



**WAUKESHA COUNTY YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES—FEBRUARY 14TH, 2024**

1. **INTRODUCTIONS** Meeting called to order at 6:02PM
2. **Board Member Attendance:** Tom G., Chris K., Patti E., Kurt H., Mike C., Emily H., Patrick K., Jaime R. (Jason M. & TJ G. via phone)
3. **Board Member Not in Attendance:** NA
4. **Membership in attendance:** Dave Welsch, Jon Keller, Kristin Darwin, Jen Barker, Josh Wichrowski, Sarah Luedke, Tyler Breckenridge, Rick Callies, Nicholas Danko, Derek Theisen, Eric Shelley, Rob McGaver, Tony Donovan, Sean & Dawn Geeleher, Jessey Gorney, Missy Sparber
5. **JANUARY MEETING MINUTES: REVIEW/APPROVE** Motioned to Approve: **Chris K. Approved, Mike C. Seconded**
6. **FEBRUARY TREASURER REPORT:** 2023 taxes have been filed; All receivables are paid, including amounts due from Elmbrook and Arrowhead; credit balance emails to go out after season end; All outstanding Kwik Trip receivables cash posted in February, Kwik Trip is offering **10% rebates** in the month of February. To take advantage of this opportunity to earn more for your skater fees, please submit your orders by **February 20<sup>th</sup>**; Playdown invoices are coming in; Have not seen WAHA check for State yet; Have not seen many reimbursement requests for off-ice; remind coaches to submit any expenses incurred during the season; Assisting with cash needs for upcoming tournaments (PDP, Winter Classic and Girls Jamboree); Managers will need to send excess officiating fees to Patti by check to her home address; Working on budget for 2024-25; current 2023-24 actuals exceeding budget due to substantial additional skater revenue and several costs lower than budget, including coach and off-ice expenses; Preparing transition plans for new Treasurer. **P&L Report:** Neg skater fees is due to season ending injuries; The organization realized fundraising money from Squad locker rebates of \$2K; There were minimal expenses for an additional sock order and Sport Engine fees.; **Balance Sheet:** Receivables are solid and where they need to be at this point in the year. **Tom motioned to Approve: Chris K. Approved/ Seconded Mike**
7. **MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS:** YES – Comments covered during Goalie Discussion
8. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. **50<sup>TH</sup> Year committee update**

The Board and a sub-committee have been meeting to discuss a special event to celebrate this milestone and fundraise to allow for another 50, successful years. At this time, the event will occur in October 2024 to kick off next season with hopes that it will coincide with Warhawk Day, and we can make a whole weekend of Warhawk events. Currently working on plans to host the event at the Wisconsin Brewing Company Park (Home of the Dockhounds).

We are going to ask for your help in a couple of matters as we plan. First, if you or anyone you know was a skater for Waukesha, please share any information that will be coming forward in the next couple of months. We would like to see many alumni of this association present at our event.

Next, we ask that each team, 10U-14U, create a basket for raffle at the event. Each basket should be between \$120-\$150 value, which is about \$10 per family. Managers, if you would be so willing to get this moving, we would appreciate it! We would like baskets to be complete by the end of February. Managers, please contact [vpoffice@waukeshawarhawks.org](mailto:vpoffice@waukeshawarhawks.org) to set up a drop off; Still looking from more help on the committee.
9. **UPDATES:**
  - A. **PRESIDENT:** The season has gone well and with good development through all levels and good growth at the U6/8 levels; **Brewers hockey night:** The Milwaukee Brewers are creating a hockey night out, at the ballpark. They are offering us a ticket package which would include a Sal Frelick Brewer Hockey Jersey. Ticket prices would

be in a range of \$21-\$36 depending on if you choose to get the jersey or not (Would be an option as you are checking out, ticket window would open in early March); The organization has submitted a bid to host 2026 Pee wee and Squirt state tournaments at a few different levels.

- B. VP ON ICE:** The organization represented well and with good sportsmanship. We would like to congratulate the following teams as they prepare for the WAHA State Tournament next month: 10U B, 12U A, 12U B1, 14U A, 14U C, Girls 14U A and Girls 14U B; WAHA Region 5 Meeting Summary: Pay attention to changes for Level 4 & 5 coaching changes; Rules April 15th change. Two WAHA positions will be open; large focus on player development; Kohlman Cup registration is open for the 2011/2012 birthyears; Coaches Survey/End of Year Survey: Coaches and End of Year Surveys will be sent out separately via email in the coming weeks and strongly encourage feedback. The surveys will be anonymous again this year; Schedule for rest of year is posted and there might be additional ice with HS playouts.
- C. VP OFF ICE:** Player patch documentation needs to be turned into Emily Hill at the March board meeting by March 15<sup>th</sup>, patches will be handed out at Warhawk day next season unless you are a Bantam leaving the organization. Managers should complete the form and a copy of scoresheets; Plenty volunteer opportunities available coming up at the various tournaments our organization is hosting.
- D. SECRETARY:** Volunteer hour update – Emily and Justin Hall are working on resolving questions about volunteer hours, those hours will be reconciled in March after the season. Credits will be reconciled at registration.
- E. TREASURER: NA**
- F. 14U LEVEL DIRECTOR:** Bantam teams played hard and showed significant effort, Bantam A & C qualified for state.
- G. 12U LEVEL DIRECTOR:** Pee Wee A & B1 teams are heading to State Tournament
- H. 10U LEVEL DIRECTOR:** Squirt B has qualified for state (hosting and looking for volunteers). Encourage players not playing to come cheer on at state tournament.
- I. 6U/8U LEVEL DIRECTOR:** Looking for support at the Winter Classic in a volunteer capacity; good development this season; PDP jamboree – Vinny will be getting information to families on the tournament structure; dibs for the PD jamboree will not be published till after winter classic.
- J. GIRLS PROGRAM DIRECTOR:** Girls 14U A and Girls 14U B qualified for the state tournament; 10U & 12 U girls went well and showed great level of compete; Surveys sent out for next year participation; 8U girls are set to participate in the Winter Classic; Don't forget to sign up for the summer session of our own Waukesha Warhawks Girls Power Hour with Coach Mary Duecker! It's filling up fast! Reminder: This is for 2009-2016 birthyears. It takes place on Mondays (June, July, August) from 4-5pm at the Pettit. Specific dates and registration details were sent out via email; Ozaukee's March Breakaway Girls Jamboree that runs March 22-24! For those families new to this jamboree-how it works is you register your daughter as an individual player in the age category you are currently playing this season. They divide teams up equally according to skill level/position listed on registration. Your daughter may be playing on a team with all new faces! Registration closes on February 17.; WAHA meeting pilot program will go forward next year: gold, silver, bronze, looking to promote incentives to organizations in the coming seasons to increase the amount of girl skaters. We are planning to have strong 10U & 12U numbers under the Waukesha umbrella, 14U girls will most likely play with Elmbrook but not finalized yet.

**Adjourned at 6:32PM**

## SPECIAL OPEN SESSION

### Meeting called to order at 6:40PM

#### 1. Goalie Discussion:

- a. Looking to have a productive discussion and will allow people to share their thoughts on goalie development in our organization.
- b. Geeleher Family: Goalie families are concerned and what to see better goalie development while working within the amount of ice available. Skaters are allotted two skills sessions from U10 and above.
- c. Would love to see 2% of the ice time as seen in season 2022-23 compared to .7% as seen this season.
- d. The amount of goalie development that happens in the sessions is invaluable.
- e. Geeleher's proposed solutions:
  - i. Goalie sessions to be set up in SE to ensure solid participation.
  - ii. Twelve ½ sheets off the top (6) per age group
  - iii. (1) pre tryout session
  - iv. (2) sessions before HS hockey
  - v. (1) session in Nov-Dec
  - vi. (1) session Jan-Feb before playdowns
  - vii. (1) session Feb-Mar before state
  - viii. Potentially probationary in the future and review attendance
- f. Tom asked Sean how this should be different from someone that wants to be center – how is that different.
- g. Sean – Rebuttal – every hockey player should be able to play every position. Goalies require different skills. Communication is key.
- h. Tom – are we doing anything different at home away from the rink as we don't have enough ice time; This should come back to our traditional coaches to help structure some of that training.
- i. Mike C. – Biggest concern in the past has been the attendance at the goalie sessions. There have been adjustments made to timing and have seen 30% attendance in the past. We need to do better. Truly the issue is the attendance - needs to see better attendance if we are going to give them ice.
- j. Patti- We have many resources in the organization and should look to take advantage of that knowledge and skill. Would love to see a parent session at the beginning of the season and discuss what we can do besides off ice drills. Goalies need time on ice and possible a group of coaches to help teach the kids. Communicate expectations early in the season. Patti reached out to a few other goalie parents and collected their concerns. She thought Geelher's proposal makes sense. Josh Hatinger suggested that we utilize HS goalies to help come on the ice and share perspective during the season.
- k. Emily: As a coach she was concerned that our traditional coaches do not necessarily utilize correct verbiage and understanding. Potentially creating a Sports Engine group will be helpful to share information. Would it be possible for the goalies to have access to the off-ice funding?
- l. Rob McGaver: Rob had started with Sunday night sessions with lack of attendance; this season we had a lack of ice but feels there has been a better focus on goalies across the levels this season. Believes we can find the ice sheets in the future; development through the season becomes more of a train the trainer to ensure proper instruction is given through the season with resources. Possibly look at the first part of practice to give them time; super proud of our goal tending. One thing Rob has been trying to do in the off season – looking at what we can do through Impact or Pryme Tyme - challenge is ice time during the day. Attendance is important. Highly encourage Peewee and Bantam goalies come out and work with the goalies Feb 26<sup>th</sup> Eble – email will be coming out.
- m. Tony D: Was not aware of the separate goalie sessions this season but fully supported by the head coaches.

Adjourned at 7:26PM