



Bison Blueline

BYHA Newsletter – October 2024

A special meeting was held on September 26, 2024 at 7:30pm.

The meeting was called to order at 7:34pm.

Board members present: Matt A., Deb, Mike, Maria, Kent, Jeremy, Bridget, Eric, Jake, and Matt R.

Members Present: Dustin Pierce, Gary Christianson, Dan Adams, Jason Perrault, Kendrick Solomon, Michael Arne, Chet Munn, Amber Elsenpeter, Hilary Arne, Jessie Lenton, Jared Grambart, Trish Grambart, Josh Hawkinson, Jason Cwik, Tiffany Dixon, Risa Peterson, Lena Gawtry, Wes Asleson

Discussion points:

- Currently at 49 skaters, 7 goalies.
- D5 is supporting a C league and as of right now three other associations are going to field a Bantam C team (STMA, Sartell and River Lakes). With Buffalo, this would be a league with four teams in D5, with the possibility of one more joining from D10.
- Reevaluation if the number of D5-C level teams drops below 4
- Reevaluation of number of teams if bantam numbers drop any lower
- Preference for fielding a C team rather than fielding two B2 teams
- Preference for fielding two equal B2 teams
- Preference for fielding three teams with 15-17 on a team (Bantam teams from a few years ago were AA-15, B1-15, B2-17)
- Preference for fielding four teams with smaller numbers
- Option of allowing some to go to Jr. Gold U16

A motion was made to approve four teams at the Bantam level with the tiering of AA, B1, B2, C.

- Mike 1st, Jake 2nd. No Discussion. Approved and Motion Passed (5-4), (Kent, Eric, Matt R, Jeremy).

Meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.



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Gambling Report:

Julie gave the gambling report update. Started 6:45pm

Reporting on the month of August (always report 2 months behind). We had a good month, with Thirsty Buffalo being our top location. Thank you to all of our members who continue to support our partners.

Due to an error, payroll will be posted in September for both July and August.

Year end auditing is happening this month. Once the first audit is complete the Gambling Control Board will begin their audit.

BYHA continues to receive a 5-Star rating for our gambling operations this month.

Profit Carryover From this Month	\$258,198.37
Carry over increase / (decrease)	\$34,030.80
Gambling Operating Expense Request (Includes graduated tax rate)	\$166,400.00

Board Members Present:

Matt A., Mike, Maria, Jeremy, Bridget, Jake, Matt R. and Adam

Event Schedule

HOC Meeting:

First Sunday of the month @ 7:00 PM

BYHA Board Meeting

Second Wednesday of the month @ 7:00 pm

Next Meeting will be November 13th

Gambling

THIRSTY BUFFALO

Bingo: Monday 7:00pm – 9:00pm.

Pulltabs: Sunday (12-10pm), Monday -Thursday (12-11pm), Friday (12-Midnight) and Saturday (11-12pm)

Meat Raffle: Thursday @ 5:30pm, Sunday @ 4:00pm

The Heights - Buffalo

Pulltabs: Sunday – Saturday 11am-11pm

J's Down Under - Buffalo

Pulltabs: Monday-Thursday 3pm-11pm, Friday-Sunday 12pm-12am

Meat Raffle:

Saturday 4:00pm

Wild Marsh - Buffalo

Pulltabs: 11am-10pm

Evelyn's Wine Bar - Buffalo

Pulltabs and ETags: 5pm-9pm



Julie is requesting \$166,400 for the month of October.

A motion was made to approve \$166,400 (\$126,400 for gambling expenses and \$40,000 for the BYHA).

- Jeremy 1st, Bridget 2nd. No Discussion. Approved and Motion Passed (7-0).

The board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Attendance: 9 Directors

Matt Adams, Mike Honsey, Maria Rosso, Kent Baker, Jeremy Welter, Bridget Lindeman, Jacob Comee, Matt Rickheim and Adam Hennen

Visitors:

Luke Berard, Harvey Ylitalo and Coy Meyer from the boy's high school team

Members Present:

Ryan Otto, Wes Asleson, Lena Gawtry

President Report:

We would like to invite all our members to our monthly board meetings. These are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Buffalo Civic Center in the Purple Rink Conference Room.

A two-week notice to the President is requested for time on the agenda.

Secretary Report:

The following changes were made to the September newsletter.

- Player packs are not ready
- Ongoing discussion to bantam tiering
- Dibs checks are due by tryouts



There was an email vote on September 25, 2024

A motion was made to amend the prior donation approval of \$2,500 per Buffalo varsity hockey team to \$5,000 (total of \$10,000 in donations) per varsity team.

- Mike 1st, Deb 2nd. No Discussion. Approved and motion passed (10-0).

There was an email vote on October 4, 2024

A motion was made to form three teams at the Bantam level with the following tiering: AA (13-15 skaters and 2-3 goalies), B1 (15-17 skaters and 2-3 goalies) and B2 (15-18 skaters and 2-3 goalies).

