

**EYHA Board Meeting**  
REMOTE Via Microsoft Teams  
**January 20, 2022 7pm.**

**1. ATTENDANCE:**

<b>Board Members Present:</b>	Helen MacAndrews	Tracy O'Connell	Sean O'Connell
	Frank Parisi	Joe Baird	Renee Soutiere
	Jen Villamil	Dave Alofsin	Rick Villamil
	Mike Ginnett	Corey Labor	

<b>Board Members Absent:</b>	Brianna Yarnell	Sarah Stempek	Chris Krings
	Dominic Cloud		
	Mike Smith	Bruce Garrapy	Josh Pepin

<b>Community Members:</b>	Mike Hughart	Steve Heney
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**2. CALL TO ORDER:** Frank Parisi, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

**3. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Motion to approve **November** meeting minutes made by Sean O'Connell seconded by Jen Villamil . Motion approved.

**4. COMMUNITY COMMENTS:**

- None

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

- **10U Local Travel**
  - **New idea - FLEX team - pilot at 10U with coach Steve Heney**
    - **Steve Heney: Flex / pilot - Hybrid 10U program**
      - **Rationale:**
        - **Traditional 10 travel "rigor" seems "too much" for this age group**
      - **Goals:**
        - **To increase kids in competitive play**
        - **To increase current participation in both practices and games**
        - **Two practices / week - set day and time**
        - **One game / weekend**
        - **Still provide competitive hockey - all players should have done Newbees / House first**
        - **No evaluations for this program**
        - **No State tournament - possibly attend tournament instead**
      - **Board Comments:**

- **Renee: Getting consistent sheets of ice is challenging**
- **Helen: sounds like a hybrid of Travel / House - separate registration / lower cost than Travel**
- **Corey: no official Tier designation because not participating in State Tournament**
- **Jen: seems like there will be a niche for this hybrid option**
- **Frank: CSB might also be interested in starting this as well**
- **Next steps:**
  - **Steve will send proposal; board will review**
- **Tier designations for States**
  - **G12U - Essex will stay T4 (G12U SASA is T2)**
  - **10U T2 - no other 10U T2 teams in the state**
  - **State tournament brackets will be posted shortly**

## 6. EXECUTIVE UPDATES:

- **Treasurer: Tracy O'Connell**
    - **Budget:** Budget update - things look good
      - Registration \$ is on track
      - Questions:
        - Invoices: Little Bruins - reimburse for ice? Corey will send info to Tracy for reimbursement
        - VSAHA invoices
          - coaches screening
          - State tournament
          - Reimbursement for players moving to ally teams
        - Questions for Brianna - left over from Grow The Game - what should we do with it?
- **Ice Coordinator: Renee Soutiere**
  - **Scheduling:** will look out for VSAHA schedule for states
    - 14U T2: similar situation to 10U T2: trouble getting games
    - Barre opted out of states at 14U T2 level
    - Scheduling the final weekends for the season for 10U and 14U teams
  - Will have Ice to Host in March
  - Question: Flex for minimum game requirements?: No flex (USA Hockey rule) - 20 games must be done before state tournament; must also play each team in Tier both home and away. Ask VSAHA to waive that aspect of the rule.
  - Next year: start the season earlier since Holidays are on weekends again in 2022
- **Fundraising Coordinator: Chris Krings**
  - Not present
- **VSAHA Rep: Mike Ginnett**
  - Next meeting is early Feb just before state tournament.
  - Kim Gaines, VSAHA - within the next few days will release info about state tournament & PlayDown weekends
  - Questions for Kim Gaines:

- Will ask about the Home-Away requirement - due to COVID and games canceled.
    - Ask about when the minimum games need to be met
  - State Tournaments in Middlebury
  - **ADDENDUM:** SEE VSAHA note about state tournament at end of minutes
- **Head Referee: Bruce Garrapy**
  - Not present
- **Registrar: Jen Villamil**
  - Nothing to report regarding registration
  - **Gear at rink:** random promotional items needs to be distributed - clean up
  - Noted that watching the HS team play this season has been amazing - our association is doing a great job preparing kids for HS play
  - Coaches missing off USA Hockey rosters: Need to get the coaches on the USA Hockey roster - Jen will check that so that all coaches can participate in State Tournament
- **Director of Communication: Mike Smith**
  - Not present
- **Travel VP: Sean O'Connell**
  - **Tournaments:**
    - Difficulty due to cancellations and tournament schedules released late
    - EYHA reminder: The EYHA board pays for 1 tournament (most expensive) and families pay for the 2nd tournament
    - **Suggestion for next year:**
      - EYHA pays for 1 in-state tournament; any team that wants to go to another tournament, the team parents / coaches organize it
      - EYHA collects money ahead of time (deposit); EYHA registers
      - **Communication:** better communication with families about what the expectations for teams at the beginning of the season.
      - **Advocacy:** Ask tournaments to schedule games later when registering
  - **Glades:** posted their "teams" for next year: they will have a team at every level
  - **2nd Essex Rink Proposal:** Elev802/ Essex parks and rec / EYHA - for creation of a second rink - grants through State of Vermont (possibly at Tree Farm / Harley Davidson building). Sean and Tracy will look into it.
- **House VP: Rick Villamil**
  - Very successful year
  - NewBee group has been great - lots of support from parents
    - NewBee group played at EHS boys intermissions
    - Thankful to McDonalds for their support
  - Elev802 has been VERY successful for working with HOUSE program
  - Looking to have NewBees again at a EHS boys game
- **8U Director: Josh Pepin**
  - Not present

