

**DOVER YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

**MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 20, 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**6:00 PM – DOVER ICE ARENA CONFERENCE ROOM**

JT Fortier – President

Steve Gahan – Vice President

Josh Hersey – Treasurer

Steeve Wintle - Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER:** The January 20, 2025, Dover Youth Hockey Association-Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM in the Conference Room of the Dover Ice Arena.

The following board members were present: Josh Hersey, Zach Cobb, James Blouin, Ken Burlage, Steeve Wintle (remote), JT Fortier (remote), Steve Gahan (remote), Brett Ricci – Director of Hockey Ops, Mike Young – Former Director of Hockey Ops. Absent: Shannon Kennedy.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** None.

**MEETING MINUTES:** A motion to approve the 1/6/25 minutes was put forth by Fortier and seconded by Hersey. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

**FINANCE UPDATE:** No significant updates. Accountant working through year end accounts, updates to be provided at the next Board meeting.

**OPERATIONS UPDATE:** Three main discussion topics related to operations: Program schedule for next season, next season's tryout schedule, and the upcoming Heyliger tournament.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE:**

- Cobb distributed the proposed program for next season based on the Program Committee meetings.
- Review of program offerings including discussion of how team compositions compare to current year teams, and the thought process behind any changes which are being proposed.
- Girls program remains an open question which requires further analysis to determine the path forward.
- Discussion around coaches selection process and how to fill out coaching for all proposed teams.
- Skills program - Discussion about the current skills programs and whether it remains a value relative to the costs. The next Coach's meeting to be held on Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> and the Board will seek feedback from coaches to assess how best to move forward with Skills training next season.
- Budget committee to build out budget based on program guide data. Budget committee to meet in the coming days to review first draft budget.

**TRYOUT SCHEDULE:**

- Tryout schedule - Discussion about the potential tryout dates. A proposal was put forth to schedule tryouts on February 25<sup>th</sup> and March 4<sup>th</sup>. Fortier and Ricci to take offline and plan on scheduling ice time. Pass to communicate tryout schedule via the GSW mailing list.

**HEYLINGER TOURNAMENT:**

- Initial concern raised that we may be unable to field an adequate number of teams at the Squirts and Mini-Mite levels. The Board reviewed the current status of teams, and how to potentially attract Squirts and Mini-Mite teams. Ricci and Gahan to follow up to review the current list of participants and ways to attract additional teams.

**BOARD OPENINGS:**

- Follow up discussion from the prior Board meeting about board members terms and potential openings in May 2025. The Board will continue to assess and evaluate Board participation to maintain effective continuity.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

- a. Gahan – None.
- b. Wintle – None.
- c. Hersey – None.
- d. Cobb – None.
- e. Burlage – None.
- f. Blouin – Discussion about First Shift coach participation.
- g. Young – None.
- h. Ricci – None.
- i. Fortier – None.
- j. Pass – None.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:26 PM