



MAHOCKEY.ORG

781-664-2700 / P.O. BOX 1788, DUXBURY, MA 02332

Tim McMahon / Secretary / tcmahon@mahockey.org

#MASSPROUD

MASSACHUSETTS HOCKEY, INC.

BOARD MINUTES

November 6, 2023 - Sheraton Needham Boston

The meeting of the Massachusetts Hockey Board of Directors was held on Monday, November 6, 2023, at the Sheraton Needham Boston.

Meeting called to order by Stephen Palmacci at 7:06 PM.

1. PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS

Stephen Palmacci: Congratulations to Tom Smith on his recent wedding. Special thanks to Christopher Gong on all his support regarding discipline matters and Tim McMahon on meeting organization.

2. BOARD COMPLIANCE

Tim McMahon: We have 87% compliance with voting members. 60% if you consider all BOD minus vacant positions. 23 individuals not compliant, 14 missing safesport, 15 missing background screen, and 21 missing Conflict of Interest.

3. FINANCE REPORT

Chris Holden: Not present.

4. CLERKS REPORT /APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the October 2nd, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes, seconded, and unanimously approved with no abstentions.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kevin Kavanagh: Bruins' Coaching symposium was a tremendous event. Paul Moore organized a great day all the way around. Full steam ahead into tournament season starting this weekend. Jen Dematos is doing great work to promote Try Hockey for Free on social media platforms. Another date is planned for February. As a result of Adam Johnson incident USA Hockey released a statement recommending neck laceration protection. Mass Hockey has released statement strongly encouraging use of neck protection for all players in line with USA Hockey guidance. Mini 1on1 is 1 week from this Friday at the Garden.

6. VICE PRESIDENT REPORTS (1ST, 2ND, 3RD, 4TH, 5TH)

Jeff Brown, 1st VP, Administration

Tournaments, Peter Giuliano: 19U Girls Tier 3 need runner up. All other tournaments full.

National Tournaments, Dave Hymovitz: no update.



Girls Tournament, Mark Lissner: no update.

Christine Mayer, 2nd VP, Administration

Discipline, Christopher Gong: There have 35 match penalties to date. John Murray has done about 10 hearings to date. We are able to offer discipline penalties for hate speech reducing the number of hearings.

Rules, Christopher Gong: No proposals.

Steve Rizzio, 3rd VP, Operations

Adaptive Hockey - Ray Leblanc: Boston Warriors new adaptive hockey team dedicated to warriors.

ADM – Jim Maimone: Several organizations have requested body contact training are these are being scheduled.

Tom McGrath, 4th VP, Events

Hall of Fame Committee – Dan Esdale: Sent media release for Hall of Fame Ceremony on Nov 19th. Looking for sponsors for the event. Sold 53 tickets to date. Still have 97 to sell.

Sportsmanship – Tom McGrath: Start in January to promote sportsmanship award applications.

Christopher Gong, 5th VP, Planning

Long Range – Jeremiah Tabor: Long range planning group has met over zoom a few times. The group is eager to bring ideas to the table.

#1 topic remains re-districting. Plan to have discussions with all district registrars as next steps.

Other topics:

- Playdown participation, plan to reach out to programs with Jen's help on ways to increase participation.
- District meetings, plan to check in with reps on attendance and ask what they need
- House leagues - we have ideas to create a Mass Hockey house league by district. We have heard Weymouth and Quincy, also Nantucket are discussing something like this.
- Budget items, plan to check in with Chris Holden and revisit state level sponsorships
- Academy only national based classifications
- Never too late to learn to play, leverage success of little bruins for older ages
- Safety discussion, coaches without Safesport



Safety – Tom Smith/Nicole Siglin: Focused on 5 topics: Concussion management and updating the cards, Stop the Bleed and first responders, Safety Education and Injury Prevention, Nutrition information, and locker rooms.

Diversity & Inclusion – Christopher Gong: No update.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

See above.

8. DISTRICT/SECTION REPORTS

Dist 1. Southie hosting 18U tournament.

Dist 2. In person 2 weeks ago. Jen Dematos attended and shared information.

Dist 3. Help needed with 160 teams for playdowns.

Dist 4. Jen Dematos attended the last meeting.

Dist 5. Looking for a registrar. Getting help from programs.

Dist 6. Ryan Scott is returning as registrar.

Dist 7. Meeting on 15th. Minimal participation in playdowns

Dist 8. Mini 1on1. Playdowns under way.

Dist 9. Playdowns underway

Dist 10. Mini 1on1. 18U Tournament in Stoneham.

G/W. Mini 1on1 complete. Meeting on Monday for seeding in tournament. Playdowns underway.

Club. Mini 1on1 complete.

9. USA HOCKEY REPORTS

Bob Joyce: Tier 1 National Bound Committee wrapping up work on recruiting rules. While you cannot recruit in season there will no longer be a restriction to have conversations in spring prior to contract. Legal counsel meetings organized in focused sub-groups.

Steve Rizzo: Nothing new to report.

Tom McGrath: Youth council meeting is next week.

Christine Mayer: None.

10. RISK MANAGEMENT, OFFICIATING, REGISTRAR, COACHING



Registrar - Peter Gi: Automatic redline process is underway. Have to manually unredline right now.

Risk Management- Steve Gear: Completed 230 COIs so far. No injury claims to date.

Officiating – Kevin Donovan: We are 45 people behind from last year at this time compared to same time period. 14 level 1 seminars to date with 700 through seminars. There are still about 300 seats available for additional seminars planned through January for a total of 1000 new refs About 80% will complete all the requirements to become eligible to officiate games. Safesport compliance and tracking is a challenge due to timing of dates which is affecting many officials' ability to referee games. Many IT issues at USA Hockey causing lots of confusion.

Coaching - Paul Moore: None

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn accepted at 7:44 pm.