

DOVER YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
6:00 PM – DOVER ICE ARENA CONFERENCE ROOM

JT Fortier – President

Steve Gahan – Vice President

Josh Hersey – Treasurer

Steeve Wintle - Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: The November 18, 2024, Dover Youth Hockey Association-Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM in the Conference Room of the Dover Ice Arena.

The following board members were present: JT Fortier, Josh Hersey, Zach Cobb, Steve Gahan, James Blouin, Ken Burlage (remote), Steeve Wintle (remote), Brett Ricci – Director of Hockey Ops. Absent: Shannon Kennedy, Mike Young – Former Director of Hockey Ops.

PUBLIC FORUM: Brittany Langevin in attendance. Discussion about recent disciplinary actions regarding Bantam team. Discussion about what options exist for next season and what Bantam options may exist for the league overall. The Board discussed the team in question and ways in which to move forward with the team, including the need to have oversight in the locker room before and after games. Board to engage Fred Strum to help assess the situation.

MEETING MINUTES: A motion to approve the 11/4/24 minutes was put forth by Fortier and seconded by Gahan. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

DISCIPLINE: Gahan discussed the disciplinary letter which has been drafted for distribution to the league. Gahan to send letter to Tia for distribution to the league. Hersey updated the Board on the appeals from two players who were suspended from the organization for the remainder of the season.

GIRLS TEAM: Discussion about the girls team which has previously had viability concerns recently had a coach resign. Discussion ensued about what the league should do with the team in question. Team meeting scheduled for later this week to discuss how the teams would be reconfigured.

FINANCE UPDATE: Hersey provided the following updates:

- Bingo results – October results - \$4k profit; YTD results - \$56k profit. Hersey commented that the state requires additional data to be implemented for bingo. Hersey and Wintle to assist in the implementation.
- Bank balances as of 11/18/24 – Checking - \$242k; Savings \$231k.
- House Scholarships – Single application submitted for house league. Scholarship committee recommends awarding one House League Scholarship. Hersey made a motion to approve the

scholarship award amount, Gahan seconded. The Board voted unanimously in favor of awarding the scholarship.

- 522 tickets sold for the UNH game, an increase of 89 over last year.

PRACTICE RELATED ISSUES: Discussion about an issue with siblings joining teams on the ice for practices. Agreement to follow USA hockey guidelines that siblings/players under 13 years old should not be player helpers.

GOALIE SKILLS: Discussion about ice time for goalies and how to establish practices if goalies do not have a dedicated sheet of ice.

DISCIPLINARY DISCUSSION: Discussion about policies for coaches, including a desire by coaches to sit certain players. Coaches are allowed to sit players for up to a period without requiring escalation to Board related review. Additional discussion about coaches sitting players for competitive advantage reasons; the Board referenced the team handbook which dictates policies around playing time.

HOUSE LEAGUE: Parent concern raised about scheduling games for the house team with third party teams.

HEYLIGER TOURNAMENT: Teams beginning to sign up for the tournament - 4-5 Mites and 2-3 Squirt teams have signed up to date. Gahan to advertise more in early December to market the tournament to other teams to increase tournament commitment.

FIRST SHIFT: Program progressing well. Discussion about how the program will progress into the second session.

MIDGET TOURNAMENT: Tournament went well. No issues.

APPAREL: Biggest apparel store sales ever for the holiday season, nearly \$19k in sales.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

- a. Ricci – None.
- b. Blouin – None.
- c. Cobb – Committee work – when do we determine committee assignments.
- d. Burlage – None.
- e. Kennedy – None.
- f. Hersey – None.
- g. Gahan – UNH women’s operations happy to support facilitating a girls team partnership, likely to schedule sessions in April/May.
- h. Young – None.
- i. Fortier – None.
- j. Wintle – Survey updated to be gathered and circulated in the next week.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:18 PM