**Genesee Amateur Hockey Association**

**Board of Directors**

**January 15th, 2025**

**Meeting Minutes**

Members in attendance: D. Hutchins; A. Valyear, T. DeMars, C. Hutchins, D. Calkins, M. Benjamin, S. Pies, M. Barnes, C. Minuto, J. Hale, J. Patric

Members absent: B. McCarthy, T. Sprague, M. Jafari

Meeting called to order at 6:03pm.

* Motion to approve the agenda for this meeting, 1/15/2025: Marcia
  + 2nd: Steve
  + All in Favor
* Motion to approve the minutes from our last board meeting, 11/20/2024 and notes from 12/18/2024: Steve
  + 2nd: Dan
  + All in Favor
* Old Business
  + January Parent’s Meeting – Per Dale, Coaching Committee is meeting on Monday, January 20th; he will encourage parent meetings to gauge families’ thoughts on the year so far.
  + Merry Mitemas
    - $6,700 profit
    - More teams than last year.
    - Some teams did question rosters but overall, we received a LOT of positive feedback.
    - Will host tournament again in 2026.
  + 6u Program Discussion
    - Dan presented information on the 6u program in discussion for the upcoming season. The 6u would be a part of Empire, like, 8u. There is a monthly jamboree tournament, 4 on 4, rotating rinks. This would be for the ‘younger’ or less experienced mites.
    - There are currently 71 beginners. We would have 2 – 6u teams and 2 – 8u teams. The cost would need to include the jerseys and we would have to discuss ice fees as this would require 2 ice slots.
    - This would have no interference with Beginners or Mites. End of year evaluations would indicate whether they remain in beginners or go up to 6u or 8u.
    - Dan will draft an outline of what the program would ultimately work.
  + Website
    - Please provide Malorie with the information she has asked for several times.
    - Can we get list of coaches, teams and tryout information posted on website as soon as possible? Dale said they are still figuring out coaches but should be set after next week’s meeting. James suggested we at least post the teams we will have next year. Dale said he would get that list to post.
* New Business
  + Tryouts
    - Allyson will send Dale registration list so that he can determine teams for next year.
      * James asked for a list of teams and coaches as we know for sure. He asked that it be sent to the board and sent to Malorie so that she can post to the website. Other organizations do this!
    - We will sue LeagueApps to register for tryouts, Malorie will test it out.
    - Dale suggested we charge $200 to tryout – goes towards ice fees/registration or a portion is returned if you choose to not play Ramparts.
  + Elections
    - Annual meeting will be Wednesday, March 19th at the rink.
    - The following board members/officers have terms expiring in 2025: D. Hutchins, T. Sprague, C. Hutchins, T. DeMars, A. Valyear, M. Benjamin, M. Barnes, M. Jafari, J. Hale. If you do not wish to pursue another 2-year board term, please let Dale Hutchins know as soon as possible.
    - Dale accepted a resignation from Chad Minuto, effective 4/1/25 as board member and VP of Empire.
  + 1:1 or Small Group Sessions with Dan C.
    - Dan was approached by a GAHA family to provide 1:1 skating/skills lessons. Dan asked about costs and if GAHA would take that on. The board agreed that GAHA would no absorb the cost but, we could offer it to 20 kids via clinic and the families would pay.
    - Malorie will set up a registration form and we will run on upcoming holiday, if ice is available.
  + Other New Business
    - With the many changes we are instilling in the organization: LeagueApps, Updates to Scholarship and Fundraising, in addition to are current policies and procedures, is it beneficial to host an end of year parent meeting to review with parents? It was suggested to do at Banquet.
    - James asked if we ever got an additional bill from Envious – According to Carrie, no. James will reach out to see if there is an overdue balance.
    - James asked why a player with a 2009 birthdate is playing on the 14u Checking Team. The board had not heard this was happening – how did it get cleared by USA Hockey? Dale will contact Jen B. and report back to the board.
    - Try Hockey for Free – February 22nd. There are currently 8 players in Beginners Session 2 that did the November Date.
    - Is it the goal for Jerseys to be slightly different (except Logo) each year? Board agreed yes; new jerseys come each year as part of ice fees and will be consistent across the organization.
    - As a reminder, players cannot play on a team with out a legal roster. GAHA can lose their WNY sanctions with 1 illegal roster. Before you make a move or bring in a substitute, you must email the change of player to the commissioner. This must be done prior to game day. Rosters are set by 12/31; any changes have to be cleared by the commissioner.
  + Committee Reports
    - Treasurer
      * Profit and Loss Statement shows higher skater income with additional teams and increased ice fees.
      * Ice training and team differentials increased from last year.
      * Still need to pay February and March Ice Fees along with Playoffs.
      * There are a few straggling payments.
    - Registrar
    - Ice Scheduler
      * JV is rescheduling games 1/29 and 2/5; Adam will notify coaches, rather than send out a new schedule.
      * If there are changes to scheduling or if teams are switching, please let Rink Staff know for Board Display.
      * March Evaluations being held for 3/17-3/24 (Squirt, PW, Bantam)
      * Last day for ice is 3/26 – Ice coming down 3/30.
      * Dale sent the Tryout Date options to coaches already.
    - Coaching
    - VP of WNY
    - VP of Empire
      * Playoff structure & divisions are set for next month – will be 2/10 through February Break.
    - President
    - Rink

Meeting adjourned at 7:31pm.