RENEE confirm caterer for calcutta 3/8 4pm - 8pm~~
 - **MIKE L: Calcutta flier and Enforcers - coaches game**
 - ~~JEN O: Donations for Calcutta (10-15 donations), Enforcers game, Yamboree~~
 - ~~TRACY / DAVE: talk to JEN O about donations (anything someone can bid)~~
 - ~~EYHA registration fee?~~
 - ~~KIM: Greg Garter week~~
 - ~~HELEN: Connect with Ian Smith~~
 - ~~Swag - GC to KS and Play it Again~~
 - ~~UVM tix?~~
 - ~~GOREY: Calcutta swag - Moisen tickets - NOT AVAILABLE~~
 - ~~Donating 4 days of Cottage~~
 - ~~HELEN: Create Calcutta committee: Tonra, Tracy, Helen, Renee, Jen V, Jen O, Nikki M, Tracy Liebenow, Danielle Companion, Amber Walsh~~
- **ENFORCERS GAME:**
 - ~~GOREY / KIM: Schedule Enforcers - coaches game~~
 - ~~3/15?~~
 - ~~Sociale~~
- **OTHER:**
 - ~~GOREY: will reach out to Bruins to do Girls Try Hockey in the Fall~~
 - ~~SEAN / DAVE: will connect with Pat Phillips at VSAHA to confirm 14U T2 playdowns & scheduling refs / ask who pays for registration, ice, refs / we get door fees (RICK will assist) - VSHAH logo POG on hats~~

- ~~○ HELEN: send summer hockey opportunities to Association~~
- ~~○ HELEN: Championship plaque mounting – Noel, Dan King, Jen V~~
- ~~■ Sean sent email to Gary Scott and Noel~~

5. New Business / Presentations: *(The purpose of this agenda item is to provide Board members with an opportunity to discuss various issues. Any action to be taken, if any, would occur at a future meeting.)*

- **Supporting SASA G14U team**
- **Calcutta planning update (Helen / Tracy / Kim / Renee / Jen V)**
 - **Donations: on track**
 - **Balls: Save 3 balls (100 / 50 and Joel)**
 - **POST: Fliers at rink**
- **14U Playdowns - Planning update (Dave)**
- **Discussion: Penalty Boarding calls (Joe / Mike L)**
 - **EYHA will discuss with VSAHA about reffing training / procedures to address lack of Boarding calls**
- **T2 Spring Mini-camp - Mid march**
 - **To preview to those considering trying out for T2 (10 & 12) - giving feedback to these players about what they might need to work on over the summer... 3-4 sheets of ice**

6. Executive Updates: *(The purpose of this agenda item is to provide board and administration representatives an opportunity to report out on the current activities of various programs, board committees, etc. There may not always be a report from each group if there have not been any changes since the last time this was on the agenda.)*

- **Director of Community Relations, Jen O'Neill (virtual update)**
 - **Reminder to Travel Teams: Baskets for Calcutta**
 - **Jen will be stepping down at the end of this season. Anyone interested should reach out to Sean or Helen**
- **VP Travel, Dominic Cloud**
 - **Travel Playdowns update**
 - **Following teams moving on to State Championship weekend in Rutland, Feb 28-Mar2**
 - **G10U, G12UT3, 12UT2, 12U T4 Gold, 14UT4, Northern Lights - a G14U combined team that includes 4 EYHA players)**
- **Equipment Director, Renee Soutiere**
 - **Discussion - possible equipment purchases to consider**
 - **Youth gear starter kits for \$100**
 - **10U sized goalie sets - loaner for those interested in trying goalie - EYHA owned. Consider putting 3 in the budget for 25-26.**
- **Head Coach, Corey Labor**
 - **Coaches vs. Enforcers game 3/15 - 9:00 am**
 - **Need: Social media promoting**
 - **Fundraising: chuck a puck, 50-50 and door \$ by donation**
 - **Possibly donating 50-50 to SASA family**
- **8U Director, Mike Shaw**
 - **VSAHA 8U Full Ice Tournament: Information for the 2016 birth year has been sent to coaches and parents - 3/8 at Leddy**
 - **The Burlington Moose Lodge has generously donated \$2,300 to Essex Youth Hockey. Jen will be accepting this donation on behalf of EYHA.**
 - **Future Consideration – 8U Trophies: I wanted to suggest the idea of providing trophies for 8U players at the end of the season. I personally cover the cost for my team each year, but several other 8U coaches have**

inquired about making this a standard practice. This could be something to discuss for future seasons, as we could likely provide trophies for all players within a \$300–\$400 budget.

- Board suggests certificates / superlatives instead from coaches
- **VSAHA Rep, Rick Villamil**
 - Update of Tournament committee
 - Update of new reffing video review procedures for 25-26
- **Secretary, Helen MacAndrews**
 - 2 Grow the game grants Awarded to EYHA from VSAHA:
 - 8U goalie Equipment (Helen / Renee)
 - Girls Try Hockey (Brianna)

7. Next meeting date:

- **March 20, 2025 @ 7 pm. Location: Essex Rink Classroom**

8. Executive Session (if needed): none

9. Adjournment: 9:23 PM