



MINUTES









Delaware Valley Hockey League

Date | time March 13, 2024, 7:30 PM | In-Person Meeting was called to order by President Jay Finnigan










Respectfully Submitted by Michael DeRose, DVHL Secretary

Attendance:




Executive Committee Members Present:

-  President – Jay Finnigan
-  Executive Vice-President – Joe D’Angelo
-  1st Vice President & Co-Commissioner (18U, 16U, 14U) – Dave Jackson
-  2nd Vice President & Co-Commissioner (12U, 10U, 8U) – Joe Spagnolo
-  Vice President Marketing – Larry Sechuk
-  Vice President Legal – Terry Wochok
-  Treasurer – Beth Ritter (Absent)
-  Secretary & SafeSport Coordinator – Mike DeRose (Absent)

Represented Member Clubs:

 Campus Wild,  Central Penn Panthers,  Chester County Cougars,  Delmarva Raptors,  Delaware Jr. Blue Hens,  Delco Phantoms,  Dynamites,  Exton Kings Ice Hockey Club,  Genesis,  Hatfield Ice Hawks,  Hershey Jr. Bears,  Philadelphia Little Flyers,  Quakers, Reading Jr. Royals,  Snider Hockey,  Wilmington Nighthawks, and  Wilkes-Barre Jr. Penguins


Associate Members:

-  Referee & Chief – Mike Campbell (Absent)
-  COVID Coordinator – Lisa Silvotti (Absent)
-  DVHL Scheduler – Mike Wiercinski (Absent)

Members Absent:

None

Guests:

Four representatives of the Susquehanna Valley Stampede  were in attendance.



MINUTES

Delaware Valley Hockey League

In Memoriam:




- Moment of silence to honor the memories of two (2) very special people. The first being Mary Ann Danish, an employee at Ice Works for the last 25 years, who was their tournament director as well as their in-house and learn to play coordinator. Mary Ann lost her valiant battle with cancer. The next was Morgan Tomazine, who tragically passed away as a result of a massive stroke. Morgan was the twenty-four (24) year old fiancé of DVHL Head Scheduler, Mike Wiercinski's son, Keith Wiercinski. Keith and his brother, Collin, were both long time DVHL players with the Blazers. Morgan's organs were able to be harvested and used to save seven (7) people's lives. Mary Ann and Morgan will be sorely missed by all who knew them.
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Noted:

- Per the Bylaws the Minutes of the March 2023 minutes were distributed as part of the meeting package.
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Approval of Minutes:



- The minutes of **January 10, 2024**, DVHL monthly meeting was put to the floor for adoption by DVHL Secretary,  Michael DeRose.
 - Motion to adopt the minutes was made by: **Central Penn Panthers** 
 - Motion seconded to adopt the minutes by: **Hatfield Ice Hawks** 
 - Minutes were adopted unanimously.
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Approval of the Treasurer's Report:



- The Treasurer's report for **January 31, 2024**, was put to the floor for adoption by DVHL Treasurer,  Beth Ritter.
 - Motion to adopt the Treasurer's report was made by: **Genesis Hockey Club** 
 - Motion seconded to adopt the Treasurer's report by: **Delco Phantoms** 
 - Minutes were adopted unanimously.
-

Executive Vice-President's Report:



- V.P. Joe D'Angelo



MINUTES

Delaware Valley Hockey League

- Joe D'Angelo addressed the board elections. Joe stated that Jay sent out several emails asking for nominations for the positions that are up for election, President, Vice President 14U, 16U and 18U, Vice President Marketing, and Secretary. Joe announced that no one has sent a nomination over for anyone to run against the incumbents in their respective positions, therefore the incumbents will remain for another two (2) year term and asked that the Secretary cast one vote for the election by acclamation of Mike DeRose-Secretary, Larry Sechuk-Vice President Marketing, Dave Jackson-Vice President 14U, 16U and 18U and Jay Finnigan-President.

1st Vice President's Report:



- V.P. Dave Jackson
 - Dave Jackson asked the organizations to update their club information on the website because he'll be using that for suspension list distribution.
 - Dave also stated that next year's forms have already been updated on the website.

2nd Vice President's Report:



- V.P. Joe Spagnolo
 - Joe Explained to the new members Reading Royals and Stampede the reason we have the Battle Across the Delaware and why we have the Great 8 tournaments. Joe also explained the reason for the placement tournaments, provided the dates and locations of the tournament. Joe added the updated price per team for each level. For the U10 and U12 is \$1,135.00 per team and for the U14 the cost will be \$1,235.00 per team.
 - Joe went over the Mite Jamboree and provided the dates (09/07/2024 and 09/08/2024) as well as the location (Ice Works)
 - Joe went over the rule regarding mite (U8) players playing at the squirt (U10) level. Each organization is allowed to have two (2) mite (U8) players play at the squirt (U10) level, but there are certain parameters that must be followed to do so. Joe directed those who are interested to the Atlantic Amateur Hockey Association website under their program heading, click the ADM model and click on player waivers.

