

**New Mexico Amateur Hockey Association**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
 10/10/2023 6:30PM  
 The MAC

Members Present	Jason Foist, Kelly Boyles, Sabra Hensler, Stephanie Orr, Loretta Tafuro, Jasy Shiparski, Margaret McNatt, Mattie Pacheco
Members Absent	Donal Lyle
Guests Attending:	Greg Garcia

Welcome/Approvals	
Agenda Item	
Call to Order and Welcome	NMAHA President Jason Foist called the meeting to order at 6:49 pm and welcomed attendees.
Action Items	Roll call was taken.
Approval of the Minutes	<p>President Foist requested a motion to approve the minutes from the September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Monthly meeting.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Motion to Approve: Margaret McNatt</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Seconded by: Loretta Tafuro</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">All in favor - motion passed.</p>

Committee Reports	
Special Reports Jason Foist	<p><b>Parent Orientation Meeting Debrief</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second meeting went more smoothly than the first- less interruptions, parents more attentive, successfully got through agenda ahead of the 30-minute timeline. The first meeting had a louder atmosphere and once the minis/mites got off the ice, it was very loud and we lost the crowd.</li> <li>• For next year, we'd like to try and go back to previous years where the parent meeting was held the week before the season started. The coaches and players can have a meet the team/meet the coaches session while the parents have orientation so that 1) the players get to meet the coaches and the coaches have a better opportunity to facilitate team ice breakers and bonding, and 2) the players will be occupied allowing the parents to focus on the parent meeting more easily.</li> <li>• We can also provide a short handout with important information (links, QR code, practice times etc.) for parents to take home- and to pass out to anyone who might miss the meeting.</li> <li>• Location ideas for meeting include: parks, library, somewhere open so teams can split up with coaches, and parents have a quiet location to attend parent orientation.</li> </ul>

### **Partial Player Registration Refund- Ambrose Tafuro**

- Due to an injury resulting in surgery, Ambrose is unable to play for the full season, and will miss 6-8 weeks. He would like to participate where he is able to and the board is able to make him a "Bench Manager" when he is released by his medical team so that he can be on the roster and participate with his team.

*Motion to approve partial refund (8weeks) due to injury related reasons- Jason Foist*

*Second- Jasy*

*All Approved-Motion Passed*

### **General updates:**

- 81 registered players
- Over \$3k in refunds had to be given for HS registrations (due to no JV team and dual rostered Bantams)
- Total of 4 full JV players and 6 dual registered impacted
- Loretta is working on getting checks cut to families who paid in full, will work with Jason for Sports Engine issues that did not allow her to cancel payments for players who choose monthly payment plan.
- 3 discounts for Learn to Skate came through
- Give butter is now open and information has been provided to team managers.
- Team managers have been given QR codes to share with families. QR codes will take users to link dree/donation site.
- Team managers were informed that fundraising needs to start asap
- Some coaches have already submitted for reimbursement. Loretta asks that all coaches take their information to Scot (CIC) so he can validate and sign off on everything prior to Loretta, to ensure everything is completed. Remind coaches they do need to turn in receipts!

*Motion to approve Treasury report as presented- Jason Foist*

*Second- Margaret*

*All Approved- Motion passed*

- Two Scholarships to approve- both families (based on financials) meet need for scholarships and Loretta would like to see both families received 100% funding. Based on our budget and number of applications received so far (only 2) we can fund 100% and have funds for additional families should they apply.

*Motion to approve funding both scholarship applicants 100%- Loretta Tafuro*

*Second- Jasy*

*All Approved- Motion passed*

- Loretta will let families know they were approved on 10/11/23.
- One family will need assistance with Jersey and sock costs There is not any current equipment that fits the player.

*Motion to approve financial assistance for purchase of jersey and socks for one family- Loretta Tafuro*

*Second- Jasy*

*All Approved- Motion passed*

### Rec Report:

- Scot has reached out to offer help to coaches and to coach as a backup for any level if needed (coaches needed or coach will be absent etc.)
- All teams have their managers and have been given their binders. Binders are only missing roster information, but that is accessible for now on Sports Engine and Margaret will be getting the printout soon.
- Need to decide if we have two squirt teams or one- currently have 22 players registered at the squire level, 5 of which also play for the Warriors- so not enough for 2 full teams if anyone misses a game, but also may only be allowed to roster 20 players for regular games. Once this is sorted, Margaret can provide rosters for binders.
- Managers were very proactive this year in asking for binders- brought up safety concerns of needing forms for injury etc. Shows that previous managers have been trained well and understand importance of the role and materials provided to support that role.
- First managers meeting was held 10/10/23
- Only 2 new managers this year- the rest were returning!
- Managers were instructed to decide on fundraising asap and get it going in October and wrapped up before November/December
- Teams will collaborate for end of the year party and will need to work together to figure out fees so team managers aren't asked to duplicate fundraising efforts
- UNM Hockey players are still interested in providing community service and are looking forward to it, however we need to figure out if they must complete SafeSport to be on the ice with our players- if they do need it, chances are they will NOT move forward with the service as the time commitment to complete SafeSport exceeds the amount of time they would be on the ice with NMAHA players- and due to their schedules and commitments, may not have time to fulfill that requirement. Margaret will speak with Terry at Safesport to verify requirements, and also speak with Logan at UNM to communicate requirements.
- Lobo Hockey would also like NMAHA to have some opportunities for our teams to do cross ice at some of their games. Teams would get to stand with the Lobos during National Anthem etc.
- If Safesport is required- some ideas as a work around include: offering a UNM Hockey Clinic and NMAHA would cover ice fees/pay to attend event to help with fees.

