

Petoskey Area Hockey Association Board Meeting

Petoskey Ice Arena

February 13, 2024 @ 6:00pm

In Attendance: Sarah Saddison, Chris Firman, Brent Bolin, Henry Pfiefer, Heaven Alcalá, Fedor Fedorov (left early due to emergency), Julianne Imbleau, Rob Higgins

Absent: None

Public in Attendance: Diana Guiney (MAHA), Valerie Palmer (Decka Digital), Charlie Licata (6:54pm)

1. Brent called the meeting to order at 6:18pm.
2. Approval of meeting minutes from 1/7/24. Rob motions to approve. Heaven seconded. Minutes approved 8-0.
3. Public Comments – Valerie (Decka Digital) – is here to offer a fundraiser to our association for custom engraved water bottles and custom photos with acrylic. The business will donate \$5 back per each item sold to our association. Julianne thinks we should offer this in the fall when our photographer comes. We can include this in our parent packet for next season. We will table this for now.
4. Diana from MAHA D7 joined our meeting. Fedor inquired on the 14UAA Spring Bantam team organized in Gaylord for the months of March and April. Last month the board voted down a 14UAA Spring Team request that would have been housed out of PAHA, because the coach wanted to use the Kalkaska rink for practices. Diana recommends we look at our numbers in March, and start a plan to create a co-op and merge associations, so we can have a PAHA 14U team this next fall out of Petoskey.
5. 10UAA Spring Team (Charlie Licata): Charlie presented a spring team proposal to the board. Coaches would be himself, Aaron Weisberger, Chris Firman, and Byrant Tuthill. A tryout would take place in March (TBD), where coaches would take 10-15 PAHA kids. Practices would be 1-2 times a week through April/May. The proposal indicated one tournament - May 5th - Cinco De Mayo. This team would provide kids with more ice time. All costs will be billed to these families through PAHA. Charlie would like to use PAHA jerseys. They would ask for 50% payment upfront and then 3 installments. All previous season invoices/ice bills must be paid before a player attends tryouts. This team could potentially run over the summer. \$6500 budget. Rob motioned to approve. Heaven seconded. Motion approved 7-0.
6. **Follow-Up Action Items:**
 - a. Brent has not compiled the information for the election investigation as he is still waiting for information from Liz and Matt Hawkins. Election runner will provide results to the board. Brent will contact Liz and Matt Hawkins for data needed.
 - b. Possible Change to Savings Account – FCB had a 6-month CD interest rate 4.3% - this would have to be negotiated with the CFO. Savings account is 0%. Diana will see if her husband, Jeff Guiney (who works at FCB) will help us with a FCB contact.

- c. Locker Room Policy Reminder to Coaches – We are still in need of having our coaching director talk to coaches about the locker room policy. 10U teams have been having discipline issues with players stealing other’s belongings, due to unsupervised time frames. A parent complaint was sent to PAHA and the ice rink. We do not want a MAHA violation.
- d. Banners and Trophy Case – Rob approached Harbor Springs High School, and they cannot build a trophy case at this time. Rob will inquire with Pellston schools and report back at the next meeting.
- e. Jerseys and Helmet –We need to run our numbers for next year and then will order more mites and mini mite jerseys. Our new jerseys are falling apart. Chris will provide pictures to Carter’s Imagewear showing them that they are not holding up, and come up with a plan for replacement.
- f. First Aid Kits – We will look into having kits for each team and train coaches before next season.
- g. Stop the Bleed Training – This has been tabled for now.
- h. Locker room request for 6U/8U – Teams cannot use locker rooms #2 or 3 due to shared showers with the high school. So, they are only able to use locker rooms #1 & #4, or the warm room area.

