



**ARKANSAS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
January 7, 2025**

Call to Order at 6:30 PM

Board Members Present: Barker, David, Fennel, Fleeman, Hence, Henderson, Keating, Nelsen, Saum, Sheridan, Windley

Board Members Absent: Murray, Webb, Wibblesman

Non-Voting Members Present- Millner

Skatium Representative: James Belamy

1) Approval of December 2024 minutes: Fleeman made motion to accept minutes, Fennel seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

2) Rink Business - James Belamy

a) Not present

b) Miller asked Fennel to call Belamy to find out about Saturday. Fennel also said that we still don't have a corrected December invoice.

3) Association business

a) 25-26 season items (Fennel):

i) Will be working on getting rink to confirm 25-26 season schedule.

ii) Discussed new jerseys for 25-26. Need more contrast between jerseys rather than light grey and dark grey. Looking into a cheaper jersey for house teams.

iii) Fennel asked if Faded Rose and Mathnasium would continue to sponsor jerseys.

iv) Fennel also said he is looking at Jogg to do merch and warmups.

v) Sheridan asked that 8U have reversible jerseys because they've had to use pennies.

vi) Fennel said Saum will do a google form to survey age, travel vs. house, etc. for next year.

b) Saum (presented by Fennel)

i) 12U travel wants to go to Nashville tournament, would be the one tournament included in the budget. Millner and David said we don't need a vote since it's in the budget.

ii) Shane would like to do spring hockey on Mondays. Fennel said it's worked well the last couple seasons. Windley asked what ages? Fennel said we can include that in the questionnaire to see who wants to participate. Last year was rising 8/10 and rising 12/14 and it worked well. Fennel moved to do 6 weeks spring hockey, Hence seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

iii) Summer practice – 12U travel practiced on Mondays last summer and 14U practiced on Thursday. Fennel said he will reach out to the rink to try to book those days.

iv) Abbie Henderson will do photos again. Consensus was yes to proceed.

v) End of season party – Weds. March 12th. We need to figure out coaches gifts and medals for the kids. David volunteered to coordinate the medals. Abbie has the templates for the certificates. Fennel will send David the names/numbers.



c) Feasibility Study

i) Millner: Met with Sheridan and Fennel, and it seems collectively that study is out of the scope of using AHA funds. Suggested creating a sub-committee within AHA to solicit donations to fund this. Millner said Niel Dinenger said because our organization is focused on ice hockey and this is addressing feasibility for ice hockey, he feels it's okay. Keating suggested that it is possible to set up separate charter for a foundation separate from the general charter, to then create a separate account to fundraise for capital investments. Millner will check with Neil to see if he can do it.

4) Financials (Windley)

a) Don't have a financial report from Webb.

5) Other Business

a) Bevan recognized 14U families for traveling to the tournament in Chicago. They brought so many family members and it was very encouraging as a team.

b) Millner – had 14 kids signed up for LTP. Several have joined a team or signed up for second round of LTP. Fleeman said LTP should start again this week but may be delayed due to weather.

c) Millner said he is setting up a men's league tournament for a fundraiser. Jan 19th. Need more to sign up.

d) David said she will bring up at next meeting bylaw changes to amend bylaws to change men's league positions to at large positions, and also to provide a way to reallocate positions with no applicants as at large. Other changes will be cleaning things up like secretary handling applications instead of team managers. Fennel suggested recruiting people from outside the organization to fill at large positions, David said positions have to represent AHA. Millner suggested eliminating requirement for board members to be members of AHA.

e) Sheridan made motion to create separate charter to establish foundation/fundraising account if Neil donates the cost of the charter. Seconded by Fennel. Motion passed unanimously. Millner will email Neil and copy officers.

f) Windley: Made motion to use \$1,200 per year toward financial software to use Quickbooks for nonprofits, \$99/mo. Will help clean up the way we track expenses. We can integrate it with Team Snap. Tie in banking. Dual signatures for payments is done through Quickbooks too. Millner said previous treasurers have used Quickbooks. Tax filings are also supported. David seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

6) Upcoming Board Schedule February 4th @6:30 pm in person

7) Adjourned 7:40pm, moved by Fleeman and seconded by Sheridan