



**N.H. AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL MEETING  
GRAPPONE CENTER, CONCORD, NH  
SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2017**

**I. Roll Call/Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 am.

Delegates Present:

Backbay	N.H. Avalanche
Berlin	N.H. East Eagles
Concord	N.H. Jr. Monarchs
Dover	Nashua
Henniker	Northern Cyclones
Hollis	Oyster River
Kearsarge	Plymouth
Keene	Rochester
Lakes Region	Seacoast Lighting
Manchester Flames	Upper Valley

Delegates Absent:

Hanover  
Mt. Washington Valley  
Twin Valley Flyers

Officers Present:

Paul Comeau	President
Chris Cooper	Womens/Girls Div. VP
Mike Durant	1 <sup>st</sup> Exec. VP/Treasurer
Stephanie Laurin	Squirt Div. VP
Dave Maxfield	Referee-in-Chief
Bobby Rodrique	Coaching Director
Matt Roy	Bantam & Midget Div. VP
Cam Stoddard	Secretary/SafeSport Coord.
Joan Strogon	Peewee Div. VP

Officers Absent:

Vacant	2 <sup>nd</sup> Exec. VP
Kevin Fascetta	Webmaster
Charles Fortier	Risk Manager
Deb Powell	Registrar
Vacant	Mites VP

**II. Opening Remarks**

Paul Comeau thanked everybody for coming. He said that he would entertain a motion to move quorum items such as the elections of officers and rule change votes forward as the first items of business. Joan moved, seconded by Victor Drouin (Backbay), to do so. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**III. Election of Officers**

Paul Comeau was nominated for the President's position by the Nominating Committee. The 1<sup>st</sup> Executive VP asked three times whether there were any other nominations. As there were none, the Secretary cast one vote for Paul, and he was re-elected.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive VP position was still open. Matt Roy read a brief letter of interest from Bobby Bennett and then the President asked three times whether there were any other nominations. A



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couple of officers and delegates noted that Frank O'Connor has been expressing an interest. Frank was not present. Victor Drouin (Backbay) moved, seconded by Roger Gillies (Upper Valley), to table this vote until September's meeting. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Treasurer position was still open. The President asked three times whether there were any nominations. None were made. Mike Durant volunteered to continue covering this position until it was filled. Stephanie moved, seconded by Roger, to allow Mike to do so. All were in favor and the motion carried. Mike asked anyone who was interested in filling this position to contact him at their earliest convenience. It is a straightforward position now that QuickBooks is well organized and a Finance Committee reviewed that and the reports that the Treasurer put together.

The Midget Executive VP position was still open. The President asked three times whether there were any nominations for this position. None were made. Matt Roy volunteered to continue covering this position until it was filled. Victor moved, seconded by Wes Riley (Concord) to allow Matt to do so. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Joan Strogon expressed an interest in being re-elected for the Peewee Executive VP position. The President asked three times whether there were any other nominations for this position. None were made. Jen Fullerton (Plymouth) moved, seconded by Wes, to re-elect Joan. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Stephanie Laurin expressed an interest in being re-elected for the Squirt Executive VP Position. The President asked three times whether there were any other nominations for this position. None were made. Victor moved, seconded by Wes, to re-elect Stephanie. All were in favor and the motion carried.

John McKinsey expressed an interest in the Mite Executive VP position. The President asked three times whether there were any other nominations for this position. None were made. Victor moved, seconded by Wes, to elect John. All were in favor and the motion carried.

#### **IV. Independent Resolution Proposed Changes**

Overhead: *Proposed Rule Changes for the 2017 NHAHA Annual Meeting*

Wes Riley (Concord) moved, seconded by Joan Strogon, to review the second proposed rule change on the above-captioned overhead first, given that the two proposed rule changes were similar and the second was already drafted in by-law language. All were in favor and the motion carried. Paul Comeau drafted the second proposed rule change. He explained that it would clean up and clarify some of the language in Article III of the by-laws. It would also take the independent out of the playoffs – the playoff champion would play the independent. A national path had to be provided for everybody per USAH, and this rule change would fulfill this requirement.



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Victor Drouin (Backbay) moved, seconded by Will Schoefmann (Keene), to accept Paul Comeau's proposed rule change. After a brief discussion, Casey Kesselring (N.H. Avalanche) proposed an amendment to Victor's motion. His amendment would require the addition of the following language to Paul's proposed rule change: "Any team movement must be accomplished by December 15<sup>th</sup> and any team that is moved that does not accept their placement has 72 hours to request a fee refund; or, to appeal NHAHA's decision." Victor agreed to amend his motion accordingly. Fourteen voted in favor of Victor's amended motion. Two opposed. Two abstained. The motion carried.

## **V. Monthly Status Reports**

### Secretary

Joan Strogen moved, seconded by Mike Durant, to accept the annual meeting minutes from last year as amended with the following changes. Chuck XXX was changed on page 2 to Chuck Richall. Mike Carroll was changed on page 2 to Mike Caron. Matt Roy and XXX were changed on page 3 to Matt Roy and Bobby Rodrique. Mike Carroll was changed on page 3 to Mike Caron. Highlighting on page 5 was removed. All were in favor. The motion passed.

