

# KENSINGTON VALLEY HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

July 21, 2025

Zoom Meeting called to order at 730pm. Minutes recorded by Michelle Christ.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Brandon Camerella, Kristyn Dougherty, Caryn Michalak, Dennis Whitbeck, Michael Wainwright, Appointee Popma, Chris Vedder (8:00pm)

**ABSENT:** N/A

**STAFF:** Michelle Christ

**MEMBERSHIP/GUEST:** None

**OPEN CALL:** Limit to 5 minutes per person, no discussion (for timeline sake)

**MINUTES:** Review March minutes. **Motion to approve March minutes made by Michael Wainwright 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dennis Whitbeck YES votes 6 NO votes 0, motion passes.**

### **FINANCE/BUDGET:**

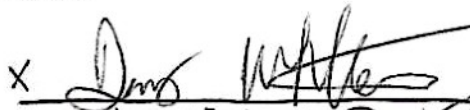
- 2024-2025 Budget Reconciliation was sent to KVHA Board 6-18-2025 with recommendations on expense cuts.
- 2025-2026 registration fees increased from \$220 to \$250, with a \$50 increase for July 1, \$300 and August 1, \$350 increases.
- 2025-2026 6u/8u team registration fee was raised from \$125/player to \$150/player.
- Monthly Ice fees for the 8u program were increased to \$175/month
- Monthly Ice fees for the 10u and older teams were raised \$10 per month, 10u is \$245/month, 12u is \$285/month, 14u is \$335/month
- Thank you to the Bob England foundation and the England family, who have generously helped so many kids in our association. Craig recently reached out to me, and they had to close the foundation as it was getting harder to get donations and harder to decide who to provide funding to
- BBSG /BIGGBY Sponsorship coordinator reached out to me on June 14<sup>th</sup> and they will be sending our \$20,000 BIGBY sponsorship check from the 2024-2025 season; Our BIGGBY Sponsorship is \$22,000 for the 25-26 season.

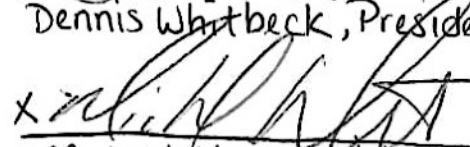
### **TEAM FINANCIALS:**

Final Spring transfers completed 7-21-2025; August Invoices pending the new Ice Contract.

### **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

- **Jerseys:** BBSG request to switch to Breakaway sports; Jerseys are in process with Perfect Edge ; Per Ice Contract negotiations, new BIGGBY Shoulder logos are required for BBSG BIGGBY club rinks. Working on mocks with Perfect Edge
- **Discipline:** Awaiting hearing decision from MAHA on 2011 Renegades?
- **IT/Communications** – Social Media Manager Michalak:
- **Election** – Board roles the 2025-2026 season
  - **President:** Dennis Whitbeck (Michael Wainwright approved, Chris Vedder Seconded, no "no" votes)
  - **Secretary:** vacant position
  - **Treasurer:** Chris Vedder will take over for Kristyn Dougherty
  - **Vice President / Girls Director:** Michael Wainwright
  - **Travel Director / BBSG Liaison:** Brandon Camerella
  - **House Director:** vacant position

X   
Dennis Whitbeck, President

X   
Michael Wainwright, Vice President

- Coaching Selection – 8u and 10u coaches need to be interviewed once a house director is selected
- Charity Event – Committee temporarily inactive.
- House Evaluation/Draft – Not active until August
- Grow the Game –
  - BIGGBY sponsorship funds purchased a new set of green 22" pads for the south rink.
  - Learn the Game and Learn to Play programs continue through KVHA.
  - Rink is adding Take a Shot at Hockey
    - 4 week try hockey for free program leading into Little Wings.
  - Rink is adding a Little Wings program, free equipment and 6 weeks of ice for \$250
    - Two 6 week sessions will be added to the schedule this season.
  - Fall Learn to Skate will continue with Harmony Skating.
- House Development:
  - Coach Dennis summer training, next session begins 7-26 for three Saturdays.
- Arena/Ice Conditions:
  - Zamboni arrived last week, older but low mileage in good condition
  - Rink will be closed August 6-8 to repair plumbing in the Zamboni room.
- Ice Scheduling:
  - Scheduling was on hold due to ice contract should have full schedule from August through October in tomorrow, we will work on conflicts for MDHL Sat and Sun and then release actual dates and time to teams and invoice them for August.
- Alumni – Appointee Popma: nothing to report

