



MAHOCKEY.ORG

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#MASSPROUD

MASSACHUSETTS HOCKEY, INC.

BOARD MINUTES

September 8, 2021 - Sheraton Needham Boston

The meeting of the Massachusetts Hockey Board of Directors was held on Thursday, May 13th, 2021 at the Sheraton Needham Boston.

Meeting called to order by Bob Joyce at 7:11 PM.

Bob Joyce asked for a moment of silence for Phil Zona, Jimmy Hayes, and Jo DiFilippo. Please, keep Jake Thibeault, who suffered a spinal injury this past weekend in your thoughts.

Regarding COVID mask mandate inquiries we are following the direction of the state. We are not the authorities on these matters, we are hockey people. State officials and local boards of health are. There are some local rules community by community.

There are 35 of 73 board members compliant on conflict of interest, background screen, and safesport. The committees have not been finalized since so few board members submitted preferences. Bob expects to send out next week. He called attention to attendance by some members as published prior to this meeting.

Maura Sheehan could not attend but shared the outcome of Attorney General review prior to this meeting in email. "Our attorney, Dan Gelb, has indicated that the AG's review of the voluntary changes Mass Hockey made on its own, prior to the anonymous report, resulted in a "clean bill of health" for Mass Hockey."



Maura Sheehan
Memo to MH Board

Paul Moore shared critical situation regarding coaching certifications. There have been 18 clinics since June 1 where 1756 coaches (515 from Mass) have been certified. With the expiration of the temp cards from last season expiring August 31. There are not enough clinics to educate the 16000 coaches that have a temp card expired from last year. USA Hockey is asking to allow redlined coaches until 12/31 if they are compliant otherwise (appropriate age module, Safe Sport Training and Background screen) before they are on an official roster. With the new coaching requirement there are now 600 level 3 coaches that need level 4.

A motion was made to waive the 7-day notice period for a rule change, seconded, and unanimously approved.



A motion was made to allow redlined coaches otherwise compliant (appropriate age module, Safe Sport Training and Background screen) to participate until 12/31 with an expired CEP, seconded, and approved by majority (1 opponent).

Bob mentioned the concerns and frustrations with the USAH rule changes at 18U-14U level regarding the tag-up offsides. Mark Kumpel asked about access to a USA Hockey study that has been referenced.

A motion was made to set try out dates for Non-National Bound Teams at March 14, 2022 and National Bound Teams of April 6, 2022, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Kevin Donovan raised the matter about the need to change Mass Hockey's penalty times with the recent change from USA Hockey with penalty times and period times for specific age groups.



Latest Rule Changes
Summary.pdf

See this slide for summary.

A motion was made to waive the 7-day notice period for a rule change, seconded, and unanimously approved.

A motion was made to suspend Mass Hockey Penalty Rules, seconded, and unanimously approved since it differed from new USA Hockey rule.

Erick Kainen, Goalie Coach-in-Chief, shared update on initiatives within the state to develop goalies. Kevin Kavanagh mentioned we still have subsidies for quick change and intermediate nets for organizations.

Chris Holden could not attend but sent a Treasurer's Report prior to the meeting.



Chris Holden
Treasurer Report Sep

A motion was made to approve the June 21, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Kevin Kavanagh talked about program report that Mike DiOrio shares with organizations. Mike added that this can be a tool to help boards grow/improve like the Tri County Saints example. Kevin Kavanagh mentioned some efforts to address concerns around billeting in the state.



Chris Mayer shared that discipline matters have resumed with the start of the season. Rob Barletta, Owner of Walpole hockey rink, who is facing sexual assault charges has been suspended from all USA Hockey activities. She added that John Murray and Bruce Finethy are arranging a training clinic on proper completion of gamesheets.

Steve Rizzo talked about kicking off player development in the next couple weeks.

Peter Giuliano shared that several state tournaments need hosts.

In district registrar reports there were some questions regarding the roster deadlines of 9/1 otherwise quiet.

Mark Lissner in G/W section shared that mini 1-on-1 begins next week. They have about 90% of rosters completed.

Nicole Siglin mentioned that the safety committee is working on concussion training and management. She'll be sharing information in the future.

Kevin Donovan is asking for everyone to support recruiting officials. We are down 900 more officials since covid. There are only 1043 registered as of today. These numbers are not good. Additionally, we need to step up our education since abuse of officials is rampant in the rinks.

Stephen Palmacci mentioned that registration numbers at this point are typical to prior years.

Stephen Fitzgerald couldn't attend but Bob Joyce mentioned that USAH changed our insurance policy and renewed with a new policy holder, Willis. We cannot issue certificate of insurance right now other than a generic statement. There are changes to the limits of the policy but details have not been communicated from USAH.

Steve Rizzo mentioned from USA Hockey Youth Council that player development camps went well this past year.

Jim Maimone mentioned discussions about changing USA Hockey Board make-up to account for more athlete members.

Tom McGrath shared that Tom Smith will be recognized as Outstanding Citizen at Evacuation Day Banquet on September 17th.

Bob Joyce shared the nominations for 4th Vice President: Tom McGrath and David Young. Tim McMahon verified that both nominees were qualified to be placed on the ballot.



The vote concluded with the election of Tom McGrath.

Bob Joyce took a moment to recognize the length of service and give gratitude for their contributions to Mass Hockey:

- Keri-Anne Allan - 20 years
- Jay O'Neil – 10 years

There was no old business.

In new business Christopher Gong presented the rules proposal change for game sheet labels to include allowance of electronic gamesheets. The rule is included:



Scoresheet Labels &
Electronic Scoresheet

There was a motion to amend the rule to remove the CEP # requirements on the label, seconded, and unanimously approved.

The amended rule was through motion, seconded, and unanimously approved.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm.