

New Mexico Amateur Hockey Association
Board of Directors
Monthly Meeting
11/14/2023 6:30PM
The MAC

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| Members Present | Jason Foist, Kelly Boyles, Sabra Hensler, Stephanie Orr, Loretta Tafuro, Jasy Shiparski, Margaret McNatt, Mattie Pacheco, Monique Priest |
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| Members Absent | |
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| Guests Attending: | Liz Elsman, Stephanie Quick |
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Welcome/Approvals

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| Agenda Item | |
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| Call to Order and Welcome | NMAHA President Jason Foist called the meeting to order at 6:43 pm and welcomed attendees. |
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| Action Items | Roll call was taken. |
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| Approval of the Minutes | <p>President Foist requested a motion to approve the minutes from the October 10th, 2023 Monthly meeting.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Motion to Approve: Jason Foist</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Seconded by: Margaret McNatt</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">All in favor - motion passed.</p> |
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Committee Reports

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| Special Reports Liz Elsman | <p>Proposal for logo use for Warm Ups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liz is requesting approval for the use of the NMAHA Scorpion logo for warm-ups similar to those purchased last year. She proposes using NMAHA's preferred embroider company as well. • We can open orders to all team levels for new players or players who would like new warm-ups. • Managers will oversee ordering at their team level • The board feels this is an acceptable proposal and approves- Loretta asks to have the embroidery company call her and she will provide approval for logo use. |
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| Special Reports Jason Foist | <p>Resignations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The board accepts the resignation of Donal Lyle. His player has moved to a different team and he will therefore no longer be participating with NMAHA. • The board accepts the resignation of Coach in Chief, Scot Morin. Scot had a family matter arise and he was not able to dedicate the time needed for this role and provided his resignation so an alternate CIC could be selected. The board wishes Scot the best and looks forward to working with him in the future. President Foist will act as CIC in the interim. |
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Scheduler Report
Mattie Pacheco

Fundraising Ideas from Mike at the MAC

- Monique had a conversation with Mike from the MAC and he offered two new ideas for fundraising that might benefit NMAHA. Mike suggests Cornhole on Ice, or Broom Ball on Ice. Both would be team events that we could charge a registration fee for and open to the public for increased traffic and participation. We could have teams of 2 (Corn hole) with the top team winning a prize and the rest going to NMAHA.
- This is a great idea for summer fundraising (would go to NMAHA general funds)
- Funds could be used to help lower registration fees
- Would like to re-visit this in the summer when the new board is in place so they can vote and decide on details
- Monique will talk to Mike and see if he has any documentation that could help get us started (Broom ball rules/logistics/gameplay etc.)

General updates:

- Taos games may change. Stay tuned for updates
- Los Alamos holiday festival caused some confusion for NMAHA due to the high volume of teams who wanted to register for the festival. A deadline was either originally not provided or stated to be December 4th, but Mattie was contacted by LA's scheduler and notified that if we would like to participate, we needed to provide registration and payment by (11/17/23). Mattie reached out to the team managers to provide the information so managers could determine if their teams would be participating and for teams to collect payment for registration. Many parents paid NMAHA via Venmo which went to Loretta directly. Loretta was unsure of what some payments were for- *as parents did not label the payments as instructed*- and this also caused some confusion on the treasury side. Moving forward- to avoid any confusion for parents, players, managers and board members, it is advised that any activity regarding funds ("if a dollar sign is involved"...) Treasurer should be included on initial communications OR if easier, the board can be cc'd on any emails or communications to ensure awareness and avoid any confusion.
- Durango is using digital scoresheets. Mattie has provided this info to Jason and Jason has looped Margaret in
- End of year festival for Pee-Wees (2/25) each team does pay to play. At the team level, we can decide if we'd like to fundraise for this if desired
- Squirts end of year festival @ NMICE 2/17-18
- Bantam end of year festival @ Santa Fe (tentative) 2/24-25
- Minis & Mites end of year festival @ Los Alamos

Treasurer Report
Loretta Tafuro

General updates:

- 1 new registration- this player may apply for financial assistance due to a recent job loss by one of the parents. Loretta will provide information on the process to the family if needed.
- Players who have not completed their birth certificate verification cannot play in any out-of-state tournaments. Margaret will work with the state registrar to set up a Zoom meeting on Thursday 11/16 @ 5:30 for families who still need to complete this.
- Total surplus of \$694 at the moment. Around 30k in revenue from Sports Engine, 27k in memberships, and \$3170 from jerseys.
- LPL was able to get the \$65 that had been sitting static at another financial institution moved over to our LPL account and invested on our behalf.

