GVAHA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**March 19, 2019**

**7:00 pm- Griff’s Georgetown**

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

**Present:**  Rebecca VanDenBerg, Jack Williams, Kelli Sterley, Jim Rozema, Greg Raad, and Joel Breazeale

**Absent:** Cori Wilson, Mike Hatkowski, Audra Atkinson

**Quorum present?** Yes

**Others Present:** Ann Veneklase, Ryan Kimball, Nick Markini, Ciji Markini, Fred Markini, Corey Sobeck, Karen Sobeck, Scott Schroeder, Gregg Mulder, Alisha Mulder, Dave Atkinson, Tammie DenBoer, Aaron VanderVeen, Matt Burns, Brad Mackenzie, Deborah Hart, Janet DeBoer, Kim Krombeen.

**PROCEEDINGS:**

Called to order by Greg Raad at 7:10pm

**Visitors Welcomed**

OPEN COMMENTS, VISITORS DISCUSSION

**Secretary’s Report:**

Minutes from last months meeting were distributed via email to board members earlier in the day by Secretary Cori Wilson.

Moved by Kelli Sterley and supported by Joel Breazeale to approve the February Minutes. Motion Passed.

**Treasurer’s Report –** Greg reported in Audra’s absence they have been working through completing the budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year which runs July 1, 2019 – June 30,2020.

Greg indicated they still need estimates from the Hockey Directors for summer skills and camps. He also shared the player estimates for house hockey for 2019-2020 season which the budget will be based upon.

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| --- | --- |
| **6U** | 15 |
| **8U** | 32 |
| **10U** | 65 |
| **12U** | 27 |
| **14U** | 13 |
| **Total** | 152 |

(House Hockey Only. Travel player counts not included here)

Hockey Director Joel Breazeale shared about the Fundamental program being offered this fall. Fundamentals will share ice with the Mites on Thursday and Saturday. They will be invited to come to power skates. This program is for older kids who start hockey. It will be about the same as cost as mites. It will help add kids to different older teams the following years. GVAHA is the only association in West Michigan offering this kind of program. Kalamazoo has something similar.

Discussion followed about other ways we can help reduce the barriers to learn to play hockey and the fees involved. As well as how to help parents learn about all the unknowns they have to learn about.

Hockey Director Jack Williams shared news about the new Mesh Bag Program for players. Equipment kits will be available to use for an entire season. The Mesh Bags will cost $100 and upon return at the end of the season parents will receive $50 back. The equipment rental program will be run through the Sk8 Proshop in cooperation with GVAHA.

GVAHA procedures and policies document was discussed, specifically Coaching Credits. Discussion and comments from visitors included some are coaching to spend time with their sons and not just for the credit. Other comments we need to have healthily balance of compensating good coaches and keeping them in the GVAHA program. Several ideas were shared.

GVAHA Board continue to review options affecting the budget and will approve and publish the budget at a future meeting before the start of the fiscal year July 1, 2019.

**VP Travel Report**

Travel Tryouts are scheduled for the week of May 20th.

We will have a JV team and have a head coach, but need assistant coaches. The hockey directors estimate we have about 15 kids and a goalie for the JV team.

Travel Coaches for next season

PeeWeeA – Rob Brandow  
PeeWeeAA – Brad Mackenzie  
Bantam A – TBD  
Bantam AA - Jack Williams

**VP House Report / Hockey Director Report**

Hockey Directors shared details of a new program to the Squirt age group. Squirts will still have 2 practices and a power skate. We estimate 4 teams for next season. 4 Teams will share one 50 minute session and will be tight areas and skills stations.

Then they will change into a rotating team color Timbit jersey and play a pond hockey challenge. Teams will keep score and play a tournament every 4 Tuesdays. They will play 3 – 12 minute games. Format will be 3 on 3 or 4 on 4. Special rules/conditions. At the end of each month a pond hockey champion will be named and prizes awarded. All of this will be done in the second hour on Tuesday’s practice.

The objective of this program is to foster creativity, fun and fearless playing. The hockey directors expect it to fuel competition and foster unity between the squirt teams. Team will be all mixed up each month.

Thursday’s Squirt practice will be 2 teams per shared ice for 50 minutes each.

All house teams will be offered Power skating again next season. Squirts/Mites will be on an every other week rotation. PeeWee and Bantams will come every week.

Jim noted that the coaches will need specific direction from Jack and Joel for new programs. Joel will publish a template.

It was also noted that we will need to have a lot of communication to the parents at the beginning of the season to help understand what we are trying to do.

Jim reported on the Squirts State Tournament. Squirt Black ended up in a 3-way tie. The rules were communicated incorrectly initially by MAHA officials, then later the rules were ultimately interpreted correctly and GVAHA placed 3rd and was not allowed to advance to the championship game. The Issue has taken to Kevin Wood and the issue will be discussed at an upcoming MAHA meeting..

Lot of success at the house programs this season and a lot more to come in the future. The program is experiencing amazing growth.

**Fundraising Report – Kelli Sterley**

* Scrip coming along good and a lot of parents are participating.
* Needs a date for the coaches meeting to coordinate a fundraiser at the restaurant of choice.
* Dave Atkinson is attending the township meeting on April 8 to continue the process to obtain approval for the licenses required for GVAHA to hold a lotto raffle.
* Kelli is considering recommending that each team be allowed to only do one team fundraiser and any additional to be split between association and team. Lots of discussion on how this will affect efforts by teams to do fundraisers. There was suggestions that our team fees should cover our the majority of our association costs and team fundraising should be allowed beyond one fundraiser to allow teams to offset costs. There was also suggestions we should adopt an approval process instead of a limit. That we should review the teams fundraiser to avoid overlap or multiple teams approaching the same businesses for support. The items was tabled for future discussion. No decision was made.

**Communications Report – Rebecca VanDenBerg.**

Rebecca reported that a new proposal for the sponsor package is almost completed. We received the OK from DP Fox and the rink to offer dasherboard and hanging banner packages. Mike Hatowski provided the splits and numbers looked fair. Rebecca will email board the new proposal draft to approve at next month’s board meeting.

**Rink Manager - Mike Hatkowski**

**No Report**

**MAHA Rep Report – Greg Raad**

**No Specific Report**

**President Report – Greg Raad**

Reviewed the proposed additional board positions with the group. Board members have been submitting changes and recommendations. Positions will be reviewed again. The goal is to approve at the April board meeting, then open positions for applications in May and hold electronic voting in June.

GVAHA will be moving into a new office space located between the pro shop and the concessions. The room is being painted and repairs made. We will be in need of office furniture. Jack is working with volunteers to get the room ready to move into.

Moved by Kelli Sterley and supported by Jim Rozema adjourn. Motion Passed

**Next Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, 2019**