



**Brockville Angels Girls Hockey Association
Board Meeting Minutes**

MEETING DETAILS:

Date:	Tuesday, February 18, 2025
Location:	Youth Arena Hall
Time:	6:30 p.m.
Board Members Present:	Jimmy Sirmas, Mike Covey, Suzanne Conboy, Penny Cooper, Rebecca Lewis, Kaleigh Connell, Jessica Elliott, Julie O'Neil, Cole Spicer, Dana Pearce, Stacy Lanois, Will McIntrye (late arrival)
Board Members Not Present:	N/A
Guests Present:	Nikki Nizman, Lisa Scollan (part of meeting), Dylan Breen (part of meeting)

Note: underline = an action item to be done

CALL TO ORDER:

- Mike Covey called to order at 6:37 p.m.

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES:

- Reviewed and approved: **VOTE: Yes - 11, No - 0.** Rebecca Lewis to have posted on website.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES (not otherwise addressed in New Business):

- Suzanne Conboy confirmed she shared parent survey feedback with rep teams (paraphrased, not word-for-word). She agreed to provide the Board with copies of what she sent to the rep teams.
- Mike Covey was unable to get the information about the 4-wheeler for February Freeze.
- Penny Cooper ordered Alumni hoodies for graduating Angels from One Stop Skate Shop and bought flowers for them as well. She submitted the receipt/invoice to Rebecca Lewis who reimbursed her/paid the One Stop Skate Shop invoice.

- Board discussed how to obtain jersey sponsors for next season. It was agreed that an email should be sent out in early July to see if anyone is interested in sponsoring. We should ask prior year's sponsors if they want to re-up before looking for new sponsors. Tabled until next meeting for more discussion (likely table again unless new ideas).
- Social media post that One Stop Skate Shop is the official supplier of Angels Merch went out. Kristina at One Stop Skate Shop to send a monthly reminder to re-post this.
- Rebecca Lewis asked Matt at One Stop Skate Shop what the % of kick-back is on Angels Merch. Matt responded advising it was 3% last season, but they bumped it up to 5% this season, but he didn't want to commit to a kick-back on tournament hoodies as last season he didn't make any profit off them. It was noted that Matt advised board members the sales were good and he ran out of stock. Rebecca Lewis to follow up and ask Matt how he did at the tournament, see what kick-back he might offer. Board further discussed that in the future, hoodies could be pre-ordered, we need to consider a better selection of sizes for little kids and the locations/hours advertised for hoodie sales need to be committed to.
- Unapproved rosters due to issues with VSCs have been resolved and at the moment, all teams are rostered.
- Rebecca Lewis looked into the vote regarding payment of meals to volunteers at the February Freeze. Board agreed to a \$25 reimbursement for every 4 hours of consecutive volunteering done - only for volunteer, not anyone with them (spouses, children, etc.).
- Jimmy Sirmas ordered medals for February Freeze U9s and submitted the receipt to Rebecca Lewis who reimbursed him.
- Kaleigh Connell ordered Maker's Markey sign and submitted the receipt to Rebecca Lewis who reimbursed her. Board discussed the possibility of ordering signs for each team and perhaps even the organization next season. Tabled until next meeting for more discussion (likely table again unless new ideas).
- Julie O'Neill purchased frames for organization and sponsor photos and submitted the receipt to Rebecca Lewis who reimbursed her. Jessica Elliott would like the Board to purchase frames for coach photos as well. **VOTE: Yes - 11, No - 0.** Julie O'Neill will purchase more frames, get them to Jessica Elliott and submit the receipt to Rebecca Lewis for reimbursement.
- Penny Cooper instructed U15C dad who had the issue with team staff that he must apologize to team staff in writing and take the Respect in Sport course and provide proof of his completion before he was allowed back at the rink. The dad has not apologized or completed the course, and he's not come back to the rink.

