

**April Board Meeting Minutes**

**Date: Wednesday, April 10, 2019**

**Location: Kennedy Arena**

**Time: 7:30 pm**

**Attendees Present:**

Nathan Van Wie	✓	Darcy Crofford	✓	Alissa Sparace	
Tara Waterman	✓	Jason Combs	✓	Steve Zizzo	✓
Julie Blaich	✓	Tim Sestito		Joe Mellace	
Crystal Graves	✓	Brian Hluska	✓	Beth Baldyga	✓
Jen Tyczinski	✓			John Corr	✓
G. Millington				John Blaich	✓
Additional Attendees:					

**Call to Order** -6:37 pm – Nate Van Wie

**Public Forum** – NONE

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** – motion by Beth Baldyga; second, John Corr

**Committees Updates**

**Governance** - no new discussion

**Discipline** –no new discussion

**Finance** – cash balance still awaiting the Feb. & March ice bill from City of Rome; budget is currently balanced

- Finance Committee will need to decide whether to transfer account at Berkshire Bank going forward
- Ad Panels: need to collect \$300 from Allstate Insurance; awaiting payment of \$400 from both Townsend Tree Services and Dippin’ Donuts

**Fundraising** – no new discussion

**Tournaments** –discussed tentative dates for 2019/2020 tournaments

- 14U Girls: October 18-20
- PeeWee Silver Bells: December 6-8
- Bantam: December 27-29
- Mites Roy Austin: January 31- February 2, 2020
- Squirts: January 18-20

**Player Development** – no new discussion

**Snowbelt Coordinator Update-**

- RYHA is awaiting monies from hosting 2019 JAMs (\$575 for each of the 6 teams-\$3450.00 total)

**IP Coordinator Update –**

- 16 IP players with unreturned equipment

**President Report –**

**Follow-Up from Previous Meeting-**

- **Spring Try Outs Update:**
  - Squirts: 50+ Squirts for try outs; potentially 5 teams total (1 non-snow belt & 3-4 snowbelt); potentially 7 squirt goalies; Independent Team selected 13 players & 1 goalie (1 player did not commit, so going into fall there is currently 12 players & 1 goalie)

- Girls 12U: 14/15 players tried out; 10 players committed
- Girls 14U: try outs April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and May 3<sup>rd</sup>
- 12U Co-Ed: 8 players have committed of the 12 total letters of commitment that were sent out; 16 players attended try outs; 2019/2020 season will be a non state bound red snow belt team. There are 23 12U aged players currently minus girls.
- **Board Restructuring:** Nate will redistribute plan/idea for new RYHA board structure to then be discussed at the May meeting.

**New Business:**

- **Central Section Meeting:**
  - **Referee Seminars** will be held in July, Aug, & Sept. The Utica/Rome area currently has lower referee numbers due to lack of recruiting in our area.
  - Per Jason Combs- scheduling with Mary has been an issue with placing referees in non-local areas making it difficult for referee availability.
  - **Safe Sport:** there will be new legislation with the National Sports Boards 2020/2021 which will include a new National Screening process-the cost of the change is currently unknown
    - 2019/2020 Safe Sport will require annual training and additional trainings after initial training.
    - Players 17 years+ will have to go through annual Safe Sport trainings
    - Potentially anyone affiliated with the sports program will have to be Safe Sport certified (concerns/questions arose regarding JFK Arena staff/employees)
  - Motion was voted down regarding game period reduction at 14U & older levels because of the reduced ice surface
  - Handshake proposal of shaking hands prior to the game rather than after was voted down.
  - Gary LeBrun proposal: 15U, 16U, 17U showcase teams of non-high school players that were on a tournament bound team- idea came from the increased amount of misconduct/fighting that stems from skilled players playing at a lower, snow belt league instead of playing on a more competitive tournament team.
  - **NYS Amateur Hockey Association** annual meeting is Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am in Syracuse at the Downtown Marriott-needs volunteers to help at meeting
  - **Coaching Certifications** deadline will be August 1<sup>st</sup> for tournament bound teams.
  - **Tier 2 to Tier 3 requests:** Whitestown requested to move to Tier 3 for the 2019/2020 season
  - Recruiting discussions and pre-try out skates
- **Referee Sponsorship Program:**
  - Level 1 referee clinic costs \$35- association offers to play for 10 level 1 referee clinics for brand new potential referees
  - Motion by Darcy Crofford, second by Crystal Graves- motion carries
- **Jerseys:**
  - Phase in approach with new jerseys for mites and squirts for the 2019/2020 season
  - Allow PeeWee and Bantam players to use current jersey
  - Squad Locker does allow jersey orders
  - Board will make decision at the May meeting
  - Jersey Coordination will be done by Beth and Jen

- **Tier 2 vs. Tier 3/Long Term Plan for RYHA:**
  - Long term goal for RYHA: potentially see pressure from central section to move to Tier 3.
  - RYHA needs to consider strategy of being a regional Tier 2 association for travel team level teams-field birth year teams at every birth year possible under at new team name and logo to be hopefully ready to share with RYHA board at May meeting.
    - Ideally partner with local associations at the Tier 2 level such as New Hartford, Clinton, Rome, & Whitestown.
    - Birth year travel teams will maintain policy not to accept snowbelt players onto travel teams
  - Rome Grizzlies will maintain house team at snow belt
- **Projected Enrollment:**
  - Midget movement: releases requested from Bevilacqua and Dormio
  - Mark Gualteri has interest in Midget team
  - 14U 23 boys; 10 girls
  - 12U 21 boys; 8 girls
  - 10U 58 including 16 girls
  - 14U girls will potentially have 1 practice/week in Valley
- **IP Coordinator:** discussion about Chris Carinci- following meeting Jason Combs emailed board members after talking with Chris, and he agreed to take on the IP Coordinator role
- **Player Petitions:** Will Gurley has petitioned to move to Bantam level, he has already signed commitment for PeeWee red team. Motion to allow Will Gurley to try out for the Bantam team by Jason Combs, second by John Corr
- **Copper City Rush online Apparel:** no decision until plan for RYHA as regional team is discussed/decided upon

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> Back Nine with new Board Members

**Adjournment:** 8:41 pm- motion by Julie Blaich, second by John Corr