

RAHA Meeting Minutes

12/10/19

Members in Attendance: Corey Kendall, Lane Patorti, Brian Olsen, Bob Bruttomesso, Patrick Cooley, Emily Reynolds

Meeting Called to Order: Brian called to order, Corey seconded 6:30pm

Minutes from previous meeting review: Approved: Lane, Bob Seconded

Executive: Brian - Brian shared his feedback he gathered during a weekend spent checking in with different families during their games at Spartan and Giorgetti. Lots of positive feedback about coaching, communication, etc. Goal Tending help is something that we are lacking, Corey brought up that we have been trying to get help for goalies for years. Brian is going to reach out at the state level for help, Lane suggested reaching out to Castleton University goalies, Corey and Tucker both mentioned Arthur (House Mites parent) who was a goalie growing up. Corey offered to reach out to Arthur and check in to see if he is interested in helping! Emily suggested to look at available ice times that RAHA already has that we can "steal" for the goalies training.

Rutland High School Hockey Coaches/Athletic Director: Lane invited them to meet with us and discuss options to open up more communications between the two organizations. We want to help grow the program for ourselves and also for the high school teams. We want our players to get familiar with the coaches and the high school program in order to get excited for themselves playing on that team eventually. Athletic Director Normal spoke and said they are hoping that we can all work collaboratively, it's all about the kids. He spoke of past experiences trying to mend these two organizations together and it wasn't successful. He is hoping this time it is successful for all of us. We all need to work together - RAHA, Rutland, and Castleton University. His fear is that if we aren't all able to work together that hockey will slowly fade out. None of us want that to happen. Normal also suggested we do a RAHA night at a Rutland Game. We will schedule a girls game and a boys game to have the players come in, meet the players, and enjoy a game. Normal suggested reaching out to the high school teams in other areas of VT to see how/what they do to assist in their youth hockey program. They are going to reach out and see what ideas they may have. Brian asked what we could be doing to help them with what they need from their players. Mike mentioned just making sure that our skaters are focusing on the fundamentals. Norman said that during football he would go on Wednesdays during football season, to middle school practices to help out. Everyone agreed that if the Rutland coaches had the time to make an appearance at some of our practices it would make a huge impact on our teams and players. Emily brought up the point that a lot of our coaches haven't played hockey themselves, so maybe the Rutland coaches could come in and run a practice with our coaches a couple times to help run programming and drills that they want our players to know how to do. Corey asked to keep us in mind when she starts planning next years Little Bruins program, she is always looking for teams to volunteer their time - Coaches agreed that they could reach out to the players from the year before to look for volunteers. Lane suggests starting small - we will plan the two RAHA nights first and then go from there.

Bob - Wanted to check in on number of ice times available, is there a limit of times a team can add more games and more ice time. Pat Cooley said it's kind of self manageable, as long as a team isn't going crazy and nobody is complaining. He also asked about the pay rate if only

one ref shows up for a game, should they be paid double, or 1.5 times instead of regular rate. Pat said last year he would get paid double if he reffed himself.

Brian and Bob created a survey for parents - we viewed the questions to see if there were any changes needed before it goes out to parents. We will leave it out for a couple weeks and then go through the results.

Student Coaching - We will add all necessary forms to the website so anyone interested are able to find what they need. Corey suggested an email be sent out to families explaining why they need the forms and the protocol to follow to become a student coach. Players need to be approved by their own coach and the coach they want to help BEFORE they are able to get onto the ice as a student coach.

Playdown Weekend - Brian asked if we wanted to host one or both weekends, Pat Cooley suggested hosting one week. We will check with Spartan/Giorgetti schedules and respond that we do want to host one weekend. Either weekend works for us.

Fundraising: Skate - A - Thon - some players still haven't received the forms to fill out. We will be working with Amanda to work on mailers. Lane is working on getting all the forms to players. We will need to check in with TJ for a date for enforcers game. Corey will do a second apparel order in January since Amanda stepped down as fundraising chair.

Meeting adjourned: Corey, Brian seconded 8:00pm