

**Mankato Area Hockey Association
 Monthly Meeting Minutes
 Monday, October 12, 2009
 North Mankato Fire Station
 North Mankato, MN**

Board Members attending: (X = present, E= excused absence)

Jason Westerlund, Pres.	X	Dave Breiter	X	Holli Loe	X
Jeff Nickels, V.P.	X	Darren Bruns	E	Chad Lebert	X
Sue Salzle, Treas.	X	Lynette Cline	X	Tresa Lacina	X
Traci Hays, Secretary	X	Shaun Reddy	E	Char Rivers	X
Mike Steindl	X	Kirk Swenson	X		

Other Members

Jo Nickels, Gambling Mgr.	X				

Meeting Called to Order:

Meeting called to order at 7:15pm by President Jason Westerlund

Attendance – Guest: John Sanford, New Ulm, Cindy Paulson and Ruthann Kragh

Addition to the Follow up Business: Topic of Discussion for the guests present is the U14 girls program. Mr. Sanford would like to get a group together with Mankato girls and New Ulm girls to form a team where the U14 girls can play. The request is to release 2 players within MAHA that are eligible to play U12 but the parents would like them to go to play U14. If we do not release these girls then the U14 team would not have enough girls. Jason stated his opinion that we do not want to continually be releasing girls early every year as it is not good for their development as well as leaving the teams that are left in the association short.

John Sanford stated that he would like to see these girls that want to play U14 have a choice and not feel like they need to go to High School. He would like to see MAHA more involved in this program to see how this program is run. His thoughts are that he would like to see this team as an extension of MAHA and see this team evolve into a permanent extension and can grow year after year.

Jason’s thoughts are, if he signs a release for Cindy Paulson what is to say that several others are not going to want a release. Are we posing a double standard if we release them and not others.

The point was made that High School coaches will let anyone try out but they will be sent back to the Youth program if they are not good enough to play on the top two lines at the high school level. Ruthann made the point that within the last few years we have lost an average of 4 kids per year to high school. If we are going to continue to lose girls she would rather see them go to U14 versus high school. The girls in question are Katie and Kylie Paulson, Amanda Broman and Bella Davis. Bella’s parents have stated they are considering trying out for high school at this point.

Char asked the question as to how the girl's side is different from the boy's side and is it too late to hold placements to see how many girls should stay on U12. Ruthann asked if Kirk as a coach felt that the Paulson's, Bella Davis, and Amanda Broman would be in his top 3 of the U12's.

If we are looking for what is best for the girls and that is playing U14 versus going to high school then we should offer them that option. If we have 4 U12's that want to go how are we going to be fair about who we decide to let go. Cindy wants her girls to move up if this is a good decision for them and if they are not in the top 3rd then she would not want them to go.

From a planning perspective this is an issue that should have been discussed before registration. Cindy wished that we would evaluate the girls like we do the boys. This would tell them who is in the top 3rd. The right thing to do is to notify the parent group that at the next U12 practice we will be evaluating the girls. As an association we will release 4 girls so those that make the top 3rd will be released. How do we handle those that do not make the cut and then decide to quit because they are not going to be released.

At the next practice we will have evaluators out there looking at the 2nd year U12's and will release only 4 of them. The potential is we could have 1 possible fall out if they are not chosen as 1 of the 4 that is chosen to be released.

Have Kent e-mail out to the group that the practice on Tuesday, October 13th will be the final evaluation to look at the second year U12's to determine which 4 will receive a release to go to U14. These players that want to move up will need to let the evaluators know that they want to be considered for move up status.

M/S/P: Holli/Lynette

Motion regarding refund of registration fee for U14's. After the Board meeting on October 12th, 2009 since it was determined that we will not have a U14 team Sue will refund their registration fee in full.

M/S/P: Holli/Lynette

Holli will also need their names so she can take them out of her database so she doesn't have to pay the fee for them.

The releases need to be signed by October 14th so Jason will let Mr. Sanford know so Jason can get the release forms signed and we can get these girls registered.

Review and Approve current agenda

Motion to approve agenda

M/S/P: Chad/Holli

Review and Approve Minutes of last regular meeting

General discussion covering the minutes. Motion to approve minutes.

M/S/P: Tresa/Mike

Gambling Manager Report and Expense Approval: presented by Jo Nickels

Reviewed the LG1004.