- **Women's Director: Brianna Yarnell**
  - Not present - update provided by Sean
  - EHS - Youth Hockey Night Wed Feb 2nd:
    - 2 honorary captains - for last 2 min of warmups
    - Intermission "games"
  - UVM women's hockey game - 1/30 2pm
  
- **Head Coach: Corey Labor**
  - All coaches are now certified
  
- **Tournament Director: Dave Alofsin**
  - Holding pattern with Yamboree plans
  - Possible opportunities:
    - Golf Tournament
    - Cornhole Tournament - 802Cornhole
  - Anyone who is interested in supporting or helping with tournaments, encouraged to contact Dave at: [dalofsin@gmail.com](mailto:dalofsin@gmail.com)
  
- **Equipment Coordinator: Dominic Cloud**
  - Not present
  
- **Secretary/Safe Sport Coordinator: Helen MacAndrews**
  - Signage in the rink has improved
  - Sent email asking Association to not park in the bus lane. Reminder to all EYHA families: please keep the bus lane cleared for EHS and visiting busses.
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- **Safety Officer: Joe Baird**
  - Regarding COVID: everyone is being responsible and cooperative in terms of reporting and contacting EYHA
  
- **Past President: Sarah Stempek**
  - Not present
  
- **President: Frank Parisi**
  - Thank you to everyone for all the hard work and wish everyone luck for the end of the season.
  - EYHA raffle drawing: Saturday 1/22 at 6PM - During 2nd Intermission EHS Boys game

**7. NEXT MEETING:** February 17 at 7pm, Location: REMOTE

**8. MEETING ADJOURNED:** Frank Parisi, President of the Board, adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM

## **ADDENDUM: VSAHA notes re: State Tournament**

From: **VSAHA Tournaments** <[tournaments@vthockey.org](mailto:tournaments@vthockey.org)>

Date: Thu, Jan 20, 2022, 7:41 PM

Subject: 2022 State Playdown Schedules & Other Info

To: VSAHA Tournaments <[tournaments@vthockey.org](mailto:tournaments@vthockey.org)>

To Presidents & State Reps,

*\*please share with registrars, schedulers, team parents as needed\**

Host locations for Playdown Weekends have been posted to our website. There is a fine balance between communicating this information in a timely manner and also making sure ice allocations are 100% accurate. At this time I believe this information is ready to be shared with your organizations so families and teams can start planning. Please share with all the right people! It's a lot of information but helpful information.

### **It is important to note the following:**

- \*I'm still working on finalizing times with hosts, and will be adding those details to the website next week, but wanted to get locations and weekends out ASAP.
- \*There have been some changes to the standings. Teams NOT participating in states will no longer show up in the full list. Teams that have been moved, or divisions combined will also be reflected in the standings.
- \*On 1/31 the average (Game Points/Games Played) within the division will be used to determine final State Tournament seedings where needed. It's important that ALL division scores are up to date so your organization doesn't incur a penalty.
- \*State Tournament game slots and schedules will get loaded to the website *as they become official* with final updates on 2/1.
- \*Please remember games can be scheduled beginning at 4pm on Friday through 6pm on Sunday (exceptions to this are rare but do happen).
- \*Like last year, we'll send an email towards the end of January with instructions on how to confirm your rosters and finalize your credential books. DO NOT make changes to your USA Hockey Roster.
- \*Scores need to be up to date. TO AVOID PENALTIES, PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL SCORES HAVE BEEN ENTERED ON THE STATE WEBSITE AND EMAILED TO [SCORES@VTHOCKEY.ORG](mailto:SCORES@VTHOCKEY.ORG)! I don't want to be chasing down missing scores these next two weeks.
- \*As we approach the State Tournament, be sure you're familiar with ALL the information, rules & guidelines in the [VSAHA Annual Guide](#). There will be an updated "State Tournament Rules" document posted by the end of this month. Having not read these documents is not an excuse to not abide by them.

### **Final Home and Home Requirements:**

- The goal is ALWAYS Home and Home, this provides 2 games worth of statistics for seeding and reciprocity of travel
- If a game is canceled, specifically due to weather (or COVID), organizations should make their best efforts to reschedule. At this point in the season there is a level of understanding that there are challenges that come with January cancellations. The two teams MUST have at least 1 game and both teams should make a mutual effort on the second game.
- As a reminder, if you have games scheduled the first weekend in February, the scores won't count towards seedings but you are expected to honor those games and they do count towards your required overall game counts!

**State Tournament Fees** - Invoices will be sent to all the TREASURERS for each team attending States. Fees can be paid online with a credit card OR ACH bank transfer. Fees are still being calculated but will be published before the end of the month.

**Credential Books & Stickers** - Please make sure coaches are working with local registrars to get team credential books ready for states. It's often helpful for registrars to review with team coaches directly so they know what they need and have. Please be sure all teams have AT LEAST 12 team stickers in their binders. I will repeat, not having read the

state tournament rules is not an excuse to not abide by them.

**Tickets** - all Playdown locations require attendees to pay a nominal entrance fee. It's helpful to remind all families of this PRIOR to the weekend. Players & Coaches PLAYING at a particular location do not have to pay.

**Weather & COVID** - two things that have made hockey at times a bit more tricky. While traveling this season for your tournaments please do so safely and be prepared to follow the rules at the host rinks. We will not cancel or reschedule games, it is up to teams to make the right decision for themselves and no shows due to weather or illness will be counted as a forfeit.

This page will be everything you need to know for Vermont's 2022 State Tournament experience, including playdown and Championship Weekend! More details will be posted soon!

<https://www.vermonthockey.org/2022states>