



MASSACHUSETTS HOCKEY MONTHLY MEETING

January 8, 2018
MEETING MINUTES

The Meeting was called to order at 7:37PM

John Tobin presented his opening remarks and advised that the Moving Wall presentation listed on the agenda would not take place as Ms. Hughes was unable to attend.

Keith Carter – Massachusetts Coaching Director made a presentation to the Board on his initiatives for the 2018-19 season. Keith advised that his three principal areas of focus were on (1) establishing a mentoring program where more experienced coaches would assist newer coaches in areas of practice plans and general coaching knowledge (2) goaltending development program with the assistance of Brian Eklund to increase number and give programs the tools to help develop goalies from within their own programs and ranks rather than poaching goalies from other programs (3) coach observer program where a pool of coaches is used to observe coaches in game situations to provide feedback on instruction, interaction with referees and parent and spectator demeanor.

Mark Lissner and Bob Joyce presented to the Executive Board a proposal of the Youth and Girls National Bound committees for clarification of the tryout rules for Youth and Girls National Bound teams. They advised the EBoard that the present rule in place provides that tryouts for all National Bound teams cannot take place until no earlier than 48 hours following the conclusion of nationals, which provides a tremendous impact on Massachusetts Hockey Programs due to rinks closing, high schools spring sports, festivals and camps, April vacation which leads to many programs not being able to conclude tryouts until May. As a result of the provisions in the current rule which allows a district to enforce the rule, they have proposed allowing teams to conduct tryouts 48 hours following the completion of the last Massachusetts Tier I state tournament which would conclude Sunday March 11, 2018. This proposal has been presented to the Girls Women's District and has to be presented to the Youth National Committee.

Kevin Kavanagh presented his executive directors report and advised that there has been some discussion about removing checking at the 14U Youth level but the matter was still being discussed. Mike D'Orio, Massachusetts Hockey Program Coordinator advised that he has been getting out to programs trying to get in front of as many people as possible and is working on the leadership conference for this year.

John Tobin asked for committee reports.

Kevin Kavanagh advised the player development sessions at the college rinks has been well received for both the on and off ice sessions. Kevin advised that the Boston Bruins relationship is still strong and advised that the mini-one on one winners both boys and girls would be going to the NHL All Star game as guests of the Bruins. The Little Bruins program is still going well and they distributed over 4,000 sets of gear this year and hoped to increase the number to 5,500 sets next year. There has also been some discussion with the Bruins about developing a parent education program.

Mark Lissner advised the board on the upcoming deadlines for nominations and the USA Hockey director positions that are up for a vote this year.

Tom Smith provided a player safety update.

Christine Mayer updated the board on safe sport matters and advised that there is a real emphasis on physical and sexual misconduct, locker room monitoring and the use of cellphones in the locker room.

Greg Sophis advised that Mass Hockey has hired a part time bookkeeper for assistance with billing and payments.

The board was advised that the Cheever grant application process including past award winners is now up on the Massachusetts Hockey website.

The next meeting was announced for Monday March 5th at 7:30pm.

A motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 8:42pm.