- Transferred \$2500.00 from the Gambling account to the General Fund.
- We will put Bobby Joe's on notice that if they continue to have losses we will be out at the end of January.
M/S/P: Jason/Holli
- Jo went over our report to the State, we pay a certain percentage of our profits.
- Annual Report was reviewed to the Gambling Control Board and that our goal for donations will be approximately 25% of our gross receipts.
- Letter was received from the State of Minnesota and it is an Annual Report that is due on October 14th. A lot of information that they are requesting is included on our 990 form that we file for our fiscal year end.

M/S/P:

Treasurers Report: - Sue Salzle

- Reviewed the Check register from August to current.
- Balance in the check register is \$150,271.75

M/S/P: Holli/Chad

- \$28,000.00 is left to collect; this includes the refunds to the U14's. Sue would like to get invoices out at the team meetings. Sue will make a note on the invoices.
- Sue followed up on sponsorships

Fundraising Ideas: Indoor Fun Run

- Bowling Night at the WOW ZONE

Fundraising Report: Char Rivers

- Everything went smooth, Tom wanted to make sure that we did not want to hold anyone back from placements but they will not be able to practice with their teams after placements.
- Profit is a little over \$25,000.00
- Coffee will be picked up at April's on November 18th and Hy-Vee would like us to pick up our Ham's starting December 16th.

M/S/P:

Expansion and Growth: Kirk Swenson

- Kirk went to the Grant meeting and we do not qualify for any funds.
- Kirk has been following up with the City to make sure that we do not miss the meeting. They are talking about cutting back the budget to \$25,000. There are some drainage issues etc so they will fix up the rink by East to be like the one down on Stoltzman. If we can get some funds in line with the Jaycees then that may change the situation with the City. We need to have something in writing so when we go to solicit funds we can show what we are soliciting for. Kirk will continue to follow up with the City to make sure we know when this issue is going to be on the agenda.

- All recreation projects at this time have been cut as far as additional funding that is available.
- Would it be worth asking the City to donate that piece of property by East to MAHA and then we could solicit funds to make the improvements. Kirk will ask.

Sponsorships – Traci Hays/Mike Steindl

- Covered sponsorships that have been obtained.
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Operations Committee: nothing to report

Registrar Report – Holli Loe

Communications: – Dave Breiter

- All new sponsors have been added to the website
- Holli asked that Dave also put some information in regards that we are still taking registrations.
- When decisions are made we need to a better job of putting information on the website to deter from rumors getting started.

**** We need to make sure that the lines of communication remain open between HOC, Board and the Association****

**** If we need to know something from Tom if we are not able to get through to Tom we should send an e-mail to Jason or Jeff****

Update from Brenda: Presented by Jeff Nickels

- Copy put into the file.
- Mites and Mini Mites schedules were sent out on October 10th. October 24th is the first day for all mites and mini-mites. Chris Hvinden, mite coordinator is having a meeting for mites and mini mites on Wednesday, October 21st at 6:30pm at ASA.
- Fall Hockey was a success, there were 3 groups total with approximately 90 participants.
- Tryouts, the last two days are Monday, October 12th and Tuesday, October 13th. All teams will be posted Wednesday at ASA after 5:00pm. Teams will be placed and mandatory meetings will also be listed as well. All team meeting will take place on Saturday, October 17th.

MAHA Night at Rounder's: Traci Hays

- Need to change the age levels otherwise it looks like the tickets are good.
- Holli and Lynette and Sue have already gathered some Silent Auction items.
- Will touch base with the group closer to the date.

Team Meeting and Roster Verification:

- All team meetings will be October 17th. First meeting will be at 9:15 with the U12's.

Picture Day:

- Char will contact Brenda to find a day when most teams are having practice.

Approval for a New Registrar Printer:

- Holli is still looking for a printer.

Tournament Committee: Traci Hays

- **Nothing to report**

Child in need of equipment:

- Holli visited with a family that needs equipment. We will work it out as a Board so this child has an opportunity to play. We have a credit balance at Play It Again that we can use. He will need a stick and we can get him a helmet and some skates from the equipment room.
- In the future we should look at having an equipment drive for these situations.

New Jersey's for the Mite's/Mini Mites:

- Tom will touch base with Kent Hays once we know how many teams we are going to have so we can get new jerseys ordered for the in house teams.

Follow-up Business:

- E-Board will put together a proposal regarding the stipend for the Registrar, Controller and Secretary positions. No stipends will be given.

Next Meeting Agenda Items:

- Preliminary Budget discussion (table until November)

Next Regular Meeting

Monday, November 9th, 2009

Location NMFD at 7:00pm

Adjournment: 9:45pm

Motion to adjourn

M/S/P: Kirk/Tresa