

**AYHA**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**July 13, 2020**

**I. Attendees:**

**Board of Directors (Voting Members):**

*President:* Royce Lawrence - present  
*Vice-President :* John Paro - present  
*Treasurer:* John Kilmer - present  
*Secretary:* Heather DiFiore - present  
*Boys Travel Director:* Dennis Linehan - present  
*Girls Travel Director:* Renee Lochner - absent  
*Ways & Means Officer:* Justin St. John - present  
*Concessions:* TBD

**Committee Members:**

*Building Operations:* Dan DeMarsh - absent  
*Registrar:* Tina Felton - present  
*ACE Coordinator:* Tom Pavlick - present  
*Safe Sport Coordinator:* Jeff Willis - absent  
*Marketing:* Vicki Bushy - present  
*Scheduler:* Mark Cozzens - present  
*House League:* Andy Coe - present  
*Boys Travel Tournament Coordinator:* Kim Ogden - absent  
*Girls Tournament Coordinator:* Michelle Hunter - absent  
*Concessions Coordinator:* Liz Austin - absent

**Visitors:**

John Hoy (One Goal Equipment Coordinator)  
Melissa Clifford  
Kris Gibilaro

**II. Opening:**

The regular meeting of the *Adirondack Youth Hockey Association (AYHA)* was called to order at 7:33pm via Zoom on Monday, July 13, 2020. Royce thanked new board members, as well as returning members for joining the virtual meeting.

**III. Minutes:**

Minutes were submitted by Tina via email. A motion to accept June 2020 meeting minutes was made by Royce. An error was noted. Minutes to be corrected, reviewed by the board and presented for acceptance at the August meeting.

#### **IV. Treasurer's Report:**

John reports that last season was fiscally strong regardless of decreased registration and loss of the AA tournament. John will be talking to the accountants to wrap up the fiscal year soon. The new fiscal year begins in July. The bathroom project is moving along and should be wrapped up before reopening the building. There was a motion made by Royce to accept the treasurer's report; seconded by John Paro; motion passed.

#### **V. Visitors Statements:**

No statements from visitors.

#### **VI. Committee Reports:**

**Northstars-** Renee not present. No report. Royce reports coaches selected. August tentative for tryouts.

**Boys Travel Director-** Nothing new to report. Tentative tryout dates for August.

**Tournament Committee-** Kim not present. No Report.

**Registrar-** Registration has been open. Tina shares that at present, there is not much new to report regarding registration. Registrations continue to slowly trickle in at 1 or 2 new additions per week. Numbers of registered players looking good at 16 & 18U.

**Marketing-** Vicki shares that she has some new ideas planned, but will wait on moving forward until a plan to reopen is announced as answers to related questions regarding a reopening plan would be needed before moving forward. No specifics regarding marketing ideas were shared at the time of the meeting.

**Concessions-** no report.

**Facilities-** Dan not present. Royce shared an update on his behalf. Parts ordered for the water fountain. Bathrooms moving forward as per John Kilmer's report. Royce is in close contact with the Cool Insuring Arena (CIA) and city of

Glens Falls to discuss reopening of the Rec Center building. They are working to create a reopening plan. To date, communications with the CIA have been positive regarding AYHA's ice reservation for August 6, 2020 - August 13, 2020 for tryouts and "early season skates" for the organization as a whole. AYHA would be ready to invite players to the ice as soon as USA Hockey gives green light to return amid the pandemic.

Andy Coe posed questions about scheduling for use of ice time at the CIA. He shared interest in the possibility of early season skates for registered players with a detailed schedule and clinic based opportunities to get on ice prior to tryouts.

**Scheduler-** Mark inquired as to when coaches can reserve ice time for fall games. Mark will create a framework/mock schedule for September/October "on paper". Mark to contact 16/18U coaches re: scheduling. Mark will move forward utilizing a framework typical of past seasons with a plan to scale back game related ice times/schedules across teams should it become necessary to do so based on return to hockey / date AYHA season is able to begin. All-in-all the Rec Center schedule is underway with more details to follow.