- Mike Covey asked Angie Covey to update the website with new news, etc. and Angie Covey has done that. Mike Covey will ask Angie Covey to post photos sent to Facebook of U15s, U18s and U13s volunteering at BWC this past weekend.

CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS OF EXECUTIVE/NEW BUSINESS:

- Treasurer's Report: Bank account balance is \$100,587.56. \$34,354.41 in outstanding cheques (Brockville ice for December, February Freeze ice for Brockville, Spencerville and Cardinal and OWHA insurance for U7s). Cheque from BWC should arrive soon for November and December U7 ice (\$2,847.04). February Freeze grossed \$72,374.80 (\$61,442 in registration fees, \$1,550 in vendor fees, \$3,243 from silent auction, \$2,339.80 from raffles, hockey cards, suckers and \$3,800 from sponsorships). Tournament expenses amounted to \$42,715.65, leaving the net at \$29,695.15, being 40% more than last season's \$21,178.91.
- Member of Glengarry Highlanders board emailed Stacy Lanois asking if they could see how our board works given that we are of a similar size. Board discussed and agreed that it might be helpful for us as well to see how they do things. Stacy Lanois to follow up with Glengarry Highlanders board member who reached out to her to discuss the possibility of them attending one of our meetings and us attending one of theirs.
- Nikki Nizman questioned projected numbers at U13 next season. Penny Cooper advised of the following projections: U9 = 24, U11 = 31, U13 = 17+1, U15 = 14+2, U18 = 9. Will McIntyre questioned whether we'd ever considered a merger with Gananoque Girls Hockey Association and Mike Covey advised that while it had been considered in the past, the Angels are doing really well for numbers at the younger levels and a merger has never been necessary.
- Penny Cooper advised that the OWHA have said that tryouts can start April 21, 2025. Nikki Nizman questioned why the Angels do spring tryouts. Mike Covey advised that the biggest reason is that girls hockey has no borders, so we need to do spring tryouts like the other organizations do in order to secure girls early. It was discussed among Board members that scrimmages should be added to the spring tryouts. Julie O'Neil will book ice for spring tryouts.
- Will McIntyre advised that the guys from 1000 Islands Hockey Development were very well received by the girls when they filled in for Katie Weatherston at the last development night. Several board members commented on how well the session was received by their teams. Board discussed and agreed to continue development sessions with 1000 Islands Hockey Development instead of Katie Weatherston. Will McIntyre will let Katie Weatherston know we've decided to move forward with another provider.
- Board discussed and agreed that the year end banquet will take place on Friday, April 25 at 6:00 p.m. **VOTE: Yes - 11, No - 0.** Penny Cooper to book the MC hall for this.

- Board discussed and agreed that the AGM will take place on Monday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m. **VOTE: Yes - 11, No - 0.** Penny Cooper to book the YA hall for this. Up for re-election at this AGM is VP of Administration (Mike Covey), Director at Large (vacant), Treasurer (Rebecca Lewis), Secretary (vacant) and House Director (Dana Pearce).
- Board discussed the need for having at least 1 person from each team (who is not a board member or team staff) attend board meetings next season.
- Season is coming to an end soon. U7s are done March 4th, U9s are done March 30th, U11H got a bye to round 2 of consolation playoffs, U11C TBD, U13H moving into playoffs, U15C to playdowns, U18C moving into playoffs and playdowns. Board discussed and agreed to keep U15Cs on the ice into March. Julie O'Neil advised that moving forward the Board should consider no development during playoffs as it is difficult to schedule these games.
- Jimmy Sirmas updated about how the February Freeze went. Board was very happy with results and appreciated all of his efforts and time put in. Jimmy Sirmas suggested trying to see if we can get the wifi password for the MC because we rely on electronic game sheets, etc. during the tournament. Mike Covey would like to see a video system put in and has suggested we consider hiring a team to come in to handle clock, gamesheets and music for the next tournament. Jimmy Sirmas expressed interest in obtaining a quote and advised that with that we need to work with hotels to get a cut from rooms. Dana Pearce knows a City of Brockville councillor and will discuss the wifi issue with him and query whether or not the City has plans to put a video feed in the MC when it is renovated. Getting a quote on a company to run clock, gamesheets and music is tabled until the next meeting (to be tabled again if no new information/ideas).
- Mike Covey suggested the Board try to find out more about the Angels' history. He will reach out to the museum and to Chelsea McCrae, who it is believed may know something about it.
- Mike Covey suggested setting aside an evening for the Board to meet with teams (at specified time slots) to get feedback, comments and questions about the season - what we can do better, what did you like, what didn't you like, etc. **VOTE: Yes - 8, No - 3.** Zoom meeting was declined, and the Board agreed to hold this meeting on March 25th at the YA. Penny Cooper to book the YA hall.
- Mike Covey advised that the U11C hotel issue from the fall has been ongoing - the person who complained pushed the complaint forward again. Rebecca Lewis emailed the woman's letter to the Board during the meeting for their review. Mike Covey met with U11C team and discussed the issue. The family who was at the centre of it did not agree with the complaints made and said they would address it/respond, but they've not yet. Mike Covey suggested the Board redact the team name from the woman's email and

