

## **MAHOCKEY.ORG**

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## MASSACHUSETTS HOCKEY, INC. BOARD MINUTES October 4, 2021 - Zoom

The meeting of the Massachusetts Hockey Board of Directors was held on Monday, October 4th, 2021 via Zoom meeting.

Meeting called to order by Bob Joyce at 7:03 PM.

Bob Joyce sent the committee assignments to the Board of Directors prior to the meeting.



Regarding COVID mask mandate Kevin Kavanagh mentioned that guidance is set at the local levels. Positive rates continue to decrease and vaccination rates to Increase. The MIAA may require masks for winter sports. We will continue to let the Commonwealth to be the experts with regard to health matters.

Tim McMahon reported 57 of 72 Board of Directors, 4 of 6 USAH positions, 9 of 11 Registrars, 0 of 7 appointed positions, and 3 of 3 staff are compliant.

Bob Joyce drafted a message regarding referee shortage and abuse of officials being the primary reason for this. Kevin Donovan said we are short after COVID at all levels but especially at level 1. Efforts underway to recruit. There are plenty of seminars planned if we could get new registrants to fill them. Seminars are in-person not virtual. We are missing the 20–28-year-old officials. Having majority of games Friday night through Sunday is compounding referee assignments.

Bob Joyce has asked Dan Esdale, Chair of Parent Awareness Committee, to consider taking on the matter of parent conduct within this committee.

Paul Moore shared that many clinics are posted across the nation. There is still a shortage so we may only be able to train 1000 coaches. Massachusetts coaches are taking advantage of clinics being offered in other districts. Paul asked If there would be Interest In webinar to train coaches on new rules especially tag up offsides and body contact. Kevin Donovan added the Referee District Supervisors could support this as this is seen by officials.



Chris Holden shared the Treasurer's Report prior to the meeting. He mentioned the new auditors Morgan and Morgan were able to meet with prior auditors Liscombe and Parrella on prior audits before commencing this new audit. Working on the Annual report which is due November 1st. No questions from the BOD.



A motion was made to approve the September 8, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Kevin Kavanagh mentioned the Sparx partnership. The annual guide has been posted online. Kevin congratulated Mike DiOrio on recent wedding. Working on finalizing the Bruins' Coaching Symposium dates, likely December. Mini 1-on-1 is to be determined. Kevin thanked John Murray and Bruce Finety on score keeper and game sheet training recently offered.

David Hymovitz mentioned national bound tournament meeting next week.

Peter Giuliano mentioned there is 1 14U Tier IV state tournament host needed.

Mark Lissner announced the dates the Girls Tournaments:

- 16U & 19U Nov. 26-28, 2021
- 10U, 12U & 14U March 10-13, 2022

Chris Mayer wasn't able to prepare update prior to meeting but will send written discipline update next week. She added Dan Esdale will be meeting with Parent Awareness committee soon to address parent conduct.

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

Tom McGrath mentioned Joe Bertagna, Hall of Fame Committee Chair, announced meeting in November.

Christopher Gong mentioned Diversity and Inclusion Committee will be meeting at end of October. Hearings regarding hateful and discriminatory subjects include diverse panelists.

Jim Maimone, ADM chair, mentioned a body contact clinic was held on September 18 with Roger Grillo. Due to its success they'll be offering in other districts.









Tom Smith, Safety Committee Chair, thanked Tom McGrath and Mass Hockey for support of recognition as Outstanding Citizen at Evacuation Day Banquet. Tom is working with Nicole Siglin closely this year. Committee meeting next couple weeks.

In district registrar reports mostly quiet, some playdowns for midgets underway.

Mark Lissner in G/W section shared that mini 1-on-1 was completed.

In USAH reports Tom McGrath mentioned youth council meeting next week. Tom will follow up on tag-up offside rule with council as requested by Mark Kumpel. Jim Maimone shared there several proposals on governance being considered at USAH.

Stephen Palmacci mentioned meeting with national registrars on registration system improvements. He added that we have 2300 of 2700 teams registered so far. Kevin Kavanagh added that Cameron Eickmeyer resigned as Director of IT for USAH.

Stephen Fitzgerald mentioned the limits for insurance are back to levels from last year. There is no change as we previously communicated. Certificates are able to be issued so if there are issues let him know. Willis Insurance has a rep for USAH ensuring responsiveness.

Kevin Donovan mentioned that unclaimed players is better than prior seasons with earlier roster deadlines. We still need help to get roster labels on game sheets instead of handwritten rosters.

Mark Kumpel added that the club section is meeting next week. They want to active members within their section.

No addition committee reports.

There was no old business.

Under new business there was discussion regarding Ron Cincotta's request through email for additional letters of correspondence between Mass Hockey, Attorney General's office, and lawyers after already being supplied itemized invoices, Chris Holden's summary, the legal service fee agreement with Gelb & Gelb and the correspondence from Gelb & Gelb received from the Attorney General. The matter was discussed and Christopher Gong advised the group that the nature of the request goes beyond what a board member is entitled to. Mark Kumpel added that there are more important matters to discuss than continued requests for additional information on a closed matter.









A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.