

**EYHA Board Meeting**  
Remote: Microsoft Teams  
**August 15, 2024 7pm.**

**ATTENDANCE:**

<b>Board Members Present:</b>	Helen MacAndrews	Sean O'Connell	Tracy O'Connell
	Dominic Cloud	Brianna Yarnell	Jen Villamil
	Joe Baird	Jennifer O'Neil	Mike Shaw
	Tonra Riehl	Corey Labor	Kim Lassy
	Mike Lorenz		Renee Soutiere

<b>Board Members Absent:</b>	Frank Parisi	Dave Alofsin	Rick Villami
		Chris McGinty	

<b>EYHA Community Members:</b>	None
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- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Sean O'Connell, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.
- 2. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Motion to approve [July](#) Jennifer Villamil motions, Corey Labor seconds. July minutes approved.
- 3. EYHA Member Communication:** *(The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the general public an opportunity to address the board on matters that are either not on the agenda or are slated for action. Any discussion, if any, will be limited to determining next steps.)*
  - None
- 4. Previous Action Items:** *(The purpose of this agenda item is to provide Board members an opportunity to review previous action items)*

July  
~~ALL: Complete Safesport & Code of Conduct form~~  
~~ALL: Jen O needs a list of past donors~~  
~~TRACY / HELEN: get a list of donation targets from the past and an idea on if we have met them before to Jen O~~  
~~MIKE L: BLTP graphic for when registration opens on 8/1 -- post on website and socials~~  
~~HELEN / JEN: send final email FRIDAY 7/19~~  
~~HELEN: review Policies and Procedures re: Neck Guards~~  
~~SEAN: will check with Bruce about arbiter and scheduling referees~~  
Possibly Combine Policies & Player Development Committee meetings

June:  
~~RENEE: connect with Angela at Waterbury re: banner size~~  
~~RENEE / KIM: connect with Noel about new logo for ice & submit invoice to Tracy~~  
~~COREY: connect with Bruins to ask about neck guards~~  
~~SEAN: email to Nate Isham to report that Mike Ginnott stepped down and that Rick Villamil is stepping into his place~~  
SEAN or RICK: communicate with VSAHA to offer the Symposium earlier (maybe after season ends)  
TONRA / COREY: connect about coaches meeting & injury reporting procedures
- 5. New Business / Presentations:** *(The purpose of this agenda item is to provide Board members with an opportunity to discuss various issues. Any action to be taken, if any, would occur at a future meeting.)*

- **24-25 Season Team sizes**
  - **8U:**
    - 3 teams RED / WHITE / BLUE (Nod to Olympics)
    - 1 Girls team
  - **10U:**
    - 3 teams (T2 / T3 / T4)
    - 1 girls team (T4)
  - **12U:**
    - 3 teams (T2 / T3 / T4 )
    - 1 girls team (T4)
  - **14U:**
    - 2 teams (T2 / T3)
  - **16U Split Season:** CSB hosting a boys 16U split season BAHA/CSB for those players who don't make their HS team (an option for any EHS / MMU players)
  
- **Tournament Schedule discussion**
  - Every team gets 2 tournaments - 1 closer to home, the second is travel;
  - T2 teams get 3 tournaments (paid for by teams in registration fee)
  - 8U's play in Yamboree at no cost
  - In-state tournaments chosen based on diversity of teams invited to play (re: mix of in-state AND out of state teams)
  
- **EYHA Online Apparel Store Discussion (Mike L)**
  - EYHA Online gear store - open 2 times (beginning of the season and at the holidays)
    - More options and cheaper than last year
    - Consider having an option to keep a second store open all year for individual orders - yes, however will be more expensive as items will not be ordered "in bulk"
    - Board considering proposal to offer coaches some sort of coaching swag for a consistent "professional" look while representing EYHA.
  
- **Hockey Night in Essex**
  - Board agrees to do it again this year. Kim is looking at dates in November.
- **Committee updates (if any)**
  - Sub-committees:
    - **Registration (Jen V)**
      - Going well; House / Newbees to remain open throughout the fall.
      - Try-on days a huge success. Thanks to everyone who attended
    - **Player / Coach Development (Joe)**
      - Discussed teams / coaches / evaluations
      - Evaluations
        - Lining up multiple goaltender evaluators who are unbiased to help with all goalie evals
        - Discussion about how to select teams (best players vs. build a team with thoughts positions: Forwards and Defense). Committee will continue discussion

- Sean reminds board members to remain neutral / unbiased about evals when having discussions with families.
    - Brianna will create a “coaching females” checklist for all coaches that is centered specifically around coaching girls hockey
    - **Promoting parent involvement (Kim)**
      - Several parents will be attending the face-off meeting
    - **Policies / Procedures (Helen)**
      - Discussion of development of Captains Program for 12U / 14U. Committee will work with Player Development Committee to further develop programming
      - Updates needed to Policies & Procedures / By-Laws
      - Recommendation for all players to wear jock / jill - will discuss with parents at team parent meetings
    - **Community Events / Fundraisers (Jen O)**
      - Dave and Jen will connect to focus on Yamboree / Calcutta
      - Raffle for Bruins-Canadiens tickets
- 6. Executive Updates:** *(The purpose of this agenda item is to provide board and administration representatives an opportunity to report out on the current activities of various programs, board committees, etc. There may not always be a report from each group if there have not been any changes since the last time this was on the agenda.)*
- **Ice Coordinator: Kim Lassy**
    - Getting games and tournaments scheduled / getting prepped for VSAHA Face-off meeting
    - The new Elev802 facility is big enough to host 2 teams - all EYHA skaters will have access to Elev802 ice and coaches more often
  - **Safety Officer: Tonra Rhiel**
    - Will be gathering most up to date Concussion protocols in preparation for coaches meeting
  - **President: Sean O’Connell**
    - **LiveBarn is a GO!!!**
      - 4 year agreement. Will be installed in the Essex Rink in the next month
      - EYHA name on the contract.
      - EYHA to advertise LiveBarn on socials / marketing
      - All current LiveBarn members can enter the EYHA promo code. EYHA gets a kickback from LiveBarn for anyone who enters the EYHA code
    - **CANADA TRAVEL PERMITS:**
      - All teams that travel to Canada MUST complete Travel Permit through VSAHA / USA Hockey
  - **Secretary / SafeSport Update: Helen MacAndrews**
    - Board members should register for 2024 USA Hockey, complete background check & SafeSport then submit USA hockey # through [Volunteer Code of Conduct Form](#) so we can create a volunteer roster. Deadline Sept 1st.
- 7. Next meeting date:**
- **Sept 19, 2024 @ 7:00 pm. Location: Essex Rink Classroom**
- 8. Executive Session (if needed): none**
- 9. Adjournment: 9:23 PM**