#### DIVISION UPDATES:

- Fall Learn to registration just opened
- House Registration
  - Mini-Mite/Mite: 48 Mites; 32 Mini Mites players – will keep pushing on socials
    - Mini Mite Directors Michael McFall and John Rossi
      - Head Coaches Kyle Kolasnski; John Rossi; One more TBD
    - Mite Director Lucas Puninske and Nick Ventrone
      - Head Coaches Lucas Puninske, Nick Ventrone, Nick Cunningham and one TBD
  - Two 10u teams (27); Jeff Cooke and Brad Harris are returning head coaches, and we have two candidates to interview to be a head coach: Mike Johnson and Gordon Belcher
  - One 12u team (14 registered); Shawn McCreedy Head Coach – returning Assistant coach from 12u Generals the last two seasons
  - One 14u Team (18 players); Robert Rechul Head Coach
- Travel: Tryouts seemed to be a success; Note 2011 and older teams can now roster effective August 1
- Girls: Tier 3 program will be difficult- 8u/10u T3 currently has 5 players registered; 12u T3 has 6 players; 14u T3 has 4 players; We will have three tier 3 goalies this season.

#### TRAINING/SKILLS:

- Jimmy Blanchard lined up for goalie training in the Fall and a few teams will be working with him and his guys, on their own, the association is not involved other than an endorsement. Jimmy will also provide monthly group goalie training for our house players and some house goalie instruction during shared practices throughout the season for more individual attention. We will use the BIGGBY budget as we have traditionally done for these sessions.

#### MAHA / USA HOCKEY:

- USA Hockey rule change for the 2025-2029 seasons. Of note:
  - 304(g) Requires HECC certified neck laceration protectors for all Youth, Girls and High School players. With note allowing BNQ certified NLP's for 2025-26 and 2026-27 seasons.



- 307(c) Adds cameras and microphones to list of devices prohibited to be worn by a player during games. Any violation results in a misconduct penalty.
- 624(b) Icing the Puck Allows teams at the Youth 15-Only and above, and Girls 16U and above, to ice the puck while playing shorthanded.
- 624(c) Icing the Puck Requires center-ice face-off location if game officials err in calling icing.
- 630(d) Offside Allows teams at the Youth 15-Only and above, and Girls 16U and above, to play with Delayed/Tag-up Offsides.
- MAHA Summer Meeting in Frankenmuth, information sent to the Board along with Rule proposals
  - There are no longer out of district rules for house players so that means that the boys' travel district borders are likely to go away soon, as shown by the rule proposals - there are several different proposals to make it 4 OOD players per team, 5, 6, 50% and rules for abolishing district boundaries all together.
  - Eliminating Game Counts in the 26-27 season
  - Change of the 72-hour rule for when a player is eligible to play for a new team after being released from another to a 24-hour rule – good rule!
  - Clarification on electronic score sheets and ensuring penalties are reported properly
  - 18u BB game change request to allow them to play more AA teams.
  - Tournament and Jamboree sanctioning proposed

#### **PAST BUSINESS:**

- AAA Biggby teams skating out of Brighton for the 2025 season – part of ice contract negotiation
- White boards for meeting room and board room (approved a \$1,000 budget allowance) – On hold

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Meeting with BBSG via Zoom on 7-16-2025 re Breakaway Sports and Ice Contract
  - Ice would be \$365/hour if we use Breakaway for all jerseys and team apparel
  - \$380/hour if we do not use Breakaway this season.
  - Negotiating a compromise, perhaps use Breakaway for Team Apparel for a lower rate
  - KVHA contract in place with Perfect Edge until 2028 and the process is underway for this season.
  - More money would have to be collected from families, as the jersey markup is about 60% compared to what we are paying now.
- Rink Rat Rentals partnership: They partner with over 70 organizations in 16 different states, and their mission is to offer affordable and practical ways for families to get into the sport.
  - No cost to us
  - They offer high-quality rental equipment packages for youth hockey players aged 3–12
    - including beginner-friendly options like 'Learn to Skate' sets
    - full equipment rentals
    - flexibility to rent individual items
    - They do not rent sticks but everything else is available.
  - Orders are done online and they are delivered to their home and when they are ready to return, there is a prepaid return label. We don't get involved at all, just post their info on the site.
- Purchase of two intermediate Goal nets strung and ready to go from Becker for a cost quoted on June 4, 2025, total cost of \$1,837.27. This could come out of the 2025-2026 BIGGBY Budget for the LtP and 8u programs
- Travel and Ravens Coach and Manager Kick Off Meeting will be held August 5 or 6<sup>th</sup> In the upstairs space.

#### **REQUESTS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 915 PM