- Jeremy 1st, Matt R. 2nd. Approved and motion passed (5-4) (Jake, Adam, Deb, Mike)
 - Discussion points included:
 - Preference for 4 teams
 - Preference for 3 teams
 - Preference for 15 skaters on AA bantam team
 - Preference for 12 skaters on AA bantam team
 - Leave it up to the AA coach to decide team size
 - Preference to bring kids up to field a B2 team rather than bring kids down to field a C team
 - Bantam teams in the area (D10) field teams with 15 skaters and 2 goalies
 - The hockey ADM recommends 15-16 skaters at this level

A motion to approve minutes for month of September 2024.

- Jake 1st, Adam 2nd. No Discussion. All Approved and motion passed (8-0).

Treasurer Report:

Actuals:

- 1.Cash Balance (from prior month): \$612,868.64
- 2.Expenses paid: \$61,238 in expenses in September 2024
- 3.Estimated expenses upcoming: Anticipate expenses of \$150,002 in October 2024
- 4.Income received (prior month): \$53,250 in revenues
- 5.Estimated income upcoming: Anticipate revenues of \$125,374 in October 2024

The treasurer report was not completed at the time of the October meeting.



BYHA now has a Venmo account. Parents can now make payments through our Venmo account using the account name [@BYHA-MN](#) and code [3967](#)

HOC Report

Members of the BYHA are able to attend this meeting. If you would like to be placed on the HOC Agenda, a two-week notice to the HOC VP is required.

HOC Department Updates:

- **Player Development** - Updating the shooting area with four new tarps with backing. PD has interviewed three solid candidates for the hockey director position. At this point, they are going to take a deeper dive with one candidate and bring them to an HOC meeting for another interview.
- **Squirts** - Tryouts wrapped up this week with teams being posted soon.
- **Boys High School** - A few of the seniors from the high school team came to thank the Board for the donation to their program.
- **Girls High School** - No updates at this time.
- **Teams/ABC** - The HOC will be watching closely the team sizes and team declarations and assessing at the end of the season.
- **Coaching Coordinators** - Coaches have been assigned to teams and rostered.
- **Girls Coordinators** - No updates at this time.
- **Goalie Coordinators** - Goalie tryouts are complete.



- **Mite/8U Coordinators** - No updates at this time.
- **Try-Outs** - First, a HUGE THANK YOU to Josh and Mike. They did a ton of work to ensure that tryouts ran smoothly. THANK YOU! Tryouts are almost complete, with the Squirt teams needing to be posted and the U15s to happen after the girls high school tryouts. Overall, it seemed as though things went smoothly throughout all of the sessions. The on-ice worked well with more skating than in years past which helped evaluators to see the hockey skill of a player. There have been a few complaints and the HOC is making note as to how they can continue to improve the tryouts process each year. There were some issues raised regarding the goalie tryout process, especially at the Bantam level. One being, the difference between the skills night and the scrimmage night and whether or not in the future they should provide a makeup night for those goalies with an excused absence. It has been asked that goalie scores are to be recorded on Team Genius next year.
- **Tournaments** - The coordinator has completed tournament registration and waiting on one more hotel for a Bantam tournament.
- **Ice Schedulers** - D10 teams will run a shorter season with games from 11/28-2/2, waiting for D10 to finalize scheduling. Schedules are being updated for all teams and being posted. Figure skating club want to move from Peterson to Purple on Sunday nights so this may delay finalizing the November schedule.
- **Jr. Gold** - No updates at this time.

District 5 Report:

Would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to Ryan Ferguson for his years as the D5 coordinator. Thank you Ryan! Refs will be doing regular checks for neck guards, ear guards, and mouth guards this season. Parents and coaches need to make sure the players are ready with the proper equipment.

Locker room monitors need to have their SafeSport and background checks completed and submitted before they can cover locker room shifts.

D5 is looking into starting a U19 league for next season.



Associations will need to pay 75% of the cost of Game Sheet this season and 100% of the cost next season. Suggestion from D5 that associations consider having a rule in place for kids waiting until they start school to join association hockey.

Vice President

Wreath turn in will have two options this year. The first option will be in person and the second option will be available online. If you submit the online order, you can submit payment via Venmo to the BYHA account (@BYHA_MN) or drop a check in the drop box at the rink.

Volunteer Report:

DIBS requests need to be submitted two weeks in advance so the coordinators have time to post. Remember to start getting your DIBs shifts completed early in the season so you don't run out of time or opportunities.

Concession Stand:

No updates at this time.

Apparel:

Stop by the shop and check out the new items arriving each week.

Pro-Shop/Equipment Report:

Helmet stickers, socks and jerseys are ready for teams.

If you have any issues or questions with warm-up apparel, please reach out proshop@buffalohockey.net.

City of Buffalo:

Reminder that no players are allowed to dress in the lobby.

Looking to get the Buffalo statue painted and mounted. Gathering a few price quotes for next meeting.



Wall of Fame:

No updates at this time.