Vice President Marketing Report:



- V.P. Larry Sechuk
 - Larry again addressed the loss of Mary Ann Danish and reminded the membership of how special she was.
 - Larry addressed the podcasts and how wonderful it was to have the players and coaches on to talk about their experiences.
 - Larry reminded the membership to continue to push the Dick's sporting goods coupon.



MINUTES

Delaware Valley Hockey League



Vice President Legal Report:



- V.P. Terry Wochok
 - Terry announced that we have seven (7) applicants for the scholarship, and we'll have an announcement as to the winner soon.

President's Report:



- President Jay Finnigan
 - Jay stated that the annual agenda requires that the president address the state of the organization as compared to the previous year. Jay stated that we are in good shape and on our way to being better. Jay added that we picked up two (2) organizations last year, to start the year. The DVHL voted in another organization, The Reading Royals, who was a former DVHL member.
 - Jay spoke on the alliance with MAWHA (Mid Atlantic Women's Hockey Association and the New Jersey Youth Hockey League (NJYHL). Jay said that based on the conversations he's had, people are very supportive. Jay also stated that there have been inquiries from other organizations abutting the DVHL and NJYHL territories that are interested in joining the alliance.
 - Jay acknowledged Brian Pecca from the DVHL and Kelly DiNorcia from the NJYHL who took on a lot of the heavy lifting and were able to get the one (1) page document out. Jay added that there is a multi-page document that will be put out once the DVHL and NJYHL finish their projections, placements, and evaluations.
 - Jay introduced Brian Pecca to speak on the plan of attack with regard to marketing. Brian stated that we want it to work in its first year, so we want to keep it as simple as possible. Brian went on to state that the information will be forthcoming, they can't release all the details until they know exactly what they have within the DVHL and NJYHL. Brian's plan is to get the social media platforms up and running for the Battle Across the Delaware. The plan is to use the social media accounts to promote and update the event throughout the weekend. Brian went on to state that following weekend, they'll use the social media platform to put out more details on the alliance. Jay added that all of the social media sites will be monitored for trolls.
 - Jay went through the bylaw amendments which were cleaning up of the verbiage.
 - A motion to approve the bylaw amendments and also to approve the resolution adopting the bylaw amendments that needs to be filed with the Pennsylvania Secretary of State was made by: **Chester County Cougars** 
 - The motion seconded by: **Delmarva Raptors** 
 - The following Resolution was adopted unanimously:



MINUTES

Delaware Valley Hockey League

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
DELAWARE VALLEY HOCKEY LEAGUE, INC.
APPROVAL OF AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS

In accordance with Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Laws, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Delaware Valley Hockey League, Inc. (“DVHL”), a Pennsylvania non-profit non-stock corporation, hereby consents to and adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the DVHL’s purpose is to promote, govern and improve organized hockey in the Delaware Valley area by authority of USA Hockey, Inc., to foster among its members, supporters and teams a general cooperative spirit; to maintain and increase interest in the game of hockey; to have and exercise a general care, supervision and direction over the playing interest of its teams and players; and

WHEREAS, the Board has carefully reviewed the Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Corporation, which are attached hereto as Exhibit A, and find it in the best interest of the Corporation and its members to adopt said Amended and Restated Bylaws.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Board pursuant to Article VII of the DVHL Bylaws by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast hereby approves and adopts the Amended and Restated Bylaws attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board hereby authorizes, empowers, and directs the authorized officers of this corporation to do and perform any and all such acts necessary to carry out the purposes and intent of the forgoing resolution; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any actions taken by such officers prior to the date of the forgoing resolution adopted hereby that are within the authority conferred hereby are hereby ratified, confirmed, and approved as the acts and deeds of this corporation.

The Board has passed the foregoing Resolution upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Board then in office.




This Resolution is adopted by the Board of Directors of this Corporation at a regular meeting of the Board held on March 13, 2024.

- Jay stated that last year, we admitted Campus Wild into the DVHL as a probationary member. Jay went on to state that they have fulfilled their obligation and invited Jamie DiDomenico to add anything that he’d like to say.
 - Jamie added that he appreciated the DVHL allowing them in as a probationary member, hopefully the DVHL votes them in as a full member and added that he is counting on the program growing even more and looking forward to many fun seasons to come with the DVHL.



