

## **Minutes for WYHA Board Meeting 3/2/09**

Meeting called to order by President Gibson at 7:05 pm

**Present:** All board members present excluding Alex Becker, Ron Fiemann, Derek Gullett, Steve LaRose, Bill Orke.

**Secretary's Report – Sarah Schilling:** Motion to approve February minutes Jim S. Second Paul H.

**President's Report – Greg Gibson:** Paul Hahn represented WYHA for Greg at recent District 3 Presidents' meeting. Meeting was attended by D3 board members, President of Minnesota Hockey, referees and association presidents. Paul provided highlights: Residency rules will be focus in upcoming year, district more in favor of open enrollment; retention of high school age players will also be focus. MN Hockey goal is retention and making hockey positive experience. Various hockey recruitment ideas discussed including beginner hockey bag and gear availability. State championship games at PeeWee, Bantam and U14 levels will be broadcast via internet. Currently ninety officials in D3; seems sufficient; scholarship opportunities available. Gaming revenue is down in most associations. Orono enjoyed U19 season. Osseo/Maple Grove will continue as one association. Blake has partner to sponsor them. Jason Muthart provided update to group on Wayzata goalie program.

School memo dated 2/25/09 distributed by Greg for board to remind parents and coaches of importance of providing adult supervision whenever youth are leaving the Dome to use facility or being picked up etc. Community Education Services issued memo following recent incident of older boys making verbal statements to female student who left dome to use the bathroom.

**Administration – Paul Hahn:** WYHA annual meeting is Saturday April 25, 2009 at PIC Center Ice Room. Carrie S will write job descriptions for open board positions and treasurer for posting on web site.

**Ice Scheduling - Mark Brandt:** Distributed and reviewed ice usage for all teams. This season was one of the most balanced for any of past years. Most teams by level receiving equal ice events. Exceptions noted: Girls teams have increased ice time from years past and Jr Gold A had significantly greater number of ice events compared to Jr Gold B due to coach's ability to use afternoon ice. Unused ice time greatly reduced from last year. Hours at VMIA may improve with new rink manager, hope to eliminate early morning ice at VMIA. C League ice will be item to discuss for desired amount of ice time; push to twice a week from MN Hockey recommendation. Possible changes: PD desires Squirt and PW skills prolonged into season with scheduled dryland to be coordinated with CMS ice times. Chad N suggested shortening mini and rookie mites skills season to accommodate longer PW/Squirt skill season due to significant mite attendance drop later in season.

**MN Hockey D3 Recreational Hockey – Mark Brandt:** Alex B and Mark B are working with City of Plymouth to develop a Recreational Hockey league for 2009-2010 at PeeWee and Bantam levels. Sunday night intersquad scrimmages only. Tentative 11/1-3/22 season. Mirrors excel league. Intent is to attract and retain hockey players by offering a lower cost and higher flexibility option to the traditional travel program. Cost of approximately \$300. 18-20 hours of ice. They desire WYHA's support of concept and assistance with registration process and Level 1 coaches.

**2009-2010 Fees –Paul H:** Board will need to set registration fees at April meeting. Ice up \$10/hour (to \$180) in April. Other fees have increased including fees for on line registration. Discussion to try to keep increases to minimum particularly at the younger levels.

**Treasurer's Report – Bob Vold:** Update through February distributed, we are in "decent shape". Ice for Feb not yet billed. \$76K left to collect from travel teams.

**Girls Program – Derek Gullett:** No report

**Tournaments – Brad Langfus:** Discussed U16, U14A/B tournament programs and whether or not we should charge for programs. Decision to publish 20 programs per team without charge and give directly to each team. Volunteer positions are well staffed.

**District 3 – Alex Becker:** Scott Dornfeld, District 3 representative to MN Hockey discussed goal of player retention and recruitment. MN Hockey is evaluating what does and does not work, including whether or not specific persons or committee overseeing player retention works, especially between the PeeWee and Bantam level when largest number of players drop. State is developing a handbook that will be available to districts via state website for measures that work in retaining players. WYHA does not experience retention difficulties many other associations experience, probably in part due to greater number of travel teams that helps to retain players. WYHA attempts to base the number of travel teams on interest which encourages retention. C program registration fees being similar to travel also encourages travel.

**BlueLine – Brenda Senden:** BlueLine has obtained favorable feedback from members/families regarding assessing fundraiser fees as part of registration. BlueLine proposing assessing \$30 per family to meet \$30,000 fundraising goal. BlueLine would focus efforts more on increasing the number of team sponsors vs fundraising.

**Mites Program – Chad Nelson:** History of spaghetti dinner discussed; no longer a fundraiser. Mini mites ending season; good year, with greatest number of teams (six). Mite Madness will hold new event this year: Skills Competition!

**C-League – Steve LaRose:** No report

**Boy's Travel – Jim Smith:** Bantam A, B1 Blue, B1 Gold, PeeWee A and B1 Blue, U16 Gold, Jr Gold A, Jr Gold B Blue and Jr Gold B1 Gold teams advancing to regions. Committee evaluating number of teams for next season and will have recommendations for April meeting. Coach's Committee sending out end of season coach surveys in next week. Drew Aadalen suspended as coach from Squirt B Gold.

Motion to adjourn 8:40 pm Jim S; second Brenda S.

**Next meeting Monday 4/6/2009 7:00pm at PIC**  
**2009 Meetings: 5/4, 6/1, 7/13, 8/3, 9/14, 10/5, 11/2, 12/7**