

**NBAHA**  
**Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**10-29-09**

**Meeting was called to order at: 8:00 p.m.**

**Board Members Present:** Paige Lee, Janelle Olson, Chris Courtright, Kristi White, Tim Hink, Tom Garin, Lisa Isaacson, Tim Cashill

**Members Present:** Craig Moline, Dawn Sachs, Anne Meyer, Gina Klein, Richard Huth, Stephanie Schmitt, Shaan Hilber, Heather Osland, Dale Duval, Mike Fabini, Don Osland, Chris Klein, Ryan Coleman, Scott Hannah

**Secretary:** Membership Minutes from September were posted. Kristi White motioned, Janelle seconded. Motion carried

**Treasurer:**

\$13,329.94 checkbook balance.  
\$1,341.73 Equitrust

Ice bill of \$15,000 paid to Isanti Arena for Traveling Ice Fees (includes ice + ice) – expect another bill at end of December.

John Trideau & Associates – propose using our accountant for gambling for the association books. Simplify tax returns for gambling. Need information from general account for the gambling tax return. Will charge \$75 a month for now until we figure out how complex the general account will be. Possible in the future could be even less than \$75.

Traveling Skater payments are due!!!! Checks will be cashed. C/D Mite checks will be cashed now.

**Publicity:**

**Liberty Mutual Grant – HEP requirement** – Grant closes at end of November – send certification to [publicity@northbranchhockey.com](mailto:publicity@northbranchhockey.com) once class is completed. Share the link with friends, family, coworkers to help with the chance to win the grant.

**Mitten Fundraiser** - \$2500 mitten fundraiser – subsidizing – we agreed to pay 1/3 of the goalie clinics \$3,800. Mittens are \$15 a piece. If you are interested in purchasing mittens contact Lisa – [publicity@northbranchhockey.com](mailto:publicity@northbranchhockey.com). Clinics cost \$11,000 total.

**Youth Hockey Night** – December 12<sup>th</sup> at Chisago Lakes – JV Boys game at 6:40 vs Mora, Varsity 8:10 vs Mora. Youth where their hockey jersey to get in for free – bring a food item for the food shelf. Player meet and great after the game with refreshments.

**President:**

Arena update: Rezoning completed. Legal agreement still in progress.

**Gambling Report:**

Wild River Gross Receipts 10152, Prizes Paid 7922 Net receipts 1230  
Overage 82  
Pizza Pub Gross Receipts 15643, Prizes Paid 11626 Net receipts 4017  
Overages 158

Oak Inn Gross Receipts 14105, Prizes Paid 11742 Net receipts 2363  
Overage/Shortage 0

JJs Bar Gross Receipts 4634, Prizes Paid 3910 Net receipts 724  
Overage/Shortage 0

JJs Booth Gross Receipts 16193, Prizes Paid 14065 Net receipts 2128  
Shortages (62)

Motion to approve gambling managers report. Kristi White motioned. Paige Lee seconded. Motion carried.

**Estimated Expenses for November:**

Rent JJ 400  
Rent PP 700  
Rent Oak 800  
Rent WR 700  
Payroll 3800  
Games 3 diamond 4000  
Office Supplies 75.00  
Mega Bingo 500.00  
Printing post haste 40.00  
Postage 10.00  
John Trudeau CPA 1200.00  
Copies GCB 10.00  
Storage locker 3 months 360.00

Kristi motioned, Janelle Olson seconded. Allowable expenses accepted.

**Gambling Update:**

**Vice President:****Old Business:****New business:**

Shack south of High School: More vandalism at shack. Police report filed. Roof destroyed. Doors taken off outdoor rink. Boards pulled. Lots of damage. Need to focus on our current sheet of ice. Steve Lee – cut grass and started cleanup. Paige may be able to get paint donated if it gets warm enough to paint outside again.

Motion to approve up to \$500 to get the shack/boards ready for the winter. Tom Garin made motion. Rick Huth seconded motion. Motion passed.

Apparel Fundraiser – Tuesday we will start an apparel fundraiser - Mite Night – order forms given to managers to hand out. More details to come.

**Mite Program:**

Team selection process last weekend. How do we divide up the teams via skill level without making it feel like an evaluation or tryout. Last year C Mite and B Mites were where the focus was - evaluations based on HEP – timed drills, skill evaluations – tried to do it as unbiased as possible. Upper level coaches from a level above doing the evaluating. There are things we will change for next year. Overall, Mite Director feels things went well.

