

Minutes of the CHC Board of Directors Meeting, August 23, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL Jarry Rasmussen brought the meeting to order

Directors Present: All organizations represented. A Quorum is satisfied. The attendance log reflecting tonight's attendance is made as an attachment to these minutes.

Board Officers Present: President, Jarry Rasmussen, Vice President, Chuck Wilkinson, Secretary, Art Blakeslee, Treasurer, Michael Federico

Absent: None

Other CHC officials (non-voting) present: State Registrar, Mary Turner; Eligibility Chairperson and District-I Commissioner, Kathy Ludwig; District-III Commissioner, Art Blakeslee; New England District Representative, Tom Regan; Tournament Chair, Chuck Wilkerson; Midget Director, Greg Stevens; Grow the Game Director, Leslie O'Brien; Referee in Chief, Barry Zalzman

ACCEPT THE MINUTES

A Motion (second) to accept the June minutes passed.

PRESENTATIONS

A presentation was made by the Bridgeport Soundtigers. They are offering opportunities for the players and coaches of the team to come to team practices, to work with coaches and players. They are also encouraging CHC programs to participate in team sponsored events and promotions. They are sponsoring a Mite Cross-Ice Jamboree on October 29, inviting teams from Long Island & Connecticut.

A second presentation was made by members of the UConn Hockey program. They are entering their third year in Hockey East, with all of their home games at the XL Center in Hartford. They are also part of the Winterfest in Boston, playing at Fenway Park in January. Please come out and support them.

The WolfPack Sled Hockey program also gave a presentation. They are made up of eight men and 3 women, and are now paired with Gaylord Hospital to expand support and outreach. They have offered to work with teams and programs to interact with players and coaches and to help educate them. These players are just another player on the ice. September 24 & 25th, USA Warriors (a team of dual amputee vets 18-25 years old) will be playing games, including the CT Wolfpack on 9/24 at 1 pm.

Their schedule is available at ctsledhockey.org, and the schedule for all of the New England Sled Hockey League is available at neshl.org.

Larry Rocha, New England Coach in Chief, also gave a presentation on the coaching requirements, including levels, modules, coaching education opportunities, and all things coaching. Bruce Wolanin, CT Coach in Chief, also added information about the schedule for coaching seminars in the CT area. He provided a written schedule, which is attached to these minutes as an exhibit.

USA Hockey representatives Kevin Erlenbach and Andy Gibson discussed the state of youth hockey, particularly in CT. They noted that there are record numbers of players in youth hockey, but the numbers in New England are down slightly. They discussed and encouraged participation in the 2+2 Challenge and the Club Excellence programs to encourage growing the numbers of players in area programs.

Jared Waimon was introduced as the new Goalie Coordinator for CT and RI. Under the new USA Hockey program, districts are working with these coordinators to help develop coaches and coaching programs to work with goalies in the district and develop a strong base of players for this position. Jared wants to get more kids involved at all ages, including the coaches, to develop goalies. Changing the perception of using

the slow, poor skating, out of shape kid as goalie is important. Goalies have to be in great physical condition to play the position, which kids can find out in Try Goalie for a Day clinics that will be developed.

REPORTS

President: As the season begins, let us all look toward having a competitive, enthusiastic and fun season, remembering that above all, this is a kids game, and that should be our focus as the games progress.

Vice President: Nothing to report.

Secretary: Nothing to report.

Treasurer: Financials were provided and reviewed. Michael reminded programs that Tournament deposits of \$500 per team are due by the October meeting. Previous years have seen too many programs waiting until the tournaments begin before making payments, which make the budgeting and scheduling process difficult. As per Tournament Committee rules, programs whose deposits are not in place by the end of the calendar year can be declared ineligible for tournaments.

Women's & Girls' Hockey: There will be a girls hockey weekend October 8 & 9, 2016. Encourage your girls to take advantage to learn what the game is about. Festival tryouts will be in Hooksett, NH.

New England District/Team Connecticut: Tom reported the following:

- Boys 15, 16 and 17's will still have the Festival, but it will occur later in April or May, so as not to impact Regionals, Nationals and other events, and to align more closely to those of other regions.
- Festival participation for the Girls has not changed, except that try-outs will be earlier, as previously discussed, and the Festival will likely be later than usual, date still TBD.

Registrar: Programs have been feeding rosters through the system, but many are still missing. In addition, programs need to claim their coaches and other volunteers so that all are appropriately tracked and credited. Non-US Players cannot be rostered or on the ice until cleared by USA Hockey. Coaches must also complete their appropriate level and module prior to October 31 for Split Season Midgets or December 31 for all others.

Webmaster: Contacts for teams are made by entering the information directly through the website. So if your program has new Board Members, Schedulers, etc, please use the functionality on the web site. Please go to the 2016-2017 CT Hockey & Affiliate Contact Info tab to self-identify. This is the source for all information used for mailings and distributions. Many programs are missing information for multiple positions.

Coaching Education Program: See report attached as an addendum.

Eligibility (Kathy Ludwig): Coaching: Screening: 575 applications for screening were received in the last week. Make sure to get the coaches screened or they will not be eligible to coach. SafeSport issues are being resolved, but programs must claim their coaches so that they can be cleared from the system. Releases continue to come through. Remember **RELEASES ARE REQUIRED FOR ANY PLAYER COMING INTO YOUR PROGRAM**. All players must be released from their former programs and claimed on the new team's roster before participating in any team activities. Also, if a player requests a release from your Program, you must issue it unless the requesting player has an outstanding obligation owed to your Program. The bulk of these releases are to out of state and in-state, non CHC programs. There were 175 releases received the night before this meeting.