**Ways and Means-** Justin reports that dasher board sponsors were notified of payment due from last season. He posed a question regarding some possible, additional invoices that may need to go out and shared a reminder that some businesses exchange services for dasher boards and we shall not invoice said businesses. We may have a new sponsorship for the fall and Justin will follow up with them. Justin will send invoices for next season but suggested that we send them out at the same time every year moving forward so as to not overwhelm our sponsors financially. Royce suggested October 1st for sending invoices. Invoices will be mailed out with an attached letter clearly stating due date and informing said sponsors of removal of their dasher board if they express that they are no longer interested or fail to remit payment.

**ACE Coordinator-** Tom was not present. Royce spoke on his behalf and reported that temporary coaching cards are due by July 31st. Training and classes will continue to be offered virtually.

Royce requested that all board members be *Safe Sport* certified and screened. *Safe Sport* screening is now annual whether participating in the full program or the refresher.

Royce will share with Tom that he inquires with coaches that all coaching cards are up to date and modules appropriate to the level one coaches have been completed. Separate modules may apply to girls hockey and goalies so caution should be taken in reviewing and meeting these changes.

**House Program-** Andy states that there isn't much new to report, however he is drafting a plan for and looking to increase skills development opportunities as per USA hockey guidelines. More details to follow for the August meeting.

## **VII. Old Business**

Royce reports, as per USA hockey, NYS is reporting weekly on status for reopening rinks and moving forward. The June 29th meeting was moved up to this Thursday and Royce is looking forward to receiving updated information such as tentative timelines for group meetings, tryouts, practices, etc. However, currently, as per NYS guidance and based on recommendations from NYS and the governor, all sanctioned events are on hold (Royce to share document detailing what is on hold and what is not).

In summary, the recommendation is that AYHA cannot reopen. Royce is working with the CIA and the City of Glens Falls to make sure AYHA is included in the reopening plan.

## **VIII. New Business:**

### **AYHA receives honor for girls programs.**

Royce shared that AYHA received quite an honor as AYHA was selected to receive the *USA Hockey Female Honors Award* for the New York State Amateur Hockey Association. AYHA would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone following receipt of the honors award for NYS district. It is an honor for the organization to be recognized for developing the game of hockey for female participants during the 2019-2020 season. This honor would have been presented at the NYS Amateur Hockey Association annual meeting awards dinner. However, due to present circumstances they were unable to do so at this time. They hope to extend an invitation to AYHA at the 2021 annual meeting to recognize this honor.

Royce went on to share that we currently have over 100 girls in the program when just 10 years ago AYHA was down to just 10 female participants. AYHA also provides the area's largest female youth tournament. This award provides

our program recognized by USA hockey nationally. This is an enormous accomplishment and honor for AYHA and those involved that made it possible and worked to develop the program over these last years. This honor has been shared with those who have been directly involved both past and present and AYHA will continue to reach out to those whom we have been unable to contact at this time.

**Proposal of *House Program Committee* to support continued growing needs observed across the house program.**

Royce made a motion to create a point person to oversee house league needs across all levels of play including termites, minimites, mites, squirts and majors. He proposes a *House Committee* overseen by one board member as committee head. Discussion of pros and cons followed Royce's motion. Various questions were posed and discussed by those in attendance.

The proposal however, is that said person would be a current board member that would serve as a "house league point of contact" or committee head to facilitate needs such as and related to equal representation of each level within the house league, support organizational needs, answer questions/address concerns proposed by house committee members and help meet needs within a timely fashion.

Royce formally made a motion to "create a house committee with a board member serving as committee head to oversee the house league"; John Kilmer seconded the motion. Voting ensued. Quorum present; motion passed unanimously.

Board members considering volunteering to take on this responsibility:  
Dennis Linehan, John Paro and John Kilmer.

**IX. Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn meeting and enter executive session was made by Royce, seconded by John Kilmer, motion carried.

~ Minutes respectfully submitted by AYHA secretary, *Heather A. DiFiore*, July 27, 2020.