- We've ordered an additional \$1,900 in fanwear. We've had a high volume of sales at some of the game openers. We've reordered hoodies and beanies. Will need to order more baseball hats soon.
- Averaging about \$100 a week from MAC storefront! It was a good option to put our POS device at their register.
- We may get more retail space upfront if needed.
- Gloves are our best seller!
- All HS players have received their refunds.
- Received a \$900 donation for Goalie Gear from Int. Electric Brothers

Motion to approve Treasury report as presented- Jason Foist

Second- Margaret

All Approved- Motion passed

- Recently injured player is requesting a partial refund as he will miss the rest of the season for a knee injury. The board approved the cancellation of auto-draft payment for the family for the November session (to avoid having to pay a refund) and all payments moving forward to be voted on tonight. October fees were collected and will not be refunded.
- Player would like to remain rostered to support team from the bench

Motion to approve a partial refund for the injured player- Jason Foist

Second- Jasy

All Approved- Motion passed

Rec Report:

- Managers are very stressed and frustrated about fundraising and safesport/requirements for volunteers. They are getting mixed messages and are not sure what they should be communicating as managers and it is causing so much frustration that several managers have already stated they would not be willing to volunteer as a manager next season.
 - Background Checks and SafeSport: Confusion stems from outside the organization (Rocky Mountain/LOEHA etc.) having different requirements. Our own website also had conflicting information which was adding to the confusion. As a board, we agree that the process to register as a volunteer should be USA Hockey and then NMAHA. If we follow that process, USA Hockey will mandate the background check and clear any confusion for that. *[Jason updated NMAHA website during the meeting]*
 - We should encourage everyone to get a background check this year as LOEHA will NOT be paying for background checks next year. The more people that we can get to do it this year, will save anyone from having to pay for it next year. Background checks are good for 2 years.
 - General consensus is- if you are around the kids YES you should have a background check.
 - Locker Room attendants should have both SS and background check.
 - Penalty box- THIS YEAR SS and background check
 - Scorekeeper and Timekeeper- If the venue we are playing at provides these roles as their staff- neither is needed since there is NO interaction with kids. Both NMICE and Santa Fe require background checks for these roles.
 - For next year- 100% background checks for everyone. Timekeepers/scorekeeper/penalty box- background only. Locker room and coaches- both SS and background
- Hotel information sheets for the Los Alamos festivals were provided to the managers so they could share with their team families.
- Girls Locker room sign made (Thanks, Sabra!) to be used on Coaches room door when being

Coaches Report
Kelly Boyles- HS
Sabra Hensler- Rec

used as a girl's locker room. The sign will be kept at the front office of the MAC and used only when needed. Sign to be returned to the front desk when not in use.

- Givebutter clarification needed. We are unsure if it can be used for donation only or if it can be used for parents to send funds in (like Venmo). Additional clarity is needed, and Margaret is reaching out to a 501C3 expert and getting that information and will share it once it is obtained.

High School Report

- As Sabra had mentioned, Fundraising was a source of major confusion and frustration, and we need to clear up any confusion so we can share it with the managers and hopefully relieve their stress and retain them as future volunteers.
- It is advised that next year, we have the required funds needed per family established prior to the season starting so we are aware of how much needs to be raised. This would require the board to have all events and possible tournaments planned by the **August 2024 board meeting**.
- One suggestion to ease fundraising hassles is to have ONE fundraiser that all NMAHA teams do at the same time. Ex: popcorn. If we decide as a board to sell popcorn, all levels should do it at the SAME time so that parents with multiple players don't have to try and do it three times or with multiple links. It would be one link per family to support any players in that family. It would occur at the same time for all levels so managers aren't having to communicate different times and expectations.
- Next year we also need to revise the handbook and break down the difference in the fundraising section between Donations vs. Fundraising.

■ Donations vs. Fundraising

- There are current concerns over a miscommunication regarding donations raised by families and how they can be used. If a family raises funds via a donation- it had previously been stated in our September meeting that the family who raised funds would be checked off as having participated in fundraising and they could use those funds for tournament fees, end of year party etc., but the donation funds would also be available for the team at the level to which it was donated. Families who did not participate in fundraising would have to pay out of pocket for any fees for events/tournaments.
- Concerns over how 501c3 organizations are allowed to dictate the spend of donations came up and it was addressed that it may be considered a conflict of interest if a family gets funds donated, but then only uses those funds for that family.
- The board feels if the funds are available to other families who have also participated in fundraising, it won't be an issue.
- To avoid this miscommunication in the future the board suggests that we separate Donation and Fundraiser in the handbook to read as follows:

Donation: Any donation made will go directly to the general funds to be used for the team and not any one individual player. Donors will receive thank you letters for tax purposes. These funds go towards general needs, and help with ice time and operating costs.