Referee in Chief: Referee seminars began in August, and the schedule is on the CHC and USA Hockey Websites. Programs should be encouraging all members to consider participating. We need referees in the system to replace those who have left. We know that the more qualified referees are opting to take games at the higher levels, where the players, coaches and spectators are more respectful of the referees' contribution to the game. That leaves the less experienced referees to try to keep up with higher level games than would be preferred. The way to keep that from happening is to both increase the ranks of the trained refs and to treat those that we have with greater respect, so that we do not lose more of them.

- The referees are also going to be working with the Gotta Love CT Hockey team to produce segments to improve referee relations with teams, coaches and players.
- There will be three man teams at 20-25% of midget games this season to enhance training and experience for both players and referees.
- Some referees will be wearing Go Pro cameras during games this season. These cameras will be used solely for training of the referees, and will not be used to review calls, penalties, goals, etc. Coaches will be notified before a game starts if the cameras are to be used.
- Reminder that any problems with officials by any parent or coach should be funneled through the program president. Barry will not take calls, comments or complaints from anyone else in a program.

District Commissioners: All quiet, nothing to report.

Grow-the –Game / Marketing: Ken Dixon is looking for additional feedback to help improve the programming and tournament functions of the Gotta Love CT Hockey website. Learn to Play Hockey program links are on the Gotta Love CT Hockey website.

Tournament Committee: The schedule for the Tier 2 and Open Division scheduling has not yet been completed.

OLD BUSINESS

There was a proposal brought to the floor to modify CHC's rule mandating the players wear neckguards. The proposal was to change the language to strongly recommends. After discussion, including review of discussions in Colorado, this proposal was tabled until a later date.

NEW BUSINESS - None

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A Motion to Adjourn (seconded) PASSED by unanimous voice vote.

NEXT MEETING: **September 27, 2016**

7:30pm
Italian American Club
35 Chase Lane, West Haven

YTD CHC ATTENDANCE 9/15-8/16

These are the rules regarding meeting attendance & good standing:

Article III Meetings

1. Each member program shall be represented at CHC Board Meetings by its designated representative, or in his absence, by an officer of the program, or by such representative designated in writing for that meeting. Duly represented member programs in Good Standing shall have the privilege to propose amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and Rules, and vote on matters raised to the Board of Directors.
2. Regular Meetings will be held on the 4th Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM at the West Haven Italian American Club, Chase Lane, West Haven, Connecticut, unless otherwise decided by the Board of Directors.
3. The Annual Meeting shall be held in April, place and date to be determined by the Board of Directors.
4. Each member program shall be represented, as stipulated in paragraph (1) above, in at least 75% of all regularly scheduled monthly meetings. Should a member program fail to attend the minimum number of meetings, then a \$50 fine shall be added to that program's annual membership registration costs and such program shall not be considered to be in Good Standing. A member program may regain its status of Good Standing if subsequent to its loss of Good Standing, **it has attended three (3) consecutive regularly scheduled monthly meetings** or such sanction is lifted by petition to and majority vote of the Board of Directors, subject to the condition that if said member program has lost its status of Good Standing twice during the then-current season, the sanction can only be lifted by petition to and majority vote of the Board of Directors.

**** Teams highlighted in RED are not currently in Good Standing, and teams highlighted in YELLOW are one absence away from being Not In Good Standing**

	9/22/2015	10/27/2015	11/17/2015	12/15/2015	1/26/2016	3/1/2016 *	3/22/2016	4/26/2016	5/24/2016	6/28/2016	8/23/2016	11 Consecutive Meetings	Attendance Percentage
												Total Absences	
Avon				A			A					2	81.82%
Central	A			Good Standing Attendance		A*	A - Good Standing by Appeal					0	100.00%
Ct Barons												0	100.00%
CT Northern Lights		Good Standing Attendance	A			A*	Good Standing by Appeal					0	100.00%
CT Polar Bears	A				A	A*	A	Good Standing by Appeal				0	100.00%
CT Riverhawks					A					A		2	81.82%
CT Wolfpack	A		A		A	A*	A	Good Standing by Appeal				0	100.00%
Darien			A				A					2	81.82%
East Haven												0	100.00%
Echo	A	A										2	81.82%
Enfield							A			A		2	81.82%
Gr NH			A			A*	A	A		A		4	63.64%
Greenwich Blues						A*						0	100.00%
Greenwich Skate			A			Good Standing Attendance						0	100.00%

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												Total Absences	
Griffin			Good Standing Attendance	A	A	A*	A	A			Good Standing Attendance	0	100.00%
Hamden												0	100.00%
Kent		A	A			Good Standing Attendance	A	A				2	81.82%
Mid Fairfield												0	100.00%
New Canaan			A			A*						1	90.91%
Northeast							A					1	90.91%
Northwestern												0	100.00%
Pawling	Good Standing Attendance		A				Good Standing by Appeal			A		1	90.91%
Putnam												0	100.00%
Ridgefield			A									1	90.91%
Salisbury				A		A*	Good Standing by Appeal					0	100.00%
Simsbury	Good Standing Attendance					A*	Good Standing by Appeal					0	100.00%
Shoreline Sharks												0	100.00%
So Windsor												0	100.00%
Southeastern			A				A					2	81.82%
Southern												0	100.00%
Stamford	Good Standing Attendance						A	A				2	81.82%
Wallingford												0	100.00%
Watertown					A			A				2	81.82%
West Hartford					A	A*						1	90.91%

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West Haven												0	100.00%
Western										A		1	90.91%
Whalers							A					1	90.91%
Wizards												0	100.00%
Yale												0	100.00%