Registration Report:

Thanks to Bridget and Deb for navigating the registration process. Mites are the last registration session this fall. Reminder that all locker room monitors need to have their Safe Sport and background check completed. Background checks are taking normal than usual so please plan ahead. Manager meeting is going to be held on October 14th.

SafeSport:

Parents who are locker room monitors **MUST** have completed the SafeSport training and background check before they are allowed in the locker room.

Reminder that locker room monitors need to remain inside the locker room they are monitoring. They are not to be standing outside of the locker room.

Advertising/Sponsorship/Fundraising:

The Ice In Party was a success. Thank you for everyone who came and all of those who helped make the night a fun night.

The zamboni is wrapped and there are new dashers going up this month.

Marketing/Recruitment/Retention:

Matt R. is working with Dan Gladu to learn more about how Peach Jar can help with our marketing through the schools.

Talking with St. Cloud Norsemen to see how they can connect with the players at BYHA through the season.



New Business:

The BOD received correspondence from a BYHA member raising concerns about the selection of vendors. An inquiry was made and all concerns were addressed.

Additional Notes:

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM.



Please continue to support the businesses who support us:

- Allina Health
- Alpine Hardwood
- Bayer Built Woodworks
- Buffalo Pizza
- Community Lawn Care
- CorTrust Bank
- Coborn's Buffalo
- Dunkin' Donuts
- E & M Outdoors
- Evelyn's Wine Bar
- Insurance Center of Buffalo
- J's Down Under
- Just Once Viking Shop
- Lake Country Decks
- North Star Pro Reality
- Omann Brothers Paving
- Otter
- Play It Again Sports - Buffalo
- Ryan Auto Mall
- State Farm – Mark Olson
- State Farm - Troy Crank
- Stellis Health
- The Heights
- Thirsty Buffalo
- Wave Armor
- What's the Scoop?
- Wild Marsh



BYHA Board of Directors (BOD)

October 2024	Position	Name	Term Expires
X	President	Matt Adams	April 2027
	Vice President	Deb Blaeser	April 2027
X	Secretary	Maria Rosso	April 2026
X	Treasurer	Mike Honsey	April 2025
X	Director	Jeremy Welter	April 2025
X	Director	Bridget Lindeman	April 2026
	Director	Eric Kolkind	April 2025
X	Director	Kent Baker	April 2027
X	Director	Jake Comee	April 2026
X	Director	Matt Rickheim	April 2027
X	Director	Adam Hennen	April 2027

NOTE: 9 Directors were present for October 2024 meeting.



BYHA Hockey Operations Committee (HOC)

Position	Name	Phone	Term Expires
HOC Vice President	Risa Peterson		
Co-Coaching Coordinators	Mark Lemen Ryan Otto		
Player Development Co-Coordinators	Adam Stewart Keith Jerpseth		
Goalie Development Co-Coordinators	Matt Griffith Nate Dixon		
A/B/C Level Coordinator	Wes Asleson		
Tryout Co-Coordinator	Josh Hawkinson Mike Peterson		
Scheduling Director	Hans & Sadie Iverson Colin & Carly Hribal		
Mites/Mini Mites Coordinator	Aaron Johnson Devon McNamara		
HOME Tournament Coordinator	**OPEN**		
Away Tournament Coordinator	Serinity Kurzhals		
Safesport Coordinator(s)	Tina Klaphake		
Squirt Coordinator	Chris Pearsall Tiffany Dixon		
Girls Coordinator	Ben Guck Amy Kotish		
Boys HS Coach	Aaron Johnson		
Girls High School Coach	Ryan Huddy		



Volunteers

D5 Rep	Ryan Ferguson
Equipment Manager	Nathan Dixon Kent Baker
Wreath Coordinator	Caitlin Chovan
Marketing Coordinator	Sheryl Workman
Picture Coordinator	Michele Siemek
Registration Coordinator	Bridget Lindeman and Jessica Fudali (Traveling level) Alicia Kettenacker (Initiation level)
One Goal Coordinator	Matt Griffith Chris Pearsall
S.C.O.R.E. Coordinator	Rissa Schrick
T.E.A.M. Coordinator	Jolene Frank
Advertising/Sponsorship Coordinator	Jeremy Welter
Travelling Level Team Manager Coordinator	Kari Magaard Heather Knight
Initiation Level Team Manager Coordinator	Kelsey Harps
Initiation Mite Events Coordinator	Karin Brinkhoff
Initiation One Goal/Learn 2 Play Coordinators	Karin Brinkhoff Jolene Frank
Initiation Level Scheduler	Emily Starry
Volunteer Coordinator	Sarah Shult Lisa Comee
Social Media Coordinator	Megan Omann Deb Blaeser



Rock on Ice Coordinator	Jennifer Kurth
Webmaster Coordinator	Deb Blaeser
	Alyssa Domagala
Billing Managers	Mike Honsey
	Lakeside Consulting - Sara Kubu
Hall of Fame Committee Chair	Eric Kolkind
Safesport Coordinator(s)	Tina Klaphake