7. New Items:

- a. Elizabeth Morey has provided her letter of resignation to the association, which was emailed 2/10/24.
- b. Review of positions and duties – For now, the remaining board members will stay in their positions. Brent will take over at our board meetings, but wants to remain in the vice-president role. Members who will be ending their terms this season: Heaven (end of two year term), Fedor and Rob (Completing two year term for Aaron and Mindy), and Brent (completing two year term).
- c. Bylaws – Brent altered them at the beginning of the season, and they were approved at our annual meeting. Matt Hawkins suggested we use the MAHA framework for the bylaws. Heaven has worked on a second revision of our bylaws to be more specific, due to liability. We are in need of a bylaw’s committee. Rob would be happy to help with this. We will work on this over the summer months.
- d. Conflict of Interest – Rob sent his statement in the time frame set per bylaws. Fedor has not submitted his written notice of conflict. Rob will talk to him about this.
- e. Mite Goalie Gear - According to Chris, Fed has purchased gear for our younger goalies and has it at the rink. Petoskey Ice Arena has invoiced us for the goalie equipment. Mites are currently taping goalie gear together so its usable, so we are in need of new equipment. Heaven will ask for an itemized invoice for review and payment.
- f. Benches at Rink – Heaven had applied for a grant through the Community Foundation to purchase new furniture in the warm room area as discussed and agreed upon at our last meeting. The ice arena has since purchased benches. The grant will be voided as that money cannot be used to refund purchases, per the community foundation board.
- g. 10U Coaching Concern- Tuthill – Fed was to reach out to him per our last meeting. More incidents have been reported. Brent will talk to Fed about this.
- h. Fedorov Ice Fest Jamboree – Liz has 11 teams currently signed up for 8U – 1 pending. She will work with coaches on organizing, but Liz will not be in town for the event. Heaven has her schedule done and Charlie is working on the 8U schedule. Brent will connect with Liz on manager duties and report back to us. Volunteers and on ice refs will be needed and sign-up genius will be used to post these jobs/opportunities. Sarah will help with posting this information.

- i. Banquet - Heaven will contact Grand Unity Event Center and organize this event.
- j. Plan for 2024/25 season –
 - i. Henry will pull up all our registrations and bring projected numbers to the next meeting. Rob indicated we will get some good numbers with the Little Wings program.
 - ii. Rob would like to see the rink run 3 little wings sessions next season during the Fall, Winter, and Spring months. Heaven motions to run 3 little wing sessions supported by PAHA. Brent seconds. Motion approved 7-0.
 - iii. Brent recommends new players follow the path: Learn to Skate, Little Wings, and then transition into PAHA. This is something we can look into for the future as a requirement. Also, inviting new players to open skates for free would be another way to get in more ice time for those kids.
- k. Coaching strategies and requirements – we need to work and form a relationship with our high school coach (Jeff) to make sure we are transitioning players into the higher level of hockey. We need a consistent program. It would be nice to reach out to men's league to help build our coaching staff. Rob will work on this.
- l. **First Community Bank – PAHA Account** – Rob motions to take Elizabeth Morey off the account. Heaven seconded it. Motioned approved 7-0, to take Elizabeth Morey off of the First Community Bank PAHA account. Sarah motions to add Brent Bolin to the First Community Bank PAHA account. Rob seconded. Motion approved 7-0.

8. **Team Updates:**

- Minis – Heaven is working on their 6U Fedorov Ice Fest event.
- Mites – Liz, Chris, and Charlie are working on their 8U Fedorov Ice Fest event.
- Squirts – 10U Teams are prepping for Adray Districts, that will be held in Petoskey.
 - Squirt Select – RD is to provide 10U Select roster and team financials to Heaven. Sarah will communicate with RD on this.
- Peewee – Brent would like to do a 3rd tournament with his 12U team – Hockey Night in Cadillac - \$500. Jacob N. has returned to the team. Brent will work on a payment plan with this family. Board talked about blacklisting players for non-payment as part of next season's plan (players would not be able to roster anywhere until previous season bill is paid).
- 14UAA Spring Team per Liz - discussed at last meeting will not be proposed at PAHA due to stipulations on ice rental. Coach has requested a different association.

9. **Next meeting:** We will schedule our next meeting Tuesday, March 12 @6pm.

Brent adjourned the meeting at 8:29 pm.