Fundraiser: The use of funds earned through fundraising efforts can be delegated by a player for a specific player to cover tournament and event fees during the season. Any leftover amount will roll into the NMAHA general fund and will not be refunded to the player, and should not be used for purchasing misc. items that do not have direct board approval.

Specific to the remainder of this year:

Donated funds by families can be used for the individual player(s), but not

more than the minimum amount to cover fees for tournaments and festivals/events.

- We should also define more clearly the difference between “individual fundraiser” & “Team Fundraiser”

Individual Fundraiser: Funds raised by an individual. Can be raised through group fundraisers such as candy/popcorn sales, but effort lies on the individual player to raise funds. If a player does not participate in individual fundraising, all fees and costs for events will be paid out of pocket by player.

Team Fundraiser: Team fundraisers held at local businesses, such as dining out, where a percent of the proceeds are donated back to NMAHA and are used for general funds. These funds do NOT go towards any individual player, even if the individual participated at the event. Ex: Player ate at Raising Canes- No funds are raised for that player, all funds are for NMAHA general funds OR the team specific funds if it was just for that level. Example: Squirts hold a Chick fil a fundraiser- funds go toward general Squirts account not an individual player on that team.

- Each team manager will be in charge of tracking funds raised by players on their teams. The treasurer will communicate any Venmo payments to the team manager (so long as we are using Venmo as a method of payment vs Givebutter). The treasurer will still send monthly balances to managers to ensure accurate accounting and verify any reconciliation if applicable/as needed, but individual player balances will remain at the manager level.
- End of year event needs to be the lowest priority of all events. Too much focus is currently being placed on this event and it is adding undue stress on managers and volunteers, and also adding costs where we may not need them. Suggestions for end of year events could be fun final practices where we can still pass out banners and cupcakes, and have fun activities on the ice for the kids as the final wrap-up to the season.
- This year’s end of year party will be at the MAC. No dinner is served, only desserts. The MAC will give us access to the full facility (gym etc.) so all families can attend, but not have to skate.
- End of year events should be planned before the start of the season to help with establishing all costs needed for the season so that expectations can be communicated to managers and players/families.
- Question from Stephanie Quick regarding tournaments- if a player missed the deadline to sign up for a tournament, but later decides to participate, can they? The answer is yes, BUT they must still pay the fee that was paid by other players. Even if the event has been paid in full, that player's fee will go back into the team funds. The fee amount will not change for anyone who has paid. Anyone who wants to join after all fees are collected are expected to pay the same as the rest of the team.
- If a player can only participate on one day of a two (or more) day tournament, the player is responsible for paying the entire fee- even if they are not participating on all days.
- We want to remember that the goal of NMAHA is to offer affordable hockey to families!

Warriors & Post Season

- Jason and Margaret were able to speak with Tom from Warrior hockey and they discussed neither team having summer events. Instead, they discussed events on weekends (day events) such as puck handling, skating clinics, 3v3 pond games, etc.
- NMAHA and Warrior teams would get priority registration for one week at a discounted rate and to ensure house players have access to the events. Following the weeklong priority registration, general registration will open to the public.
- NMAHA and Warriors will split any revenue earned from events 50/50
- Margaret is looking for volunteers from the board to serve on a committee to help with developing the Summer calendar of events. All board members are interested.
- All of the above are tentative and not confirmed. We are continuing to better develop the relationship with the Warriors and find the best place to partner/collaborate/ and offer hockey to players!

Zip Code Enforcement

- A push is being made to bring back zip code enforcement in the league. We anticipate only two organizations would be against it.
- We are unclear on how a vote would be conducted or how many votes each organization would get. Jason is going to continue working on this and will update the board as needed.
- Jason is requesting current player registration with zip codes from higher up to see if we can see what the numbers would look like if zip codes were enforced.

Travel Team for NMAHA Rec league

- If travel teams and rec teams are to be the same organization, NMAHA and Warriors are both interested in partnering together. The two teams will run parallel to one another for spring, summer, and fall events.
- Coaches from each team can attend other practices (as desired)
- NMAHA can work on how we communicate the Warrior Spring camp to our team to help drive their numbers.
- Working together with Warriors can help benefit both sides, and both sides are interested in this partnership.
- According to USA Hockey, club teams take precedence over rec teams. Parents were told to send a letter of intent for each player to navigate this precedence.

UNM

- UNM Hockey is geared up and ready to volunteer with NMAHA! After clarification from USA Hockey and SafeSport- the players DO NOT need to be safesport certified (found on page 30) so they are cleared to volunteer with our teams.
- Players will always be under the supervision of NMAHA coaches.
- UNM Players will not be in locker rooms or have any unsupervised time with NMAHA players.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.
Next Meeting – Tuesday, December 12th 6:30pm
Location – The MAC

Respectfully Submitted
Jasy Shiparski