

**Hopkins Youth Hockey Association  
Minutes of the February 16 , 2009  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Members Present: Ms. Wagner, Ms. Quale, Mr. Patterson, Mr. DeGiulio, Mr. Glover, Mr. Davis, Mr. Keiser, Mr. Bizal, Ms. Whitmore, Mr. Hillen, Mr. Martin, Mr. Hoffman, and Mr. Ostenso.

Guests: Paul St. Clair, Mike Beck, Bill Winter.

Call to Order

Mr. Bizal called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Charitable Gambling Report – Ms. Wagner

Ms. Wagner reported that for January 2009 the Tuttle's site had gross receipts of \$97,899 and gross profit of \$18,797. Actual expenses were \$8,819, less taxes and realized a net profit of \$2,784. Ms. Wagner stated that payouts are now reduced to 80.8% from 84%.

She next reported that for the same month the Main Street site had gross receipts of \$90,225, a gross profit of \$15,992, actual expenses of \$9,492, all for a net loss, after taxes of \$79. Ms. Wagner reported that the payout stayed at 82.46% and that there were several losses on games.

For both sites, Ms. Wagner reported a net profit, after taxes, of \$2,705 for January 2009 on gross receipts of approximately \$188,000.

Mr. Bizal stated that the goal, overall, for the charitable gambling operations is to realize 3-5% on gross profits. Ms. Bizal warned on planning for the slower summer months.

Mr. Wagner reported no problems and that she is monitoring game losses. She further reported that there is a 1.7% sales tax paid on complete box price. She stated that in February she can apply for refund of unsold tickets.

Ms. Wagner reported a revision to January 2009 actual expenses to \$43,910 from \$31,628. She further reported a revision to the February 2009 estimated expenses to include the operation audit performed by Larson Allen in the amount of \$4,500. She requested a revision.

Mr. Keiser moved to amend the estimated February 2009 Charitable Gambling expenses in the amount of \$4,500 for the Larson Allen Audit. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Mr. Bizal called for discussion. There was no discussion. Mr. Bizal called for a vote. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Wagner reported that the March 2009 estimated expenses, combined for both locations is \$39,410.

Mr. Glover moved to approve the estimated March 2009 Charitable Gambling expenses in the amount of \$39,410. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Mr. Bizal called for discussion. There was no discussion. Mr. Bizal called for a vote. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Wagner reported a cash balance as of January 31, 2009 of \$60,588 and a current cash balance of \$76,556.

Mr. Wagner stated she understands that some of the charitable gambling funds may be used to set off travel team expenses.

#### Approval of January 19, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes – Mr. Glover

Mr. Glover moved to approve the January 19, 2009, Board Meeting Minutes with the changes submitted by Mr. Davis and Mr. Keiser. Mr. Hillen seconded the motion. Mr. Bizal called for discussion. There was no discussion. Mr. Bizal called for a vote. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

#### New Business

#### Resignations of Mr. Hazuka and Mr. Harrington

Ms. Wagner moved to accept the written resignation of Mr. Brian Harrington as the Girls Travel Coordinator. Mr. Keiser seconded the motion. Mr. Bizal called for discussion. There was no discussion. Mr. Bizal called for a vote. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Wagner moved to accept the written resignation of Mr. Mike Hazuka as the Equipment Coordinator. Mr. Glover seconded the motion. Mr. Bizal called for discussion. There was no discussion. Mr. Bizal called for a vote. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Several members discussed the number of remaining directors, the status of former directors, and recruiting new members.

#### 2009 Elections – Mr. Davis

Mr. Davis reported he sent out the nomination form, that nominations are due by March 2, 2009 for the twelve (12) open positions and that ballots will be mailed on March 18, 2009. Mr Hoffman asked about terms and which positions are open. Mr. Davis stated that the newly open positions include equipment coordinator and girls travel coordinator.

### Guests – Mr. St. Clair

Mr. St. Clair introduced himself and his 3-4 year history with the Association and his playing history. He recapped the decline in population, players and teams. He stated that the Association is generally not competitive in a very competitive district. He surmised that the Association does not “have the numbers to compete”. He stated he is concerned about moving forward as a stand alone Association which will get smaller and smaller. He challenged the Board to come up with a number of mite players which will not sustain a youth hockey program. He stated there are three option for players; go elsewhere, shut down or merge. He suggested that there should be plan to merge . Ms. Whitmore says there will be at least 11 mites, based on certain assumptions. Ms. Whitmore stated she agrees that the Association is down five teams in five years losing one team per year. Ms. Whitmore stated if everyone stays to next year, that there will be 46 Bantams, 48 Pee Wee and 45 Squirt players.

