

NCCYHA BOARD MEETING

July 14, 2020

7:00 p.m.

S. Fadale Residence (Shaun's Pen)

Fredonia, N.Y.

PRESENT FOR MEETING: Shaun Fadale, Kevin Persch, Eddie Paluch, Andy Hellwig, and Nick Williams. Andy Davidson, John Szydlo and Mike Whitcher present via conference call.

OPEN PORTION OF MEETING: No guests appeared.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A Motion to approve the Minutes of the 6/2/20 meeting was made by Eddie Paluch with a second by Kevin Persch. All were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John Szydlo reported that he is working on the ice bill and going through the process of reconciling it with our records. A preliminary review indicates that it doesn't quite match up. If the difference is small, it can be placed in the administrative fee column. We have a healthy fund balance consisting of \$6800 in the checking account and \$20,000 in the savings account. The Certificate of Deposit totals \$14,000. There has been no use of reserve funds in the last two years. We have received payment from WNY HS Club Hockey for monies owed to us for the 2019 – 2020 season and have also received a refund from the Referees' Association. Those amounts are included in the fund balances. Also included is approximately \$1500 in registration funds received for the 2020 – 2021 season. There are possible refunds owed to travel teams and John will coordinate with Andy Hellwig and Nick Williams in determining the proper amounts. It was noted that our current checking account balance is lower than it was a similar time last year when it was approximately \$12,500. A sizable portion of that difference is most likely attributable to the loss of the home tournament because of COVID-19 restrictions. A motion to approve the Report was made by Eddie Paluch with a second by Andy Hellwig. All were in favor.

SCHEDULER'S REPORT: Andy Hellwig reports that he is in a holding pattern due to the question of the availability of ice at SUNY Fredonia for the upcoming season. He has prepared a schedule which is of course, dependent on the actual availability of the ice. Contingency plans were discussed later in the meeting.

COACHING COORDINATOR REPORT: Mark Taylor was not present but it was agreed that there is an immediate need to communicate with coaches concerning the upcoming season and to solicit help wherever we can. The need for coaching assistance is particularly critical in the Mite Division where last year's Head Coach, Ron Tonelli, has indicated an inability to devote the same time and attention as he did last year. Additionally, most of his assistants last year will be moving up to the squirt division. We need a complete e-mail list of all coaches and Andy Davidson indicated he can pull this information from the website and provide it to Eddie, who can then send out an e-mail that should reach all current coaches, advising them of the critical need for coaches to help in the Mite Division. Without the success of that division, all other divisions will suffer.

DIRECTOR OF HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY REPORT: No report presented.

WEBSITE REPORT: Andy Davidson reports that updated Registration has now been added to the website and is active. We have had new registrations completed and it does appear to be running smoothly. He has changed the sock choice to Carolina Blue as has previously been discussed. Shaun will send a picture of the Steger Award recipient so that Andy can post it on the website and Mike can post on the Facebook page. A copy of the letter from Joe Baudo, NYSAHA President, containing warnings about penalties for violation of suspension of hockey activities, will be posted.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Eddie Paluch reported that two players had registered for the upcoming season. There was discussion about how to provide current registration information to coaches so they know who is registered. In the past, coaches might not have updates so that unregistered players might unknowingly be allowed on the ice. Methods will be discussed at a future meeting as we approach actual ice activity.

COVID-19 REPORT: There was discussion as to the current allowances for on-ice hockey activity. Shaun's understanding hockey is categorized as high risk and that currently, only up to ten persons are permitted on the ice at a time. John indicates that the total is 30, as long as proper distancing requirements are met. Shaun will forward all relevant e-mails from USA Hockey and NYSAHA so that we can review and be absolutely certain of what is allowed and what is not. This is critical for planning for the upcoming season. Of course, these rules can change quickly making it difficult to stay completely up to date.

OLD BUSINESS: Whether SUNY Fredonia will provide any ice to our Association, is up in the air. There is a very similar situation in Geneseo and Livingston

County Youth Hockey has been told that there will be some decision around July 31. Something similar could then be expected here. On the very real possibility that we cannot play at Fredonia, Shaun has had discussions with officials at the Northwest Arena in Jamestown. They will make ice available to us and the price would be \$205 per hour. It was agreed that if Fredonia State did not have ice for us, we could commit to taking ice in Jamestown. It was thought that there is enough interest among NCCYHA families in returning to the ice, that the travel to and from Jamestown would not be a major impediment. Still to be decided is how the more expensive ice would be paid for, whether by registration fees or in part subsidized from the reserve fund. There is obvious need to keep the Association going during the highly unusual situation presented by COVID-19.

NEW BUSINESS: Regrettably, there are not enough players to put a Bantam team together. The PeeWee situation is challenging. A goalie dropped out and a couple of players went to travel teams with other organizations. There is one new PeeWee age player who has moved to the area. Nick Keefe is working on putting two MOHL teams together. They have one PeeWee age goalie and there is a Squirt goalie who could play up. There are four goalies in Squirts so that division would not be negatively impacted. On the Jersey subject, Kevin will check with our current supplier, Al Ross to see what their lead time is and their pricing structure for the upcoming season. There was discussion about High School players who had not paid registration fees for last season. After records were examined, it was determined that three players had not paid. John will send updated invoices and copy Shaun on the transmittal letter.

Motion to adjourn by Nick with a second by Andy H. All were in favor.