

October 2024 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order

September minutes accepted

Introduction of all those present

Treasurer's Report: Beginning balance of \$53,422.76 with disbursements of \$60.00 room fee and \$3.00 bank service fee. Ending balance of \$53,359.76. Chris spoke about the money we received from the vendors at the festival. Kona Ice will be giving a check for \$2,300.00 and we will be receiving a referee training (reserve) check for more than \$1,000.00 soon. These will show up in next months report balance. A reminder to get your insurance binders to us early. Need to send to Chris or Kevin (due by March 1).

Treasury Report accepted

Boys VP: The youth rule changes are not out yet. Proper equipment and safety will be points of emphasis this season. It is never too early to start training coaches. Start now (online at USA Lacrosse). Coaches need to be silver level as a minimum to coach. Mike has a call with Tim from Teams Compete (who handles our schedule) and game changes. He is helping NHYLA work out the issues with Sports Engine.

Girls VP: Jill not present. Kevin relayed an email from Jill. Recruit and certify new coaches soon. A discussion regarding the new certification designations then ensued. A reminder that even parent helpers at 8U need to be bronze level (background check etc.). 2025 rule changes will be discussed in the next few meetings – coming soon!

Youth Officials Coordinator: Officials training will start the last week in February at multiple locations (will be posted on the NHYLA website). By the end of March, new and returning officials should be good to go. Need to be a freshman in high school or 14 years old by April / start of season to be considered for youth official. A discussion about the physicality at the younger ages then took place. Most of the issues are at 10 and 8U. This will be a point of emphasis this season (cleaning it up).

Festival: The festival will be held on June 7 & 8 at Souhegan High School. Play dates for the season will be April 6, April 13, April 19 (20 is Easter), April 27, May 4, May 11, May 18, May 24 & May 25 (Memorial Day Weekend off), May 31 (Saturday) is the makeup day and June 1 is the final day of the 2024 regular season. Always looking to improve the festival, if anyone has any ideas on how to improve it, let the board know (Ok for more food trucks, vendors etc.).

President: Kevin reiterated the season dates (see above) and stressed the importance of playing all scheduled games on those dates. He also mentioned the importance of all games being completed and scored by the end of the day on June 1. This allows for proper seeding of the year end festival. He spoke about some of the upcoming items of importance (NHYLA timeline available online in more detail). October, we review bi-laws, officer nominations, competition committee is formed and rule change proposal are submitted. November discussion on rule changes. December, we vote on rule changes. The January meeting we reserve the right to vote on any rules from USA Lacrosse that come through late. A discussion regarding

program attendance at the meetings and possible consequences then took place. A long discussion ensued regarding possible ways to get more people at the monthly meetings and possible penalties.

Officer Nominations then took place. All positions are available if anyone wants to be nominated. Let Kevin know before the next meeting. Officers will be voted on at the next meeting. Current board willing to stay on as constituted. A discussion regarding the season schedule and possible changes to early season games then took place. The competition committee was discussed again and role was outlined to the group. Registering teams were discussed. The process was outlined (rank your own team, note how many club players you have, add to comments section etc.). The committee looks at all that plus last seasons record / scores. This is all used to help adjust and create divisions. Let Kevin know if interested in being on. Not a huge commitment. Most of the work is done within a few days and via email. A discussion about how to “properly” split teams and divisions then took place.

Old Business: NHYLA play day discussed for early in season. A discussion about multiple games in one day in select locations was proposed in order to secure early season games (turf fields) for some of those programs with limited access. Goffstown and Hooksett domes were discussed as great options while bringing the event indoors to delete weather as a possible issue. A long discussion ensued regarding turf fields and weather-related issues with getting games in. A game change fee was discussed and how to implement paying for what NHYLA gets charged to move games. Teams Compete is charging \$5,000.00 to create our schedule and conduct game changes this season. This amount went up dramatically from last year because of the number of changes needed in 2023 (over 600 changes).

Let the board know if there are any issues at games. Need to know as soon as they exist so we can do something about curtailing issues going forward. The rules interpretation meetings were discussed as vital tools in coach education. The importance of a healthy and positive culture was discussed starting with program administrators, then coaches and finally ending with the players.

Next meeting will be Thursday November 21 at 7:00 at the Aloha Restaurant in Manchester.

AED and safety protocols were briefly discussed. They are not mandated to be on the sidelines but several programs have them available on fields. NHYLA strongly encourages the investment in AED's and any and all safety training for all coaches and field staff.

New Business: None

Motion to adjourn approved