provide it to all team coaches at the beginning of each season moving forward so that expectations can be made clear before the season's start.

- Jimmy Sirmas expressed concern that the two U9 teams were not even this year and the parents were unhappy. Dana Pearce explained that the girls were ranked and divided and that accommodations were made as the Board agreed - girls who wanted to be on certain teams for the staff or for ride sharing reasons, etc. Board considered the levels of teams required next season at U11 given the talent moving up - 3 x U11 (B, C, HL)?
- Stacy Lanois intends to do a write-up for the bursary the Angels are offering this season. Board agreed that the player must be a current Angel, have played for the organization for 3+ seasons and must be attending post-secondary education in the fall in the health field. Rebecca Lewis advised that the money for the bursary has not yet been received, but Will McIntyre advised it was coming. Stacy Lanois will draft/prepare the write-up for the Board's consideration. Stacy Lanois will also reach out to Bill Robertson's daughter (he's a former Angels coach - his daughter's sponsored the February Freeze Tournament in his memory) to see if they are interested in doing a bursary.
- Stacy Lanois sends information each month to be put into the 1000 Islands Sports Report and requests that members email her with any ideas they may have for stories.
- Stacy Lanois asked that our existing rule - that non-parent rep head coaches be reimbursed up to \$500/season for provincial hotel costs - be amended to allow a non-parent head coach who is from a house team (therefore not going to provincials) to be reimbursed for up to \$500/season for the hotel costs for one tournament per season. Board discussed various options of rolling this out, but in the end decided that any non-parent head coach can be reimbursed up to \$500/season for hotel costs for either provincials or one tournament. **VOTE for any head coach (including parent): Yes - 3, No - 8 (not passed). VOTE for only any non-parent head coach: Yes - 8, No - 3.**
- Mike Covey believes One Stop Skate Shop agreed to provide rink suits for head coaches as part of our kick-back. Discussions ensued, but Clarke was responsible for dealing with Matt at One Stop Skate Shop and he's no longer here to advise. Rebecca Lewis to ask One Stop Skate Shop if they recall rink suits being part of the deal.
- Dana Pearce brought up an email from the U13 Coach dealing with call up issues. Board discussed and agreed that the feedback he provided was appreciated and useful and that we should incorporate it where we're able. For example, Julie O'Neil advised that in the future if there are number issues at one level (U18, for example), she will try her best not to schedule the team below (in this example, U15s) for ice time on the same night.
- Jessica Elliott was approached by a member of the Special Olympics who wants to partner with the Angels. There may be ways we can do this. Tabled until next meeting for more discussion.

- Rep coaches need to be decided before tryouts. Cole Spicer to start that process.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

- Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at the Youth Arena, after the individual team meetings (times TBD). Penny Cooper to book hall.