



# **GVAHA BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**February 21, 2023**  
**7:00 pm**

**Facilitated by: President of the Board, Andy Barnes**

## **AGENDA**

**Call to order by:** Andy Barnes **at 7:10pm**

**Attendance:** Andy Barnes, Audra Atkinson, Kelli Sterley, Dave Atkinson, Ciji Marckini, Phil Malnar, Karen Sobeck, Jenn Beverwyk

**Visitors:** Lindsay Burns, Deborah Hart, Nate Beverwyk, John Baker, Aaron McCormick

**Absent:** Brandon Gorby, Joel Breazeale, Jack Williams

## **Welcome-**

Introduction of visitors & discussion:

Nate Beverwyk - fun weekend of hockey; curious to see a Board meeting

Lindsay Burns - fielding a lot of questions about Spring Hockey

## **GVAHA Staff reports:**

- **Hockey Director** – Joel
- **Hockey Director** – Jack
  - Suggests coaches credits for those teaching Learn to Skate and Learn to Play
    - None at this time
  - Coaching credits for Mites and Cross-Ice
    - Discuss next month

## **President Report** – Andy Barnes

- Discuss Bantam AA request to prorate the Association fee of \$550 for the two players who left early for high school
  - *Motion to not prorate the Association Fee by Andy; Second by Kelli; Approved.*
- Discuss upcoming Board elections set to take place on or before March 31

**Vice President Report – Jennifer Beverwyk**

- No report

**Secretary Report – Audra Atkinson**

- Approval of [January meeting minutes](#)
  - *Approval of January meeting minutes made by Andy; Second by Dave; Approved*
- Merchandising and Equipment Report – Howies Hockey gear pricing
- Alternate jersey – must be brought to the Board for approval – there are guidelines that need to be on the jersey
  - Manager Director will make sure managers know the rules
- New jerseys (draft ideas)

**Team Director & MAHA Representative Report – Dave Atkinson**

- Regular Season
  - Last Practice Ice is: 3/9/2023
  - Squirts are extending one week to practice 3/14 and 3/15
  - Coaching credits for house teams need to be distributed. I believe each team has communicated the breakdown. I would like to make sure these are done during the collection timeframe, so we are not sending checks out with a 1099 for these refunds.
- Spring Hockey
  - Official MAHA Tryout dates start 3/20 – we can run the tryout skate whenever we want after 3/20. As of April 1, players must play in the division they will play for the 2023/24 season:

- Squirt (10U) – 2013-2014
  - PeeWee (12U) – 2011-2012
  - Bantam (14U) – 2010-2009
  - Midget (16U) – 2007-2008
  - Coaches must complete age appropriate modules for Spring Hockey
- So far, I have PeeWee A and Bantam AA confirmed for teams. Bantam A is trying to finalize a coach. PWAA has not responded. Mike will not reserve ice until we know how many teams and how many hours per week we are requesting.
- Ice Schedule: Mike has blocked out Monday for Men's league and possibly Wednesday. There will be (1) sheet of ice starting March 20ish. So that leaves Tuesday and Thursday for 4 teams to run clinics/practice. We will need to look elsewhere for ice options (Nick is checking with Griff's Ice House, Dave is checking with Kentwood and Audra is checking with Holland).
- I do not have a response from Kentwood. Dave / Jack / Joel to work on securing necessary ice for this spring.
- Need to communicate plan on the website and announce coaches.
- Bantam AA manager is looking for interest to create a Midget team at GVAHA. Need a coach and additional players to make this happen... would they be interested in playing Adray Prep (JV)? I did reach out to Kevin VanSchepen to see if he might be interested, but he did not respond.
- Adray
  - I have nothing to report, but I do know Joel has discussed potential format changes to how Adray runs the league to attempt to ensure divisions are balanced.
- MAHA
  - Try Hockey for Free – Feb 25th – Did GVAHA register on the site? – Tom Berry will deliver the jerseys, but we need to register on the site to get the jerseys
  - Hosting Districts, Play-in games or state playoffs – Are we interested
  - New Association Approved – Garden Ice Arena – Berrien
    - Convert the organization from BAHA to Garden Ice Association – BAHA will dissolve
  - New Association Proposal tabled for Ann Arbor converting to Biggby Hockey – Ann Arbor Association will dissolve