Mr. St. Clair continued that he is concerned that association must grow, but the primary consideration should not be competitiveness. Mr. Hillen suggested that AAA teams are taking players from the Association. Mr. Hillen next suggested moving to smaller teams, down to 12 players.

Mr. Bizal spoke, generally, about the travel hockey and house league games. He remarked about the success of small towns of Roseau and Warroad as an examples to follow. Mr. Bizal stated he would be against a merger because of the business and debt issues. He suggested that the rainbow team concept be revised and used more extensively. He stated that funds from the charitable gambling operation should be “opening doors” to new players. He suggested that rink rat hockey might be a possibility.

Mr. Patterson stated that closing of schools says there are simply fewer children and that affects more than hockey. Mr. Patterson stated that the Association’s demographics have changed. Mr. Bizal stated that open enrollment changed the mix, cost, equipment and commitment of a number of potential players.

Mr. Winter suggested that the Board not dismiss the merger idea. Mr. Winter agreed to analyze the Association “numbers”. Mr. Davis reported that the merger between Southwest Minneapolis and St. Louis Park is still not final. Mr. Patterson suggested looking for rainbow teams at the end of the previous season.

Mr. Winter stated that the Association develops players better than Wayzata does. Mr. Hillen suggested that smaller teams would improve competitiveness.

Ms. Whitmore suggested that not offering C teams is a disservice to some Association members.

Mr. Davis suggested that Minnesota Hockey is challenged with residency and open enrollment. Mr. Bizal stated he carefully considers each waiver request every year and

further suggested moving tryouts back one week. Brady next suggested that the AAA teams are taking players from the Association.

Mr. Patterson suggested that paying coaches should be reconsidered, given that HYHA already invests funds into coach expense reimbursements and in coach in chief compensation.

Mr. Bizal stated that the problem is only a lack of kids and that the other components for a successful association are present. Mr. Davis mentioned possible recruiting issues including a recruiting budget.

Mr. Winter says a good time to register players is before some of the other winter sports.

#### Member Reports.

##### President – Mr. Bizal

Mr. Bizal thanked all of the members for all of their work over the years and that this Association does the best for all concerned.

##### Vice President Report – Mr. Davis

Mr. Davis reported on the District 3 meeting including the Minnesota Hockey president and the new Executive Director Mike Snee. Mr. Davis reported that Minnesota Hockey is considering residency and open enrollment issues.

Mr. Davis reported that District 3 could propose a recreational league in addition to the travel team program

He further reported that District 3 is looking closely at Squirt level concern and that Mr. Scott Dornfeld is the new chair of the district's retention committee. He further stated Mr. Dornfeld may be the new District 3 president. Mr. Hillen asks about the new USA Hockey program to develop 8-10 elite teams with each district during the winter season. Several members generally discussed elite level play.

Mr. Davis stated that District 8 enacted a bylaw its members are prohibited from playing AAA teams.

Mr. Davis reminded the Board that the Association is hosting two district tournament Bantam B1 and 10UB. Mr. Davis reminded the Board these tournaments might need additional volunteers. Mr. Davis reviewed the Association minimal risk for District playoff play with reimbursement of ice costs and compared it to regional tournaments.

Mr. Davis proposed the Association sending a thank you to retiring District 3 president John Perry. Mr. Bizal agreed.

Treasurer – Mr. DeGiulio

Mr. DeGiulio handed out financial information, reviewed the information and answered general board member questions, including Mr. Keiser's about credits to Association teams. He reported that fundraising is down as there was no supplemental fundraiser this season. He stated that the Association will need approximately \$10,000.00 from the charitable gambling operations.

Mr. DeGiulio reported on the cost of referees, especially for Bantam A games.

Secretary – Mr. Glover

No further report.

Mite Coordinator – Mr. Martin

Mr. Martin reported that Mite Day is completely planned. Mr. Ostenso suggested that Mr. Martin should investigate having a barbecue during Mite Day as a fund raiser. Mr. Martin agreed to look into it. Mr. Martin reported that John Perry, District Director, approved the Association's Mite Day as well as several other Jamborees for the Association's mite teams.

Registrar – Ms. Whitmore

Ms. Whitmore reported that District 3 and USA Hockey are really pushing all District 3 associations to have online registration that starts with USA Hockey. Ms. Whitmore agreed to attend the District 3 registrars meeting later in February and report back to the Board details on the online registration. Mr. Keiser indicated our current registration vendor, Active, is compatible with what USA Hockey wants to do with online registration.

Mr. Keiser moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ostenso seconded the motion. Mr. Bizal called for discussion. There was no discussion. Mr. Bizal called for a vote. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

Michael Glover

Secretary

February 16, 2009.