



Minnesota Wild Deaf/HOH Hockey Board Agenda & Minutes

Virtual Meeting – 02/22/2023 7:00 PM

AGENDA

1	Approval of past meeting minutes	-
2	2023-2024 Schedule	Toni
3	Fundraising	Toni
4	New Registrar	Toni
5	Welcome new board members	Toni
6	Hendrickson Foundation Spotlight	Toni
7	End of Year	Toni
8	Budget Planning	Toni
9	Ice Scheduling	Toni
10	Summer Opportunities	Toni
11	Coaches for next year	Toni
12	Dual Rostering	Toni
13	Splitting up into teams	Toni
14	Future communication preferences from secretary	Elizabeth
15	In person meeting for By-Laws sometime between March-June, Survey	Tracy
17	Appreciation Party for Players/Volunteers	Tracy
18	Reports	REPORTS
19	Other Topics	-

Meeting Adjourned

REPORTS

Treasurer Reports *supporting documents included*
Fundraising/Sponsorship
Coach/Player Reports
Interpreters Report
Volunteer Report
Registrar's Report *supporting documents included*
Equipment Report/Ice Scheduling

MINUTES

Meeting called by Rai

Note Taker Elizabeth

Attendees David, BJ, Shawn, Tracy, Rai, Pete, Jack, Carolyn, Abi, Toni

Notes

Rai Past meeting minutes approved and seconded

Toni 2023-2024 season schedule may start in January or March with a deaf camp taking place in July in Chicago. 5 months of hockey practice.

Rai Maybe something in September, a 2-hour kick off event, to showcase the program and garner attention from prospective players.

Maybe no interpreters on the ice in the fall until the official season starts in March to give players more opportunities to practice until then.

We need to figure out how to split teams, perhaps based on communication preferences.

Pete Splitting up teams based on age seems to be working so far, with older players tending to be ASL users vs. younger players varying in communication styles.

1.5 hour on the ice, 45 minutes on their own, giving coaches more time to focus on separate groups of novice and experienced players

so February through July, or should we offer September to January to give players an opportunity to participate before joining the more structured program starting in February

David Definitely consider what to offer beginning in September. There is no way to beat the experience of skating on the rink.

Toni 3 practices a month starting in February, before February we can take the time to organize and structure the program. The budget isn't large enough to cover the expenses of ice time.

BJ Youth and adult players have different schedules throughout the season, with youths having more opportunities to play hockey at their own schools compared to adult players. It might be a good idea to check in with players to see what they'd be interested in terms of ice time and the next season's schedule

- High school players can't double register on both teams
- Can split up teams and give them different ice times, in that way the practice can be better structured and have coaches being more available to work with each team.

Pete The ideal compromise could be setting up different seasons for each age group, maybe adult players start early in the season while youth players join later on.

BJ Good idea. Adult players don't often have an opportunity to play. Their schedules are more compressed. They could have a longer ice time at each practice.

Toni We could accommodate to adults from October to December then officially start the season from February to June or July.
Have the survey out to get information from players about their schedules. We need to prepare for fundraising and have a solid plan by April or May for the next season.

Jack We need to look into rinks for northern and south practices to give people from different places an opportunity to practice. 1 arena in northern, 1 in metro, 1 in southern, 3 practices per month.

Pete Apple Valley has a nice rink for the southern area, St Louis Park or Edina for the metro.

Jack The goal is to avoid meter parking.

David Agreed, more players showed up at the rinks that don't involve paying for parking.

Pete The attendance was the weakest at the Mariucci.

Tracy We need to do the best for our program. The bottom line is to give deaf and hard of hearing players an opportunity to play hockey. We need to consider the availability of coaches. Based on their feedback, Sundays are the best. We can survey about the interest for ice time between November-December, don't think can split up teams based on ASL vs. no ASL, can split up based on ability and size to avoid injury among players, need to ensure coaches' commitment to the program throughout the season.

Toni We don't need to match our program to other programs.

David We should not divide players based on ASL.

Pete We should divide age.

- David We need to tap onto the ecosystem of prospective players out there. There are deaf players out there who might be interested that we can bring into the program.
- Toni Pete and David to survey players about their interest regarding the next season's scheduling.
- Rai For the end of year, the festival on a weekend of June, one game, a scrimmage to showcase the program, the program has 1 hour's ice time. We need to figure out the lighting system and the overall set-up to showcase the program.
- Toni Consider the Super rink. Afterwards, go out to the restaurant and thank everyone for their involvement in the program.
- Tracy We need to plan a meeting in person about big board issues, like budgeting and by-laws, next year's schedule.
- Toni Would have the budget by then to forecast for the next year's plans for the program.
A full year to think about what it takes to bring players to the US Hockey Festival
The new registrar has experience in the past as a registrar, still being mentored by Sandy for a couple of months, probably start the role in July, might hold a meeting to ensure that the new registrar understands the mindset essential to manage the registration, Sports Engine and connects with Pete and the board.
- Toni Summer opportunities will be determined at the next meeting.
- David Thanks to Toni for sharing information about Dumba's Camp. Those who went to the camp really enjoyed the experience.
- Toni This Sunday, MN Wild will hold Diversified Hockey Celebration. This is going to be a huge event.

**Meeting
adjourned**

8:02pm

Contacts

MWD/HOH Board	2022-23	Cell	Email	Term End
President	Rai Fusco			
Interpreter	Sydney Cain			
Secretary	Elizabeth Steyer			
Treasurer	Edina Community Foundation			
Social Media Coordinator	Carolyn Lane			
Website Development/ Maintenance Coordinator	Lindsey Lein			
Equipment Manager/ Ice Scheduler	Jack Rugroden			
Team Manager	Pete Palmisano			
Marketing/ Branding Coordinator	Abi Girard			
Volunteer Coordinator	Tracy Barnhart			
Fundraising Coordinator	<i>Vacant</i>			
Sponsorship Coordinator	<i>Vacant</i>			
Coaches' Representative	Tyson Anderson Steve Balaich Jeremie Reinhart Ryan Krajewski (transitioning to Registrar in 2023)			

Registrar	Sandy Loney (through 2022-2023 season) Ryan Krajewski (starting 2023)			
Player Rep	David Uzzell			
Interpreter Coordinator	BJ Vriezen			
USA/MN Diversified Hockey Director-Rep	Toni Gillen	651-307-0660	agillen1968@gmail.com	

Website: <https://www.mnwilddeafhockey.com>