

Vermont State Amateur Hockey Association

Minutes: Meeting – Tuesday 7 February 2023

John Cioffi, President called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

- Conducted by Secretary - see attached Meeting Attendance Report.

Approval of Minutes

- A motion was duly made and seconded to approve minutes from monthly meeting conducted on Tuesday 13 December 2022. Voice vote taken; unanimous approval w/no abstentions. Motion carried.

President Report – John Cioffi

- John's two-page President's Report along with its addenda relating to the recent violence occurring at a Vermont middle school basketball game in Alburgh, Vermont, was distributed with the meeting agenda. These can be found on website after the meeting. Please refer to report as it contains numerous items.
- John emphasized the increasing number of incidents of incivility and poor sportsmanship in youth sports, including hockey, and reminded everyone that all participants have an affirmative obligation to hold themselves responsible for creating and maintaining a positive culture as role models for our young players. John followed that by introducing Nate Isham who described the supplementary discipline VSAHA officers elected to impose to carry out that directive.
 - A game misconduct penalty assessed to a player or team official pursuant to Rule 601(d) will immediately hereafter result in a four (4) game suspension (quadrupling the one (1) game suspension in Rule 404(b)).
 - A game misconduct penalty assessed to a player within five (5) minutes of the end of a game will immediately hereafter result in an additional one (1) game suspension, for a total suspension of two (2) games.
 - Any spectator found in violation of Rule 601 shall be suspended from all practices and games for a minimum of thirty (30) days and be subject to a hearing before they may be allowed to return.
- John named Karen Fortin and Mark Slade as the members appointed to the Nominating Committee. Any VSAHA member interested in running in the April election for President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, or Secretary should contact the committee.

Registrar Report – Bob Greemore not available.

Policy Committee Report – Nate Isham, Chair

- Nate received 6 or 7 responses to his survey about the continued necessity of the Transfer Policy, all of which favored eliminating the existing policy. This would result in a revision to the Outstanding Debt List which will be considered by the Policy committee

at its next meeting.

Rules Committee Report – Nate Isham, Chair

- Nate circulated a one-page report entitled 2022-2023 Rules Committee & Incident Reports as of 2/5/23. This report was discussed in connection with the supplementary discipline discussed earlier.

Player Development Report – Chris Micciche and Pat Phillips

- Pat Phillips provided a review of the recently completed evaluations and noted the number of participants had declined somewhat from prior years.

Goalie Coordinator Report – Leon Lifschutz not available.

State Tournament Committee Report – Kim Gaines, Chair

- Tier 4 seedings will be posted tomorrow.
- Stowe is very well prepared to host Championship Weekend.
- Always check website for tournament details in case last-minute changes become necessary.
- Every team MUST bring a complete and properly prepared book of team credentials.

Girls/Women Director Report – Becky Street

- Becky reported very good turnouts for girls nights – big plus was open skate afterwards.
- Seeking coaches for the Futures Camp 24-26 March 2023 in Portland, Maine.

8U Hockey & Grow the Game Coordinator Report – Mike Smith not available, JC subs

- Applications for Growth Grants are currently available on the website. The deadline for submission of those applications is 25 February 2023. And for those who receive the grants, 31 March 2023 is the deadline for the submission of completed reports and receipts.
- VSAHA equipment trailer is always available.
- Grow the Game Committee is in the process of scheduling its next meeting.

Referee-in-Chief Report – Mike Hickey

- Mike expressed his gratitude for the supplementary penalties announced tonight.

Disabled Hockey Coordinator Report – David Santamore

- The East Coast Jumbos, based in Hopkinton, Massachusetts is an organization devoted to “athletes with Autism and other developmental disabilities who wish to participate in the great sport of ice hockey.” The Jumbos have hosted many great games, with more to come.

Player Safety Coordinator Report – Jody LaVanway

- Jodi reported that almost every rink in Vermont has a functioning automated external defibrillator (AED).

Treasurer Report – Pat Phillips

- Pat will have a proposed 2023-2024 budget to warn at March meeting for vote in April.

SafeSport Coordinator Report – Ray St. Pierre not available.

Association Business

- Milton had questions about registering an upcoming jamboree. To be registered as a tournament with a \$275 fee.

Adjournment

- At 8:40 p.m. President called for adjournment. A motion was duly made and seconded for adjournment. Voice vote taken; unanimous approval w/no abstentions. Motion carried.