

UNAPPROVED
-Minutes-
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Brattleboro Hockey Association
March 25, 2014 6:30p
The Quality Inn
Putney Road, Brattleboro, VT
April 9, 2014
6 – 8p

I. Call to Order

A. Board Introductions

- Self-explanatory

B. Nomination and Election of Board Members

- Mark Hamilton added to ballot by unanimous vote
- Josh (Pacheco) nominated to the ballot by unanimous vote
- Rick Carpenter nominated to the ballot by unanimous vote

II. Presidents' Report

A. Financial –

- Issues with accounting mid-season; hope was to present P&L but not available at this time. 5K in outstanding fees currently; as of 15,800 General, 16,800 (Tom - \$ amt) n scholarship account. Both accounts 5k under normal amts this time of year. Both fundraisers under expectation (Bruins, Green Mountain Tournament) also no Bantam team.

- All bills are currently paid
- asking \$50 registration fee to help build bank account

B. Enrollment

- Robust #'s at PeeWee, Mites and Squirt level; no Bantam team. past 3 yrs have not turned over learn-to-skaters to Novice and Mites

C. Fundraising

1. TD Bank Affinity Program #AF649

- Anyone who banks at TD bank – puts affinity number on the account, .1% of annual balances donated by TD bank to the association.
- TD Bank makes a donation when a new account is attached to the

number.

- Not sure if it applies to only personal accounts ; believe that personal and business accounts included.

- Bruins event hit by snowstorm, but pre-purchased tickets sales low, very low gate sales.

This year planning on combining GMT and Bruins event

III. GSL Report (Rob) –

- October evaluations

- Keene interested in coming back into GSL

IV. Coaching Report (Eric L.)

No report

V. 2013-14 Season Wrap-up

- Lots of hard feelings at Pee Wee level; misunderstanding by parents as to how teams were divided; process unclear. Lost some families due to issues.

- With new programs trying to create better communications and processes

- Need better communication with the GSL as far as the direction we are trying to go with the BHA

- Trying to avoid issues with numbers with new programs. First year or two will be a challenge, then these uneven roster issues should gradually ease.

- Due to limited numbers here we can only afford to field one GSL team per age level for the time being.

- Promoting the VT league team (separate from GSL) to help with the above issue; Same development program with less games, less \$

- who is selecting the kids who play at GSL level this year? A: somewhat like Pee Wee level this year; will be communicated better on website/emails; three evaluators; will send out bios on evaluators; also what skills are being evaluated; input from previous coaches. People will know exactly what evaluations will be comprised of.

- Hope to find right program for every kid who comes to BHA to skate

- Hoping Bantam age level will skate on our U14 team; that will help Pee Wee

- If too many #'s for GSL but not enough for House, will have to have a heartfelt look at each issue – board also decided that no one will be left to a House team due to numbers; everyone will have a team.

VI. Early Registration Report

- Less than 10 so far for the entire organization. We need to know before August. Town want to know how much ice BHA wants to buy by the end of July.
- Forms are on website, they can pay via PayPal from the website also
- Very important at the Pee Wee and U14 level to get registrations sent in
- A call list will be distributed to board members and team mgrs to get people to pre-register. This is new for our veteran families and essential that we get them in the habit of spring registration.

VII. Financial Policy for 2014-15

- Handouts available.
- Main difference: move to a 10-month payment program – makes payments more affordable. First payment due June 1, last payment due end of March.
- Better cash flow
- Credit card payments can be done on website
- If a member falls behind, the skater does not skate. We need to be diligent with this.

VIII. Programs and fees for 2014-15 Season

- Handouts available with all program descriptions
- Payments – Base number to start; if child plays on a GSL team then the additional GSL fee would be due; monthly payments could be made.
- Evaluations to happen in September in Greenfield, three ice times, and three outside evaluators. For details on evaluation components see the handout.
- Some timing skills (for hard #'s), scrimmages, etc.
- If a child misses an evaluation, we need to evaluate at another time, speak to prior coaches, etc.
- Trying to move in the direction of spring evaluations for 2015
- Kids can be on the roster on both the GSL and VT league team
- Pricing for the U14 Team – \$650 (?)
- Need to be clear to parents that U14 is a checking level game
- Each team will have a manager
- Hoping the VT League teams will offer a place for House League players to aspire to
- No additional fee for crossing over teams/borrowing players
- Flexibility will be the key with these new programs

IX. Volunteering

- WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS!

- Any ideas how to inspire the BHA group/parents/families please share with the board

A. Coaches

- Younger groups are a concern
- 2 Mite coaches
- 7 PeeWee
- 5 Squirts

B. Team Managers

- Each team needs an active team manager. Team managers will be the backbone of the BHA going forward.
- Need a bit more guidance for volunteers
- Create a guide sheet for new managers – Melissa H.

1. Team Fundraising

- Jerseys and tournament fees will be raised by individual teams
- The board discovered that BHA fundraisers do not inspire the members as much as team fundraising. Makes more sense to return to the practice of teams being responsible for their own jerseys, tournament fees, and any other extra activities.

X. Equipment Needed

- We need equipment. We are open to suggestions as to how to equip kids (especially House League kids)
- We should look into an alliance with a skate shop for equipment
- Grant writer - For equipment – TB will be submitting 2 grants to TD bank in November
- Find local businesses to sponsor a team or donate equipment

A. #3 Clean-out & maintenance

Once the weather gets nice we'll empty the room, air everything out and do a fearless inventory of what goes back inside.

XI. Set next meeting date –

May 6, 6:30

XII. Adjourn