- From the District 6 Coach-In-Chief: Coaches/Association - survey will be coming out for coaching clinics and other opportunities for topics to explore for training - target spring/summer - more information coming out in the next 4-6 weeks.
- Coaches must complete age appropriate modules for Spring Hockey
- 2023-24 Season
  - Fall Travel (PeeWee and Bantam) Tryout date starts 5/15 – Need to set schedules, book ice and announce the coaches. I will register the tryout dates with MAHA once they are known.
  - Need to communicate plan on the website and announce coaches for 2023-24 season
  - Need to develop ice schedule early and provide to Mike, including start date, days off within the season and end date. I will try and develop a template for each season to simplify moving forward
  - Recommend coming up with a discounted fee for goalies at PeeWee and Bantam. Thoughts?
  - Referee fees will increase – unsure what the amount of increase will be. Pushing to get amount. Increase is coming due to MHSAA OK Conference approving a 50% increase in referee fees for all sports.
  - Ice Fees will increase from \$290 per hour to \$300 or \$310. Ice fees in the off-season will not change like they have in the past.
  - **Equipment Request:** Coaches have requested simpler, more robust shooter tutors. I am proposing a spend of \$3,000 to purchase (3) shooter tutors and (2) on-ice rebounders



**Professional Grade Shooter Tutor 2-pack**  
\$1,099.95  
Includes: (2) Commercial Grade Shooter Tutors



**Professional Grade Combo Pack**  
\$1,649.80  
Includes: (1) Shooter Tutor, (2) 60" Give-N-Go ON-ICE models, (1) 30" Give-N-Go

- *Proposal to spend 3 shooter tutors, 2 on-ice rebounder, and 1 off-ice rebounder. Motion made by Andy to purchase. Audra second. Approved.*
- Proposal for the purchase of (2) first aid bags to be placed in each scorer's box on each rink. This will provide quick access to first aid for our players. The rink currently has no first aid that we can access. We also need to have a stock of ice packs (instant ice packs) or purchase an ice maker that we can fill bags with, since the concession stand is not typically open when we have practice or games.

- Dave will reach out to Corewell to find out what to put in a first aid kit. 3 first aid kits will be made

### **Manager Director Report – Karen Sobeck**

- Great job to all the teams - a lot of great accomplishments!

### **Treasurer Report – Phil Malnar**

- Monthly budget report reviewed

### **Communications & Events Director Report – Ciji Marckini**

- Hockey Fights Cancer - raised \$8,240 for Shields of Hope
- Yearbooks are being printed soon
- Try Hockey for Free - February 25 @ 12pm

### **Fundraising Director Report – Kelli Sterley**

- Sending out Hat Trick Raffle winners checks this week
- Wesco Popcorn Buckets fundraiser option
  - \$750 for a case, a case is 100 buckets
  - Retail for a bucket is \$14.99 from Wesco. We can set the price per bucket. Unlimited free refills for 1 calendar year
- Van Andel Concessions (Over 1 million \$\$ just last year shared with Non Profits)
  - GVAHA would need liability insurance approx \$500 yearly
  - Each parent who works would need a 3-4 hour "Servsafe Alcohol Class, approx \$30 a class, must be 18 or older
  - A percentage of sales (approx 8-10%) and all tips are split among workers
  - Small concessions (about 6 people), large concessions (about 10 people), portable concessions (4-8 people)
  - A spreadsheet would be kept for tracking participants and monies that would be applied to registration fees
- (Session 3 learn to skate and play links - people are asking for them along with the day/time)

**Sponsorship Director Report** – Brandon Gorby (absent)

- Has the GRBS sponsorship invoice been sent and payment received? Yes and yes

**Additional business in preparation for next meeting:**

March: Budget proposal; review disciplinary reports; vote on coaches; vote on jerseys; discuss hiring an accountant

Next Meeting: March 21, 2023 @7pm

**Meeting Adjourned by: Andy at 9:17pm**