

UVHA Board Meeting Minutes



October 14, 2020 ~ 7:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

1. **Attendance:** Brock Barton, Kylie Young, Jay Zanleoni, Justin Barwood, Jason Gramling, Roger Gillies, Ethan McNaughton, Aaron Panitz, Will Meyer, Sarah Morlock, Allison Weglarz, Amie Marsh, Brendan Callahan, Stacy Clark, Joe DeSimone, Eric Smith, Josh Flanders, Holly Wilkinson, Jenn Fitzgerald, Kara Hall, Kristy Driver, Les Drent, Lorin Durand, Mark Weglarz, Michael Dannehy, Mindy Dube, Rish Desharnais, Sherry Dube, Tom Daniels, Lori Nichols

2. **Meeting called to order:** 7:03 PM

3. **New Business:**
 - a. **Vermont Travel Restrictions Impact-**Brock welcomed the membership and addressed the recent change to Vermont's COVID-19 related travel restrictions. The Association will proceed to plan for the season with this guidance in mind. Given the current county cases status, Brock proposed that the membership consider three paths forward:
 - i. **Option 1-**Delay formal try-outs for two to three weeks. Allow Vermont and green county players to utilize the existing ice, previously reserved for tryouts. In this scenario, if Grafton county returns to green status, those New Hampshire players would be allowed to attend immediately thereafter.

ii. **Option 2**-Delay tryouts for a week or two and don't allow the ice to be used by Vermont and green county residents. The Board will attempt to recoup costs by renting out the UVHA's contracted ice.

iii. **Option 3**-Hold tryouts, continuing without the Grafton players, hoping that the yellow and red counties will be able to join next week.

Brock opened the discussion up to the membership. Tom Daniels voiced that, while he sympathizes with the New Hampshire families who would be excluded due to the State of Vermont travel restrictions, he'd prefer to see the ice used, even if just informally. Justin Montebianchi reminded the group that this season will be like no other and that the focus should not be on building competitive teams. He asked that the Board make decisions that put players first. He'd therefore support option one. Joe DeSimone urged the Association to allow players that are eligible to get on the ice and play. Those who expressed their opinion were in favor of moving forward with a season to the extent that is allowable and supported option one. Brock made a motion to move forward with Option 1: delaying tryouts for up to two or three weeks, allowing eligible players to utilize the available ice and re-evaluating on a weekly basis as the Vermont Travel Restriction map is updated. Ethan seconded this motion. All voted in favor.

b. **Midgets**-There was a request from Midget coaches to expand the eligibility of the

Midget team from 16U to 18U. The Board approved of this change, but asked that Mite coaches be cognizant of age and size discrepancy, assuring player safety at all times.

c. **Mask Exemption**-Players requesting an exemption from wearing a mask will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Another concern is that referees. Jay will follow up with VSAHA.

d. **Master Waiver**-Ethan will draft a master indemnification waiver and have it ready for signing before the first skate.

e. **Temperature Check Volunteers**-Coaches will conduct temperature checks to start the season. Brock ordered surface temperature thermometers that he will distribute to coaches at each level. Kylie will work on the screening log, importing player names from registration.

f. **Player Safety Coordinator**-Sarah made a motion to appoint Heather Obar as the Player Safety Coordinator. Kylie seconded her motion. All voted in favor

g. **Mite Level Volunteers**-The Town is open to increasing the number of volunteers allowed in the rink at the Mite level. Jason suggested having a set rotation of parents allowed in the rink who could also assist in retrieving parents when a parent outside of the rink is needed off-ice for toileting, etc. Ethan suggested marking the stands to seat spectators six feet apart in order to ensure that Storm parents are adhering to social-distancing rules.

h. **Approving Coaches**-Will Meyer is going to provide the Board with the list of coaches volunteering at each level. This slate will need to be approved by the Board before players are on the ice. The number of coaches and players on the ice should not exceed 40 players. Coaches will have to monitor this to be sure that the UVHA is in compliance with the Town's mandate.

i. **Fundraising**-Given the travel restrictions and the possibility that these restrictions will only continue or strengthen, the Board agreed to cancel the Christmas Tree Sale. The tree farm is in New Hampshire and New Hampshire residents have pre ordered trees. Picking up the trees and distributing the trees could be made impossible.

j. **Tryouts**-A letter of concern regarding the composition of the Tryout Committee was received by the Board. The tryout policy was discussed at length, particularly whether parent-coaches should be permitted to be on the committee at

their child's level. There was debate as to what constituted an "impartial" committee member. The Board agreed that the committees were acceptable as they stood. However, this will be revisited and possible changes to the policy language proposed.

4. **Meeting Adjourned:** 9:26 PM