### High School Report

- The official decision was made to not have a JV team (along with no varsity team) due to the lack in registered players, and unrealistic requirements it would put on families of Bantams to play on both teams. This was not a decision that was made lightly and all HS families were included in the decision process.
- After full review of the situation and looking into all possible options, we were not able to offer a safe and fair option to have a JV team this year.
- We do have 3 JV families who will practice with us, but will play with Santa Fe
- There is a JV goalie from the Mustangs who would like to practice with us, but we need to make sure their family is aware that they will need to pay for the ice practice time- the same as the rest of our teams and families do.
- General reminder to the board- please read the handbook so we are all on the same page and offering the same information when asked about it.
- Looking ahead to grow hockey, what can we do to avoid not having the numbers to offer JV and Varsity? NMAHA is a great foundational hockey organization, but the pattern is trending that once our players reach higher levels, they leave for different organizations...why?
- Can we ask Warriors and the MAC about what we can do to improve our long-term outlook for higher levels?
- Additional considerations we should look into- Rebranding when Raptors move in, merge

with Warriors and have a house team and a travel team?

- Need to consider implications of 501c3 and what is involved with merging and or rebranding.
- Ideally, let's get a meeting with the MAC and see their thoughts on fees, expansion, retention, and overall support with player retention.
- Many families, including members of the board have thought about moving programs, and for all of the reasons we have considered it, how can we address it so that we can resolve those issues and offer a program that keeps families from needing to seek alternatives for those reasons.
- Jason will try and get a meeting with the MAC and with the Warriors to start these conversations. Stay tuned for meeting dates and times.

#### **Guest- Greg Garcia**

- Concerned with how Coach in Chief was selected and offered compensation for the role.
- Greg addressed concerns with how the role was advertised in that he felt it was not advertised to all coaches and that other coaches were unaware of the opportunity.
- Greg also addressed concerns that the CIC role is being paid 3x more than any other coach and that other coaches would have liked the opportunity to fulfill this role had they known it was going to provide additional compensation.
- Greg noted that the perception is that the board sourced a friend for the role and opted to pay this person when the opportunity would not have been equally given to any other interested parties.
- The board thanked Greg for bringing this concern to the board and expressed understanding of his perceptions and concerns. The board feels that given all information and knowledge of how the current CIC was selected, this role was advertised to all coaches equitably. Two other candidates had inquired about the role and engaged in discussions with the board members, but ultimately decided the time commitment and responsibilities were too extensive for them at this time. Scot Morin, current CIC, approached the board and expressed interest in the role. The role and its requirements/responsibilities were addressed with him and after some discussion, he asked if the board would consider compensation since he would not be able to take advantage of the discounts offered for other volunteers (he has no kids playing for NMAHA at this time and does not benefit from 30% off for coaching as other coaches with players may). The board had not previously intended or brought up compensation, however the board discussed it and approved this request as they deemed it was fair, and Scot was a highly qualified candidate for this role. The board also expressed that had other candidates or interested parties requested the same, the board would have discussed it and provided equal consideration to anyone based on the requirements of this role. The board feels confident with this decision and feels this decision is in line with our 501c3 requirements and does not go against any by-laws that are in place at this time.

#### **General Schedule Updates:**

- Schedule was completed in record time!
- 6U and 8U are starting to see separate games for the first time. Because of this, there were some scheduling variations made to allow for the split games. 6U has 5 away games- board agrees this is okay to leave as is.
- 10U has 1 extra away game because of the proposed dual teams- however if we proceed with only 1 10U team, the board says it is okay to leave since we do not pay for away game ice time.
- Taos will not be coming to our ice, but NMAHA will only go to Taos and Los Alamos once. The day at Taos will be for all teams as well and will not require an overnight as

Presidents Report  
General Items  
Jason Foist

- the first game is scheduled for 9am
- 12U team has one extra away since Taos is not coming to our ice
- The printed schedule looks great and will be provided to the team managers as well as published on Sports Engine
- All high school games have been cancelled

**Scorekeeper Training**

- First session was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances and will be rescheduled at a later date and time
- Next session is still on for this Thursday. Monique will type up her notes from previous training and provide them to Jason if needed for distribution.

**Cancelled Practices**

- Suggest we cancel practices after Tuesday 12/19 to better align the dates. RRPS winter break does not start until that Wednesday, so makes sense to end practices on the Tuesday. This also helps to avoid any Christmas events and recitals scheduled at the MAC. Everyone agrees.

**Jason will send out meeting for Head Coaches and Managers meeting**

- 10/11/23 for schedule distribution and discussion around tournaments etc.

**Mites Goalie Gear**

- Mites team is requesting two sets of Mites Goalie gear. Team was able to source quick change set for \$299.99. Will try to fundraise for second set of gear.

*Motion to purchase one set of goalie gear for Mites- Jason Foist*

*Second- Margaret*

*All Approved- Motion passed*

**Social Media**

- Account has been receiving a lot of spam and we may need to consider making it a private account. Sabra will help Mattie with settings to see if we can reduce the amount of spam prior to taking the account private.

**Approval of Coaches**

- Coaching lineup was previously approved by board via email.
- As follow up to email discussion, the board was asked if there were any new concerns or issues about the coaching lineup? No new concerns or issues raised.

*Motion to approve coaching list as presented- Jason Foist*

*Second- Jasy*

*All Approved- Motion passed*

**Call to Action Regarding Discussions with MAC**

- Think of ideas for possible merge or rebrand to ensure growth of NMAHA and Hockey. Examples include: Build both Warriors and NMAHA, NMAHA become feeder program for Warriors, Rebrand (Hooligans, Renegade etc.), offer early buy in rate for kids that start in program and move up
- Considerations for 501c3 if we merge or rebrand

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm

Location – The MAC

Respectfully Submitted

Jasy Shiparski