

UPPER ST. CLAIR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Regular Board Meeting—November 12, 2018 (at Upper St. Clair High School)

Board Members Present

Ed Gaussa
Dave Speer
Brad Sileo
Dan Sinclair
Kevin McNally
Tara O'Brien
Laura Schuster
Erik Happ
John McShane
Pete Gialames
Jesse Sweet

Board Members

Absent

Jake Ploeger
Prashant Gosai

Additional

Attendees

George Garces

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Brad Sileo at approximately 6:00 p.m.

Initial Business—Executive Session

- Discussion was held regarding practice jerseys for the Varsity and JV teams.
 - Coaches had previously asked for the organization to provide color-coded practice jerseys.
 - Association member Erik Happ fronted the cost of the jerseys in order to expedite the order process.
 - A motion was made to reimburse Erik for the cost following Erik providing a copy of the invoice to Dave Speer.
 - The motion was seconded and it passed unanimously.
- Discussion was held the vacant At-Large position on the Board.
 - Brad Sileo stated that two association members had approached him about being interested in the vacant At-Large position.
 - It was noted that the Board is more than halfway through the 2018-19 season, and that the At-Large position is not required to perform any specific duties.
 - It was agreed that rather than the Board attempting to select one individual to fill the At-Large position, those two interested persons would be encouraged to run for a Board position at the next election.
- Discussion was held regarding the potential number of teams for the 2019-20 season.
 - It was noted that there will be five seniors graduating after this season and about 10 8th graders moving up to high school for next season.
 - Additionally there may be existing high school-age players who currently are not on Varsity or JV but who may decide to try out for spots for 2019-20.
 - Discussion was held regarding whether the organization can field two JV teams.

Regular Business:

Report of the Secretary

- Jesse Sweet presented the report of the Secretary.
- A motion was made to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2018 Executive Session of the Board. The motion was seconded and passed.

Team Updates—Business Managers

- Tara O'Brien presented the report on the Varsity team. Tara stated that a member of the team had completed serving a four-game suspension. It was noted that the organization had appealed the suspension and that the appeal was denied. Tara stated that Coach Becinski is interested in trying to compete at U.S. Nationals, which will be held in Cleveland this year. Many local teams will be interested. Tara and Prashant will look into the possibility. Tara noted that the USC winter pep rally will be held on Nov. 28. The Varsity team will participate; the team captains will coordinate the participation.
- Dan Sinclair presented the report on the JV team. Dan provided an update on a player who was injured in a recent JV game. The player is healing nicely and hopes to be back on the ice this season.
- Laura Schuster presented the report on MS1. Laura noted two issues regarding suspensions on the team. One player received and served a two-game suspension. Another player received a match penalty in a recent game for allegedly kicking a player on the other team. The USC player denies any intentional kicking. No coaches or parents at the game reported seeing any kicking. The player is suspended from all USA Hockey activities at least until a hearing is held. The hearing is scheduled for Nov. 28.
- Kevin McNally presented the report on MS2. Kevin reported that there are no issues of concern. Kevin also reported that all team families turned in money for the fundraising raffle.

Treasurer's Report

- Dave Speer presented the Treasurer's report.
- Dave presented the current status of the association's finances. All bills are current and the budget is on track. Expenses are up slightly from last year.
- Discussion was held regarding whether to raise team fees for 2019-20. Discussion was also held regarding the fundraiser, and whether it should be adjusted for 2019-20 to allow for cheaper raffle ticket prices. The discussion was tabled and will be continued at future meetings.
- Dave noted that the organization raised \$848 during the October "Pink-Out" initiative. Discussion was held regarding donating the \$848 to the Susan G. Komen Foundation (Greater Pittsburgh Chapter). A motion was made to approve such donation. The motion was seconded and it passed unanimously.

Old Business

- Brad provided a report on the 2018-19 fundraiser. The fundraiser brought in approximately \$23,150. Costs are estimated at \$2,687 (for airfare, hotel and game tickets). Therefore the net results of the fundraiser are expected to be approximately \$20,463. These proceeds will be used to offset the 2018-19 budget deficit of approximately \$17,000.
- Senior Recognition Night has been moved to January 7, 2019 because no ice was available for the pre-game ceremony for the previously-scheduled date. Sherry Woomer and Laurie Finn are organizing the event. Communications will be sent out to all teams.
- The annual banquet was scheduled for April 7, 2018. Heather Gausa and Michelle Fisher are planning the event.
- Team pictures have been completed. Rona Daley organized and was thanked by the Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Board summarized discussions held during Executive Session (see above).
- Discussion was held about whether to honor USC Student Activity Cards for admission to USC hockey games. The Board agreed to allow such admission and to try to keep track in order to inform the school district about attendance at games.
- Brad noted that the organization was recently contacted by the parent of a middle school-aged player (2006 birth year) who wants to try to join the organization. Brad communicated to the parent that the MS rosters are already at their limit of 2006 birth year players, and therefore the player cannot be added this year. The player is encouraged to try out for USC Hockey next season.
- Discussion was held regarding the latest report from the Outreach Committee. In addition to the money raised for the Susan G. Komen Foundation, it was noted that successful events were held recently involving the Miracle League and paintball. All USC teams are participating in Toys for Tots events in November.
- John McShane announced that a spirit wear sale will be conducted online from November 19-27. Families will be notified via email.
- Pete Gialames stated that two coaches have certifications that expire on Dec. 31, 2018. Ed Gausa stated that the coaches are aware, and will obtain the renewed certifications before the deadline.
- Discussion was held regarding a USC Hockey Instagram account which was started by one of the Varsity players. Brad will speak with the player to get more information.
- The Board acknowledged and thanked Sejal Gosai for creating the USC Hockey bulletin board at Ice Castle.

The next meeting will be an Executive Session on December 9, 2018 at a time and location to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jesse Sweet, Secretary