### Treasurer

Overhead: *Financial Report for NHAHA for 2016-2017*

Mike Durant announced that there was about \$2,700 in fines levied this year. The total income to date was \$61K. This figure did not include an approximate \$16K in grant money expected from the NED. He was not expecting any additional income between now and August when he closed the books. So far as expenses go, this meeting and the August meeting have not been accounted for yet. Other expenses will include background checks, although he will offset that expense through billing. The net income at present was \$5K, but with the NED grant of \$16K, will increase to \$20K or \$21K before the books were closed. Casey Kesselring (N.H. Avalanche) asked how much was taken in for the affiliate fee. Mike said that at present \$30K had been taken in although this figure will increase before the books were closed. Paul Comeau noted that 6K players plus coaches registered this past year. The balance sheet was off by \$72.00, and Mike said that he has been working with the Finance Committee to fix this. Paul thanked Mike and the Finance Committee for their hard work getting the financial affairs in order. QuickBooks was well organized now and outstanding money has been collected instead of lost. He said because of that, more grant money would be made available this coming year. Wes Riley (Concord) motioned, seconded by Victor Drouin (Backbay), to accept the financial report. All were in favor and the motion carried.



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Overhead: *Proposed Budget Report for NHAHA for 2017-2018*

Mike announced that membership and state tournament fees will remain the same. He anticipated that USAH grant money will be received again. There will be a couple of changes to the expenses. There will be a small increase for World Pay which is used to process credit card transactions for festival expenses, as well as an increase in the cost for background checks. There will be an increase in available grant money as Paul discussed earlier. The expenses will be an approximate \$72,774. He was missing the income line. At present it will be -\$2,924, and \$2,909 will be taken from savings to make up a \$0 balance in the budget. Casey moved, seconded by Stephanie Laurin, to accept the proposed budget report. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Paul announced that current background checks cost \$7.50 each. This cost may increase to approximately \$20 each in order to comply with USAH's requirements. In New Hampshire, information was retained differently than it was in some of the other states, in that some of it could be retained from county offices only. Having to request information from county offices increased the cost of background checks. He has requested quotes from companies that are being used by other states, and planned to provide a report on his findings at the August meeting.

Wes asked whether NHAHA would be staying with Sports Ngin. Paul said that NHAHA has been approached by a number of other web platform vendors because Sports Ngin's contract with NHAHA will be ending this year. He planned to discuss this at the August meeting. He asked everybody to bring their concerns about web platform vendors along to this meeting. One of his concerns was the integration of the NHAHA and USAH websites, especially where services were concerned. For example, if the background search provider vendor was tied into both, it would make things a lot easier for everybody. Wes asked if the budget should include extra money to facilitate the review process. Mike did not think that was possible at this time.

Mike announced that Wes, Joan Strogon, and Chuck Richall sat on the Finance Committee this past year. Chuck was not able to serve again this coming year. Mike asked anyone who was interested in filling this position to contact him or Paul at their earliest convenience. The Finance Committee reviewed QuickBooks and the reports that the Treasurer put together. They can review both online now.

First Executive VP

Mike Durant announced that approximately 160 releases have been received. The Release Policy required a 30-day notification period during which parents must be notified about any outstanding accounts. Parents have 30 days to appeal or to seek an amicable solution. NHAHA can become involved only if parents have been properly notified and the 30 days have passed.



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Referee-in-Chief

Dave Maxwell announced that it is a rule-change year. USAH may take checking and delayed offsides out of Bantams. There were a number of clarifications proposals including what boarding meant. There has also been an interesting line change proposal. Another proposal may get rid of icing. The rule change process can be a lengthy one, but eventually the new rulebook, videos, and tests will be released. In August, seminar information will start posting to the website.

Coaching Director

Bobby Rodrigue announced that a level IV clinic will be held in New Hampshire on June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. He encouraged everybody who needed a level IV clinic to take advantage of this opportunity, because the alternative will be a level IV clinic in Hartford in August, which will be further away.

SafeSport Coordinator

Cam Stoddard announced that as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, any sexual misconduct or abuse allegations or reports will go directly to USAH SafeSport. There has been an uptick in allegations and reports this past year. A number of folks have expressed their frustrations with how long the SafeSport adjudication process takes. He understood their frustration. It was an important process though, and one that USAH required NHAHA to follow. He thanked everybody for their patience.

Joan Strogon moved, seconded by Stephanie Laurin, to accept all of the above monthly status reports. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**VI. Unfinished Business**

501c3 Update for NHAHA

Paul Comeau announced that NHAHA planned to complete its 501c3 process shortly with an attorney's assistance. He saved as much money as possible (an approximate \$4k) by doing as much of the paperwork himself as he could.

Tournament Awards

Paul Comeau announced that he has received a lot of positive feedback about having t-shirts this past year. He has received several requests for banners. This coming year, banners will be available along with t-shirts.



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Rules/Regulations Update Progress

Please see the Referee-in-Chief section above for further information. Paul Comeau will report on the USAH rule-change conference at the August meeting. The USAH rule-change conference will take place next month.

**VII. New Business**

Tournament Matrix Draw for the 2017-2018 Season

The results for the tournament matrix draw were as follows.

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5
Bantam Plymouth	Bantam Keene	Bantam Hollis	Bantam N.H. East Eagles	Bantam Kearsarge
Peewee Backbay	Peewee N.E. Edge	Peewee Backbay	Peewee Berlin	Peewee Manchester
Squirt Keene	Squirt Manchester	Squirt N.H. Avalanche	Squirt Concord	Squirt N.H. Avalanche
	Midget Major N.H. East	Midget Major N.H. Jr. Monarchs		
	Midget Minor Plymouth			

Regionals, Sectionals, and Girls were not drawn at this time.

The dates will be as follows.

Squirt: February 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>

Peewee: March 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>

Bantam: March 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>

Midget: November 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

(or November 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>)

Supersite & Girls: TBD

**VIII. Closing Statements**

Wes Riley (Concord) moved, seconded by May Roy, to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 am. All were in favor and the motion passed.