MINUTES

Delaware Valley Hockey League

- Motion to pass a resolution to take The Chester County Sports arena Inc. playing as the Campus Wild  as a General member of the DVHL was made by:
Central Penn Panthers 
- The motion seconded by: **Delaware Jr. Blue Hens** 
- The following Resolution was adopted unanimously:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
DELAWARE VALLEY HOCKEY LEAGUE, INC.
APPROVAL OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE DVHL**

In accordance with Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Laws, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Delaware Valley Hockey League, Inc. (“DVHL”), a Pennsylvania non-profit non-stock corporation, hereby consents to and adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the DVHL’s purpose is to promote, govern and improve organized hockey in the Delaware Valley area by authority of USA Hockey, Inc., to foster among its members, supporters and teams a general cooperative spirit; to maintain and increase interest in the game of hockey; to have and exercise a general care, supervision and direction over the playing interest of its teams and players; and

WHEREAS, the Board has carefully reviewed the membership application of the Chester County Sports Arena, Inc., on ice name of Campus Wild, and find it in the best interest of the Corporation and its members to adopt a Resolution approving the membership of the Chester County Sports Arena, Inc. (Campus Wild).

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Board pursuant to Article III of the DVHL Bylaws by a simple majority votes cast hereby approves and accepts the Chester County Sports Arena, Inc. (Campus Wild), as a General Member of the DVHL; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board of the Chester County Sports Arena, Inc. (Campus Wild), accepts the Bylaws and Rules & Regulations of the DVHL and will comply with all so long as they shall remain members; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any actions taken by such officers prior to the date of the forgoing resolution adopted hereby that are within the authority conferred hereby are hereby ratified, confirmed, and approved as the acts and deeds of this corporation.



The Board has passed the foregoing Resolution upon a simple majority of the Board then in office.

This Resolution is adopted by the Board of Directors of this Corporation at a regular meeting of the Board held on March 13, 2024.



MINUTES

Delaware Valley Hockey League

- Jay then invited The Wilmington Nighthawks to the floor stating that last year we also admitted them as a probationary member and that they also have fulfilled their obligation. Jay then invited Griffin Helm to speak on his organization's behalf.
 - Griffin stated he too felt the same as Jamie and is looking forward to being part of a great league.
 - Motion to pass a resolution to take The Wilmington Nighthawks as a General member of the DVHL was made by: **Genesis Hockey Club** 
 - The motion seconded by: **Chester County Cougars** 
 - The following Resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
DELAWARE VALLEY HOCKEY LEAGUE, INC.
APPROVAL OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE DVHL

In accordance with Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Laws, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Delaware Valley Hockey League, Inc. (“DVHL”), a Pennsylvania non-profit non-stock corporation, hereby consents to and adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the DVHL’s purpose is to promote, govern and improve organized hockey in the Delaware Valley area by authority of USA Hockey, Inc., to foster among its members, supporters and teams a general cooperative spirit; to maintain and increase interest in the game of hockey; to have and exercise a general care, supervision and direction over the playing interest of its teams and players; and

WHEREAS, the Board has carefully reviewed the membership application of the Nighthawks Youth Hockey Club, on ice name of Wilmington Nighthawks, and find it in the best interest of the Corporation and its members to adopt a Resolution approving the General Membership of the Nighthawks Youth Hockey Club.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Board pursuant to Article III of the DVHL Bylaws by a simple majority votes cast hereby approves and accepts the Nighthawks Youth Hockey Club as a General Member of the DVHL; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board of the Nighthawks Youth Hockey Club accepts the Bylaws and Rules & Regulations of the DVHL and will comply with all so long as they shall remain members; and

The Board has passed the foregoing Resolution upon a simple majority of the Board then in office.



This Resolution is adopted by the Board of Directors of this Corporation at a regular meeting of the Board held on March 8, 2023.

- Jay then asked for a motion to pass the resolution to bring in the Reading Royals as a probationary member.



MINUTES

Delaware Valley Hockey League

- The motion was made by: Delco Phantoms 
- The motion seconded by: Quakers 
- The following Resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
DELAWARE VALLEY HOCKEY LEAGUE, INC.
APPROVAL OF PROBATIONARY MEMBERSHIP IN THE DVHL

In accordance with Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Laws, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Delaware Valley Hockey League, Inc. (“DVHL”), a Pennsylvania non-profit non-stock corporation, hereby consents to and adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the DVHL’s purpose is to promote, govern and improve organized hockey in the Delaware Valley area by authority of USA Hockey, Inc., to foster among its members, supporters and teams a general cooperative spirit; to maintain and increase interest in the game of hockey; to have and exercise a general care, supervision and direction over the playing interest of its teams and players; and

WHEREAS, the Board has carefully reviewed the membership application of the Reading Jr. Royals and find it in the best interest of the Corporation and its members to adopt a Resolution approving the Probationary Membership of the Reading Jr. Royals.


NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Board pursuant to Article III of the DVHL Bylaws by a simple majority votes cast hereby approves and accepts the Reading Jr. Royals, as a Probationary Member of the DVHL; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board of the Reading Jr. Royals, accepts the Bylaws and Rules & Regulations of the DVHL and will comply with all so long as they shall remain members; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any actions taken by such officers prior to the date of the forgoing resolution adopted hereby that are within the authority conferred hereby are hereby ratified, confirmed, and approved as the acts and deeds of this corporation.

The Board has passed the foregoing Resolution upon a simple majority of the Board then in office.

This Resolution is adopted by the Board of Directors of this Corporation at a regular meeting of the Board held on March 13, 2024.




- Jay then invited the representatives from the Susquehanna Valley Stampede  to speak about their program.
 - JD O’Brien, the current president of the Susquehanna Valley Stampede introduced himself and spoke about his organization and their desire to join the



MINUTES

Delaware Valley Hockey League

DVHL. JD informed the membership that the rink they play out of is called James R. Eister Community Center located at 249 Memorial Drive Sunbury, PA.

- Jay informed the membership that they already have a Pennsylvania Association number through the AAHA and like the way Campus and the Nighthawks came in, they are not eligible at the AA level, but they could come in at the A level and they're eligible for playoffs. They've been granted Tier 2 probationary status from the District.
 - Motion to pass a resolution to take Susquehanna Valley Youth Hockey playing as Susquehanna Valley Stampede  as a probationary member of the DVHL was made by: **Genesis Hockey Club** 
 - The motion seconded by: **Chester County Cougars** 
- The following Resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
DELAWARE VALLEY HOCKEY LEAGUE, INC.
APPROVAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE DVHL

In accordance with Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Laws, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Delaware Valley Hockey League, Inc. (“DVHL”), a Pennsylvania non-profit non-stock corporation, hereby consents to and adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the DVHL’s purpose is to promote, govern and improve organized hockey in the Delaware Valley area by authority of USA Hockey, Inc., to foster among its members, supporters and teams a general cooperative spirit; to maintain and increase interest in the game of hockey; to have and exercise a general care, supervision and direction over the playing interest of its teams and players; and

WHEREAS, the Board has carefully reviewed the membership application of the Susquehanna Valley Youth Hockey, on ice name of Susquehanna Valley Stampede, and find it in the best interest of the Corporation and its members to adopt a Resolution approving the Probationary Membership of the Susquehanna Valley Youth Hockey.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Board pursuant to Article III of the DVHL Bylaws by a simple majority votes cast hereby approves and accepts the Susquehanna Valley Youth Hockey, as a Probationary Member of the DVHL; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board of the Susquehanna Valley Youth Hockey, accepts the Bylaws and Rules & Regulations of the DVHL and will comply with all so long as they shall remain members; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any actions taken by such officers prior to the date of the forgoing resolution adopted hereby that are within the authority conferred hereby are hereby ratified, confirmed, and approved as the acts and deeds of this corporation.



MINUTES

Delaware Valley Hockey League


The Board has passed the foregoing Resolution upon a simple majority of the Board then in office.

This Resolution is adopted by the Board of Directors of this Corporation at a regular meeting of the Board held on March 13, 2024.

- Jay reminded everyone to submit their Club Information through the DVHL website.
- Jay took sheets from all the organizations for their Initial Projections, and he'll consolidate and distribute to the membership.
- Jay supplied the membership with the DVHL Season Dates for all levels.
- The Executive Board is recommending that we consolidate all playoffs into President Days Weekend and make it "Championship Weekend."
 - Some organizations were in favor of it, some thought it would interfere with teams attending tournaments and others suggested that some levels be Friday – Sunday and others Saturday – Monday. IceWorks will attempt to re-do the schedule that way. More discussion at the May meeting.
- Updated Rules and Regulations are in progress to more align us with the New Jersey Youth Hockey League Rules and Regulations for the Alliance.
- Jay emphasized that teams must have Locker Room Monitors listed on their 2024-2025 USA Hockey Rosters.

Adjournment:



- A motion to adjourn the March meeting was made by: **Central Penn Panthers** 
 - The motion seconded by: **All.**
 - All in favor to adopt carried at 8:48pm

Next Meeting:

The May meeting will be via Zoom on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 7pm.