D10 mite meeting earlier this fall and most everyone is running HEP drills to do Mite evaluations. Mite committee will meet soon to discuss what went well and what didn't.

This year will do skill assessments through out year.

**Comment & Questions:**

Do all D10 associations do Mite evaluations? Answer: Don't know exact number – probably more than half. As our numbers keep growing, we need a better way to place kids correctly.

Goal was to get kids skating at the correct level.

Comment: Longer period of time to do the evaluations. Coach/Coaches should have more input on the process. Answer: Trying to stay away from the tryout coaches selection process. Would like to see teams start with extra kids and then cut kids. Would like the coaches to have input on selecting the teams.

Mite Committee: No formal approved Mite Committee at the moment. Tim will be figuring out who the committee is. He has been having all the Mite coaches participate up to this point. Need to formalize the Mite committee.

Mite Committee needs to figure out the formal process for team selections in the future and bring the board a recommendation.

Comment: Without a Mite Committee - there wasn't a check and balance process in place.

Comment that a meeting was held, but decisions were made and not followed through on. Example: Agreed upon that there would be a couple of weeks of practices to assess teams. Answer: That is still in affect. There will be 2 weeks from the time practices start till the time rosters are signed off on that if a mistake was made they can be corrected. Question: There is a possibility that a skater could be moved down? Answer: Correct. Not what we want to happen. Question: If a skater moved down would one be moved up? Answer: Not necessarily – teams not based on numbers but on skills. Comment: Should have put kid on the lower team and then potentially moved them up.

Broke teams based on natural score breaks. Nothing was age based.

Question: Is there a possibility that A skaters could have gotten higher scores than last year B or C.

Comment: Shouldn't all skaters have been evaluated? Answer: This is our first baby step. Maybe eventually that will happen.

We are implementing an Initiation team again this year.

There will be two equal teams at the B level. Initiation playing in A last year will stay A this year. Last year A Mite players will move up to B Mite.

Did the scrimmage the last 15 minutes of the evaluation taken into account? Wasn't scored. Took a look at who fit in at that level of play.

Action Item: Tim will formalize Mite Committee and will be board approved. Setup Mite committee meeting to review the evaluation process and the positive and negative. Potential to consider coaching selection/input process into team selection process. If trying to set teams – if have C/D – set C team at a larger number for awhile and D team at a smaller number and then move kids.

Comment: It was ran like a tryout. Chris Klein could have picked his team without tryout process. Too stressful for little kids. They had one hour only. Needs to be stretched out. Coaches didn't get to see the scores. They talked about it at school.

Why wasn't opportunity to tryout at Squirts not advertised?

Should we add in preskate before evaluation?

Comment: Hockey only team sport in the town that was based on skill vs age level.

Push evaluation out two weeks and do some practices before evaluation. Need to still allow for multi sport kids.

At coaches meeting it was mentioned that age could be a factor in decision. If time was taken out of selection would time be taken out of the decision? Skill/time drills scores were very close.

Comment: Is any type of evaluation done on coaches? Part of issue is that sometimes we get no volunteers. And we take what we can and try to mentor coaches.

USA Hockey: Combination of Skill & Age to decide on placement – Decided to focus mostly on skills – scores worked out this year in a way that age didn't need to be taken into account

Small association, trying to put competitive teams on the ice. – Based on skill progression.

Goal to get the kids at the right level and eventually they make a one level progression each year. There is going to be some pain for awhile.

Bring in non partial evaluators – Tim Cashill, Chris Courtright, Steve Lee, Chris Fairbanks – example.

All practices will be shared at Mite level.

D Mite – 16; C Mite – 17 (1 kid has a 2 week grace period to determine if they are at the correct level).

Comment: Should have played a shorter D team.

What is the budgeted number of ice hours. 20 hours each C/D team – including games.

How does the insurance work with teams – What if doing dry land at some offsite facility? On private property – Homeowners insurance has to cover insurance. Dryland facility at Isanti Arena – covered by our insurance. Mites can use that facility. We will research the insurance to determine if we can use facility at dryland.

Thank you from Paige Lee for sending a gift to her family for her Dad's passing. \$775 was given in her Dad's name to the hockey association and has been deposited in the association account.

Motion to adjourn at 9:50 pm. Paige Lee motioned and Kristi White seconded.